

The background of the entire page is a dark blue color. It is decorated with several abstract, concentric circular patterns in a lighter shade of blue. In the upper left corner, there is a circular logo for Village Northwest Unlimited. The logo features a central graphic of a stylized 'V' with the words 'DIGNITY', 'PURPOSE', and 'PRIVACY' arranged around it. The outer ring of the logo contains the text 'VILLAGE NORTHWEST' at the top and 'UNLIMITED' at the bottom.

# THE POWER OF ONE

**VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED  
2015 ANNUAL REPORT**



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**FIND YOUR PASSION,  
THEN USE IT TO BLESS  
THE WORLD AROUND YOU.**

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**Village Northwest Unlimited**

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# THE POWER OF ONE

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD



**PAM THORNTON**  
*Chairperson of the Board*

### BOARD MEMBERS

Barry Whitsell President & CEO Sheldon, IA	Dan DeKoter Spirit Lake, IA
Pam Thornton Chairperson Archer, IA	Randy Feenstra Hull, IA
Joel Orthmann Vice Chairperson Marcus, IA	Greg Geels Sheldon, IA
Lyle Kuiper Treasurer Sheldon, IA	Kathy Landhuis Sheldon, IA
Ruth Hobson Secretary Lake Park, IA	Dr. Scott Lichty Sheldon, IA
Cindy Barwick Sheldon, IA	Pastor Doris Lindley Sanborn, IA
Heidi Brown Sheldon, IA	Duane Muecke Sheldon, IA

The Power of One! How true, how true. Take one minute to think of the most influential person in your life other than a parent. I am sure we can all come up with a name or two quite quickly. I would guess it was someone who encouraged you to do even more than you ever thought you were capable of doing. I am also quite sure that you have been of great influence to others, whether you are aware of it or not.

Here at the Village, we take each individual's talents as a resident or an employee and expand upon them, as well as match them to the needs and talents of others. As varied as the jobs are here, whether they be paid or volunteer, so are the residents. We take pride in the choices residents are able to make and are often complimented on this when we have visitors from other facilities or go through an evaluation. I know the staff becomes very important to the residents and the staff always talk about how much they get from working here. I am just so thankful for the power of each individual.

It is the responsibility of the board members to consider not only the collective good for all served by the Village but to also consider how to maximize the power of each individual. As board chair, I do not take this responsibility lightly. This is evidenced by the recent initiative to redesign the ICF/ID homes on campus. Since opening the two new homes in June, we have seen the power of one manifested in these smaller settings. House leaders report that residents are flourishing and growing in their own personal ways. Given the success we are seeing in these new homes, we are even more excited for construction to move forward on the next pair of homes. Oh how the power of one idea being acted upon will influence so many people!

As volunteers and/or financial supporters of the Village, you also hold a power of one. I encourage you to share that power because it makes such a significant difference in the lives of others. When you give time as a volunteer, you influence others around you. When you give financially, your gift is compounded with gifts from others. When people work together collectively for a cause, YOU make a meaningful difference in the lives of Village residents. You see, each action as small as it may seem, is multiplied from person to person.

Thanks to each of you for being the power of VNU!

Pam Thornton  
Chairperson of the Board



# THE POWER OF ONE

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO



**BARRY W. WHITSELL**  
*President & CEO*

### CABINET MEMBERS

Barry Whitsell  
President & CEO

Phil Grove  
Director of Admissions

Jo Johnson  
Director of Health & Therapeutic  
Services

Lisa Johnson  
Director of Development

Justin Jonas  
Chief Financial Officer

We have all heard of feats in which one individual summons incredible strength to perform a miraculous rescue or perseveres against overwhelming odds. These Power of One stories are amazing and they pull at our heart strings. Think now of those we serve here at the Village and how each and every day is filled with these Power of One stories—individuals mustering the power of mind, body and soul to deal with and overcome limitations turning them into abilities and triumphs.

Whether it is maintaining one's balance for 15 seconds on a balance ball in physical therapy, mastering a new recipe in the life skills kitchen, expressing oneself through the creation of a piece of art in the Imagine art room, or starting a new job as a carry-out at a local grocery store, each day presents a person at the Village the ability to display their Power of One. While our staff is here to encourage, teach, coach, mentor and yes, from time to time prod, it is the power of the person from within and the resolve they have that helps them to overcome exceptional odds and achieve success.

The Village is all about bringing the necessary resources together to unleash the potential of the person we are serving and making it possible for Power of One within that person to blossom. It's a privilege and honor to have a front row seat to witness, along with our staff, volunteers, donors and board members, how this power is manifested each and every day in the 180 residents of the Village. It also serves to motivate each of us at the Village to go the extra mile to make it possible for our residents to exhibit their Power of One.

As the Village celebrates its 40th anniversary, this milestone is in itself a testament to the Power of One that lives within each of us. It is the combination of all the individual Powers of One from the thousands of people who have worked for, volunteered at, and donated to the Village that make it possible for the Village to become an organization that gives rise to this Power of One.

So, as you read this annual report, consider how you have made it possible through your connection with the Village to bring about the Power of One in the people who call the Village their home.

With respect to the Power of One,

Barry W. Whitsell  
President and Chief Executive Officer



# OUR MISSION

*Unlimited in our desire to provide Purpose, Privacy and Dignity for all people.*

Annually we survey residents, parents and guardians as a measurement of how we are doing in our mission of serving individuals at the Village.

## Top 3 Strengths

*As reported in the 2015 Parent/Guardian Survey*

- Staff
- Safe Location
- Christian Atmosphere

## Ratings

*As reported in the 2015 Satisfaction Survey*

*Rating scale is 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent)*

4.5

**Consumer Satisfaction with Residential Services**

4.5

**Parent/Guardian Satisfaction with Overall Services**

4.7

**Consumer Satisfaction with Community Employment Services**

4.4

**Consumer Satisfaction with Organizational Employment Services**

# MAKING HEADLINES

## VNU in the News

### Village Northwest Opens Two New Homes

Village Northwest Unlimited hosted a ribbon cutting and open house for two new residential homes on their campus on Friday, June 12, 2015. The new homes are licensed as Intermediate Care Facility (ICF/ID) homes for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities.

The individuals served by Village Northwest Unlimited face physical and emotional obstacles on a daily basis. The Village strives to provide quality residential, vocational and therapeutic services and work as a team to develop plans and goals specific to each individual to allow them to be independent in their everyday lives. The new homes are specially designed with those unique challenges in mind. The living room and kitchen provide spacious gathering areas for meals and a family-type setting. The private bedrooms are equipped with track lifts to protect residents and staff while lifting and assisting residents. Wider hallways and doorways allow for greater accessibility throughout the home.

The new homes meet not only the needs of individuals served, but also the requirements and regulations set for homes with individuals requiring an intermediate care facility. In addition, the smaller six-person home size follows an industry trend toward placing an emphasis on having care settings smaller and more home like. "We believe that moving to a six-person home environment is going to be advantageous for those we serve," says Barry Whitsell, Village CEO. "This more intimate



*Bobbi Boon cuts the ribbon at the open house celebrating the completion of two new ICF/ID homes.*

setting will provide individuals with better care, more accessible services and a warmer home environment." These first two completed homes are part of a long range plan to construct a total of six new homes. Originally, the building plan called for two homes, with two more to follow with construction starting in 2016. Based on a number of factors including low interest rates and the rising cost of construction, the Board of Directors approved accelerating the plan and construction began on two more homes in July 2015.

"As the Board of Directors continued to evaluate the long range plan, it became clear that it makes the best financial sense to move ahead with the next two homes right away," explains Whitsell. "We want to keep construction costs as reasonable as possible and those costs continue to increase as anyone looking to build a home could relate to. Accelerating the plan allows us to provide the best possible facilities for the individuals we serve while at the same time being fiscally responsible."

### Senator Joni Ernst Tours VNU Campus

United States Senator Joni Ernst was in Sheldon Friday, April 10, 2015 as part of her 99 county tour. Ernst's visit to Sheldon included a tour of the facilities at Village Northwest Unlimited.

She was especially impressed with the way the Village integrates into the Sheldon community and the level of community support shown.

