



612 South Main Street
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503

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Jackson Brings Wealth of Experience to Omaha Operations Director Role

(continued from front cover)

Coordinator at the Abbott Drive location (which was moved to its current 7110 F. Street location in 2012). A year later, I accepted a Residential Supervisor position. In 2013, I was promoted to Residential Manager and transferred to Council Bluffs. The next six years, I worked in Council Bluffs where I also had the the opportunity to assist in starting residential services in Central Iowa. This past July, I accepted my current position as the Services Operations Director in Omaha.

Even though you are new to the position, tell us a bit about the work you do.

In this role, it seems like every day is a little bit different, but it surely has

been a busy two months. Currently, there are a lot of changes taking place in Nebraska, so I am working to stay up to date on these changes to ensure that Vodec remains in compliance. On a day-to-day basis, I attempt to stay up on emails, schedule ICAPS, attend meetings and webinars, submit required paperwork to the state and complete various reports. Last week, I even cleaned up the bathroom after a toilet overflowed, so I would say I get to do a little of everything, but who doesn't enjoy a good challenge?

What would you like to accomplish in your new role?

Right now, I just want to continue to learn everything I can about

Nebraska's rules and regulations. Building positive relationships with my team is a major priority, and I have really enjoyed getting to know everyone I work with in Omaha. My goal is to help our departments grow and develop while we continue to be a great provider.

Providing great care is a big part of the work we do at Vodec. What is your care philosophy?

Our consumers are our number one priority. There are so many different areas that we are responsible for on a day-to-day basis, but we must always remember why we do what we do. We have a unique opportunity to have a positive impact on them and their families.

Join us on Social Media!



Help us "Go Green" by signing up for The Voice online at www.vodec.org or by emailing Mike at mwatkins@vodec.org.



THE Voice

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Stoneburner Brings Passion to New Role in Central Iowa

Iowa native Sheila Stoneburner recently took over as Services Operations Director at the Vodec location in Central Iowa.

Below is a "Getting to Know" Q&A with her, including her vision for consumers and their families.

Describe your path that led you to your current role as Services Operations Director in Central Iowa?

I have worked for Vodec since July 2017. I was hired as the Day Services Supervisor here. I assisted with getting the Cares Program started and established here. In November 2018, I was promoted to Day Services Manager, and now I have been promoted to Services Operations Director in Central Iowa.

Even though you are new to the position, tell us a bit about the work you do.

I plan, implement, coordinate and direct daily operations in the Central Iowa location, among many other daily tasks.

What are your goals in your new role?

Vodec is an amazing company to work for, and I am so proud to be a part of such a great team. My goals are to be a leader and teacher, to elevate the performance of the entire Central Iowa team through enhanced

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Vodec 'Thinks Pink' for Co-Worker

When Betty Reed-Donaldson, a member of the Vodec family since 2004, was recently diagnosed with breast cancer, many of her co-workers made and wore T-shirts to support her on her road to recovery. They are, front row (l-r): Carey Mabe, Pam Wyzykowski, Ellie Kukoly and Khullyee Moyer. Middle row: Roberto Sanchez, Norman Putnam, Betty Reed-Donaldson, Becci Cropp, Barb Rickard, Tiffney Clark and Josh Knudsen. Back Row: Dan Driver, Shailynn Limmer, Milton Tarver, Mary Dorste and Tresa Smith. Please help us wish Betty a very speedy recovery.

Jackson Offers Rich Experience to Omaha

Micky Jackson brings rich experience to her new role as Services Operations Director for Vodec's Omaha location. Below is a Q&A with her about her new role and what she hopes to accomplish for Vodec and especially for our Nebraska consumers.

Describe your path that led you to your current role as Services Operations Director in Omaha?

