

COMMUNITYLINE

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INSIDE: WISCONSIN INNOVATION KITCHEN: CONTINUING TO FULFILL DREAMS

It is the mission of Hodan Community Services, Inc. to provide and promote opportunities for work and personal development so that persons with disabilities can achieve individual life goals.

Upcoming Calendar

Thanksgiving Holiday
(HCS closed)
Thursday & Friday
November 25 and 26

Christmas Holidays
(HCS closed)
Thursday, December 24, 2021
through Friday, December 31, 2021

Hodan Community Services
Programs resume on:
Monday, January 3, 2022

Board of Directors 2021

Bob Boyle • Chair

Earl Barnes • Vice-Chair

Brad Wells • Secretary/Treasurer

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Laura Jenkins • Darlington

Jerry Larson • Platteville

Tim McKinley • Dodgeville

Curt Peterson • Dodgeville

Lori Pittz • Mineral Point

Linda Rowley • Mineral Point

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:



As Hodan Community Services continues to navigate through the pandemic, it is exciting to see the progress we have made. While we were stalled for a period of time in the last two years, we are now back to building our organization. It is amazing how our various programs have been able to grow despite the recent obstacles they have faced.

As you will read in the feature article, our Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen (WINK) has continued to expand its business during the pandemic. With the assistance of a grant, we were able to purchase new equipment, and we also added new business partnerships.

Our Bargain Nooks having been having a stellar year. I would highly recommend following our Face-book page to find the latest deals in each of our five locations. If you have not been to one of our stores, please stop in and check out our great deals and friendly staff.

Our Enrichment and Activities department continues to offer great day services programming. This summer we were able to get back to more community outings including the Iowa County Fair, the Miniature Train Museum, bowling, the Madison Zoo, and Peck's Market.

Our prevocational department has continued to develop work skills for our client-employees on the work floor. We also have increased our cleaning sites, and are now cleaning eight locations in the local community.

Community Employment continues to be strong, as we help consumers with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation reach their community employment goals. The Project Search site at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville also started back with a new group of students in September. Project Search is a training program for high school students with a collaboration between DVR, UWP, CESA 3, and Hodan Community Services.

We are so fortunate as an organization for the employees that we have. Every employee in this organization is important, and makes it possible for us to provide high quality services to those we serve. We also cannot thank our donors enough for their continued support of our organization. Without our donors we would not be able to continue to serve our mission. With continued support from the community and our staff, we will continue to progress into new and better ways of meeting our mission.

Chris Mitchell, Executive Director

FEATURED EMPLOYEE

Scott Hering



Scott began working at Hodan Community Services in 2011. He works as a Team Leader in our Enrichment Activities Department but if you ask any client employee, he is their friend. Scott enjoys bringing fun and joy to everyone around him. You will always see him laughing and joking and truly cares about the client employees. If you ask Scott what he likes best about his job, he will tell you he loves hanging out with all his friends and finds it to be a very rewarding job.

When not at work, Scott enjoys spending time with his wife, Penny of 12 years, and their 6 children and 6 grandchildren. His hobbies include finding John Wayne memorabilia at flea markets, Wisconsin sports, collecting vehicles, gardening, and spending time with friends. Scott also makes the best homemade sauerkraut!

Scott feels it has been a privilege to work in this field with all his friends in EA. The truth is, Hodan Community Services is a better place with Scott as an employee and friend. We thank Scott for all his hard work and loving dedication to our client employees. ●

CLIENT-EMPLOYEE PROFILE:

Sheral Sander



Sheral started working at Hodan Community Services in Nov 2019. While at Hodan Community Services Sheral spends her day working in production. Sheral is able to do most jobs but is the go to girl for producing glued cardboard feet. It is great to see her improvements over the last year not only with her quantity but with her quality of work. She has set

goals for herself, and as she meets each one she sets even higher goals. She has also recently started to help clean businesses in the community. Keep up the good work!