*Derek Vande Zandschulp explains the art project he is working on to Senator Joni Ernst during her April 10, 2015 visit to the VNU campus.*





# FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES OF VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED AND VNU  
FOUNDATION FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2015

**THE ONES  
WHO ARE  
CRAZY  
ENOUGH  
TO THINK  
THEY CAN  
CHANGE  
THE WORLD,  
ARE THE  
ONES THAT  
DO.** *STEVE JOBS*

## REVENUE

Program Service Revenue	\$	13,520,673	88.29%
Business Ventures		829,785	5.42%
Other Operating Income		82,946	0.54%
<hr/>			
Total Operating Revenue	\$	14,433,404	

## EXPENSES

Salaries	\$	8,552,039	58.56%
Employee Benefits		2,220,742	15.21%
Legacy Distributions		146,277	1.00%
Payroll Taxes		619,492	4.24%
Cost of Sales		229,391	1.57%
All other		2,836,721	19.42%
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Total Operating Expenses	\$	14,604,662
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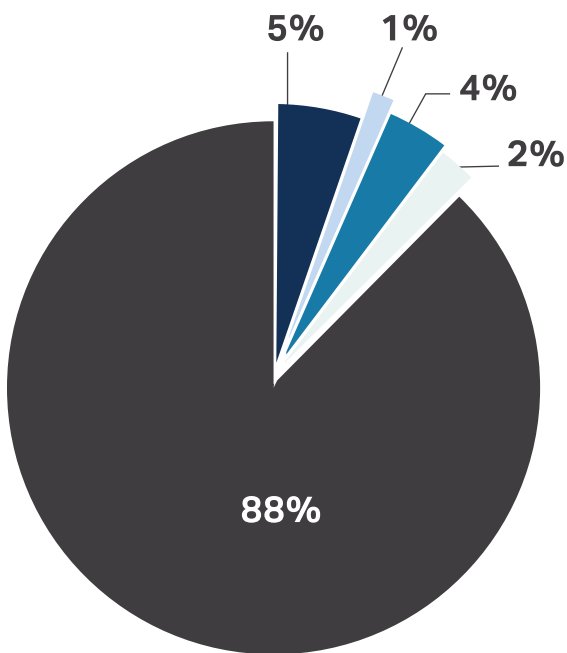
Operating Income (loss)	\$	(171,258)
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## OTHER INCOME

Contributions	\$	635,400	4.15%
Investment Income		244,615	1.60%

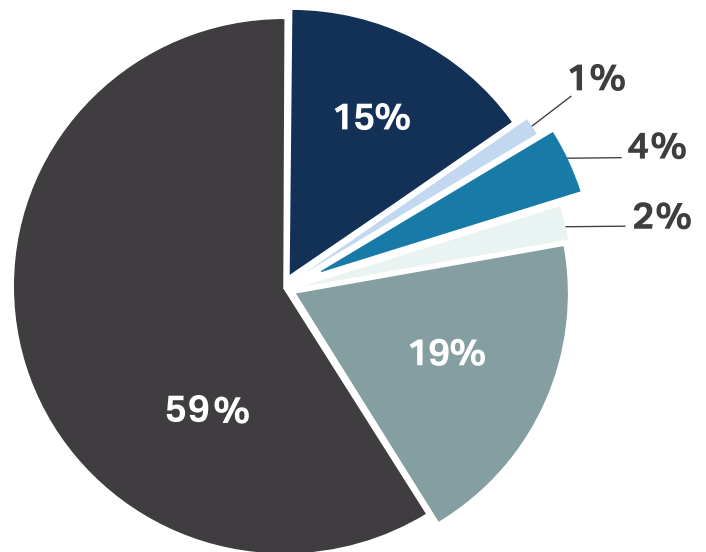
Total Operating Income	\$	880,015
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REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES	\$	708,757
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## REVENUE

- Program Service Revenue
- Business Ventures
- Other Operating Income
- Contributions
- Investment Income



## EXPENSES

- Salaries
- Employee Benefits
- Legacy Distributions
- Payroll Taxes
- Cost of Sales
- All Other

The information presented above is a summary of our Audited Financial Statements. A copy of the actual Audited Financial Statements are available upon request.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015

# YEAR IN PICTURES



*Phil Grove, VNU Director of Admissions, visits with one of the shoe recipients at a foot washing station while serving on a Soles4Souls shoe distribution trip to Costa Rica.*



*Keith Krumm finishes strong at the 10th annual Run, Walk & Roll event.*



*The Village Panthers are pictured with the Dingers, high school aged softball players from the Sheldon area, at the first annual Panthers in the Park softball scrimmage event.*



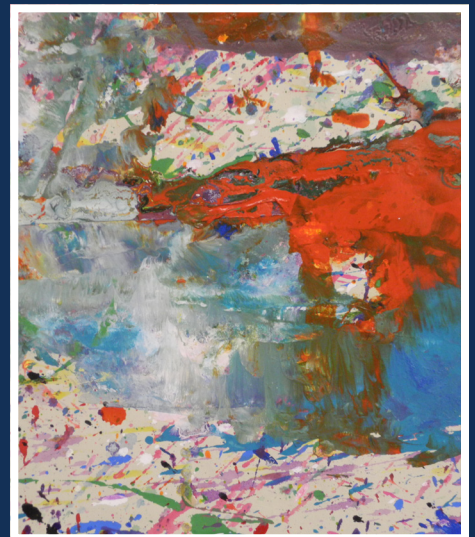
*Participants take off from the starting line during the 10th annual Run, Walk & Roll.*



*The July 3 Independence Day celebration provided many activities for people to participate in including carnival games.*



*People attending the annual Independence Day celebration at VNU set up lawn chairs and blankets to watch a live performance by Kelsey K followed by a fireworks show.*



*This artwork was created by individuals in the Music and Motion program. Their technique was throwing eggshells filled with paint at a canvas.*





Members of the Action committee took a trip to Des Moines to advocate for individuals with disabilities.



Shanna Korthuis works to get fishing bait ready for packaging.



VNU artist in residence Krista Van Bruggen works with Meagan Bonestroo on a painting in the Imagine Room.



Certified music therapist, Natalie Hoover, plays guitar while Cameron and David play sticks in Music Therapy.



Molly and Matt are ready to serve lunch at the 15th annual Benefit Golf Tournament.



The Motorheads group pauses to take a picture during their visit to Ziegler CAT's Sheldon location.



Rose White works to keep offices tidy.



# BREAKING BARRIERS AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

## 2014-2015 PARTICIPANTS

**ARENS, NICOLE** // Bowling, Volleyball, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball

**ARMER, AARON** // Bowling

**ARRICK, ZACH** // Volleyball, Basketball, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball

**BONESTROO, MEAGAN** // Bowling, Athletics

**BOLLUYT, BRITTANY** // Bowling

**BOYLE, KATIE** // Bowling, Athletics

**BROUNKO, RANDY** // Bowling

**BUURMAN, AUSTIN** // Volleyball, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball Skills

**CARPENTER, KEVIN** // Bowling, Athletics

**CARTER, JOHN** // Bowling, Athletics

**DELIER, JERRY** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills

**DYKSHORN, LEAH** // Bowling

**ELLIS, TODD** // Athletics

**ESPEY, DARCY** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball

**FREED, JENNIFER** // Bowling, Athletics

**FRIEDLAND, BRAD** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball Skills

**GRAVES, ERIC** // Athletics

**GROEN, JUSTIN** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball

**GROOTERS, JANET** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills, Soccer Skills

**HEIMAN, LADEL** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics

**HERRIG, PAIGE** // Bowling

**KASS, LEA** // Bowling, Softball Skills

**KENNEDY, KAREN** // Bowling, Athletics

**KRAMER, MATT** // Volleyball, Basketball, Athletics, Softball

**KRAMER, MIKE** // Volleyball, Basketball Athletics, Bocce ball, Softball

**KRUMM, KEITH** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball, Softball

**LANDHUIS, STEPHANIE** // Basketball Skills, Athletics, Bocce Ball, Softball

**LINDLEY, MARLA** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics

**LIST, JOHN** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball, Athletics, Softball

**MAGARIL, JORDAN** // Athletics



*Stephanie Landhuis competes in the turbo javelin throw in Ames, IA*

**MC DONALD, MOLLY** // Bowling, Athletics

**MERLEY, MIKE** // Bowling

**ORTHMANN, MALEAH** // Basketball Skills, Athletics

**PETERSEN, MATT** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball, Athletics, Softball

**STEFFENS, TIM** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills

**STEWART, BOB** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball, Athletics, Bocce ball, Softball

**STOLL, MATT** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Soccer Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills

**STOWE, KAY** // Athletics

**SWEENEY, PEGGY** // Bowling, Athletics

**SWOYER, CHRIS** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics

**SWOYER, MARY** // Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills

**TODD, SHAWN** // Softball

**TOPF, ANDY** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills

**VAN ENGEL, LES** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Softball Skills

**VANDER HAMM, TERI** // Bowling

**VOGEL, ROGER** // Athletics

**WASSENAAR, CHAD** // Volleyball, Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills

**WEBB, JESSICA** // Basketball Skills, Athletics, Soccer Skills, Softball Skills

**WHEELER, SCOTT** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball, Athletics, Bocce Ball, Softball

**WHITE, CHARLES** // Volleyball, Bowling, Basketball, Athletics, Softball





**Let me win. But if I cannot win,  
let me brave in my attempt.**

*- Special Olympics Athlete Oath*



**TOP LEFT:** Matt Stoll raises his hand in celebration of his award at the Special Olympics competition in Ames, IA.

**TOP RIGHT:** VNU Panthers Basketball team scrimmages at Dordt College in Sioux Center, IA.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Les Van Engen leads the crowd in the Panther cheer.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Austin Burrman competes in the soccer skills competition in Ames, IA.





