



GREEN VALLEY ENTERPRISES, INC.
Growing the Potential in People Since 1968

Visions from the Valley

December, 2018

Looking to the Next 50 Years: The Future of Green Valley Enterprises

This newsletter is the last in Green Valley Enterprises 50th Anniversary series which included the Genesis of GVE, GVE's Past and GVE's Present. In this newsletter, we'll look to the next 50 years—The Future of Green Valley. Some recent general trends will continue into the future. Programs will continue to become more individualized and more community based. In addition, GVE will continue to develop more youth oriented programs.



Birth to 3 will be implementing a Primary Coach Model. This model is thought to be more family friendly. It features one therapist as the contact point for the family versus having contact with multiple therapists. The primary coach is responsible for teaching the parents how to provide therapy for their child. In order to better cope with children impacted by the opioid epidemic, GVE Birth to 3 staff are also receiving additional training on how substance abuse affects child development.



Special Needs Activity Program (SNAP) will be offering more programming which emphasizes work skills and work readiness. If recent trends continue, SNAP will be serving more participants at a younger

age and with different more challenging needs. SNAP will be exploring how to best serve this new generation of participants while continually improving programming to accommodate the diverse range of abilities of the people that they serve.



Community Integration Programs will continue to expand youth related programs. *Life Academy* will be expanded to serve school districts beyond Beaver Dam. Summer Life Academy was completely revamped this year to provide paid work experiences at a prevailing wage in a variety of settings. We will continue to expand our work experience opportunities with the focus being on providing meaningful work experience that will lead to later employment. The Independent Living Skills Program started on September 4th. This after school program, operates from 2:30 – 5:30 PM, M-F and serves students from 12 – 16 years old. The focus of this program is to develop social, daily living, job, and money skills.

The *Meaningful Day* pilot program consists of employment (anchor), volunteer, social and recreational activities. The program is based on a See it, Try it, Do it model. The goal is for participants to develop a well-rounded community based life style. In the future, we hope to see this pilot program become permanent and grow.

Partners with Business, GVE's newest pilot program, is off to a great start. The focus of this program is to teach area businesses' staff and managers how to support individuals with disabilities in the work place. This helps create a more integrated and welcoming workplace for our participants.

Supported Employment has been an important part of GVE for the last five years. Presently GVE has about 20% of its production participants co-employed in jobs in the community. GVE has developed many programs to expose more GVE participants to their community, more often and at a younger age. Our belief is that this should lead to more individuals being employed in their community.



Green Valley Manufacturing focuses on preparing participants for the work world. They learn various manufacturing related skills and the soft skills needed to be successful

FROM THE DESK OF THE Executive Director

Continued on Page 7.

SNAP: Adaptable Programming in the Future

~Meg McKnight

The SNAP Department is fortunate to have a wonderful staff of 12 ladies who make our multifaceted program function like the proverbial “well oiled machine”!

Our daily schedule is very structured which is what our participants need to help them navigate their days and ensure that the time they spend at Green Valley Enterprises is meaningful and productive. This routine took time to develop and we are constantly scrutinizing what we do to make it even more efficient and better.

Programming is a very multi-dimensional and fluid thing as accommodations have to be made in the content of the program itself and for the participants on a daily basis, depending on many factors. Mood, weather, health, focus, energy and motivation



are all things that can affect how well we are able to engage any one client at any specific time. It can be a real juggling act!

In the coming years, I believe we will see an influx of participants that could well be younger and have different and possibly more challenging needs. This will mean that once again we will have to analyze what we are doing and how we are doing it in order to

accommodate a new era in services for people with disabilities.

With the focus of the agency becoming more community and employment oriented, we will need to augment and add new components to our programming to address these issues at a level that is appropriate for the people we serve here in the SNAP Department. I also envision more shared programming throughout the agency as we work to individualize our programs and serve the specific needs of each individual and fulfill the mission of Green Valley Enterprises.



The Future Looks Bright for GVE's Facilities and Transportation

~Bob Anderson

GVE has started a flooring project that will consist of three separate steps. The first step is replacing the staff and participant break room floors in 2018. This step should be completed within two weeks.

Step two will be started in year 2019. This step will include all the hallways and rooms 106 and 110. This step will take approximately three weeks.

Step three, and final step of the floor replacement will take place in 2020. This step will consist of our front lobby and main vestibule, six restrooms and five offices on the work floor. This step will also take approximately three weeks. The flooring is the same flooring that we have in our Special Needs area. The tile is a luxury vinyl tile that looks great, is very durable and is also slip

resistant.

