



"The People Company"

Serving Persons with Special Needs Since 1998

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From the Program Director's Desk ~

Feelin' hot, hot hot...yes, it is summer in Arizona and the temperatures are definitely heating up. The team has been using some creativity and home made ideas to keep people busy, having fun, learning and staying cool. The families and participants have also been great with ideas and brainstorming.

Please check out our "Spotlight On" article this month which features an interview with a member of our team, Lucianne G. See what she had to say...

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The Connector

Choice ~ Respect ~ Participation ~ Presence

Volume I, Issue XXV-AZ July 2007

AmeriServe International, Inc.

Governor's Council Conference

Last 7, 8, and 9th of June, I was fortunate to go to the Arizona Governor's Council Conference in Sierra Vista with my friends Andy, Randy, and Willy. During that time, we went to several workshops such as Self-Advocacy through the Legislature, Success in the work place, Move and Grov, and Support our Troops.

There were many other things to do there as well such as, swimming, karaoke, billiards and more. During karaoke, I managed to get Randy up to sing Sweet Home Alabama, and then Andy and I sang Y.M.C.A. We had the whole room

moving, everyone was doing the Y.M.C.A. dance with us; they loved it.



We were all signed up to do the pool tournament but unfortunately a power outage at the pool hall made that impossible. Luckily, I have run pool tournaments in the past and was able to use the pool table in the hotel lounge. We ran an 8 team pool tournament, and Andy and I won! Everyone had a great time participating.

Also on Friday, there was a big dance where Willy and I went and showed our stuff. We danced past 10:00pm with smiles on our face the whole time. We meet a lot of people there and hopefully some will even turn into future friendships. On Saturday, there was a

BBQ where several people spoke to the crowd and even some members of DES District 6 about the good and bad things going on in their lives. Most discussion was positive, but some had a few concerns about the need for reliable transportation in their areas. Andy spoke about the need for

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What We Do

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

Habilitation, Respite, Attendant Care, In-home Supports

Day Treatment
Adult and Child Day Treatment, After School and Summer Programs

Residential Support
Supported Community Living, Specialized Living Arrangements



Dean's Blog

Hello again, time for another addition of Dean's Blog! June was an eventful month as it included the visit to Sierra Vista for the Arizona Governors Council's annual meeting, which all our folks happily attended. Also, there was a picnic get-together for the adult

day program which included water balloon splash, and super soakers to ward off the heat from the sun. Everyone had a fantastic time! July will be full of activity again as the adult day program plans to go bowling with all the members of the Sun City adult program. Also, the arrival of our much anticipated pool table should make some heads turn as it is a program and local favorite for activities. We would like to welcome two new members to

our AmeriServe family, Elaine Hendryx and Mandi Sutton; it is always exciting to see new people who love to extend themselves by giving guidance and support to those with disabilities. From all of us at AmeriServe, have a safe and happy 4th of July. Happy Birthday, America!

Dean Anast
Lead Client Service Coordinator
Wickenburg, Arizona

Governor's Council Conference (cont'd)

a female group home in Wickenburg. Carolyn Champlain from district 6 said that they would look into the concerns raised by those who inquired the need for support. All in all, we had a great experience. I had a blast with the guys, and I definitely felt that our time together brought us closer as

friends. I hope that I will be able to attend next year's conference with them.

Michael Pollard CSR
Wickenburg, Arizona



Autism Support Group Meeting

July 26th, 2007 at 7pm

Located at:
12600 North 113th Avenue
Suite B-15
Youngtown, Arizona 85363
(Located in the offices of
AmeriServe International)

Please come and join us.
Together we will
make a difference

For additional information
please contact:
Joshua Warne :
(623)584-3408 or
Tracy Smith:
(623) 546-4668

From the Program Director's Desk (cont'd)

Some reminders:

- The Sun City West adult program will move to Youngtown on August 20th
- Summer program ends August 17th, after school program begins
- August 20th, you can check out our program activity calendars (summer,

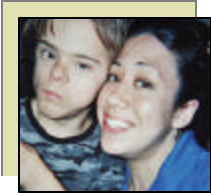
Wickenburg adult, Sun City West Adult programs) online each month.