# HY-VEE OF SHELDON, IA

## ***2015 Business Partner of the Year***

For the past several years, Village Northwest Unlimited has recognized a special employer who provides meaningful employment opportunities for individuals we serve. This year, our staff has unanimously selected Hy-Vee as our 2015 Business Partner of the Year. This is the second time that Hy-Vee has been selected for this honor, the first being in 2003.

The relationship between Hy-Vee and Village Northwest Unlimited is long, dating back to 1994 when two individuals were hired as part time staff. Since then, the two organizations have worked side-by-side to encourage positive employment experiences for individuals served by the Village. In 2003, when Hy-Vee first received this honor, it was written: "Hy-Vee sees the abilities in people. They are interested in helping people be successful and they encourage this throughout their organization."



In 2015, these statements remain true.

To date, the Village has 40 individuals who are competitively employed in the community. This means that the individuals earn minimum wage or above and are compensated directly by the organization that employs them. Of those competitively employed, nine are Hy-Vee employees. This demonstrates a tremendous commitment to the Village as well as a testament to the skills that people with disabilities offer as part of the work force.

"We truly appreciate the opportunities and coaching that the Hy-Vee organization has extended to our residents," says Leah Timmer, VNU Community Employment Specialist. "They look forward to going to work each day because they are treated at the company as any other employee." Individuals from the Village can be found working in a variety of positions in the store, not only the courtesy (carry out) positions. Timmer shares, "Hy-Vee department managers have been very quick to recognize that individuals may be ready to take on additional responsibility or try different positions in the store. This really enhances their skills and opens additional opportunities to them."

Hy-Vee's slogan is "where there's a helpful smile in every aisle." "We have a real appreciation for our employees that come to us through the Village because they are always happy, friendly, and portray that personality we want to show our customers," says J.J. Hesnard, General Manager, Hy-Vee Sheldon. "It makes it easy to continue hiring individuals referred by the Village because they do an awesome job. They set the bar for others in terms of how we want our employees to treat customers and maintain a positive attitude."

*Kevin loads groceries and helps customers carry them to their car.*

# LOOK FOR THESE HELPFUL SMILES IN HY-VEE'S AISLES



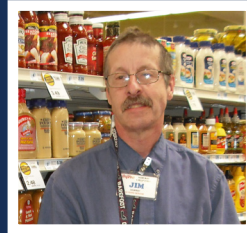
Aaron



Charles



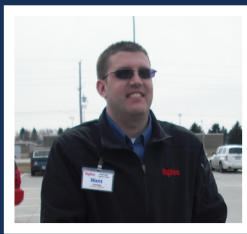
Jessica



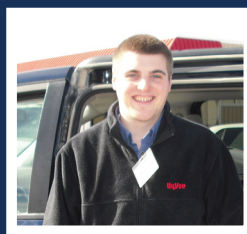
Jim



John



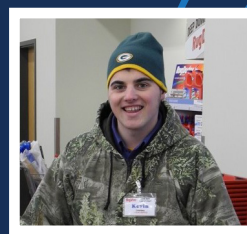
Matt



Michael



Scott



Kevin

For employers in the area, the landscape has really changed. It's more and more difficult to find employees who are available to work the hours where staffing is needed. Employers have had to adjust their thinking regarding scheduling. "Where a few years ago, we might look for three people to cover full day shifts during the week, we now need eight people to cover that same time period because individuals are working multiple jobs or balancing family or school in addition to their job," says Hesnard. "We've adapted to the changing work force with additional flexibility and cross training where appropriate. Individuals from the Village offer employers another source for qualified employees."

The relationship has been a good one. The store has been flexible in scheduling around activities and other life circumstances. "Co-workers have been supportive as well," says Timmer. "Transportation can be an issue for individuals. There are several times where co-workers have offered rides and helped individuals out. It's just amazing how helpful the entire organization is."

When asked what he would share with other employers considering working with Village Northwest Unlimited for staffing, Hesnard shares, "Our experience has been that the Village is not going to recommend someone unless they are prepared with the skills needed to work in the store. The communication and support provided by the vocational staff has been great. We think of Leah and the Village as an extension of our team."

"We have the same goal in mind," says Hesnard. Both Hy-Vee and the Village want employees to be successful in their position. Support and job coaching from the Village enables that to happen."

The 'power of one' started with Hy-Vee in 1994 when store leaders hired the first individuals. Today, the ripple effect has been amazing. Thank you, Hy-Vee, for partnering with Village Northwest Unlimited in our mission to provide Purpose, Privacy and Dignity to those we serve.





Jessica (in red) accepts her award at the Special Olympics Competition.

# JESSICA WEBB

## *Impacting Others Through Work and Art*

Upon meeting Jessica Webb for the first time, I immediately noticed her warm, welcoming smile. My first impression was that she seemed very feminine, a girly girl of sorts with her clothes, hair and makeup done 'just right'. As I sat in her home to visit with her for this story, I felt like I could just as easily be chatting with my niece. She's quite easy to talk to.

Jessica was born at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina while her parents were serving in the United States Air Force. After she completed 9th grade, her family moved to Le Mars, IA. She graduated from high school in Le Mars in 2010 and began receiving services from Village Northwest Unlimited in 2011.

During her time at VNU, Jessica has had opportunity to try multiple jobs through vocational programming and job coaching. She has held different positions including working at House #358 (on the VNU campus) helping with kitchen tasks such as dishes and general cleanup. She has provided vacuuming services to keep the sales floor clean at the Treasure Chest. Now employed in the community, she's found that she prefers helping people through her courtesy job at Hy-Vee in Sheldon where she has been working for over 1 ½ years.

Jessica shares that what she likes best about her work is helping people and interacting with them. She can tell when people have had a tough day and being able to help them out gives her a sense of accomplishment.

It's not all work and no play for Jessica. She loves to create things in her free time. She's a fabulous artist, creating paintings that encourage others with whatever they are facing. One of her favorite pieces is one she created in support of someone she has never met. Hearing Krista Van Bruggen, Artist in Residence at VNU, talk about one of her friends who was battling breast cancer, Jessica was inspired to create a painting as encouragement for Krista's friend. The painting featured the words 'I Am Holding On to You' with a light purple background and glitter streaks throughout. Jessica says, "Hearing about someone going through cancer just inspired me to do something that will encourage them to fight. It doesn't matter what kind of cancer it is, they need to stay strong and fight until every last bit of cancer is gone."

In visiting with Jessica, it is clear that she has a passion for helping people and giving back to the community. She's quick to share that she gives back to the community in other ways too. She regularly participates in monthly blood drives. "One pint of blood saves three people's lives," she explained.

One of Jessica's friends taught her to crochet and she now creates beautiful scarves. During our visit she showed a delicate cream colored scarf with shiny gold trim. She likes to read, participates in Special Olympics, attends First Reformed Church in Sheldon, and participates in Bible study with Mike Molettiere, Spiritual Services Coordinator at VNU.

Jessica recently moved into a different waiver home in Sheldon where she has roommates who like to have fun and be on the go. They are special group, referring to themselves as 'The Flamingos', which has a special meaning that only other Flamingos have the privilege of knowing. They do things together like travel to Sioux City where they like to go out to eat and shop.

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## I AM HONORED AND BLESSED BY HER GIFT.

- *Chris Dykstra*

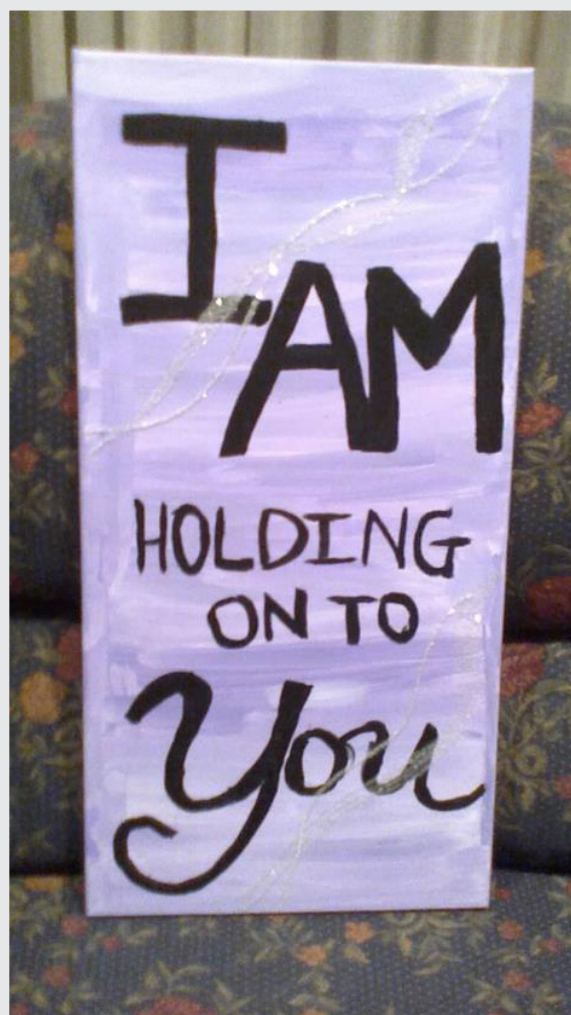
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One of Jessica's goals is to become more efficient in the kitchen and she's working with her residential skills trainer to hone her skills. She recently prepared creamy chicken Ritz casserole for herself and her roommates. It was tasty. The trick she shared is to cook the chicken in the crock pot during the day which makes it easier to shred for the casserole and it will finish faster in the oven.

Good advice.

In Jessica's quiet and consistent way of helping others, she is creating a ripple effect in the world. Think of her acts of kindness as if tossing a pebble into a calm lake. She creates a gentle ripple that moves from shore to shore.

Imagine the world if we were all a little more like Jessica.



## CREATING RIPPLES

*Chris Dykstra*

This is what I get to look at every day. Jessica, a gal from Village Northwest Unlimited in Sheldon, made this after Krista Van Bruggen told her about me and my cancer. Krista showed her the post I made after the Christmas service at church when they played "I AM" by Crowder and saw how much that meant to me. I DO feel the Great I Am holding me every day. Jessica made this painted canvas just for me! It is a wonderful gift from a gal that doesn't even know me but made it very personal to me. I am honored and blessed by her kind deed. It doesn't show well in the picture, but it is veriegated purple has some glitter streaks going over it. Thank you Jessica for such a beautiful gift.





Jasmine works with staff to weave a mug rug using a loom.

# JASMINE FURMAN

She is just a little behind. She will catch up. It's ok.

As a baby, there were milestones that Jasmine wasn't accomplishing. She was tiny, born three weeks premature. She had trouble keeping her formula or food down to the point of regular projectile vomiting. Where many babies have the reflex action to stand and bear weight, Jasmine didn't. She would draw her legs up towards her body. These things didn't seem like a big deal. She's a little behind and she would catch up.

As time went on, Jasmine continued to have problems gaining weight and meeting other developmental milestones. She had stomach surgery as a toddler to repair her upper valve (Nissan fundoplication) and the lower valve (pyloric plasty) at the same time. With these repairs, her food would stay down and exit the stomach like it should. Jasmine made progress, but then eventually started to regress. She had started to roll over and actually follow Mom from room to room. She stopped. She had started to say words. She stopped. Jasmine never crawled. At fifteen months, she

started seeing doctors at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, IA, and undergoing tests three days a month. With each visit there was something that her mother, Anne, would report that she had been doing but was now not doing. "The doctors thought I was making this stuff up," says Anne. "Since Jasmine was so small, the dieticians even questioned if I was feeding her. They actually called back to our local doctors asking if what I was saying could be true."

At the time, the buzzword language for children with disabilities was 'developmentally delayed'. Doctors would say that Jasmine was developmentally delayed, but they had no actual diagnosis. Family interpreted that as nothing more than, "Jasmine is behind and she will catch up." That wasn't the case. It was a hard day when that message was finally made crystal clear by a nurse who pulled Anne aside and said the words that no parent wants to hear. And then, full realization of what was happening set in. Yet, so many questions were not answered. What was going on?

Jasmine's mother tells of regularly putting Jasmine to bed at night only to hear giggling from her room a few hours later. Anne would go to her room and find her awake, giggling to herself in bed. Anne would rub her back and help her fall back to sleep and think nothing more of it. Giggling is good, right? It's not like she's crying or screaming from a bad dream. Who would think you should be concerned about something like that?

This, Anne would find later, was actually a symptom of the syndrome that Jasmine would eventually be diagnosed as having. On one of the visits to see the Iowa City doctors, a preschool teacher of Jasmine's had accompanied Anne and Jasmine. As Anne tended to Jasmine's appointments, Jasmine's teacher was talking to other teachers and nurses and someone suggested they ask the doctor about Rett Syndrome. She told Anne about what she'd learned and Anne asked the doctor.

A light bulb went on.

The doctor reviewed a list of symptoms and behaviors with Anne that seemed to fit exactly the things they had experienced for so long with Jasmine. Including the night giggling. "It was unreal how the list of symptoms matched Jasmine's experience," said Anne. At that time, there wasn't a test, definitely no treatment, and no cure. Rett Syndrome is not something you "want", but finally everything Jasmine had been experiencing made sense.

Finally, an answer and a name for what was happening to Jasmine. With that came a sense of direction for how to support her needs going forward.

Anne shares, "My mother warned me that the day would come that Jasmine would need more care than I could give her on my own. She told me that Jasmine would need to live in a home with others like her. She said that when the day came, as her mother, I would not be ready to let her go, but that Jasmine would be ready and I would need to do what was right for Jasmine."

That time arrived when Jasmine was only 6 years old. Anne visited Faith Hope & Charity in Storm Lake, IA, a home for children with disabilities. Anne said, "I went to visit completely determined to hate the place." But she

didn't hate it at all. In fact, it turned out to be a wonderful place for Jasmine with many activities and ways for her to develop relationships with others.

Rett Syndrome patients tend to develop Scoliosis because their muscle tone does not support their body. That was the case for Jasmine. In 1999, she had surgery to perform a spinal fusion with instrumentation, a procedure where her vertebrae were fused together and metal rods were placed along her spine. She did well with the surgery. "It was incredibly difficult upon leaving the hospital after surgery and returning to Faith Hope and Charity with Jasmine. She was a long way from being totally recovered, but I brought her back and in a way saying 'here's my child after surgery, you take care of her'. They provided wonderful care and everything was just fine," says Anne.

Faith Hope & Charity serves children until age 18.

"They do prepare you to look for adult services so you are ready when the time comes," says Anne. Jasmine transitioned from her children's home in Storm Lake to Sioux City, IA, and Mid-Step Services. She repeated high school, graduating in 2005 from West High.

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## FROM THE FIRST VISIT, VNU JUST FELT LIKE HOME.

- Anne Furman

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In 2010, Jasmine moved to Sheldon and Village Northwest Unlimited. "From the first visit, VNU just felt like home," said Anne. "I saw the care environment and knew this was exactly where Jasmine should be." Another move might be difficult, but the transition to VNU was pretty simple for Jasmine. She settled in easily. Jasmine made another transition this past June as she moved into one of the new homes constructed on the VNU campus. "She's thriving here," says Anne.

As part of her care at the Village, Jasmine participates in programs including life skills, communication therapy, and physical therapy. Jasmine does not speak but she

*Furman story continued on next page...*





*Jasmine relaxes at Village Northwest Unlimited.*

definitely communicates her wishes. "They say that the eyes are the window to the soul," says Anne. "Jasmine communicates with her eyes and facial expressions. Once you learn to communicate and pay attention to what Jasmine is telling you, it becomes much easier to understand her." Anne continues, "When given options, Jasmine will stare or fixate on the one that she prefers. She will make a face to clearly show that she does not agree with something."

"Recently, I was talking with Jasmine and one of her caregivers at VNU about whether or not we should cut her hair. We were going on about how cute a shorter cut would be. Jasmine put a stop to it right away. She pulled a face that clearly told us, you are NOT going to be cutting my hair." It was the end of the discussion. Jasmine had expressed her wishes.

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**JASMINE SEEMS TO BE MAKING STEPS FORWARD.  
I THINK IT'S ABSOLUTELY DUE TO HER CARE AND  
THAT SHE IS HAPPY AT THE VILLAGE.**

**- Anne Furman**

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In January of this year, Jasmine visited Gillette Children's Hospital in St. Paul, MN, where doctors believe she's doing well. "There was a time in our lives where each doctor visit would be about how Jasmine is losing ground. Now, we've reached a point where she seems to be making steps forward. I think it's absolutely due to her care and that she is happy in her Village home," says Anne.

Sandy Hart, residential leader at Village Northwest Unlimited shares, "Jasmine is just so fun to be around. She loves when staff use a lot of animation as they talk with her, big hand gestures and those types of things. Jasmine will get to giggling and it's so contagious. There's no way anyone can have a bad day after listening to that giggle. She has a positive impact on others around her."

