

The VODEC VOICE

Since 1968

March 2013

CARES Program focuses on Enrichment



(Above) Consumer Rose Leggio works on her picture of an Indian woman during her day at the Council Bluffs VODEC location as part of the CARES program.

When asked about her day Rose Leggio smiles and begins describing a filled day of listening to the newspaper being read to the group, daily exercises, crafts and art projects and on certain days her outings with the CARES participants and staff. Rose's favorite activity is drawing and what she draws most is an Indian woman with brightly colored accessories. She works on these projects daily and she continues them after she returns home.

VODEC's CARES day program offers many opportunities to its consumers in the community at large through outings and outreach. Consumers within the program work on fine and gross motor skills, social interactions, personal preservation skills as well as learning computer skills, music, and the arts. Consumers like Rose are encouraged to try new things and learn about the world around them.

Rose has been a part of VODEC for nearly 20 years. She currently participates in both the CARES services as well as VODEC's residential services. She enjoys her time with VODEC's employees and enjoys it when they take her on outings. She is most looking forward to her trip to the Shrine Circus and can not wait to see the animals and performers again.

VODEC REACH FULL POTENTIAL

2nd Annual Valentine's Dance a Success



(Above) Consumer Derek Taylor helps set up the tables before the dance.

Over 250 were in attendance on Feb. 7th to dance the night away. Consumers from VODEC and other metro providers were treated to a live DJ, cookies and drinks as well as decorations provided by our activities committee.

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A Message from the CEO Steve Hodapp

Sometimes when something comes up around here you might say, "I need to talk to someone about this." Now I

want to stress the 'something' could inspire a word of praise as well as something needing correction.

If 'you' are an employee there's likely a process for moving that along depending upon the 'something'.

Likewise if 'you' are a consumer in any VODEC program there's some guidance in the Consumer Handbook; if you don't have one then please ask your Staff for one. But I do stroll through all the work centers often and try to attend as many consumer-focused events as I can. So if you are a consumer you already know you can reach out to me at any time, and you do! I always appreciate our interactions.

But if 'you' are not included in either group above then what follows is for you. When you come across some positive or negative thing you believe I should know about then tell me. I want to know.

How do you reach me?

1. Call me at 712-328-2638
2. Email me at hodapp@vodec.org
3. Stop by my office which is at 612 South Main Street in Council Bluffs.

So there are three ways you can share with me. Use the one which is most comfortable for you. I forgot one - write a letter to me at the address noted above, zip code 51503. It's not 'techie' but it accomplishes the same thing.

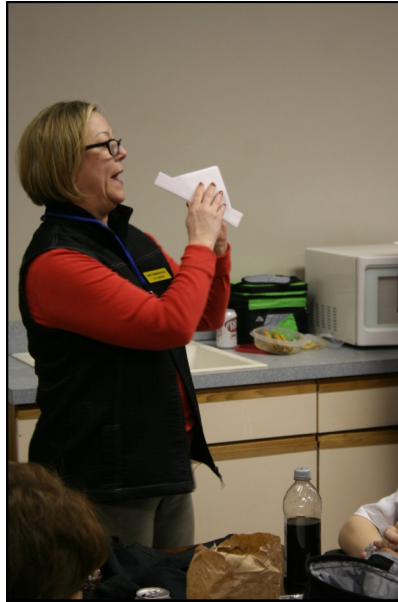
The main thing I want to get across is that I am indeed approachable. No ivory tower, no moat with alligators.

And also know I will respond. It may only need a *thanks for the information* type response. But if an action is needed I will let you know as allowed what was done.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to you. Accessing that service is up to you.

Reminder:
VODEC Voice Going Digital

WhyArts Visits Millard VODEC Location



(Above)- Theatre specialist Kim Carlson tells consumers a pirate story.

Kim Carlson with WhyArts hosted a small workshop at the Millard VODEC location recently. She offered consumers the chance to participate in theatre games and techniques. Consumers who participated worked on team building skills such as getting a person to mimic another's pose, transfer a rope from one to another without letting go of hands and completing a race in slow motion.