When asked what she enjoys most about coming to Hodan Community Services she stated “getting out and socializing with friends”. Sheral is always willing to help her friends out and loves catching up with them at breaks and lunchtime. She also enjoys joking around with staff and will display her sharp wit with some good one liners. Sheral always knows how to brighten someone’s day. Thanks for all that you do, Sheral! ●

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WISCONSIN INNOVATION KITCHEN: Continuing to Fulfill Dreams

Formerly it had been Hodan Community Service's (HCS) Dairy Queen – the first fast food restaurant in the U.S. to be owned by a community rehabilitation center serving adults with disabilities. Then in 2010 the transformation into a 10,000 square foot, state-of-the-art food processing facility in Mineral Point took place.

It has been over 11 years since Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen (WINK) opened its doors and began operating as an FDA approved, state-inspected and licensed commercial co-packing facility. Within that time, former Director Kent Genthe, who recently retired after seven years of service, has helped WINK evolve to meet the needs of new entrepreneurs and to keep pace with customers who are growing. He has been instrumental in the growth and direction of WINK, and its ability to sustain itself.



WINK's experienced staff is comprised of Ray Guenther, now Director, who joined HCS in 2009 after working in shipping and receiving, then sales with H & H Foods for 33 years. Assisting him with production is Equipment Technician Seth Jones, who began helping out at HCS when he was 16 years old. After graduating from high school, he worked in food service at HCS for many years before moving on to become a staff member at WINK and putting his food knowledge to work in production. Both

men are certified with the State. Production Supervisor Summer Hamille has been with WINK for five years and is responsible for overseeing the Client-Employees and assigning them tasks. She had worked closely with Kent Genthe in Food Service at Lands' End for five years as the Cafeteria Supervisor overseeing proper food safety for five separate cafeterias within the Lands' End campus.

WINK's reputation as being a minimum volume co-packing facility has brought many entrepreneurs and farmers to its doors from around the region and across the country. It enjoys relationships with local customers like **Bob's Bitchin' BBQ** in Dodgeville, **Siren Shrub** in Amherst Junction, **Prem Meats** in Spring Green, **The Woods** in Lone Rock, and **Wun Doe Mus** in Platteville as well as customers further away like **It's Just Sauce** in Iowa, and **Barmalade** in Texas. And it continues to get calls from all parts of the continental United States to process product for retail sale.

WINK specializes in producing products (sauces, mixes, beverages) that can be cooked in kettles, pumped and automatically filled using only the safest methods. WINK's staff oversees production and work diligently to ensure compliance with proper processing guidelines.

Even as its customers have grown, WINK has been able to keep pace and provide the efficiencies and expediency necessary to maintain its services. This is due, in large part, to the USDA/Local Food Promotion Program grant that Hodan Community Services received in September of 2018 for its co-packing facility. The purchase of new equipment has allowed kitchen staff to maximize efforts and reduce waste.

Guenther is very happy with the installation and use of the new equipment purchased through the grant. "The amount of preparation time it saves," he said, "not



to mention the unnecessary waste, equals a full day of production. The pump we use for ketchup alone is a huge time and ingredient saver. What we get done in a day,” he adds, “used to take us three or four days. We get six times as much done now because we’re not doing everything by hand. Plus the yield is greater for the customer.”

With money from the grant, WINK now enjoys upgraded equipment like a bottling conveyor, heat tunnel for shrinking tamper-evident bands on bottles, new box taping machine, battery-operated fork lifts, dry-fill machine, kettle, automatic liquid filling machine, bottle-feed table, ribbon blender, pallet wrap machine, and an electric pump that gets bulk ketchup out of barrels.

The new equipment has served WINK on two levels: first, it speeds up the production process, and second, it allows Client-Employees to work on other projects concurrent to kitchen staff. One example of this is long-standing customers Bob’s Bitchin’ BBQ and Coffee Chew. While barbecue sauce is being pumped into bottles for **Bob’s Bitchin’ BBQ**, Client-Employees Miranda McAuliffe and Brooke Chandler are applying labels to tins for **Coffee Chew** in preparation for its production while Paul Bailie is putting shrink bands on cooled bottles.

