

OAHE, Inc. to Celebrate 30 Years



Hard to believe, but OAHE, Inc. is 30 years old in 2012. Founded on June 28, 1982, OAHE, Inc. has seen many changes. Starting with 4 individuals receiving services, we now provide supports and services to 73. OAHE, Inc. changed headquarters four times. Add to this countless staff, board members and friends both old and new in the community.

So what's planned for 2012? First, OAHE, Inc. is celebrating with a semi-formal dinner at



the Ramkota on March 31, 2012. We hope to honor our past and current Executive Directors, Board Members, Value Village managers, look at a brief history over the years, offer a video display of how far we have come, and



remember those individuals supported, staff and board members who have passed away but who had a major influence on our lives. There will also be some fun trivia games, and centerpieces do-

nated by area employers and businesses.

On June 28, 2012, our exact 30th Anniversary, OAHE, Inc. will host the Business After Hours location sponsored by the Pierre Area Chamber of Commerce from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, along with an open house for the community beginning mid-afternoon.

Lastly, in September, as part of the National DSP recognition week, we plan to offer the community "root beer floats" at our yearly staff picnic on Saturday.

LOTS OF FUN!



OAHE INC.

Dream Weaver

Value Village on E-Bay

Value Village continues to offer items for sale on E-Bay, an electronic auction site. To see items listed for sale and to make a bid, go to E-Bay and search for account [oahevaluevillage](#) for a list of pictured items for sale with bid prices.

Staff are excited by this opportunity since it allows people world wide to see items for sale and to make purchases. Isn't technology wonderful?

Would you prefer an electronic version of this newsletter?

Send your Email address to Chuck at cquinn@oaheinc.com and we will make that happen. It helps save some postage as well.

Comments, notes, or ideas for future editions of the newsletter are always welcome.

January / February / March

Rhonda S. 1/1	Larry C. 2/7	Mitch M. 2/25
Wanda S. 1/6	Ronnie L. 2/11	Diana S. 2/27
Kelly S. 1/10	Robby R. 2/13	Jordan S.J. 3/3
Dzintra L. 1/18	Char S. 2/17	Charlene "Charlie"
Cherie G. 2/2	Donovan F.H. 2/19	JOH 3/5
		Terry Gog. 3/12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY


Quick News

- Day services started a daily Healthy Oahe Walkers (HOW) walk.
- "Spa Day" in day services—doing nails, hair and makeup for the ladies.
- 2012 - Learning about the Chinese - Year of the Dragon
- Biggest Loser Contest began again—57 pounds lost the first week
- Polar Plunge for Special Olympics - Saturday, February 11, 2012 - Georgia Morse Middle School



OAHE, Inc. takes home another GRISWOLD Award for their Parade of Lights float . This year's theme: OAHE, Inc. Rocks Around The Christmas Tree

Christmas Party 2011

It's flu season again. Terrie, our nurse, cautions people to make sure they cover their mouths when coughing, wash your hands frequently and get your annual flu shot. Hopefully the flu will miss us all this year.

PERSON CENTERED THINKING - Good Day / Bad Day

Everyone has things that happen and need to happen to have a good day. Then, on the other hand, there are some things that turn a day bad.

Sit down and write out some things that you need to have happen to have a good day. Examples might be to start your day with coffee, or read the morning paper, etc.

After you write down what makes a good day, write down some things that make a bad day.

When you know what makes a good day, don't you try and make every day a

P.C.T.

good one? If you are starting to have a bad day, don't you do everything that you can to change the day that you are having?

Ask for help from people who know you well. Perhaps a friend or a family member can help you put your thoughts down on paper. They may even know a few things about you that can help

make for a good day. After you have completed your lists think about to whom you would like to give this information. Would your family like to know? How about your friends? What about co-workers? What about staff?

The more people know about us, the better they can help support us and turn a bad day into a good day.

And we would ALL like to have a few more good days in our lives!

Stay Healthy!!!

Raffle Fundraisers - offered for the holidays

OAHE, Inc. offered a couple of raffles for the community this holiday season. The Activities Committee decided to raffle an iPad 2, 32 GB device since these are the new "hot" electronic item this year. Tickets were sold for \$5 each or \$20 for 5 tickets. Although we were not able to get the item donated, after covering the cost the raffle cleared \$2,145.

The raffle started out to be an in-house project to help improve



staff morale. During the past two years, large flat screen TVs were raffled with a moderate amount of success. However, as word spread about the iPad this year more and more individuals from the community wanted to buy a chance. The project quickly turned into a fundraiser for the OAHE, Inc. This iPad seems to be the hot new item this year with many people planning on purchasing one or giving one as a gift to a spouse. So selling tickets was easy.

This year's winner was Lezlie Vilhaur who was called after the drawing at noon on December 23rd. She was excited about receiving a nice gift for herself this Christmas. Her husband Jarred picked up the device for Lezlie. I sure hope that Lezlie gets to use it, since her husband was really excited.