Our transportation department continues to upgrade its fleet. In the year 2018, we purchased a used van and received two new 5310 WISDOT grant buses. These vehicles are being used for client community employment and client outings. We also have two new mid buses purchased with WISDOT 5310 grant funds, arriving at the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019. These two buses will be for participant transportation to and from their homes to GVE. They will also be used at our Life Academy facility.

GVE's plan is to replace its aging vehicles that have high mileage with newer or lower mileage vehicles. As we continue to expand our services by having participants interacting with the community in both social and



Please remember hats, gloves and warm coats for participants!

working atmospheres, we will continue to adjust our transportation needs.

GVE is one of the few nonprofit organizations that has this large of fleet to better serve our participants. Whether we're transporting participants to and from their homes to GVE or to job sites or on community outings, we will continue to make our participants as safe and comfortable as possible.



FROM THE DESK OF THE Executive Director

BRIAN JACOBSON

Continued from front page.

in the community workplace. In the future more participants will be leaving the program to work in community jobs and take part in community-based activities. As participants leave, their work load will shift to support staff. Manufacturing revenues should rise and will be used to support programs for GVE participants.



Adult Day Care Program's goal is to increase donations for this award winning program which primarily serves an older population of individuals with Alzheimer's, Dementia or brain injuries. This program provides needed respite for caregivers and socialization for participants. It takes many kind, dedicated staff to serve this very needy population. Wages continue to go up but funding has remained stagnant for a decade. One of GVE's near future

goals is to promote GVE's Endowment Fund so we can offset costs for much needed programs such as the Trösten Haus.

I believe GVE's future is very bright. To be successful, we need to focus on two issues.

- Increase funding to create new and sustain existing programs.
- Continue finding passionate and caring staff.

Please make an investment in GVE's future by making a donation:

Go to www.gveinc.org or call (920) 887-4282.

Refer passionate caring individuals to GVE for fulfilling employment opportunities!

Thanks for making an investment in GVE's future!

Year End Annual Appeal for Much Needed Chairs and Tables

Imagine that you are enjoying eating lunch and suddenly you find yourself on the floor. Embarrassed and possibly a little bruised, you look around and realize the chair collapsed. Now imagine the same scenario, only this time you have a disability that will make getting off the floor very difficult and your disability may have contributed to an injury from the fall. Falling to a person with disabilities is not just an embarrassing moment, it can be a safety concern.

None of our chairs were designed for people with disabilities. We need chairs with arms so people can steady themselves to stand and sit. Chairs with special supports are needed for heavier-build participants. Sturdy chairs made with lighter materials are needed so they can be moved easily by people who have limited strength and stability. Our mismatched chairs surround mismatched tables. Just like our chairs, the only thing these tables seem to have in common is that they have exceeded their useful life.

It would be wonderful to start the new year with tables and chairs that meet the needs of some very special people!

Will you help us with a donation this year?

Thank you for your gift!

Please send this form to:
1223 Madison St. Beaver Dam, WI 53916



Donate on-line at www.gveinc.org

Contribution Amount

\$100 \$300 \$500 \$1000 Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Please check with your employer to see if match grants are available for your donation. *Green Valley Enterprises, Inc. is a non-profit 501c (3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Birth to 3: Guided Into the Community

~Cassie Hurst

In Birth to 3, we strive to follow these Guiding Principles:

1. A child's Optimal Development depends on their being viewed first as a child and second as a child with a problem or disability,
2. A child's greatest resource is family.
3. Parents are partners in any activity that serves their children,
4. Just as children are best supported within the context of family, the family is best supported within the context of the community.
5. Professionals are most effective when they can work as a team member with parents and others.
6. Collaboration is the best way to provide comprehensive services.
7. Early intervention enhances the development of children.

Looking into the future, we continue to be guided by our principles and focus on community. We are actively taking the time to get our program known to families that may not have heard of us.

We are participating in local School Districts' developmental days. This event provides children under age 5 to receive a free screening to be sure they are developmentally on track. These 'days' are great opportunities to talk with local school personnel about any concerns you may have for your child to be sure that your child is developing appropriately.

We are also collaborating with local daycares to be present at their open houses, parent nights, or parent teacher conferences.



Birth to 3 is also focusing on training opportunities for our staff. We are looking into trainings related to coaching families, federal outcome ratings, Parents as Teachers, Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health and Trauma Informed Care. Stay tuned to see what exciting things happen next for Birth to 3!



A Tradition of Caring Into the Future

~ Mary Weiss

The name Trösten Haus is derived from the German words "comfort house" or as I have recently been told, "tranquility house". A very fitting translation I would have to say! Not only is the building comfortable, tranquil and home-like, the spirit and life of the people who occupy the building truly capture the essence of comfort, home and family.