Hamille said, “It’s amazing the amount of production we accomplish now. While my co-workers are in the kitchen producing for one customer, I’m in the warehouse with the Client-Employees getting ready for production runs coming up. It’s now a seamless process,” she adds. “The efficiency we have gained from this new equipment is monumental,” said Jones, “Our customers are impressed with how quickly we process their products for them.”

“Working with entrepreneurs and businesses to produce food and beverages that are safe to consume is our primary concern,” said Guenther. Now under his guiding hand, WINK is continuing its grant goals of (1) expanding the capacity of WINK for existing and new local food growers/entrepreneurs through the new equipment technologies, and efficiencies; (2) working with new local food entrepreneurs/enterprises/ organization that source ingredients from local and regional growers; and (3) beginning/increasing local food processing of new and existing products, as a result of new sales/distribution channels into retail and wholesale opportunities.

What began as a kitchen through which to process its own successful line of Farmhouse Recipes foods has now progressed into a full-service co-packing facility that helps entrepreneurs get their product made in small, easy-to-manage batches without a lot of capital outlay and onto store shelves. WINK continues to fulfill entrepreneurs’ dreams. ●

Community Employment Partners

THANKS TO:

- A&W in Lancaster
- Bargain Nooks
- Citgo in Montfort
- Cobb Library
- Cobb Methodist Church
- Culvers in Dodgeville
- Culvers in Platteville
- Cummins Emissions Solutions in Mineral Point
- Dodgeville Library
- Edenbrook in Platteville
- First United Methodist Church in Mineral Point
- Gray Dog in Mineral Point
- Hartzell’s IGA in Warren, IL
- Hope Lutheran Church in Mineral Point
- Kundert’s Main St. Market in Blanchardville
- Kwik Trip in Fennimore
- Kwik Trip in Dodgeville
- Kwik Trip in Mineral Point
- Lafayette County Health Department
- Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County
- Mineral Point Library
- New Horizons in Darlington
- Peace Lutheran Church in Cobb
- Piggly Wiggly in Darlington
- Piggly Wiggly in Dodgeville
- Piggly Wiggly in Platteville
- Platteville School District
- Plymouth United Church of Christ in Dodgeville
- Popolo’s Pizza in Mineral Point
- Premier Cooperative in Mineral Point
- RBS Activewear in Argyle
- Saether’s Funeral Home in Blanchardville
- Upland Hills Hospital in Dodgeville
- UW-Platteville
- Walker House in Mineral Point
- Walmart in Dodgeville
- Walmart in Platteville



ALMOST \$93,000 RAISED IN 4th ANNUAL ERICKSON GOLF OUTING!

On June 26, 2021 the Fourth Annual Alex and Kelsi Erickson Family Golf Outing for Hodan Community Services was held. It was a great success... in so many ways! That morning the weather did not look good with thunderstorms predicted. Fortunately, no thunderstorms appeared and no stoppage of golfing was needed as only light rain fell for less than one hour total that day (less than .1 inch of rain). 173 golfers (including honorary hosts Alex and Kelsi, as well as two HCS client-employee golfers) teed off at the Dodge Point Country Club near Mineral Point beginning at 10:00am and concluded rounds by 4:30pm.

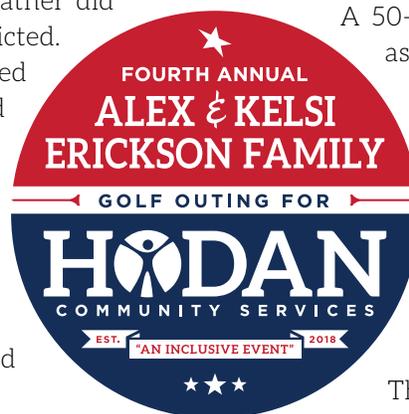
Following a "Happy Hour" and music by TJ Anderson, a delicious steak and chicken dinner was served to about 270 attendees, including golfers and many HCS client-employees and their families. Local Monroe radioman, Kent McConnell, emceed the evening with his usual great humor. Guest speakers, who thanked event attendees, volunteers, sponsors, and donors, were

Alex and Kelsi (with their young children, Owen and Harper), Bob Boyle, and Chris Mitchell.