We hope you BOTH have lots of fun exploring what the iPad does.



The Fundraising Committee also decided to hold a raffle during the holidays. One member had heard about a Lottery Wreath Raffle where \$40 worth of lottery tickets are attached to a wreath and offered as a raffle. Tickets were \$2 each or 3 for \$5.00. The raffle was held from Thanksgiving until the drawing at noon on December 23rd. The Holiday Themed wreath was on display at Value Village for the month.

This raffle also held interest with those "gambler" type individuals among us. The wreath and lottery tickets were won by Tammy Growe one of our Value Village volunteers. Congratulations Tammy!

Come to think of it, I haven't seen Tammy in a couple of weeks. Perhaps the tickets paid off and she is somewhere on a beach in Tahiti, or Fiji.

The Fundraising Committee intends to offer numerous "themed" lottery wreaths throughout the year. Visit Value Village for more information or watch this newsletter for details.

ANCOR Grant Received

A big thanks to ANCOR (American Network of Community Options and Resources) for awarding OAHE, Inc. a \$5,000 grant to help defray some of the costs associated with the flooding of 2011. We very much appreciate the help!

Take the **Plunge**

The **POLAR PLUNGE** for Special Olympics is coming on February 11, 2012 at the Georgia Morse Middle School in Pierre. Twenty four local "plungers" competed in last year's event. People can "plunge" by themselves or as part of a team. The individual or team raising the most money will be eligible to win a prize. There will also be prizes for the wildest costumes. Each person needs to raise a minimum of \$100.00. Even if you are "too chick'n to plunge" you can collect money and be part of a team. "Plungers" and those "too chick'n to plunge" will all receive a t-shirt. Registration begins at 1:00 pm with the plunge is being held from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. This year we will be plunging into a tank of water rather than the river with plungers able to use the showers at the middle school

Money raised will stay local to support the athletes with registration fees, uniforms, transportation, overnight accommodations and meals.

Last year 28 individuals competed in basketball and cheerleading while 32 competed in bowling.

Please call Chuck with questions. He can be reached at 224-4501.



Ann's Musings

Happy New Year! The start of a new year is an opportunity to reflect on what has happened in the past year and a chance to make resolutions for the coming year.

2011 was a very challenging year for us at Oahe, Inc. The year had many highs and unfortunately also some lows. During the year, we lost some very special people for different reasons. Some we lost due to death, some chose to move out of the area and some long term employees chose to move on to new jobs. Whatever the reason, they are missed!

We also had the HUGE challenge of reducing our spending due to the decrease in revenue with the cuts in Medicaid funding. We hosted meetings and included all of the core stakeholders to brainstorm about ways to save money. We had to make some difficult decisions and focus on

what is needed instead of what we want in order to make that happen. As a result, we are still able to provide positive supports, but how we do that looks different at times.

On the other hand, we had lots of opportunities to celebrate successes in 2011 as well. Some of these include:

- Mike Row was nominated as the DSP of the year for ANCOR
- We had a wonderful review from the Council on Quality and Leadership, a national accreditation organization
- We have increased the opportunities for people we support to learn new skills at Value Village
- We have increased the benefits we offer employees, including direct deposit, hearing

screening, legal protection, identity theft protection and a new retirement plan

- We implemented an electronic documentation and communication system

We hope that 2012 will be an exciting and challenging year, with many more opportunities for celebration. We are already planning our 30th anniversary with events scheduled throughout the year, be sure to look for upcoming events.

We look forward to more amazing experiences, lots of laughter, and the opportunity to make a difference assisting people to

DREAM, PLAN, BELIEVE, and ACHIEVE.



A Word From Our Friends at Value Village - Charlie Anne Colombe

Value Village continues to have increasing sales and enjoys ever increasing support from the community.

Business has been GREAT, especially November and December, thanks to all our loyal customers.

There have also been some physical updates. The counter at the cash register has been painted and it looks clean and fabulous. It's amazing what a little paint will do! If you have not stopped in, you're missing out!

Speaking of upgrades, thanks to the ARC - Oahe Chapter we will soon have a dishwasher hooked up and ready to use.

Now we will be able to clean all donated glassware. The dishwasher will also allow us to do some basic training with some folks supported at OAHE, Inc. A real win-win situation. Thank you ARC - Oahe Chapter.



As always, Value Village is searching for donations in respects to kitchen items, furniture, knick-knacks, and shoes. Any, or all, donations are greatly appreciated.

If you didn't know, you can listen to KCCR 1240 AM radio for special sales at Value Village or listen to the "Tradeo" program they offer. You can pick up some real bargains.

Store hours are...

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Tuesday and Thursday - 8:00 am - 7:00 pm.

A special note: Every Thursday is \$5.00 bag sale day. This includes all clothes, purses, and shoes.

The week of January 9th listen to KCCR for some AWESOME sales.