I have been with Vodec for the past 10 years. Prior to coming to Vodec, I worked for a smaller agency as a direct support staff for 5 years. In 2009, I moved to Omaha and started at Vodec as a Vocational Services

(continued on back cover)



Micky Jackson

Vodec Consumers Engage with their Communities



Left: Studies show chickens offer significant therapeutic benefits to people of all ages, providing a powerful therapeutic tool for those suffering from loneliness, isolation, dementia, depression and anxiety. In September, a local 4-H group shared its chickens with Vodec's Urbandale-Central Iowa location. Mary's smile makes it known how much she enjoyed the experience. **Middle:** Urbandale consumers Zane and Ronnie pick wild berries. **Right:** Omaha Cares consumers Kryslin Willmore, Precious Welch, Michaela Thinnies, Tiffany Peters, Michael Densley and Thomas White enjoy a beautiful day at Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium.



New Central Iowa Services Operations Director Brings Caring Passion

(continued from front cover)

through enhanced communication, productivity, retention and success in order to meet the needs of our consumers by going above and beyond.

Providing great care is a big part of the work we do at Vodec. Tell me your care philosophy for our consumers.

Consumers are always our top priority in any situation. Consumers come first, and we are here to make their lives safer, better, happier and

as independent as possible. I feel the most joy when I see how Vodec improves the lives of our consumers on a daily basis. Vodec is amazing at meeting the individual needs of each consumer by focus-



Sheila Stoneburner

ing on specific needs and goals. **What do you enjoy most about the work you do at Vodec?** I enjoy the professional relationships I have built while working for Vodec. I enjoy working with such a great team that I know is here for the right reasons and have the best intentions. We all have the same goal in mind and that is to help consumers realize their full potential through their own life desires.

Vodec Entrance Criteria:

- ▶ Be at least 16 years old for any employment training 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
- ▶ For in-home service, an applicant's home must meet basic health and safety requirements

For more information, or to apply for Vodec services, contact Daryn Richardson at drichardson@vodec.org or call (712) 328-2638.

Vodec is certified by:

- Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services
- Iowa Department of Human Services
- Nebraska Department of Education
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Vodec is affiliated with the following organizations:

- Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce (IA)
- Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC)
- Iowa Association of Community Providers (IACP)
- Iowa Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)
- Nebraska Association of Service Providers (NASP)
- Nonprofit Association of the Midlands (NAM)
- Omaha Chamber of Commerce (NE)
- Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce (NE)
- Urbandale Chamber of Commerce (IA)

Vodec is an authorized provider in the following:

- Iowa HealthLink networks:
- Amerigroup
- Iowa Total Care



From the CEO's Desk:

I think overall we do a pretty fair job of telling the Vodec story as a provider of quality services for persons with developmental disabilities.

We share success stories of consumers, post about activities for them, and so on.

How does this get accomplished, you might wonder?

It's accomplished through the dedication and hard work of our employees.

A great number of our employees are direct support professionals, but we also have supervisors, coordinators, managers and directors involved in the provision of services.

And let's remember the administrative team in HR, finance, quality assurance, production and service development.

Here's a question for you.

Do you know of someone who could contribute to the accomplishments through Vodec?

We are on the hunt for quality individuals who can feel passionate



Steve Hodapp
Chief Executive Officer

about the Vodec mission.

These individuals should want to be part of something bigger than themselves, and which is growing.

Make the referral. Give someone the opportunity to join us in our rewarding work. We'll provide training.

The main requirement we want to see is the desire to learn.

Experience in the business is

terrific, and education related to the work is wonderful.

But, if someone perceives a lack of education or experience, he or she shouldn't worry.

I'd also mention that career mobility, lateral and upward, is available and encouraged.

Many of our leadership team members have their positions as a result of promotion.

So, if someone is happy doing what they do, that's ok.

But, if someone wants to bite off more, give us an opportunity to accommodate.

You can tell your referral to check out Vodec's jobs at Indeed.com or check in with our HR crew, who can be of assistance.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Steve Hodapp

Thank You!

To all of our Valued Supporters*

Donna Bush
Jeremy Dunkirk
Jacque Evans
Miles and Crystal Havekost
Steve Hodapp

Kroger Stores
Maria Mabe
Sarah Miller
Andrea Smith

*Mid-July to Mid-September 2019