- Wickenburg is looking forward to the delivery of their new pool table-see Dean's Blog for more details.
- ASI will be hosting a sensory work-

shop on Saturday July 21 at 9:30am at the Youngtown location. See flier online for more information.

As always have a safe and happy July. Stay cool and be safe.

Michelle Shriver



Lucianne is part of the team at AmeriServe International and here is what she had to share.

Luci how long have you been part of the AmeriServe team?

I've been working for AmeriServe for 1 1/2 years now.

What do you do at AmeriServe?

I'm a Client Service Representative.

What do you like about what you are doing?

I love working with kids. I get joy out of knowing that I can make a differ-

Spotlight On: Lucianne

ence in someone's life and I enjoy doing it, too.

What is your favorite activity in the community with the children?

I love taking the kids to the Peoria Water Park. It's fun for both the children and the adults. We all get a kick out of it.

How do you teach skills to people?

I like to teach just as I've learned and most of that is from mistakes. The kids make mistakes but you can turn it around and show them a positive to do a certain thing. A lot of times it's fun to teach them something through a game format, like, learning colors or numbers by playing UNO, or matching by playing with puzzles.

Are you in school?

I was in school last semester, but I decided to take a break for the summer time.

What are you studying?

My major is CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) and my minor is Behavioral Coach.

What are some of your hobbies?

I like to spend time with my dogs and go to the gym. Sometimes read and clean.

Is there anything else you would like people to know about you or what you do for a living?

No...I think that pretty much sums it up.

Skill Building Opportunities

An important aspect of building skills is having the opportunity to participate in educational activities, sharing and learning with others in similar situations, and having as much support behind you as one can gather. Last month I talked about how to build a plan to provide for the safety and well being of the people you support. I have had some very positive feedback from that article with a request for a tool that would help everyone walk through the steps of building an individualized plan. In order to meet that request I have created a tool that can be found at the AmeriServe International web site, and I would be happy to offer feedback to anyone who chooses to use that tool.

Some events that are happening in July are as follows and you can find more information on the web at www.ameriserveintl.com:

Sensory Workshop: July 21, 2007 @ AmeriServe International beginning at 10:00am. \$10.00 to register.

Autism Support Group: July 26, 2007 @ AmeriServe International beginning at 7:00pm.

Please feel free to contact me for any further information and we are looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Joshua M Warne
Training Coordinator

Sensory Workshop

Hosted By: AmeriServe International & Affordable Therapy Solution

The workshop will be held on Saturday July 21, 2007.

Where: AmeriServe International, Inc.
Located at 12600 N 113th Ave Ste B15
In Youngtown, AZ 85363

The workshop will begin at 10:00am and will use the following agenda.

- 9:30am - Registration Check-In
- 10:00am - Presentation from Occupational Therapist, Andrea Morage
- 11:30am - Open Forum for questions, demonstrations, and refreshments.
- 12:15pm - There will be a raffle to give away one Weighted Blanket, one Weighted Vest, one Pressure Vest, and one Platform Swing.

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$10.00 a person.

To register please call:

Amanda Shurrab- 623-693-3695,
Joshua Warne- 623-584-3408,

Or go online to www.affordabletherapysolutions.com and purchase the Sensory Workshop.

*Space is limited and will go fast so call ASAP to register!



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Support Options

1. In-home Support—training to increase self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills within the home and community.
2. Day Treatment— specialized sensory-motor, cognitive, communicative, social, interaction and behavioral support.
3. Residential— designed to maximize consumer successes through the use of habilitative therapies, special developmental skills, participative enhancement, and sensory-motor development in the group home or specialized living setting.

Call for more information today!

AmeriServe International, Inc. 623-584-3408



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