



Visions from the Valley

Green Valley Enterprises, Inc.

Making a Difference

January, 2013

Individualized Plans for Employment Drive Services

Each day over 100 adults with disabilities head to Green Valley to take part in the Employment Services program. Every program participant has an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) that reflects short term and long

term career goals. Often it is a team of family members and professionals that help create the IPE.

Based on the IPE, participants receive the services they need to achieve the goals they have set. The majority of Employment Services participants hope to one day have a job in the community. Green Valley Staff create opportunities to obtain, sustain, or hone skills needed to meet that goal.

Prevocational curricula consists of hands on learning; be it on the work



Employment Services Instructor, Jenelle Garczynski, works with Work Services participant, Faye Bixby, on coin identification skills.



Employment Services Instructor, Sara Frank, helps Char Jaquet (left) and Carol Neuman navigate the internet.

floor or in the computer lab, in a classroom or at an area business. Overcoming barriers to employment is what it's all about. Skill-sets are taught at a variety of locations including: MPTC, BDUSD Resource Center, BD Community Library, YMCA, Seippel Arts

Center, many area businesses, and of course Green Valley. If you haven't been to GVE in a while why not schedule a tour? We'd love to show you what we're up to! Contact Kristin Hanson, khanson@gveinc.org.

Making Community Connections

Providing a full range of work experiences in the community is an integral part of the Employment Services. The experiences help participants create reality-based Individualized Plans for Employment (IPEs). IPEs drive the type of services participants receive. Community Connection Coordinator, Beth Hull, arranges work experiences at area businesses, which

gives participants a chance see first hand what it takes to work there. All participants are paid by Green Valley for the time they spend gaining work experience in the community. If you have a business the Community Connection crew can experience, please contact Beth Hull, 920-887-4282, or bhull@gveinc.org.



Community Connections Coordinator Beth Hull (back center) shows (clockwise) Jesse Steinbeck, Kim Fritchie, Ed Berezinski, and Cory McGowen what goes on behind the scenes at Dominos Pizza.

Fitness and Friends Keeps Employees Fit & Healthy Throughout the Year



Staying fit and healthy is one of the best ways to avoid missing work

due to injury or illness. Thanks to the YMCA, Green Valley has a very healthy crew! It is important that Employment Services participants understand the connection between good health and fitness

habits, and positive employment outcomes. The awesome staff at the YMCA know exactly what it takes to get a very diverse group of individuals moving! They created a unique line-up of classes that make getting fit a whole lot of fun!

weeks and include *Dance Around, Laughter Yoga, Swimming, Drums Alive, and Strength Training.*

Community partnerships with organizations like the YMCA help us provide richer, more diverse experiences for those we are privileged to serve.

B.A.R.C.C. Brings Big Smiles to GVE



B.A.R.C.C. Volunteer, Darlene Lodahl, helps her dog, Betty Boop, get up close and personal with Special Needs Activity Program participant Connie Heuer.

Green Valley program participants eagerly await visits from Badgerland Animal Reading and Comfort Companions. B.A.R.C.C. volunteers arrive at least once each

month with adorable pets in tow. Their visits truly brighten our days. To learn more about B.A.R.C.C. visit them on Facebook or contact Patty Warfield: 920-233-0577.

Birth to 3: Still Making a Difference!

For the past 17 years and counting, Green Valley has delivered Birth to 3 services to families throughout Dodge County. Children with assessed developmental delays receive appropriate services from specially trained staff including, specially trained service coordinators, instructors

and therapists. Green Valley contracts with Rehab Resources who provide any therapies needed to lessen or eliminate delays.

Most of the 200 or so children that receive Birth to 3 services each year leave the program up to speed, and ready for 4K.

Dance Around is a definite all-around favorite. The music gets everyone up and moving; who can resist doing the Locomotion, or shaking your tail feathers to the Chicken Dance Song?

Community Connections Coordinator, Beth Hull, arranges and supervises the weekly YMCA outings. Classes change every eight



Taking part in the Y's *Dance Around* class are (L-R) Tony Beauchamp, Jesse Feilbach, Lisa Heller, Jennifer Fuerstenau, and Jesse Steinbeck.



Mary Gratton, former Birth to 3 participant, gets a little help decorating Christmas Cookies from Early Intervention Instructor, Lori Mitchell, at the annual party.

Children who need additional help may be eligible to receive services through their school district.

The annual Birth to 3 Christmas party is wonderful

time for staff and parents celebrate the milestones reached during the year. To learn more about the Birth to 3 program contact, Kathy Clark, 920-887-4282 or kclark@gveinc.org.

Trösten Haus: A Beautiful Home Away From Home

If there comes a time when you or a loved ones needs a bit more attention during the day you'll want to

experience Trösten Haus; German for *comfort house*, and that it truly is! Trösten Haus opened in



Marge Schultz has the perfect spot on a cold December day.

On Point by Jack Hanks, Executive Director



News editors have elevated two items in recent weeks, one being the fiscal cliff, and the other being the very public pregnancy of the Duchess of Cambridge. For one I'll leave the intense excitement to the Brits, and for the other I have a few thoughts that I'll share in this column.

The notion of a fiscal cliff is alarming in a number of ways, but the way in which it is alarming to me

rests in the simple fact that we even have a cliff. Most of the math that we use these days is at least several centuries old, so it isn't as if Washington couldn't have seen this coming. We employ legions of budget analysts to endlessly evaluate and massage mountains of economic information, so I'd have to imagine that some staffer in Washington could have clearly predicted today's dilemma way before we'd ever have to characterize it as a cliff.

Since we've allowed politics to turn into a lucrative career, however, Washington's decision-making ends up being a vote acquisition process versus one centered on

2003 and has been a blessing for older adults and their families since. Trösten Haus offers flexible scheduling and a well rounded menu of activities. Whether it's an afternoon a week so a caregiver can run errands, or 5 days a week to keep a loved ones mind and body active, Trösten Haus might be the perfect solution.

Participation in activities is encouraged but never forced. Most attendees love taking part in the rotating schedule of

activities which focus on maintaining a fit mind and body. The beautiful décor and warmth from the fireplaces provide a lovely and relaxing atmosphere.

If needed, Green Valley can also arrange transportation to and from Trösten Haus. Spa-like bathing services are available as well, often allowing adults to remain at home when accessibility becomes an issue.

For a private tour contact Mary Weiss 920-887-4282, or mweiss@gveinc.org.

problem-solving. It's been that way a long time, and everybody is involved.

As a result, our task becomes to bring some certainty into an uncertain world. The part we want to be certain about is the care, compassion, and professionalism that we bring to our work every day. That part cannot change as our clients and families depend on us for those things.

The uncertain part is largely external. We don't know what our economy will do next year. We don't know what the cost to implement the Affordable Care Act might be. We don't know the long-term prognosis for Family Care and other government initiatives like it, and we don't know where the Medicaid football is going to land.

For those reasons, our strategy has to be one that gives us the best odds for continued success, and we'll make decisions accordingly.

This newsletter will reach everyone sometime around the holidays, so on behalf of the Board of Directors and the outstanding group of employees and volunteers we have here at the Valley I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

**GVE Annual
Membership Meeting**
Thursday, January 17, 2013
4 PM, Green Valley
Conference Room
1223 Madison St., Beaver Dam



Making a Difference

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Green Valley Enterprises, Inc., 1223 Madison St., Beaver Dam WI 53916

Our Mission:

Green Valley Enterprises, Inc. serves people of all ages with special needs. The primary goal is to assist clients, along with their families, to achieve maximum potential, enabling clients to become more independent.

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