The three teams with the best scores were announced.

A 50-50 raffle winner was announced as well as high bidders for 23 terrific silent auction items. The evening concluded with a live auction of five select items, with the spirited bidding help from the volunteer auctioneers from On Point Auction Service. Two HCS client-employees, Krista Blosch and Jenni McConnell helped to show off each item and spurred on the bidding.

The many sponsorships and cash donations were truly heartwarming and were aided by a \$20,000 match by an anonymous donor. All told, this one-day special event's golfing and activities **netted us \$92,960**, after expenses were paid, a new record for the event! It was a truly special and inclusive day and evening that will be long remembered by all in attendance. Excitement is already building for next year's Fifth Annual event on Saturday, June 25, 2022. ●



BARGAIN NOOK

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- 1 More personalized customer service.
- 2 Creates more jobs and opportunities.
- 3 Reduces environmental impact.
- 4 Non-profits receive more support.
- 5 Tax dollars stay local & reenter the community.



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2021 BARGAIN NOOK HOLIDAY HOURS:

Closed Thanksgiving Day - Thu, Nov 25
Close at 1 p.m. Christmas Eve - Fri, Dec 24

Closed Christmas Day - Sat, Dec 25
Close at 1 p.m. New Year's Eve - Fri, Dec 31

Closed New Year's Day - Sat, Jan 1, 2022
Closed for Inventory - Mon, Jan 3, 2022

You are creating revenues for Hodan Community Services to provide and promote opportunities for work and personal development so that persons with disabilities can achieve individual life goals . . . and **WE THANK YOU!**

THE HODAN LEGACY

HODAN COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
PLANNED GIVING



Named in honor of Tom Hodan, *The Hodan Legacy* is a group of devoted friends of Hodan Community Services, Inc. Everyone is welcome to join The Hodan Legacy. With planned gifts, those who value our mission can contribute to establishing a strong future-sighted direction for our services.

The Hodan Legacy recognizes friends of Hodan Community Services who have established a life income gift, charitable remainder trust, have included us in their wills, or have named Hodan Community Services in any other type of estate plan, such as a gift of life insurance or real estate. Planned gifts and bequests to Hodan Community Services may provide significant benefits not only to us, but to you and your family as well.

List of Hodan Legacy Members:

Joen Greenwood*	Mary and Ted Hodan	Paul Radtke*	Mary Long Shadel
Herb and Irene Harris*	Harry & Patricia Ivey*	Lyle Rees*	Carolyn & Stephen Van De Wiel
Becky Heck	Laura Jenkins	Al* & Chris Revenig	Jim & Kandy Wallace
Jeff & Theresa Helm	Dorothy Meisenheimer	Grace* & Bob Schmid	*deceased
Florence Herman*	Bob & Marianne* Monson	Tom & Trici Schraeder	

If you have already included Hodan Community Services in your estate plans, if you would like to become a member of *The Hodan Legacy*, or have questions about planned giving, please contact Tom Schraeder, Development Director at 608.987.3336 or e-mail: tschraeder@hodancs.org.

Ten tips to leaving a legacy

1. Prepare a will.
2. Consider your loved ones first, and then reflect on those not-for-profit organizations that have had a significant impact on your life, such as Hodan Community Services.
3. Specify a dollar amount or percentage of assets in your will to Hodan Community Services, and other not-for-profit organizations dear to you.
4. Consider bequeathing appreciated stocks or other assets for your charitable gift.
5. Name Hodan Community Services as the beneficiary of your IRA or pension plan.
6. Purchase a new life insurance policy naming Hodan Community Services as the beneficiary.
7. Name Hodan Community Services as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy.
8. Create a trust, with the guidance of your financial planner, that serves both your estate and Hodan Community Services.
9. Remember loved ones with memorial gifts.
10. Know that every legacy gift to Hodan Community Services, Inc., large and small, is acknowledged and appreciated.