

2016 Schedule

May 2016

- 26th—Discovery Class—**Gardening for Beginners**
- 30th—VIP Closed for Memorial Day

June 2016

- 13th—VIP Annual Golf Outing
- 22nd—VIP Cook-out/ Luau
- TBA—Discovery Class—**Comfortable Conversation**

July 2016

- 4th—VIP Closed for 4th of July
- TBA—Discovery Class—**Mad Money Monopoly (class runs end of July into early August)**

September 2016

- TBA—Discovery Class—**Your Voice, Your Vote**
- 5th—VIP Closed for Labor Day

October 2016

- TBA—Discovery Class—**Verbal Judo, Handling Conflict Appropriately**

November 2016

- 6th—**Stir It Up** Fundraiser at Elkhorn Area High School
- TBA—Discovery Class **Creations in Clay**
- 24th—VIP Closed for Thanksgiving
- 25th—VIP Closed in observation of Thanksgiving

December 2016

- 23rd—VIP Closed in observation of Christmas
- 26th—VIP Closed in observation of Christmas

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—DONNA GORALSKI

Donna Goralski came to VIP Services through Volunteer Connection in July of 2015. She had worked with people with disabilities for most of her life and missed the contact and personal connections. Donna thought that VIP may be the perfect place she could utilize her skills and experience as well as make new friends.

Donna began volunteering twice a week in Day Services. Staff immediately noticed she brought a willingness to truly connect with people in many different ways. For example, in music class she helps people to play instruments using hand over hand techniques and through verbal direction. Donna also takes the time to read with people or just spends time chatting as they work on a project together. She helps individuals achieve their fitness goals by walking with them inside and outside of the building. This not only builds endurance but also allows some special one on one time for people. Donna is always a team player, lending a hand wherever and whenever needed. She often chaperones on weekly small group outings bringing along her enthusiastic energy.

A great illustration of Donna's positive attitude was at our recent St. Patrick's Day dance. A gentleman named Adam, told Donna he wanted to dance but couldn't because he was in a wheelchair. She told Adam, "Yes, you *can* dance!" and sure enough, they danced the night away. Donna wheeled Adam around while they both sang along to the music. Adam's joyful smile was worth a thousand words. Another inspiring example is how a friendship with a client has assisted that person to learn new conversation and listening skills because of the time that Donna has spent talking with her.

When Donna was asked about what she likes at VIP, she could not stress enough how encouraging people are, everyone from the front desk to the workshop to the transportation department. She sees firsthand how everyone works for the well-being of the individuals served. Donna talked about how easily the staff are able to "plug you in" to an activity or project to help people reach their goals.

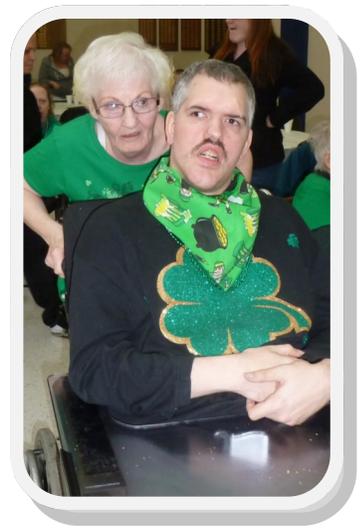
Many times we have heard from Donna that we shouldn't be thanking her, that she should be thanking us for the meaningful time she spends at VIP. Because of Donna and other volunteers who generously give time, skills and talents, staff can enhance programming they would not have the time or the manpower to otherwise offer.

Volunteers also allow for more personal one on one time or specialized activities. Angie Brunhart, Day Services Director shares, "We have one of the best Day Services programs out there because of volunteers and their dedication."

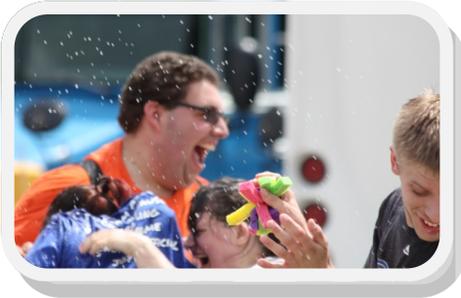
Thank you to all of our incredible and giving volunteers!



Kathleen Tully and Donna



Adam Ehlen and Donna



Annual VIP Cookout & Luau Dance

The annual VIP cookout is Wednesday, June 22nd, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A new twist this year is adding the summer dance as one of the activities prior to the highly anticipated water fight. The dance will begin after lunch and has a Luau theme, so be sure to wear your Hawaiian gear! We decided to add the dance so those who aren't able to attend the evening dances get the chance to enjoy themselves with their friends and co-workers. The afternoon also features activities ranging from bingo to Frisbee Golf. VIP Board member, Beth Shodeen

and Jon Kasnick from the End Zone Bar and Grill, along with their crew will again grill delicious food for everyone to enjoy.

Volunteers are needed to help serve food, lead activities such as bingo, card and board games, Frisbee golf (weather permitting), and indoor volleyball. We also need volunteers at the dance to serve refreshments and even get their groove on and DANCE. In addition, we'll also have a "fun photo" area and are in need of interesting and fun items for people to use as props. If you would like to volunteer for the cookout, please call Lynne Dempsey.



2016 Bowl-A-Thon: A FUNdraising Success!



The Four Cowboys Team

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated, contributed and volunteered in VIP's Bowl-A-Thon on Saturday, March 5th! We had a blast raising more than \$14,000 AND raising awareness for our mission to empower adults with disabilities.

Teams raised almost \$8,000 in pledges. Congratulations to the **top** fundraising teams, The **Four Cowboys (David, Derek, Steve and Don)** who raised \$1,200 & **Team Bentley**, led by **Peggy and Michael** for raising \$890! The Four Cowboys also bowled in the first shift as **The Cool Dudes** and their overall grand total was a **whopping \$1724!**

Be sure to mark your calendar for the 9th Annual Bowl-a-thon scheduled for March 4, 2017!



Team Bentley

Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Gardening—assist Day Services with taking care of the garden by planting, watering and reaping. We use the items grown to prepare tasty recipes in our VIP kitchen.

Computer Lab— assist with keyboarding and computer skills, basic money skills and job research and soft skills. Minimum of one hour per week required for 8 week session between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Art and Crafts—help people work on projects, many of the projects are entered into contests at the Walworth County Fair. Projects may include woodworking, painting, sewing, or working with recycled materials.

Fitness/Walking groups—support people in reaching their self-identified fitness goals. Activities include using our low impact equipment in our Fitness room, walking, and weather permitting, outside activities like Frisbee Golf.

All opportunities are between the hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm, Monday-Friday. **If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Lynne Dempsey at 262.723.4043 x106 or email at lynnedempsey@vip-services-inc.org.**



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