

"Maximizing Personal Potential through Dignified and Purposeful Living"

Dental Services for Persons Served

Seeing a dentist for your routine check-up seems a very mundane thing for most of us to do. However, our persons served have Iowa Medicaid as their insurance provider it is almost impossible to find a dentist in the Siouxland area that will accept a new patient. Fortunately, a few of OU persons served have recently been able to have a dental exam, cleaning, and x-rays thanks to the providers at Promise Community Health in Sioux Center, Iowa.

Promise Community Health Center opened in Sioux Center, Iowa in 2008 and operates as the only Federally Qualified Health Center serving the northwest corner in Iowa. The dental staff and Dentist have been outstanding to work with. Opportunities Unlimited would like to give a big shout of "THANKS" to the care provided to the persons served and education to our staff on good oral hygiene.



LEADER

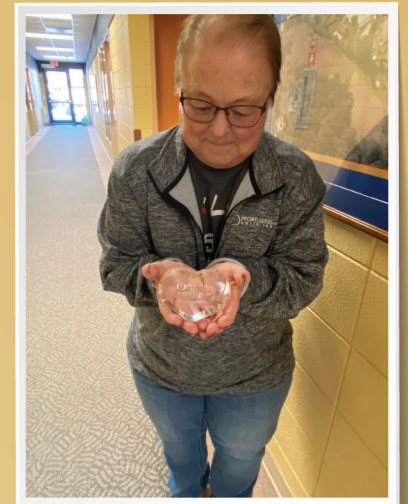
A Quarterly Publication of Opportunities Unlimited

Heart of the Mission

The Heart of the Mission (HOM) Award is OU's most distinguished award which honors an employee who has consistently gone above and beyond their typical job duties to provide exceptional care to our persons served. This year, we awarded two individuals for this award, Sheila Schumann and Richie Martin!



Sheila arrives to work early and always has a smile on her face and jumps right in to getting her job done. As a certified job coach, she takes pride in supporting individuals in their job setting and helping them to become independent. Sheila also supports other departments and often is flexible with her time and helps where she can. Sheila's humble attitude and display of the OU Mission on a daily basis is appreciated by her entire team.



Richie is a staff member that everyone enjoys working with. Active treatment is a top priority of hers and she takes great pride in making sure that

individuals served are actively engaged in whatever activity is at hand. She thinks outside of the box and goes above and beyond to advocate for those we serve. A true team player, she is able to work in every home and with all clients, and staff frequently ask when they get to work with her again.

Congratulations to both Sheila and Richie on being named our "Heart of the Mission" award recipients!

Supporting Siouxland Students

Lauryn, HCBS Coordinator, and Jennifer, President & CEO, visited Sioux City's West High School to share information about OU to the iJAG program at West High. iJAG is a career exploration and preparation program that provides an educational and hands on approach to exploring career readiness strategies. These students learned all there is to know about OU and even some special insight from their teacher, Mr. VanBuren, about his experience working at OU. Opportunities Unlimited can be a great career path for many, whether it is a "stepping stone" or permanent career. We look forward to working with students in this program who are interested in a healthcare career!



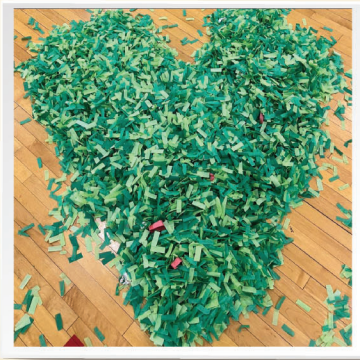
Brain Injury Awareness Month

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month and members from Opportunities Unlimited have been busy celebrating and partaking in various events.



Proclamation & Celebration

In honor of persons served, a proclamation declaring March as Brain Injury Awareness Month was held by the Sioux City Council. We are grateful that our civic leaders continue to support our organization, persons served, and causes which are the foundation for services we provide. Dan Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem, also joined our celebration at Opportunities Unlimited where we celebrated with green confetti cannons and refreshments.



State and National Conferences

Members of OU participated in state conferences held in Iowa and Nebraska. This is just one way in which team members stay connected with colleagues and learn more about industry trends and topics as they relate to our industry.



Gotta Brain Getta Helmet



Opportunities Unlimited has been leading this program for several years and is kicked off in March to coincide with Brain Injury Awareness Month. Our goal is to positively promote safety and brain injury prevention by partnering with local educators to provide our customized curriculum which highlights the importance of bicycle safety and wearing of protective equipment. This year we've been fortunate to expand this program to neighboring communities and provide a helmet to all participating students! Thank you Very Eide Sioux City for your support in this initiative!



Then and Now

A photo that encompasses exactly what OU's HCBS program is all about! Accessing our services from childhood into adulthood. How lucky are we to get to watch our individuals grow over the years! OU takes pride in the continuum of care that is offered in our organization. Between our residential/rehabilitation and community-based programs, we often have the privilege to see individuals access the programs and services needed for that point in time of their life. This young man is just one whom we've been able to see grow and flourish, we're fortunate to be part of his life!



MATP Day at OU

OU's dedicated team members and volunteers helped to make our 2nd Annual Motor Activity Training Program (MATP) Day a success! This event, led by Special Olympics Iowa, is an opportunity to bring together our persons' served



to introduce team sports, especially if they've not been able to participate in the traditional Special Olympics programs. We had an increase in participation this year and events included pickle ball, ball darts, bowling, corn hole, bocci ball, mini golf, basketball, and football. Following each of these events, everyone enjoyed the parachute activity in the gym along with the award ceremony and pizza for lunch. We look forward to making this an annual event for OU and the community!

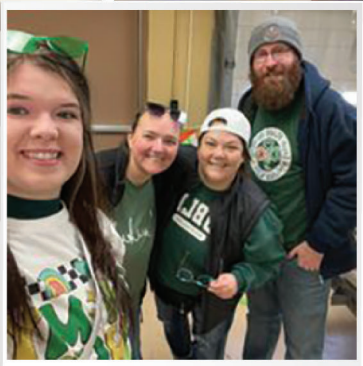


St. Patrick's Day Parade

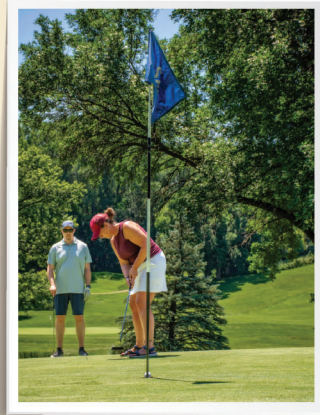
Staff members and individuals served enjoyed participating in the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Sioux City. Candy, necklaces, rings, and Irish Road Bowling bracelets were thrown



out to many attendees! Despite the cool temperatures, our OU members enjoyed supporting this popular Siouxland occasion and also generate some awareness and excitement for our upcoming OU Irish Road Bowling event in September!



OU Annual Golf Tournament



Opportunities Unlimited is preparing for the 27th Annual Golf Tournament and we're looking for your support! This is OU's primary fundraising event and is scheduled for Friday, July 19th at the Sioux City Country Club. As a non-profit organization, OU strongly relies on the Siouxland community to help support our mission; one that allows us to continue to improve and excel in the rehabilitation, therapeutic, and community services we provide. We're humbled by the continued support and enthusiasm that we see from the community. For more information on how you can support OU in this event, please contact Susan Vondrak at 712.277.8295 or svondrak@opportunitiesunlimited.com.