Jasmine is her own person. She really doesn't need to 'catch up' to others in the way the world might define. The world loves her the ways she is. One person, making a difference in the lives of others, that's Jasmine. It's ok.



# UNDERSTANDING RETT SYNDROME

Rett Syndrome is a neurodevelopmental disorder that almost exclusively affects girls. The course of Rett Syndrome, including the age of onset and severity of symptoms, varies by child. Before symptoms begin, the child generally appears to grow and develop normally, although there are often subtle abnormalities in early infancy, such as loss of muscle tone, difficulty feeding, and jerkiness in limb movements. Then, gradually, mental and physical symptoms appear. As the syndrome progresses, the child loses purposeful use of her hands and the ability to speak. Other early symptoms may include problems crawling or walking and diminished eye contact. This loss of functional use of the hands is followed by compulsive hand movements such as wringing and washing. The onset of this period of regression is sometimes sudden. Rett Syndrome is most often misdiagnosed as autism, cerebral palsy, or

non-specific developmental delay. Life expectancy for individuals with Rett Syndrome is unknown as there is not much data available as the disease has only been generally recognized since 1983.

There is no cure for Rett Syndrome. Treatment focuses on the management of symptoms. Medication may be needed for breathing irregularities, motor difficulties, and seizures. Regular monitoring is needed for Scoliosis and possible heart abnormalities. Occupational therapy can help children develop skills needed for self-directed activities like dressing, feeding, and practicing arts and crafts. Physical therapy and hydrotherapy may prolong mobility. Special academic, social, vocational and support services may be required.

**RETT SYNDROME IS A  
NEURODEVELOPMENTAL  
DISORDER THAT  
ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY  
AFFECTS GIRLS.**

.....

*There is no cure for Rett Syndrome. Treatment focuses on the management of symptoms.*



Jordan poses with his family at the 10th annual Run, Walk, and Roll.



# JORDAN MAGARIL

## *Drawing People in with Personality*

Imagine thinking your child is right next to you and when you turn around they're not there. Oh no. Where is he? Then you spot him talking to a stranger. The stereotypical biker guy kind of stranger. A huge guy dressed in full motorcycle gear with a large number of tattoos.

"There is something about Jordan that draws people in," says Sue Magaril, Jordan's mother. "Jordan will just walk up and start talking to a big motorcycle guy about his tattoos. The next thing you know they are laughing and carrying on a conversation."

Jordan chimes in, "I give mom a heart attack." Jordan's dad, Myles, adds, "He has no fear of people. Jordan doesn't

make judgements about people that you and I might make based on what we see."

When Jordan was born, Sue and Myles were told that in addition to Downs Syndrome, he had other health problems. His tiny heart had a hole in it that would likely require surgery. Doctors said he had hip dysplasia that would require surgery to break and repair his bones. Finally, they told them that he was deaf. He spent the first 19 days of his life in ICU.

Sue and Myles were told that they could put Jordan in a home right away. "I remember being told that we didn't have to take Jordan home," says Myles. "We were speechless. What?

Why wouldn't we take our son home? It was unbelievable. It was not ever a question."

There was a lot about Jordan that the doctors were wrong about. First, he wasn't deaf at all. It turns out that because he was so little at birth, the instruments they used to measure hearing were too large for his tiny ear canals and didn't work for Jordan. The hip dysplasia and surgery that they said would be needed never materialized; he was fine. And the hole in his heart? It healed on its own.

Jordan attended grades K-12 in the MOC-FV school district in Orange City, IA. While kids had always been accepting of Jordan as they were growing up, at



about 6th grade the family started to notice that he was no longer being included in social events. They understood. Jordan was different and though people were kind to him, he didn't always fit in well. Jordan has never been a fan of crowds or large venues like a high school gym. So, when he decided to take the stage at graduation to receive his diploma, he received a standing ovation.

After high school in October 2013, Jordan began attending day programming at Village Northwest Unlimited. In June 2014, he moved to Sheldon where he lives in a waiver home in the community. Since making Sheldon his home, Jordan has changed in many ways. Vocationally, his skills have increased. He's improved his skills in the many jobs he's tried ranging from recycling sorting to hand assembly to food service. He currently works one day a week at Staples in Orange City, IA. Other work time is spent in training at the work center environment at Northwest Enterprises.

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## HAVING JORDAN HAS TOTALLY CHANGED MY PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE. HE'S TAUGHT US SO MUCH MORE ABOUT REALLY LIVING LIFE.

- Myles Magaril

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Sandy Buffington-Lloyd, Jordan's vocational trainer, shares, "Jordan has a lot of energy, just not always for work. He's matured so much since starting here and is so good at hand assembly work."

His parents share that Jordan's sense of independence has increased as well. He's learning to adapt to his environment and better relate to others. He's developed new friendships and now has a social network of peers that he enjoys spending time with. His world has been opened up to more people and more experiences through the Village.

When asked what their impression of Village Northwest Unlimited has been, the answer is "more than I thought it would be." Myles shared, "We didn't expect for Jordan to want to stay in Sheldon and not come home with us on the weekends. Sure, we wanted for him to be more independent. But we thought that should happen on our timeline when we were comfortable with it. Instead, it happened faster and as parents we were not quite ready for that change in him."



*Jordan works on his art, a favorite activity.*

"We appreciate that the Village is about both personal development as well as work development for Jordan," shares Sue. "We're impressed with all the activities that are available and the dignity with which people are treated."

"Raising Jordan hasn't been all rainbows and cotton candy," says Myles. "There have been a lot of tough times." Sue adds, "Jordan is very strong willed, but those struggles have gotten to be fewer as he's gotten older and has better reasoning skills."

Stranger or not, Jordan impacts those around him. He makes people laugh and he likes to lend a hand to help others.

"Having Jordan has totally changed my perspective on life," says Myles. "I would say that I shied away from people with disabilities because I wasn't sure how to act. Jordan has changed all that. He's taught us so much about really living life."

Both Sue and Myles agree: Jordan is thriving here and that's been great to see.

# VOCATIONAL AND THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

The Village has long been known to be creative in their strategies to help individuals served exceed their personal goals. For over 40 years, staff have been working to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities. Acts of kindness and service, both large and small, have rippled through the organization.

This all started with Bob Hoogveen's vision for Village Northwest Unlimited. It began with a trip to visit a friend at Handicap Village in Clear Lake, IA. Bob's vision and tenacity 'encouraged' others to support and create the wonderful organization we have today. The creativity continues in every area, from maintenance, to vocational opportunities, to baking in the kitchen. Adaptive devices and unique concepts provide the groundwork for assisting our individuals in their success.

## ***Vocational Services***

VNU has implemented several adaptive devices that assist individuals in their various work opportunities. For example, buttons and switches are used on the shredding lines to allow individuals the ability to shred paper. Jigs have been designed so an individual can successfully assemble medicine droppers with a single hand. This jig holds the medicine dropper in place so the bulb can be attached. He processes these faster than many who use two hands. It's really amazing to witness!

Another type of jig helps individuals to label and package items. The jig has a place for an adhesive label and guides for where to place a long plastic tube that will eventually hold welding rods. The specialty jig ensures that the labels are placed correctly on the product.

Whether working on contract work in the work center, or with job coaches in community employment settings, our individuals are learning skills they need to be successful in their work. They have purpose in having a job and the dignity of earning a paycheck.

## ***Therapeutic Services***

Our therapists work in a variety of areas to make sure that specific needs of individuals are met. This includes focus areas such as communication, physical therapy, occupational therapy, music therapy, life skills training, and more. The overall philosophy is to meet people's personal needs – whatever they may be.



*A group of individuals work to create a banner in support of the Panthers.*

When it comes to communication therapy, VNU offers far more than just verbal speech skills. For example, some individuals choose not to speak because they believe they have nothing to add to the conversation or they are unsure how to participate in a conversation. Our goal is to provide life experiences so the individual does have something to say. For some, the experience of ordering their own meal at a restaurant is a giant step toward becoming more socially independent. For another, it may mean using tools like an iPad with a communication app to help explain their symptoms to a doctor at the clinic.



"We really want people to advocate for themselves as much as possible and to be as independent as possible," states Richard Ludeke, Speech Language Pathologist Assistant, Village Northwest Unlimited.

Therapy appears in many forms and in unique places. What on the surface looks like a group working in the kitchen preparing some amazing treats, is much more than that. "Our approach to therapy is multi-dimensional," says Cheri Brunsting, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Village Northwest Unlimited. "We try to capitalize on as many teachable moments as possible. Our goal is to help individuals express their wants and needs and we use a variety of tools to facilitate that."