There is much to be revered here; caring, creative staff who develop and modify activities and care plans routinely to better accommodate the changing needs of our elderly population, as well as, the participants who support, encourage and truly enjoy the

best parts of one another. It is definitely humanity at its best and in its truest and greatest form.

In the years to come, we expect to see a growing number of an aging population in the Dodge County area. These individuals may benefit from services from the Trösten Haus and will allow them to stay living in their homes and with their families. Trösten Haus promotes an effective alternative to long-term placement. It also enables families and primary caregivers the respite they deserve and need.



At Trösten Haus, we want people to feel like family, where they feel nurtured and cared for in a comfortable, safe environment, just like home for many years to come.



Recruiting Quality Staff Important to Production Future

~Mark Salzer

A great deal of our future production success will come from quality support staff joining GVE.

Green Valley is adding Production Specialists to our team!

Please consider joining us or recommend a friend for a tour.

These are the core values that we look for with new staff members to GVE:

- Unwavering respect for participants, families, and the agency's Mission.
- Efficient and Effective use of resources in support of agency objectives.
- Positive and forward-thinking team member; work well with others.

Our Production Support Team consists of more than 30 part time and fulltime staff members that help keep GVE strong. Our employees tell us that they appreciate the flexible work hours, the safe and productive work environment and the caring culture of teamwork as we focus on helping our participants become the best they can possibly be each day!

We have a job task that suits everyone's abilities and we highly support cross training and movement from customer job to customer job. This variety makes the work day go by very fast and we are achieving great things along the way.

Tasks include:

- Driving forklift
- Assembling
- Packaging
- Small machine operation

Growing the Potential in People Since 1968



GREEN VALLEY ENTERPRISES, INC.

1223 Madison St. | Beaver Dam, WI 53916

MEANINGFUL WORK MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Production Specialist—Part-time

Organize and assist participants with tasks such as light industrial assembly, ensure safety on the production floor and maintain high levels of quality. Must be able to communicate well with team leaders.

Skills

- Time Management
- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Teamwork



"Our participants genuinely appreciate the opportunities GVE gives them and no two days are ever the same."

-Stacy Rauscher

PERKS:

- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING
- OFF NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS
- PAID HOLIDAYS
- UP TO 29 HR/WEEK OFFERED
- PAID TIME OFF EARNED FROM 1ST DAY EMPLOYED

More Information?
Schedule a Tour!

Mark Salzer
Phone: (920) 887-4282 x 113
Email: msalzer@gveinc.org

JOIN OUR TEAM!

www.gveinc.org

Opportunity.....Flexibility.....Purpose

WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Call Mark Salzer 920-887-4282!

We Couldn't Have Done It Without You!

Thank you to the companies and individuals that have provided their services for the good of our Green Valley population! Green Valley volunteers have given their time to help lead art classes, group activities, and games. In addition, they have assisted at many of the themed parties and community outings throughout the year where they have experienced the joy of putting smiles on the faces of those we serve. You have helped with our 50th Anniversary, Ham 'N Jam, and Radiothon events. Employees, corporate volunteers and many, many family and friends of Green Valley have helped us have a successful 2018! Thank you! We Couldn't Have Done It Without You!



Employment Services

~ Craig Henrickson

Green Valley hosted their 3rd Annual Employer Recognition Breakfast with 61 people representing 26 businesses enjoying a fabulous breakfast at Old Hickory Golf Course. Employers heard directly from our participants how much the business partnership with Green Valley matters to individuals and families.

Partners with Business is an employment model that trains businesses to provide job supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Green Valley Enterprises Partners with Business program has officially started with our first business partner, Northwoods Paper Converting in Beaver Dam. Northwoods Paper Converting has hired on a number of



Partners with Business at Northwoods Paper Converting.

participants to help out in their growing business. Participants have really enjoyed working there and we look forward to growing our partnership.

As we look towards the future in Employment Services, we are working on providing more services to help our participants find their passion and explore careers. Through Student-Based Services, we are able to work with individuals at a younger age to start developing those skills that will help them be successful at school, work, and in the community. We are developing more job training programs, including programs to help individuals in job retention. Our Summer Life Academy program is providing hands on vocational training.

For more information on Green Valley Employment Programs, please call Craig Henrickson at 887-4282.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 EMPLOYMENT & PRODUCTION PARTNERS!!

