



The Connector

JUNE 2010

IOWA

**SERVING
PERSONS WITH
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES
SINCE 1998**

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Welcome Home!

Brian has the entire Brian's guardians live out At ASI with the kind of downstairs to himself! -of-state and have been care and training that That's a big deal for supportive of his move. Brian has had in the Brian; the room even He has a social worker past, and with the kind has a fireplace! While assigned to him from of supports that are Brian is not likely to use Glenwood Resource continuing with him the fireplace, he is still Center who is working to now, we are confident mighty excited about his make the transition he will find enjoyment bedroom and his new successful. And Brian and security in his new home. The staff of has another source of home. "Making life Glenwood Resource support, a Transition better tomorrow Center had worked with Specialist from the because of what is done Brian over the years Money Follows the today." preparing him for the Person program. This opportunity to move into person will follow Brian's a home in the progress for the first community. That goal year in his new home. has now been achieved, By networking with the Brian recently moved various people who into a home with three know Brian the best, she will advocate for his other young gentlemen. needs.



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

Thank You!



A huge thank you is in order to recognize the efforts of Dana Nielsen, Director of Property Services, and Tom Hoff, Director of Marketing and Business Development who, during the past four months, have worked to provide alternative housing for numerous people being served by AmeriServe International. Their efforts began in February, and since then, they have negotiated leases with landlords and city inspectors to establish improved housing for people served in three different homes. There have been new shingles, windows, drywall, kitchen cabinets, stair railings, new walls and bedrooms, various plumbing fixtures and electrical improvements. In most cases they orchestrated the work, but often times, did the work themselves, such as building egress windows in a downstairs bedroom. The intent is to provide clean, safe, affordable housing for people being served in a manner which ensures a sense of security for the people living there. Thanks Dana and Tom!

AmeriServe International Continuing Education—July 2010

Positive Teaching Techniques

Friday, July 16, 2010 from 3:30-5:30pm or
Thursday, July 22, 2010 from 12:00-2:00pm

This session focuses again on the skills needed to reward, refine and reshape behavior to enhance personal satisfaction, and home and community interaction. Practical, hands-on instruction will reinforce the concepts behind the learning making the results useful immediately after the conference.

Objectives:

- State four values of positive teaching and positive behavior support.
- Understand how your attitudes and values shape the nature of your interactions with persons you support.
- Demonstrate understanding of the Ignore/Interrupt; Redirect; Reward process.
- State and demonstrate 5 types of prompts.
- Define and demonstrate shaping and chaining techniques.

Want to know more about AmeriServe International?
Please visit our website: www.ameriserveintl.com

Making a Difference in People's Lives

One of the people served by AmeriServe International stopped by my office late this afternoon. He said, "I just wanted to know how your day is going." I responded by telling him the day was a typical day. Some things that happened

were welcome developments, while other things will become new challenges.

He said, "My day went real fast." He continued, "It always goes fast when we have Meals on Wheels." This person regularly attends

AmeriServe's day habilitation program and one of the volunteer activities he participates in is delivering Meals on Wheels to those who are homebound.

So I asked him why those days go particularly fast. He

said, "I help people and it makes me feel good." I told him he was providing a valuable service and I was proud of him.

**Alan Blakestad,
Director**

Reversing the Role

One of the many things that AmeriServe International strives for every day is to make a difference in the lives of others. As the Receptionist for AmeriServe, I do not get to spend as much time with the people we serve as other ASI employees. My interaction with them is when they come to visit the main office. As I think about what we strive for as a company, one thing that is not stated, but

implied, is that those consumers make a difference in our lives as well.

There is a gentleman who visits our main office frequently. He has his own apartment near the office where we provide hourly support; he also attends our day habilitation center. Almost every day, either before he heads to the Planning Center or after he returns home, he takes

the leisurely stroll to the office. Many times he is just stopping in to say hello, or to drop off one of his utility bills. Some days, he just comes to get a pop because it's a refreshing drink for a hot and humid day.

No matter the reason that he's coming in, I am always glad to see him, and he always seems happy to see me, as well. I love to hear about the things that are going on in his life

and the things that are exciting to him, such as his moped and his cat. He loves to ask me how my dogs are doing, or what my plans are for the weekend. This gentleman is demonstrating one of our core philosophies. While it is understood that it is my job and my duty to make a difference in the lives of others, sometimes, they can make a difference in mine.

**Jessica Eakins,
Receptionist**

Client Spotlight

Congratulations to Brian Weeks on his graduation from Thomas Jefferson High School! Graduation ceremonies were held last month at the MidAmerica Center in Council Bluffs. Graduating from high school is one of Brian's life goals and we salute him for sticking to his goals and achieving this outstanding accomplishment! We finally got our hands on the picture from the ceremony and wanted to share it with our readers.





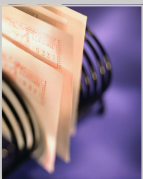
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What We Do

Residential Support

Supported
 Community
 Living, Specialized
 Living Arrangements

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

Habilitation, Respite,
 Consumer Directed
 Attendant Care,
 Group Homes

Day Treatment

Adult Day
 Habilitation
 And Community
 Integration Services

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, communication, 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.



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