



Visions from the Valley

Green Valley Enterprises, Inc.

April, 2016

GVE's New Community-Based Prevocational Program! LESSONS - Learning Employment Soft Skills to Obtain New Strengths

Green Valley is proud to present our newest program, LESSONS! This is a community-based prevocational program created to prepare individuals to set and obtain their employment goals by developing the knowledge and skills required to promote personal development.

This training educates individuals about numerous resources located within their community that can assist them with achieving independence and prepare them for future community employment.

Seven individuals started the program on February 10th and are set to "graduate" on May 13th. The



Beaver Dam Fire Department Captain Russ Johnson gave a presentation on fire safety and how to properly use a fire extinguisher

program is 6 hours a day, 2 days a week.

The participants meet in the mornings for a classroom-like setting at various community locations such as



Our first group of LESSONS participants! In front, from left are Lorrie Zwiig (Program Developer and Instructor), Lexie Breselow, Tina Maleck, and Corinne Bolin. In the second row, from left are Zech Peterson, Ed Berezinski, Savannah Caswell, Miranda Smedema and Meagan Rahe (Program Instructor)

Moraine Park Technical Institute, Higher Grounds Coffee House, The Watermark and Landmark Credit Union.

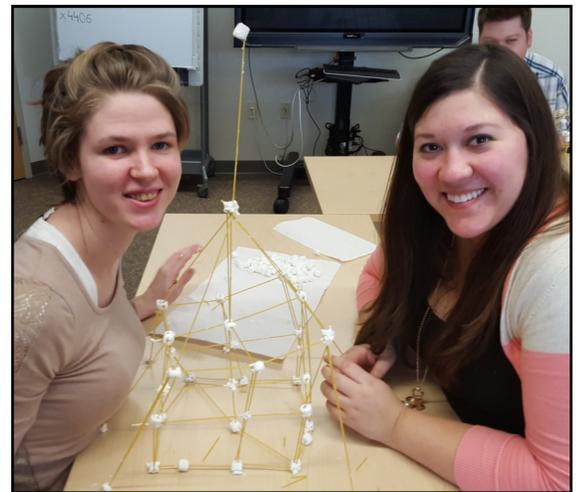
Afternoons are spent touring businesses, attending presentations and doing volunteer activities with local non-profit agencies. We have visited the Beaver Dam Police Department, Beaver Dam Fire Department, Y of Dodge County, PAVE, Dodge County Emergency Management, Adult Protective Services and ARC of Dodge County for various presentations thus far!

We are over half way through the first session and have had exceptional feedback, not only from the clients that are enrolled, but also the community partners that are

participating with our program.

Still to come are visits to Horicon Bank, Landmark Credit Union, Jung Seed Company, The Beaver Dam Post Office, and WI Aviation. Participants will have volunteer opportunities at the Y of Dodge County, St. Katharine Drexel Parish, First Lutheran Church, St. Vincent de Paul, Habitat for Humanity ReStore and Clearview Nursing Home.

The next session is set to begin late May, early June with a whole new group of participants!



Savannah and Meagan working in a team to assemble a spaghetti noodle and marshmallow tower. The activity provided teamwork, communication and problem solving skills.



www.facebook.com/GVEINC

New Year, New You - Community Readiness

On January 28th, as a part of the community employment initiative, Green Valley Enterprises offered an employment readiness event for 25 of our participants at the Landmark Credit Union. Those invited were either already in the process of job development or interested in starting.



1st Community Readiness group eagerly learning all they can about community employment!

Local community members offered presentations in all areas related to employment readiness; how to prepare for an interview and the importance of appearance and hygiene. They watched mock interviews; one good, one poor and were instructed to make observations on each, then discuss their findings with the group.

The day-long event, "New Year, New You" developed by Green Valley's Angie Ayers and Meg McKnight, was to provide foundational and practical information geared toward the initial stages of job seeking and employment. It was funded through a generous donation from the Beaver Dam Rotary Club and included a light breakfast and lunch.



A runway show featuring 4 participant "models" demonstrated how choosing appropriate clothing can be fun and inexpensive. The 4 models were taken to St. Vincent de Paul to "shop" for their outfits. A drawing was held for 2 lucky participants (one male, one female) to receive a make-over with help from local beauticians.

A large thank you to all involved!

Presenters included; Craig Warmbold - WBEV radio, Becky Glewen - Green Valley's Community Integration Manager, Darla Greenwood - Mary Kay Cosmetics, Lisa Rowan - Larsen Family Dental, and Stefanie Moldenhauer - Care Wisconsin. Makeovers were provided by Khris Allar - A Cut Above and Kim Firehammer - local hair stylist. Sheila Harmes at St. Vincent de Paul for loaning the runway clothes for the day.



Ed Berezinski, grinning from ear to ear!

Each participant received a drawstring bag of full-size toiletry items and vouchers from the Dollar Tree and St. Vincent de Paul.