Acco Brands ● Alsum Farms & Produce ● Apollo Investment Holding ● Associate Engineering ● Beaver Dam Food Pantry ● Bullfrogs and Butterflies ● Columbus Chemical ● Culver's Beaver Dam ● Dodge County Humane Society ● G & W Vending ● Golden Care Adult Day Center ● Fastenal ● Gardner ● Fisher Barton ● Gleason Reel ● Good Karma Broadcasting ● Goodwill Industries Beaver Dam ● Grace Presbyterian Church ● Great Lakes Roofing ● Horicon Hills Golf Club ● ITW Shakeproof ● JW Speaker ● John Deere Horicon Works ● John's Bar and Grill ● Key West Salon & Spa ● Kids Care Childcare Center ● Kirsh Foundry ● Kwik Trip—Juneau #324, Beaver Dam #346 and #400, Mayville #336 and #488, Fox Lak #367 and Horicon #782 ● Lamina, Inc. ● Lyco Manufacturing ● Nancy's Notions ● Old Hickory Golf Club ● PS Seasonings & Spices ● Pinnacle Foods/Ryder ● Pivot Point ● Pizza Hut - Beaver Dam ● Rainbow Connections ● Rechek's Food Pride ● Remedy Intelligent Staffing ● Richelieu Foods ● Schumann Printers ● Slumberland ● Sylvan Crossing Assisted Living ● Unmasked Expressive Therapies ● Vollrath ● Walgreens ● Walmart Supercenter ● The Y (YMCA) of Dodge County

In honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, Green Valley held their 3rd annual Employers Appreciation Breakfast in October.



Over 40 area employers and businesses were recognized for helping us help our participants reach their maximum potential.

Meaningful Day Program

~ Brook Wielgosh

The Meaningful Day program is in full swing and to say that we've been busy is an understatement. What we have been doing is something much bigger than just being "busy." We have been busy exploring our communities, growing together and learning. We have been busy discovering new hobbies and meeting new people. We have been busy learning all the many ways we can give back to our community. Each of us brings our own set of skills, ideas and passions to any situation and we are busy learning that everyone has contributions to be shared. Here are some of the many activities that have been keeping us busy:



The Meaningful Day groups have partnered with seven different locations in Beaver Dam to volunteer and give back.

The Meaningful Day groups have been trying out and discovering new hobbies and interests.... exercise classes, fishing, sewing, art, yoga and classes at the library and nature centers.



The Meaningful Day groups are organizing a Dodge County People First Chapter.

Things don't look to be slowing down any time soon as the program looks to expand out into more communities. For more information on Meaningful Day, contact *Brooke Wielgosh at 887-4282.*

Life Academy Updates

~ Meridith Winning

Green Valley Enterprise's Life Academy is the home of a transition program for students age 18-21. Since May of 2017, Life Academy is located in a new facility in the former Haas Photography building located at 110 E. Burnett St.

On Tuesday October 23, 2018, Meridith Winning, Employment and Outreach Coordinator for Life Academy, hosted a soup, salad and pumpkin bar information night for those interested in our programs. Parents, guardians and teachers gathered for a delightful dinner and were able to hear about and discuss the wide variety of program offerings at the Life Academy building. Stories about the impact of the Summer Life Academy program ruled the

night as participants and parents reflected on the memories and skills that participants developed over the summer.

Currently, we hold a school year program for students ages 18-21 that attend Monday – Friday to learn independent living and vocational skills. We also provide an after-school program for students 12-16 to learn independent living skills. We hold a 12 week summer program for students 15-21 working on soft skills to become more prepared for the work force.

Beginning November 1, 2018, we will begin taking applications for the 2019 summer LA program. This program will run from June 4, 2019 through August 23, 2019.



Summer Life Academy Work Experience

If you would like a tour of the building, an application for the upcoming summer program, or would like more information on any of the programs held at Life Academy, please contact Meridith at (920) 356-5022.



**GREEN VALLEY
ENTERPRISES, INC.**

1223 Madison St.
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

PRSR STD
NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #317
FOND DU LAC, WI



Our Mission:
We help people with special needs, and their families, achieve maximum potential and independence through an array of services.



Birth to 3



SNAP



Manufacturing



Employment



Adult Day Care



GVE Annual Meeting

January 24th, 4:00 PM 2019
At Green Valley Enterprises

Ham 'N Jam

Saturday
May 18, 2019
At the Watermark!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President—Dave Luepke
Vice President—Andrea Larson
Treasurer—Greg Armstrong
Secretary— David Genereaux

DIRECTORS

Mary Beth Bockhorst
Mark Holsapple
Shirley Kitchen
Pam Korth
Larry Lange
Patricia Ninmann
Diana Snyder
Amy McQuin
Richard Zieman



Everytime you like us or share us on Facebook, it helps to share our story and mission. Thank you!

Supported by



Of Dodge County