

Enhancing lives through work



FALL 2018

Downtown Dedication

To some of you who work in downtown Madison, chances are that Barbara Brand may be a familiar face to you. Throughout Barb's 30 plus years of working in the community, all of her places of employment have been within a few blocks of the state capitol.

Currently, Barb's work week consists of 2 part-time jobs. Barb has been employed by the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services located at 1 West Wilson Street for over 32 years. She has worked for several different bureaus throughout her tenure with DHS and recently began working for the Division of Medicaid Services, Bureau of Children's Services. Some of the tasks that Barb has worked on over the years include collating materials for new employee packets; folding, labeling and stuffing envelopes for large mailings; in-house deliveries; and shredding. It comes as no surprise that with her longevity of working for DHS, Barb has made numerous friends with many of her co-workers over the years.



Barb works hard, and is thrilled to help out all of her co-workers.

Barb's other part-time job is just a few blocks down the street, where she works for the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance located at 125 South Webster Street. Barb has been employed at this job for the last 18 years, with her main task being the shredding of confidential materials. On occasion, Barb has been asked to perform other clerical tasks, which she is always happy to do. A definite perk for all the work Barb does at OCI every week is her Friday break time with her peers and co-workers. A game of Uno is always on the agenda, and no matter who the winner is, Barb is happy to be part of this weekly camaraderie.

If you happen to be in the downtown Madison area during the work week, keep a look out for Barb. She would be the first to welcome you with a big smile on her face!



Barb loves playing Uno during break at OCI with her friend and co-worker Monica.

Our mission...

Community Work Services is guided by the belief that all people have value and that supporting individuals with disabilities to actively participate in all aspects of community life results in a more diverse, compassionate, and stronger community for everyone.

With that as a foundation, the agency works in partnership with employers to make a positive difference in the lives of the people we support by helping them find and keep individually meaningful community jobs.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus

Community Work Services has once again received a generous grant from the Knights of Columbus, enabling us to purchase 3 new shredders for supported workers to use at their job-sites. Out of the 78 clients that Community Work Services currently provides services to, over 30 of these individuals use shredders during their shifts at work. By receiving this generous donation, these individuals can continue to be productive and contributing members of



the working community. A heartfelt thank you to the Knights of Columbus for your continued support and ability to impact individuals' lives in a positive way.

With the donation from the Knights of Columbus, Nancy Dornfeld gets lots of shredding done at her job with Dane County.

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In Memoriam of Mark Minter

It is with great sadness that we said farewell to Mark Minter on September 6, 2018. Community Work Services staff had the privilege of supporting Mark vocationally since 1986. Mark worked at a variety of job-sites in the community over the past 32 years and was currently employed by the State of Wisconsin-Department of Corrections since 2007, State of Wisconsin-Department of Health Services since 1986, and Dane County Facilities Management since 2010. Mark had an amazing work ethic, even wanting to come to work when he was under the weather. Mark had so much to offer his co-workers, peers, and vocational staff over the years. In reflection of the gifts that he shared with us, we were fortunate to be the recipients of joy, laughter and compassion. All of the staff at Community Work Services miss working with Mark, but we are grateful for the many wonderful memories he helped make possible.

Note from Directors

As you may or may not be aware, the State has transitioned Dane County to their managed care program, which includes Family Care and IRIS (I respect, I self- direct). The transition began in February of 2018 and was completed at the end of June. As Directors of Community Work Services, we have learned a lot on this journey but are fully aware that we have plenty more learning ahead of us. With that said, we want to assure everyone that our commitment to providing the best possible supported employment services to the individuals that we support continues to be our top priority.

Please remember that we are only a phone call away if you should have any questions or concerns related to this transition. We can be reached at 608.233.0115.

~ Sarah Cutler and Sharon Schmid, Co-Directors

2016/2017 Campaign Donors

All of us at Community Work Services are sincerely touched by the outpouring of support we have received from our friends, families, and supporters and wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of you. Your tremendous response has been vital in allowing us to continue to fulfill our mission of enhancing lives through work.

We'd also like to thank our many donors who wished to remain anonymous.

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Quality improvement

In 2017 Community Work Services worked diligently to impact supported worker's jobs in as positive a manner as possible. As a result, in 2017:

- 5** individuals increased the number of hours worked
- 37** individuals had increased wages
- 6** individuals were placed in an additional placement to supplement their existing position(s)
- 8** individuals expanded their job responsibilities
- 2** individuals were placed in new jobs

At the end of 2017, Community Work Services was supporting 81 individuals and had a 98.8% job retention rate for the year!

Volunteer - Be a friend!

Are you interested or know of anyone who would be interested in being a volunteer for one of our clients? Check out our volunteer opportunities at:

www.volunteeryourtime.org Or call Sharon Schmid at Community Work Services: 608.233.0115.



In 2017 James Judy was excited to start working at the Mendota Mental Health Institute. He has a wide range of responsibilities with his favorite being assisting with the wood chipper and mowing the grass.

To learn more about Community Work Services, please visit our website at www.cwsmadison.com



Community Work Services

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