OUR
MISSION

ASSISTING
PEOPLE
TO

DREAM

PLAN

BELIEVE

AND

ACHIEVE

Casting For Cash—YES, It's That Time of Year Again!

Everyone - THINK SPRING! YES, it's that time of year again. During this time of year thoughts turn to warm weather and FISHING. Oahe, Inc. will once again host the Annual Casting For Cash event. Actually this is the 12th year.



But this year there is a twist. OAHE, Inc. will cosponsor the event with Special Olympics South Dakota. With this partnership the event will greatly expand. There will be 60 tagged fish with 15 released in each of the four lakes on the Missouri River. In each of the lakes Oahe, Sharpe, Francis Case and Lewis & Clark, there will be a \$10,000 fish, multiple \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 fish as well. In addition, there will be one

LARGE value fish - \$50,000, released in one of the four lakes. That will buy plenty of worms!

The law enforcement officers around the state will be helping to sell tickets along with the various Community Support Providers similar to OAHE, Inc. Special Olympics hopes that some

of the funds raised by these CSPs helps sponsor athletes to attend various games offered throughout the year.

How do I sign up and register for this year's event? Glad you asked!

- You can send in your \$20 check made payable to OAHE, Inc. and send to Chuck's attention. A ticket stub will be returned to you in the mail.
- Better yet, go to our website at www.oaheinc.com and look for the link for Casting For Cash. You can pay your \$20 over the internet through Pay Pal. You will receive an email back indicating that you are registered for the event.
- Buy tickets at designated sales sites
- Or stop at the office - 125 W. Pleasant Ave. in Pierre

Sharing More of Our Successes —

In the last issue we had such fun thinking and talking about all our accomplishments that we thought we would share a few more. Here are some examples of what we are most proud of:

- **Terry G.** - participating in Music & Motion
- **Patsy** - Welcome to OAHE, Inc. and Day Services
- **Amanda** - learning to use her manners more. WAY TO GO AMANDA!
- **Char** - learning to be more independent with her cooking, cleaning and baking skills
- **Jerome** - started a new job at WalMart
- **Jonathan**— began a new job at Guadalajara Restaurant
- **Sammy** - cleaning at a local law office
- **Cards for Disabled Veterans** - provided by individuals in day services
- **David G.** - returning to work after extensive surgery. WELCOME BACK!
- **Carl** - taking transit to day services independently
- **Tanya L.** - doing well at losing weight. LOOKING GOOD, GIRL!
- **Jenny, Noah, Troy, Carl, Susan, Stacy, Charlie, Val and Patsy** - come to Value Village help take out trash, sort hangers, sort clothes, dust and help with displays
- **Jeff** - still losing weight through TOPPS
- **Paul, Luke D., Robbie, Levon, Terry G.** - doing well keeping their home clean, neat and presentable.
- **Brett** - very thorough with check writing and bill paying. AWESOME JOB!
- Special Olympics basketball practice begins January 3rd - to be held Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Cheerleading practice begins Tuesday, January 3rd.
- Participated in the **Parade of Lights** - won the Griswold Award
- **Christmas Party** - complete with a meal, pictures, carols, gifts and cards

This is just a sampling of what has been accomplished. You can see we have much to be proud of. But this is just the beginning. There are many people we support who have goals and dreams they are anxious to fulfill.

World of Work - South Dakota Health Department

If you have ever walked the hallways at the South Dakota Health Department Lab on 4th Street in Pierre, chances are you have seen Brian.

For over 23 years now, Brian has been working mornings, Monday through Friday and has never missed a day. He keeps busy processing outgoing mailings - collating, stuffing, labeling and getting items ready for bulk mail for the Health Department. He



also does some document destruction of confidential materials. Many times Brian is so fast that his supervisor has difficulty keeping him busy.

Of course, after 23 years, Brian knows everyone and they really like his consistency and having him on staff.

Stop and say HI if you are ever around the Health Lab.

Keep up the good work, Brian!



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Welcome To Our New Staff



Coordinator - Residential Services

Sheila Powers

Financial Coordinator

Heather Ellenbecker

Personal Outcome Coordinators

Catherine Myers

Christopher Mullett

1305 E. Park

Angela Jagne - Lead DSP

Brenda Booth - DSP

Rachel Smith - DSP

516 S. Adams

Jamie Big Eagle -
Lead DSP

Rita Hamilton - DSP

1027 E. Sioux

Jen Big Eagle -
Lead DSP

Merry Nelson - DSP

Rachel Smith - DSP

Brandis Rose - DSP

410 E. Dakota

Rita Hamilton - DSP

Shawnee Sowards - DSP

1324 E. Dakota

Merry Nelson - DSP

111 Hathaway

Demetria Beaumont -
Lead DSP

1019 E. Sioux

Ronna Masteller - DSP

Raymond Poile - DSP

120 Pasque

Brenda Booth—DSP

Raymond Poile - DSP

1306 E. Dakota

Shawnee Sowards - DSP

Brandis Rose - DSP