WhyArts is a non profit in the Omaha metro area who's mission is to provide art experiences to all ages, abilities, and cultures to enhance their quality of life. WhyArts will be presenting workshops at all three VODEC locations throughout the year in conjunction with the Iowa West Foundation and the Nebraska Arts Council.



(Left) Consumers Amber Block and Kendal Krzycki work on moving a rope around a circle without letting go of hands.

By transferring your printed version of the VODEC Voice to a digital version you are allowing us to free up the printing and mailing costs that are associated with it. This will open up new doors for our services and new opportunities for our consumers.

PLEASE email your digital requests to mnelson@vodec.org. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to call us at 712-328-2638.

Residential Services Enjoys a Karaoke Night



(Above)- Consumers Kasie Rafferty and Cheryl Lux sing into the microphones at Karaoke night.

Scotty Wright said “Karaoke was awesome! I liked it!”

Consumers and staff were treated to songs including “YMCA” by the Village People, “More Than Words” by Extreme, “Can’t Touch This” by MC Hammer, and “Paparazzi” by Lady Gaga along with many others at a recent residential event at the 72nd street location of VODEC. Staff provided popcorn and juice for the consumers who lined up to put their name on the karaoke list. While some decided to sit and watch their friends sing while others wanted to keep singing each song.



(Left)-Consumer Robert Michalski gets ready to rock!

Using an Xbox 360 with a karaoke game with two microphones and a speaker system allowed the consumers to choose from a variety of songs and genres. There was everything from today’s hits to country and 80’s ballads.

Shontae Sanders said “I liked that Cheryl and Kasie sang so much”

Thank You to our Donors

Carroll County State Foundation	Scott & Alisa Glenke
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William Feay	Rachel Olmstead
Richard & Lucy Graeme	Douglas Primmer
	Mark Stromer
	Steve Thompson

This list reflects donations received between 1/1/2013 to 1/25/2015



(Above)- Staff member Amanda Hall sings with consumer David Christian at the residential party at the 72nd street location of VODEC

An applicant must meet the following criteria to be considered eligible for any VODEC service:

- Be at least 16 years old for any vocational program
- Have behavioral needs within VODEC's scope of service
- Have medical needs within VODEC's scope of service
- Have transportation needs within VODEC's capability to provide
- Have adequate funding in place (including service hours' authorization or private payment in place) for services being requested
- If applying for an in-home service, the applicant's home must meet basic health and safety requirements



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Vocational Development Center is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. Donations may be tax deductible.
Vocational Development Center is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants for services or employment are considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.
We are a certified provider of day and residential services by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.
We are approved to provide vocational services by the Nebraska Department of Education.
We are approved by the Iowa Department of Human Services to provide waiver services to individuals with intellectual disabilities, brain injuries and we are an approved habilitation service provider.
We have accreditation from CARF for Community Employment Services, Organizational Employment services and Community Integration.



The mission of VODEC is to provide services to persons with disabilities in order that those persons may live, work and participate in the community in the least restrictive environment to achieve their full potential.
The purpose of VODEC is to support and advocate for persons with disabilities so those persons have opportunities to develop to their fullest potential, to interact with society, to experience a sense of belonging, and to contribute something of themselves at their own levels of ability.

Vocational Development Center, Inc.
VODEC
612 South Main Street
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Return Service Requested

VODEC is on GoodSearch!

GoodSearch is a Yahoo! search engine that pays charities you select a penny per search! Go to www.goodsearch.com and add GoodSearch to your browser. Then select **Vocational Development Center** as your designated charity! And pass the news on to your friends and family! Over 15,000 searches have benefitted VODEC so far! It's easy and it works!



For more information on VODEC services please contact Daryn Richardson or Michelle Nelson at 712-328-2638 or by email at drichardson@vodec.org

VODEC is a proud member of:

