



THE UMBRELLA



Human Service Agency, PO Box 1030, Watertown, SD 57201
www.humanserviceagency.org 800-444-3989 605-886-0123

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Nancy Hoops, Employment Specialist

I have worked with Lee Becking since he was in Project Skills; coming in to Watertown each day, working at Hurkes Implement. After graduating from high school, Lee went to college with Vocational Rehabilitation helping with tuition, fees and technical device. Lee received an Associate’s Degree in Small Engine Repairs from Mitchell Technical Institute. Lee then went to LATI and took a class to get his CDL. After getting his CDL, Nancy assisted in finding him a full-time driving job for Dependable Sanitation. Lee recently found a better paying job at Hubbard Feeds Inc., where he drives for them.

Lee was living on his own but has decided that he would move back home to assist his mother who recently had surgery. This summer, Lee is planning on building a shop out on his mother’s farm where he will be doing small engine repair part time, along with his full-time job.



DREAM JOB

Mandy Shay, DSP



Eric Aderhold started in the Project Skills program in December 2013 working at Koehn’s. Eric is a reliable employee, has a great work ethic, and is a very hard worker. It was no surprise that when funding ended through Project Skills, Koehn’s hired Eric as a permanent employee.

In September Eric made the decision that he would like to have a second job. Eric tried a couple of different businesses, but none seemed to fit the description of his “dream job”. Eric is close to his family, and one of his favorite things to do is go home on the weekends and help his family with the farms. Eric loves to be outside, and mowing lawns is something that Eric loves to do. He has even mowed lawn for Sioux Rural Water in the past. Eric is passionate and knows exactly what his dream job is; he did not want to settle for less. With the help of job coaches, contact with local elevators and seed facilities were made. An elevator located in Eric’s home town also was contacted and said they would try to find something for him. During

this process of finding Eric’s dream job, Eric applied and interviewed with South Dakota Game Fish and Parks for a seasonal maintenance position. Eric was hired and his dream of mowing lawns has come true. Eric is excited to start this new position and looking forward to getting his uniform. Way to go Eric!!



We’re on the web at www.humanserviceagency.org
Like us on Facebook! (<https://www.facebook.com/HumanServiceAgency>)

If you would prefer to receive your copy of the Umbrella electronically, please call HSA at 605-886-0123 or email leannej@humanserviceagency.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

Chuck Sherman, PhD

The fiscal year for HSA is rapidly coming to a close June 30th. It has been one more challenging, but rewarding year by most standards. We are fortunate to have a terrific work force made up of dedicated people who truly believe in helping others improve their lives. Thank you to everyone on board with us who have hung in there with us through this year.

I have been blessed to have a solid and stable management team working with me to produce excellent services under trying conditions. Staff turnover, long staff absences for medical care and losing staff to higher paying agencies makes the production and management of quality services a

real challenge. I have nothing but great praise for all the supervisory staff who meet this challenge and persevere with all of us.

We are thankful also to the Governor and our legislative representatives for the funding increases we received. It was greatly appreciated by our employees who need continued funding increases to eventually reach compensation levels equal to other state-funded agencies and community-based providers. I hope we can come together to work on a plan to continue this financial support during the next legislative session.

We're working on a new project to start this fall, we hope. Several of our professional staff from Behavioral

Health are working with Help Line out of Sioux Falls to establish a "texting" capability for students in the Watertown school system. Students in crisis, or who may know someone in a crisis who is potentially at-risk for a suicide, will be able to send a text message to the Help Line. Adolescent suicide is a serious problem. We are planning an awareness walk this fall and are actively raising funds to get this service operational. We appreciate the financial support given by the Watertown Community Foundation. We are still in need of additional donations.

As always, we continue to strive to meet the needs of the people of northeast South Dakota.