One group in particular works together to give back to the community through their time in the kitchen. Each week they choose a community group to bless with their baked goods. As a group, they discuss who they will prepare treats for, how they might react to receiving their surprise delivery, and what they will make. When there are parts they need assistance with, the group directs their trainer to do those tasks. Brunsting says, "The projects in the kitchen

help individuals practice making small talk and visiting with others which are skills needed in the community. When they can become more confident in their communication skills with others, they can be more successful in the community." Brunsting continues, "Similar to how reading and math skills are combined in traditional school classrooms, we combine therapy skills here to help the person as a whole, not just part of who they are."

Cooking is simply the tool that is used to learn to socialize, give instruction, or express wants and needs. They learn to converse in social situations and ask questions of others to make conversation. The group takes a lot of pride in giving back to the community. Of course, the smell of baked goods always attracts attention. When visitors stop in the kitchen, the group enjoys teasing visitors that, "these treats aren't for you."

Brunsting shares, "People tend to put limits on others and even on themselves. With training, practice, and a bit of creativity, we see that people are able to do way more than they originally thought was possible."



**LEFT** Jared Meadows pairs shoes together for Soles4Souls.

**ABOVE** Residents work on making chocolate chip cookies in the Life Skills Kitchen. The program combines many skill areas including occupational therapy, communication and life skills.

AUTISM AFFECTS

# 1 IN 68

CHILDREN

AND IS ALMOST 5  
TIMES MORE COMMON  
IN BOYS THAN GIRLS

.....

*Autism is the  
fastest-growing serious  
developmental  
disability in the world.*



# WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are characterized by social-interaction difficulties, communication challenges and a tendency to engage in repetitive behaviors. Have you ever heard someone say, "If you have met one person with Autism, you have met ONE person with Autism?" This statement is in reference to the degree that Autism symptoms and their severity vary widely across these three core areas. Taken together, they may result in relatively mild challenges for someone on the high functioning end of the autism spectrum. For others, symptoms may be more severe, as when repetitive behaviors and lack of spoken language interfere with everyday life.

Presently, the rate of ASD stands at 1 in 68 children, with boys 5 times more likely than girls to receive this diagnosis. As referenced earlier, ASD is diagnosed when a person displays significant impairment in social interactions and social communication skills along with impairments resulting in restricted interest and repetitive behaviors. Recent research has shown that autistic individuals have biological or neurological differences, yet no single gene is responsible for the disorder, nor has a cause for these differences been identified. Some reports have shared

that as many as 250 different genes have been identified as playing a role in the way autism is expressed in an individual. If this is true, it's not surprising that we see such a variety of unique individuals with ASD. It really underscores the phrase "If you have met one person with Autism, you have met ONE person with Autism."

Village Northwest Unlimited has made a commitment to establishing a program designed to assist adults diagnosed with ASD during the critical transition period after having graduated from high school. Some of the highlights undertaken by VNU in the past year include:

- The identification of a residential home in the community to concentrate programming and support for those with ASD
- ASD specific training and support to VNU employees
- Collaboration with vocational programs to provide ASD employment training
- Training and national certification of Registered Behavior Technicians for the ASD residential and vocational program

Currently we are in the process of investigating the effectiveness of transition services provided to adults with ASD. Families are accustomed to a level of services and supports offered at no cost through public education and special education programs. However, part of the transition to the adult services world requires that families and individuals with ASD leave familiar school-based services in which they have special educators guiding them. After graduation, families must take on the role personally and navigate the unfamiliar world of adult services and programs. VNU believes that we can assist families through this challenging process.

We will continue to expand ASD services. Since the inception of the first ASD residential program at VNU, demand for the program has shown potential to exceed our current capacity. The Village is committed to continued growth and will lead the way with innovative programs for individuals with ASD.



**Ryan Groeneweg**  
Director of Autism Services

# THE POWER OF ONE ACCOMPLISHMENT

*As part of the annual survey of parents/guardians, we asked the question:  
What has your loved one done this past year that you are proud of?*

**The responses show a pattern of accomplishment, the ability to overcome obstacles, and the amazing power of the individual.**

- She has handled having her favorite friend and roommate move to another house
- She handled the death of her grandfather very maturely
- Accepted and progressed through her dad's death
- Proud of her willingness to participate in Special Olympics and her continued improvement with her weight and physical health
- Decreased aggressive behaviors, successful camp experience, good-byes are less dramatic
- She seems to have adjusted to the new experience very well
- He has become more confident
- Increased independence and willingness to do more things on his own
- He has made much improvement on being more independent and making decisions on his own
- Learning to cook
- Greatly improved behavior issues
- Seems to be socializing more
- Going to Staples and working in the community
- The joy she brings to others and how she has persevered through the pain and challenges of her broken ankle
- Everything she does makes us proud of her
- More campus and community involvement
- His behavior is better during his home visits
- Works hard to continue to stay mobile and tries his best when he is fighting continual health challenges
- She continues to deal with physical adversity and her own physical limitations with a good attitude
- She is always happy and cares a lot about others
- Loving and living everyday
- Participation in sporting events
- Worked at more community jobs
- His vocabulary has grown as well as his understanding of his own desires and wishes
- Did the mile walk in June
- Goes to work with a good attitude



# OUR BUSINESSES

*Support Village Northwest Unlimited*

## FANTASIA



Creating an experience worth remembering!

Fantasia is filled with unique gifts, books, and a beautiful assortment of home decor items. Gift collections are also available. Stop in for a delightful ice cream sundae, a nostalgic soda, a fancy new concoction, or a delicious cup of coffee at the Fantasia gourmet coffee bar.

### HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:30am-5:00pm  
Saturday 9:30am-4:00pm  
Evenings by appointment



The Village Treasure Chest offers a huge variety of quality, clean, in-style, gently used clothing for the whole family as well as shoes, books, greeting cards, jewelry, home decor, small appliances, furniture, etc.

### HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-6:00pm  
Friday-Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm



Northwest Produce operates a 15,200 square foot green house growing 2,800 tomato plants. Vine-ripened, chemical free tomatoes are sold and marketed through area grocery stores and restaurants April through November. In 2013 European seedless cucumbers were added and now produce over 200 plants.

October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015

# VOLUNTEERS

Linda Adams  
Coleen Ahlers  
Matilda Alons  
Linda Anderson  
Logene Anderson  
Harvey Bauman  
Marlyss Bauman  
Lorna Blumeyer  
Nina Bolkema  
Elaine Boogerd  
Wilma Bootsma  
Rebecca Boyer  
Heidi Brown  
Ben Bush  
Sylvia Buyert  
Kenzi Carrigan  
Daniel De Boer  
Samuel De Boer  
Dixie De Jong  
Emmy De Jong  
Wanda De Roon  
Kari Dean  
Delores Dekker  
JoAnn Den Beste  
Bonnie Dixon  
Luann Donkersloot  
Marv Donkersloot  
Dorothy Dykhuizen  
Alice Dykstra  
John Dykstra  
Julia Dykstra  
Brittini Ebel  
Jeff Elgersma  
Mike Elgersma  
Thelma Elgersma  
Suzy Faber  
Jeanne Feekes  
Jan Fertig  
Art Franken  
Jo Franken  
Ramona Garvey

Ben Geels  
Elinor Gesink  
Sheril Getting  
Addison Grant  
Lillian Green  
Amy Grooters  
Janet Grooters  
Rosa Gude  
Barbara Haack  
Nicholas Harald  
Rod Heemstra  
Joyce Heitritter  
Cindy Hofstra  
Aaron Holtrop  
Hilda Holtrop  
Jocelyn Holtrop  
Bob Hoogeveen  
Shirley Jager  
Emily Johnson  
Leona Johnson  
Muriel Kanengieter  
Carleen Kehrberg  
Eleanor Kleinwolterink  
Marilyn Kleinwolterink  
Nell Kleinwolterink  
Brenda Knuth  
Sally Koedam  
Donna Koepnick  
Sherry Kooiker  
Erna Kooistra  
Bernice Kreykes  
Betty Kreykes  
John Kreykes  
Stephanie Landhuis  
Lyle Laubach  
Robin Lawson  
Jeanne Lichty  
Susan Lichty  
Jane Lode  
Taylor Madden  
Evelyn McCarthy