GVE would like to make this an annual event. This training will help more of our participants to fully recognize their community employment potential.

Employment Partnerships Recognition Breakfast



We know to give credit where credit is due, and that is the case here! Green Valley invited 50 employment partners to a Recognition Breakfast held at Old Hickory Golf Club on March 9th. We know that we would not be able to make the success stories we do without their continued support!

Over the past year Green Valley has worked closely with many area businesses and would like to extend our thanks to the following: Alsum Produce and Farms, Beaver Dam Food Pantry, Bullseye Industries, Char Haus Pub & Grill, Columbus Family Restaurant, Community Care, Culver's Restaurant, Dodge County

Housing Authority, Dollar General, G and W Vending, Golden Care Adult Day Care, John's Bar & Grill, Karavan Trailers, Kid's Care Childcare Center, Kohl's Department Store, Kwik Trip Stores, Mayville School District, Old Hickory, Mountin's Piggly Wiggly, Pizza Hut, Rechek's Food Pride, Ponderosa Steakhouse, Richelieu Foods, Robert Half, Sharkey Cleaning, Sodexo Wayland, Taco Bell, Tower Lanes, Triton Trailers, and Walmart Supercenter. As well as subcontract employers; Enerpac, Engineered Treatment Systems, Fastenal, Good Karma Broadcasting, ITW Shakeproof Group, JW Speaker, JB Kenahan, John Deere Horicon Works, Lake Country Corporation, Nancy's Notions, Schumann Printers, Vollrath and Wayland Academy.

Are You an Employer? If so, You're Invited! Grow Your Workforce with Us!

Green Valley Enterprises' Business Breakfast Forum Partnerships in Action: Grow Your Workforce

Join Green Valley Enterprises for a special event to learn about leading practices in disability inclusion in the workplace and how Green Valley could fill your employment needs!

April 27th | 7:15-9 AM (Breakfast Included)

Chapel of Archangels Reception Hall | 839 Madison Street | Beaver Dam



Featured Speaker:

Traci Jones
Corporate Director of
Human Resources
Kalahari Resorts & Conventions

**Please RSVP to Kayla Larson
klarson@gveinc.org by April 8th**

Walk-ins the day of event are also welcome!

Beyond All Expectations - A life of new Opportunities

Green Valley recently hosted an inspirational presentation "Beyond all Expectations" at the Beaver Dam High School Auditorium on March 30th. Keynote speaker and 2015's Outstanding Young Philanthropist, Alex Haunty and Beaver Dam native Jayme Memmel shared their life journeys turning a disability into a life of opportunities and possibilities!

Alex Haunty is an artist who has used his unique personal challenges as a springboard to achieve his dreams

and become an inspiration for many. When the art class had closed at his school, he saw an opportunity! He created the "Alex Haunty's Theatre & Arts Fund" so that his classmates with special needs could have access to the arts like he had.

Jayme Memmel grew up loving to play sports. After graduating high school he joined the Army National Guard where he worked as an Avionics mechanic. His life physically changed on September 22, 1996. He



Pictured from left to right is Jayme Memmel and Alex Haunty our evening's two speakers

has since spent his time adapting to his different abilities and taking steps to achieve great successes.

On Point by Brian Jacobson, Executive Director



You will notice an inspiring theme throughout this newsletter. GVE implemented and hosted

events and activities which helped prepare GVE participants, families, employers and the community for more community integrated services.

GVE staff kicked off the New Year by meeting at the Beaver Dam High School Auditorium to discuss how GVE is changing to offer a wider array of integrated services. The staff

meeting was followed by a meeting with Caregivers highlighting what GVE services would look like in 2016.

In late January, GVE hosted "New Year, New You". The event was aimed at helping participants who are considering the possibility of becoming employed in the community to develop soft skills.

In March, GVE recognized 50 area employers who employ GVE participants either through direct hires or subcontracts. On April 27th GVE will be holding an event to attract potential employers. The keynote speaker will be discussing

how hiring individuals with disabilities has made her company more competitive and a better place to work.

In late March GVE hosted a community event "Beyond All Expectations". Two outstanding speakers discussed how they were able to focus on their abilities instead of their disabilities to achieve their potential.

Care takers, employers, and the community all have something in common. They need to work in unison if people with disabilities are going to recognize their fullest potential. GVE's desire is to "pave the road" for effective collaboration through these educational activities.



Making a Difference

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

Our Mission:

We help individuals with special needs, and their families, achieve maximum potential and independence through an array of services.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brian Jacobson



United Way
of Dodge County



PIZZA RANCH FUNDRAISING NIGHT

APRIL 18TH FROM 4-8PM.

A % OF SALES THAT NIGHT WILL BENEFIT THE

WBEV/WXRO CHILDREN'S RADIOTHON!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

HAM N JAM ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, JULY 30TH, 2016

RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AROUND MAY!