*******NEW HORIZONS*******

FUN NIGHT AT JOY RANCH

Dulcie Dailey and Monica Rudebusch, Community Services



About 50 persons were involved in a fun night planned by Joy Ranch Staff. The ponies, Flash and Peanut, were brought out first. Everyone was very excited and had big smiles on their faces. Next was a sing-a-long and everyone participated. Games such as a ring toss, attempting to throw rings on horseshoes, and GAGA ball were played until it was time to eat.

Supper was served buffet style; trivia was played to decide which tables would go through the buffet line first. Trivia included naming schools and their mascots, country music artists, and fast food places. Our table went first thanks to Zach. Whoo Hoo!!!! The meal consisted of bacon wrapped meatloaf, salad, mashed potatoes,

California medley, bread and butter. For dessert there was ice cream. While eating everyone was talking and laughing. You could tell they were enjoying themselves and there were many compliments on the delicious food.

After supper everyone went out on Main Street where they had music playing. Some people danced and some just sat and listened to the music but fun was had by all. They played a game of toss the chicken and this caused a lot of laughter. In this game a rubber chicken is put in a sling shot to see who could shoot it the farthest.

There were several comments about how much they loved Joy Ranch and wanting to go back again before it was even time to leave.



PERSON CENTERED THINKING TRAINING

Abby Lewandowski, DSP



Person centered thinking is a way of respectful listening that helps lead to positive actions and control for the people we support. We learned how to balance what is important to, and for, the people supported.

There are three levels of change that come with person centered thinking; including,

different ways to understand the people and how their environment can affect each person. We will take what we have learned and try to apply it to the people that we support. The instructors brought a lot of information and were very good at explaining it in detail.

*****Behavioral Health*****

STEP FORWARD TO PREVENT SUICIDE

Kari Johnston, COO Behavioral Health

Our community and state continue to experience the loss of our family and friends to suicide. We can all help by stepping forward to make a difference. There is help and hope through raising awareness about suicide and funding prevention programs. Locally, data demonstrates that there have been three completed suicides per year for the past three years. We know that one life is too many to lose, so what can we do about this? Prevention and Awareness efforts are under way and this year, Watertown will be hosting its first annual Step Forward to Prevent Suicide walk and run. This is a fundraiser in which half of the proceeds raised will remain in our area to bring the Crisis Text service to our high school students through the Helpline Center in SF. The other half will go directly to the Helpline, where their database will handle the crisis texting. Crisis texting allows students/adolescents to text any suicidal ideation they might be experiencing directly to the Helpline Center in a confidential manner, and connect those that text for help to resources in their area.

Step Forward offers a 1.5 mile walk, 5K fun run and remembrance ceremony. The event raises awareness and support for the Helpline Center's local suicide prevention services and survivor support programs. The walk is scheduled to take place September 20, 2015.

NAMI WALK

Lori Enstad, Vocational Specialist



On May 16, 2015 the Human Service Agency had 10 staff and clients participate in the 12th Annual South Dakota NAMI Walks at Sertoma Park in Sioux Falls SD. Despite the less than ideal weather, it is estimated there were around 250 participants.

The funds raised from the walk are used to support NAMI South Dakota and their nine local affiliates. The walks also acts as a celebration of recovery from mental illness and reinforces the message of NAMI South Dakota - "You are not alone".

The Human Service Agency is a private, non-profit organization served by a Board of Directors representing the communities served by the Agency. The Board of Directors meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Monday of each month.

**THE DIVISIONS OF THE
HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY ARE:**

New Horizons and
HSA Behavioral Health

Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Help for mental health or chemical dependency emergencies is available at all times by calling 886-5841 or 800-444-3989



**The Human Service Agency Foundation –
An Investment In The Future**

The Human Service Agency Foundation was established to promote the long-term financial strength of the Human Service Agency. Charitable contributions and bequests to the Foundation are administered by recognized financial experts for the benefit of the Agency's programs. The Foundation provides, at no cost to the individual, confidential assistance for those considering charitable giving as a part of their long range financial planning.

For More Information, Call or Write:

**Dr. Charles Sherman
Human Service Agency
P.O. Box 1030
Watertown, SD 57201-6030
(605)886-0123**