Angie McGillick  
Harry Meendering  
Jackie Mejia  
Julia Merley  
Dorothy Merrill  
Donna Meyer  
Mary Miedema  
Sandy Mouw  
Jonathan Muyskens  
Nate Muyskens  
Lou Mae Novak  
Judy Oldenkamp  
Angela Palmer  
Fran Peelen  
Chris Peters  
Karli Peterson  
Bill Plantage  
Delores Popma  
Donna Poppema  
Eleanor Poppema  
Donald Riemersma  
Alyda Roetman  
Jane Rohde  
Margaret Rosendale  
Barb Rozeboom  
Lois Russell  
Verilyn Schilling  
Lynn Schimmer  
Abby Schmidt  
Betty Schott  
Joya Schreurs  
Bob Schuiteman  
Jay Shelp  
Katy Shelp  
Kristie Simonsen  
Alice Stapenhorst  
Carol Sterk  
Harold Sterk  
Nelvina Sterk  
Louise Trei  
Bonnie Van De Brake

Dean Van Dyke  
Anna Van Ess  
Pat Van Horsen  
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Harriet Van Meeteren  
Lois Van Meeteren  
Albertha Van Roekel  
Maria Van Velzen  
Gert Van Wyk  
Elizabeth VanBruggen  
Marie Vander Griend  
Loretta Vander Linden  
Francine Vander Pol  
Sherry Vander Pol  
Bernie Van't Hul  
Jo Vermeer  
Darlene Verrips  
Tres VerSteege  
Bill Vierhout  
Charlotte Vierhout  
Loretta Vis  
Anton Vonk  
Sandy Voss  
Harold Wagenaar  
Karen Wagenaar  
Marge Warner  
Arlene Westerveld  
Alma Westra  
Iola Whitsell  
Marla Wibben  
Janice Wielenga  
Jessica Willer  
Judy Winkel  
Lois Wolfswinkel  
Myrna Wolfswinkel  
Connie Zonnefeld  
Martha Zoutendam  
Kathleen Zylstra  
Verna Zylstra

October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015

# DONORS

## BUSINESSES

Ag Partners	K. F. Murphy Company, P.C.	Rosenboom Frame & Body
Ambank Insurance Services	Kamies Plumbing & Heating Inc.	Ryden Equipment
American Investment & Trust	Kooima & Kaemingk Commodities	Sanborn & Hartley Funeral Homes
American Pop Corn Company	Lake Park Care Center	Sanford Health
American State Bank	Lakes Area Senior Center	Sanford Health - Sheldon
Andringa Funeral Home	Lewis Family Drug	Savings Bank of Primghar, Hartley & Lake Park
Aspen Heights Assisted Living	Lyon Manor Nursing & Rehab Center	Security Savings Bank
Avera Health	Maintainer Corporation	Sheldon Family Dental Clinic
Bengard & Associates, Inc.	Mid American Energy	Shiny Pink Bucket
Billings and Company	Molyneaux Insurance	Siouxland Fabricating, Inc.
Burley's Appliance	Morgan Collision & Tire Center	St. Luke Lutheran Home Nursing Facility
Cannon Moss Brygger & Assoc., P.C.	Mr. P's Pizza & Sports Grill	Stand Aid Of Iowa, Inc./ Gemco
Casey's General Stores	Neal Chase Lumber Company	Subway
Chit Chat Café / Kelly's Drive Inn	North West REC	Super Hi Tech
Citizens State Bank	Northern Natural Gas Company	Sysco Lincoln
Community Memorial Health Center	Northwest Iowa Community College	Te Slaa Trucking
Dan Engelsman Accounting	Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative	Ten Kredit Electric
De Koter, Thole & Dawson, P.L.C.	Northwestern Bank	The Dental Office
Deluxe Animal Health, Inc.	O'Brien County Implement	Top Notch Stitching
Den Hartog Industries	Orange City Area Health System	Truist Comprehensive Distribution
Dethmers Mfg.	Orange City Sanitation, Inc.	Turpin's Inc.
Don's Auto Service Inc.	P & K Pest Control	Union Bank
Don's Sheet Metal	Pella Corporation	Van Engelenhoven Agency, Inc.
Drs. Geyer & Binzer	Pella Rolscreen	Vander Haag's, Inc.
Fareway	Peoples Bank	Vetter Health Services, Inc.
Farmers Market Concrete & Excavation Inc.	Perspective Insurance	Vogel Paint & Glass
Farmers Mutual Insurance Association	Pizza Ranch	Wal-Mart Store #1152
Farmers State Bank	Pizza Ranch Inc.	Wheelchair Dynamics
Fred's Plumbing & Heating	Pleasant Acres Of Hull	Willett Insurance
Heartwood Heights	Pluim Publishing Inc.	
Hillcrest Health Care Services	Prairie Queen Kiwanis	
Hiway Body Shop	Precision Alignment & Repair, Inc.	
Homestead Cooperative Of Hull	Principal Financial Group	
HTC Communications	Prins Insurance Inc.	
Hubers Plumbing, Heating & A/C, Inc.	Proactive Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab	
Hull Feed & Produce	- Sheldon, IA	
HyVee	Proactive Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab Inc.	
ICON Lounge	- Sioux Center, IA	
Inspiration Hills	Quality Living, Inc.	
Interstates Companies	Red's Printing Company	
Iowa State Bank - Hull, IA	Revival Animal Health Inc.	
Iowa State Bank - Sheldon, IA	Rock Rapids Health Center	
J & J Building Contractors, Inc.	Ron Drenkow Motors	

## CHURCHES

Adaville United Methodist Church - Merrill, IA  
American Reformed Church - Primghar, IA  
Bethel Christian Reformed Church - Sioux Center, IA  
Bethel Reformed Church - Little Rock, IA  
Calvin Christian Reformed Church - Rock Valley, IA  
Carmel Reformed Church - Rock Valley, IA  
Christian Reformed Church - Hospers, IA  
Christian Reformed Church - Ocheyedan, IA  
Christian Reformed Church - Rock Rapids, IA  
Christian Reformed Church - Sanborn, IA  
Church Of The Brethren - Ashton, IA  
Covenant Christian Reformed Church - Sioux Center, IA  
Crossroads Community Church - Sheldon, IA  
Ebenezer Presbyterian Church - George, IA  
Faith Christian Reformed Church - Sioux Center, IA  
Faith Lutheran Church - Marcus, IA  
First Christian Reformed Church - Orange City, IA  
First Christian Reformed Church - Sheldon, IA

First Congregational Church - Peterson, IA  
First Lutheran Church - Milford, IA  
First Presbyterian Church - Paullina, IA  
First Presbyterian Church - Sibley, IA  
First Reformed Church - Hospers, IA  
First Reformed Church - Hull, IA  
First Reformed Church - Inwood, IA  
First Reformed Church - Maurice, IA  
First Reformed Church - Melvin, IA  
First Reformed Church - Orange City, IA  
First Reformed Church - Sanborn, IA  
First Reformed Church - Sheldon, IA  
First Reformed Church - Sibley, IA  
First Reformed Church - Sioux Center, IA  
Grace Lutheran Church - Primghar, IA  
Hope Christian Reformed Church - Hull, IA  
Hope Reformed Church - George, IA  
Hospers Community Churches - Hospers, IA

Immanuel Christian Reformed Church - Orange City, IA  
Immanuel Christian Reformed Church - Sheldon, IA  
Lyon County 1st Presbyterian Church - George, IA  
Newkirk Reformed Church - Hospers, IA  
Sheldon Ministerial Assn. - Sheldon, IA  
St. Alban's Episcopal Church - Spirit Lake, IA  
St. John Lutheran Church - Cushing, IA  
St. John's Lutheran Church - Boyden, IA  
St. Paul Lutheran Church - Hull, IA  
St. Peter Lutheran Church - Pocahontas, IA  
Trinity American Lutheran Church - Akron, IA  
United Methodist Church - Archer, IA  
United Methodist Church - Marcus, IA  
United Methodist Church - Sheldon, IA  
United Presbyterian Church - Boyden, IA  
Zion Lutheran Church - Paullina, IA  
Zoar Presbyterian Church - George, IA

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Randy & Lois Baartman  
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Greg Hegstad  
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Joan Holles  
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Bob & Esther Hoogeveen  
Natalie Hoover  
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Ross & Elaine Mastbergen  
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SCDC Marketing

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Judy Koele	Josh & Kenzie Liechti	Mike Merley	Rick & Carma Nordahl	Ronna Ransberger
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Britney Kreykes	Delores Mast	Ryan & Katie Mouw	Dorothy Peterson	
John & Betty Kreykes	John & Gale Mast	Tim Mouw	Harlan Dean & Mary Jane Peterson	
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Fred & Virginia Kubal	Patricia Matthes	Arlyn Mulder	Ronald & Cindy Pingel	
Martin & Corrine Kubal	William & Mary Maxwell	Bruce & Ingrid Mulder	William J. Plantage	
Wanda Kuiken	Annie Mc Cabe	Chuck & Jackie Mulder	Pete & Nelva Pollema	
Hazel Kuiper	Dan & Lori Mc Cabe	Dave & Dot Mulder	Roger & Marilyn Poppen	
Lyle & Tami Kuiper	Heather Mc Cabe	Mr. & Mrs. Carl Mulder	Charles & Dorothy Porter	
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Lorene Lambertus	Maryetta Mc Carty	Tami Murray	Harold & Everly Post	
Frederick & Evelyn Lamfers	Sylvia Mc Carty-Scheurer	John Myhre	Melanie Post	
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Dr. Keith & Jan Rolston	Dwaine Schipper
Jo Rolston	David Schlotfeldt
Sylvia Romberg	Michael & Elizabeth Schlotfeldt

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**NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN LIFE,  
BE GOOD TO PEOPLE.  
BEING GOOD TO PEOPLE IS A  
WONDERFUL LEGACY  
TO LEAVE BEHIND.**

**- Taylor Swift**

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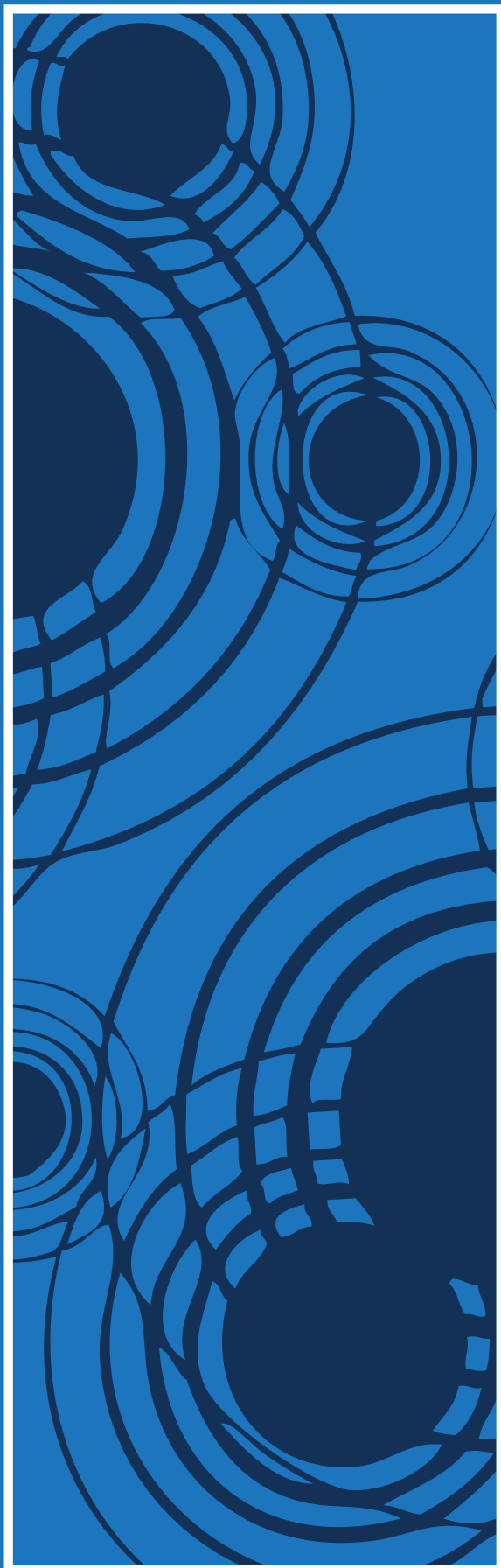
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 Alisa Walz-Flannigan  
 Brian & Jer Yuan Wansink  
 Betty Warren  
 Donna Warren  
 Chad Wassenaar  
 Marcia Wassenaar  
 LaDonna Way  
 Wade & Sheila Weaver  
 Jessica Webb  
 Bob & Susan Weber  
 Bonnie Webert  
 Janet Weppler  
 Dr. Mark & Susan Wheeler  
 Margaret Wheeler  
 Scott Wheeler

Chris & Denise White  
 Dan White  
 Lucille White  
 Brad & Sara Whitsell  
 Lola Whitsell  
 John & Rosemary Wibe  
 Nic Wielenga  
 Ivan & Darlene Wiersema  
 Claude & Joyce Wiersma  
 Sam & Joan Wiertzema  
 Stan & Betty Wilkens  
 Brian & Heide Willer  
 Grayling & Janet Willer  
 Ron & Nancy Williams  
 Marty & Liz Willis  
 Kathleen Wilson  
 Judy Winkel  
 Norven Winter  
 Adam & Amber Wolthuizen  
 Cheryl Wolthuizen  
 Clarence & Helen Wolthuizen  
 Ken & Sandra Wolthuizen  
 Wally & Dianne Wolthuizen  
 Nolan & Marilyn Wright  
 Arlene Wynia  
 Frances Wynia  
 Kevin & Julie Wynja  
 Les Wynja  
 Scott & Melanie Wynja  
 Frank & Sheila Yender  
 Elvira Youngers  
 Lisa Youngers  
 John Zeutenhorst  
 Sherrie Zeutenhorst  
 Steve Zevenbergen  
 Brian & Jacinda Zoet  
 Dean & Audrey Zoet  
 John Jr. & Hendrene Zoet  
 Gordon & Connie Zonnefeld



# GIFTS IN MEMORY

Memorial gifts received from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 were sent by friends and family members of the following people:

Jean Ahrenstorff	Mac McClintic
Don Andringa	Marion Menning
Herlon Baker	Norma Nelson
Arlo Benson	Carole Peterson
Henry Bents	Delbert Peterson
Marjorie Bever	Sandi Rabe
John Bockman	Sharon Ricke
Irvin Boer	Glenn Roos
Kenneth Brinkley	Mike Rosener
Wanda Buck	Doris Ruetten
Don Collins	Ruth Schiphoff
Elva Dau	Cleo Schroeder
Jane De Boer	Grace Schurman
Pete De Boer	Bev Sieperda
Berdie Den Hartog	Roger Van De Stouwe
Loren Eickhoff	Wally Vander Hamm
Katie Fleming	Mildred Vander Maten
Merlyn Gehrls	John Vander Sluis
Jane Gerhardt	Odean Vant Hul
Brent Hansen	Wilmina Vant Hul
Arthur Henningsen	Glenn Veldboom
Beth Hickman	Marlin Vetter
Vonnie Hofman	Mark Voy
Devin Hommes	Jake Wagenaar
Paula Horton	Pearl White
JoAnn Huygens	Tom Whitsell
Dorothy Johannes	Doris Wiarda
Blayne Johnson	Delores Winter
Wayne M. Johnson	Gen Wise
Michael Kennedy	Dianne Wolthuizen
Josephine Lindley	Ray Youngers

# WAYS TO GIVE

## Outright Gifts

Monetary donations given to Village Northwest Unlimited are used for purchase of equipment, remodeling, renovations, and other development. Your donation will directly benefit those we serve, providing purpose, privacy and dignity for all people.

## Memorial Gifts

The memory of the person you honor with a memorial gift to the Village will continue to live on through the lives of those who benefit from your gift. Gifts in memory are applied toward the Resident Needs Fund, and are made available to residents for the purchase of specific personal needs that they are not able to purchase on their own because of limited financial resources. We will, however, honor special requests, should you wish your gift to be used for a specific need.

## Life Income Gifts

Donors may transfer cash, securities, and/or real estate to Village Northwest Unlimited with the understanding that they, or their designated beneficiaries, will receive income for life or a term of years with Village Northwest Unlimited retaining the remainder.

## Life Insurance & Retirement Plan Assets

Donors may transfer life insurance policies to Village Northwest Unlimited as owner and beneficiary, or name the Village as the primary or secondary beneficiary under qualified retirement plans.

## Cash Securities & Real Estate

Gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, and/or land may be made outright or in installments over a period of years.

## Planned Gifts

In large part, Village Northwest's present endowment has been built from generous gifts from the estates of its benefactors.

- Bequest by will, irrevocable trust, or revocable trust
- Charitable gift annuity
- Charitable remainder trust
- Gift of residence or farm with retained life use
- Life insurance policy
- Retirement plan

## Gifts That Won't Cost You a Dime

### Good Search

This is a search engine that is Yahoo powered with a unique mission...to share 50% of their advertising revenue, about a penny per search, with nonprofit organizations selected by its users. Every time you do a search on the internet, Village Northwest Unlimited could receive a financial gift. Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and be sure to enter Village Northwest Unlimited as the charity you want to support.

### Good Shop

Hundreds of great stores including Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting Village Northwest Unlimited. Just go to [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com) and be sure to enter Village Northwest Unlimited as the charity you want to support...and spread the word to friends and family members!



Find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and check out our website!



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**BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH  
TO SEE IN THE WORLD.**

*- Gandhi*

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**Village Northwest Unlimited**

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Ph. (712)324-4873 . Fax (712)324-4877

[www.villagenorthwest.org](http://www.villagenorthwest.org)