

Spotlight on.....



Marcia Nikkel began to attend the school program at Christian Opportunity Center in September of 1970 when she was 3 ½ years old. She had very little speech at the time and had learned some sign language. While in the school program she learned to talk and read. She now reads the church bulletin, restaurant menus, road signs, etc. A lot of time was spent on physical therapy for her cerebral palsy and on social skills, which was a great benefit.

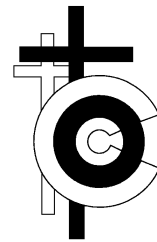
Marcia has always enjoyed attending COC. We have never had a day that she would rather stay at home. She was in the school program until the age of 18 and then started in the plant. Marcia attended the plant in Pella until 1989, and then transferred to the Oskaloosa plant.

Some of Marcia's favorite jobs at the plant are shredding papers, stuffing envelopes, and assembling mouse traps. She also likes to deliver Meals on Wheels one day a week.

At home Marcia likes to sing. She has a boom box and hundreds of CD's. She spends several hours many evenings singing along with the CD's and knows many songs by heart. Marcia also likes to pod peas and clean green beans from the garden. She is a real farm girl and rides in the tractor and combines with her dad every chance she gets.

Marcia likes to go to church, Sunday school, and Friendship Bible Studies. She enjoys spending time with her brothers and their families and likes to watch her nephews and nieces play ball and attend their music concerts.

Kim Koellner,
Program Manager



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COC Update is a semi-annual publication for friends, relatives, and staff members of the

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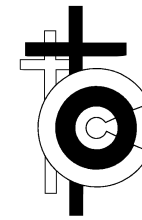
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All individuals are considered for services at COC without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, creed, physical disability, mental disability, or political belief. COC is a public benefit corporation which is accredited by CARF for Organizational Employment Services, Community Employment Services, Respite Services and Community Living Services and is a member of Iowa Association of Community Providers, and American Network of Community Options and Resources.

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Christian Opportunity Center Fall Update

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Making A Difference - Regional Offices in Pella, Indianola, Oskaloosa and Des Moines

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COC Pella Opens New HCBS Home

On March 1, 2008 four individuals moved into the BA-HCBS home at 1558 Broadway. The apartment building had many vacancies over the last several years and there were individuals in the program that needed more support than their current setting provided. The solution was to create a home setting with the space that was available.

With some creative thinking and a little construction two apartments became one home. A door was cut into the wall dividing two of the apartments. Each individual has their own bedroom; two on each side, with each side having a bathroom. There is a dining area and a living room area with a TV and game system set up for all to enjoy. A house meeting was held to decide on a color scheme. The side with the dining room was painted brick dust red and the side with the living room was painted blue. They have decorated accordingly.

The new program has given the four individuals opportunities to learn daily living skills in a home environment. In addition, it has provided more social opportunities. Some favorites include, shopping, going out to eat, and seeing a movie.



From Left: Emily Davey Andy Sandmeier, Bob Ritchie, and Monica Selix

When asked what they enjoyed about the new living arrangements this is what they shared.

“Having my own room. At home I had to share a room with my sister.”- Monica Selix

“It’s been fun living with these guys.”- Bob Ritchie

“I like being able to live with Bob again.”- Andy Sandmeier

Shari Vance,
Associate Program Manager

New Home In Indianola



opportunity to get to know the needs of the four people living at Trail Ridge, we will assist them in finding a fifth housemate. We wish to extend a warm welcome to these four people and their families; we are looking forward to getting to know them.

Lori Wiele, Residential Program Manager

Christian Opportunity Center acquired a home in Indianola from Mainstream Living in August, 2008. The home is located in the Lincoln Ridge subdivision and will be called Trail Ridge. This is a lovely five bedroom house, with two of the bedrooms on the lower level. It has a large yard, a nice deck, and the main floor is wheelchair accessible. COC will also acquire the accessible van being used at the house. There are currently four people living in the home; all are planning to receive 24-hour services from COC after the transition. Once we have had an



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The Dutchmasters Antique Car Club included people from COC in one of their Cruisin' Nights this summer!



Above right: Janice Hoksbergen & Connie De Jong enjoy a ride in a convertible!

From left: Chuck Bogaard, Ryan DeVries, Brian Sneller, Scott Gollehon, John Ruge & Donna Bogaard

Summertime Cruisin'



Above, Dennis Leeper ready to cruise around town in this 1979 Ford Thunderbird



Above: Janice Hoksbergen, Dennis Leeper and Connie DeJong at the picnic supper held after the ride!

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA
COC COOK



BOOK \$5.00 EACH
 For more information contact Diane Mitchell
 641-628-8087 Ext.108

COC Promotional DVD
\$5.00 Each
 If you know someone who would like more information about COC please contact Diane Mitchell.
 641-628-8087
 Dmitchell@christianopportunity.org

OSKALOOSA PICNIC

The annual Oskaloosa Region-summer picnic was held in the vocational plant. COC Staff members served up a lunch of hamburgers, chips, fruit salad & potato salad to the people we support in Oskaloosa and their families.

At left: Melissa Laverman looks on as Angela Smith & John Eilers fill her plate with salads.

At right: Mary "Irene" Fisher strikes a happy pose!

Below: Family members of all ages enjoy their lunch together!



COC 2008 Annual Meeting

October 16, 2008

Graham Conference Center
 Central College
 Pella

Dinner at 6:30
 Meeting at 7:30

Summertime Fun at COC



The annual COC Golf Classic was held June 20, 2008 at Bos Landen Golf Resort in Pella.

A beautiful sunny day set the stage for a day of fun on the course!

142
 The number of participants this year



Willis Auto Campus and Pella Motors placed vehicles for the Hole-In-One prizes. Unfortunately no winners there this year!

This year's event had net value of over \$42,000 for the COC Foundation.

You can't put a price on the time spent with friends enjoying sunshine, a beautiful course and laughter!



Dan Dursky's group won this year's overall prize with a low ball score of 56.

See You Next Year
 June 19, 2009



Are you looking for a way to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities? COC has many opportunities for volunteering as well as several job opportunities. For more information check out our website www.christianopportunity.org or call us toll free at 1-866-262-3433

2007 COC Foundation Report

| REVENUES: | |
|---|---------------------|
| Contributions | |
| Businesses & foundations | \$ 26,821 |
| Estate bequests & memorials | \$ 1,630 |
| Churches | \$ 28,173 |
| Individuals | \$ 62,152 |
| Other | \$ 49,580 |
| Interest | \$ 74,003 |
| Dividends and capital gains | \$ 254,513 |
| Realized gains on investments | \$ 107,732 |
| Unrealized gains on investments | \$ 43,365 |
| Other | \$ 3,595 |
| Net assets released from restrictions | \$ ----- |
| TOTAL Revenues, Gains and Other Supports | \$ 651,564 |
| EXPENSES: | |
| Staff enhancement | \$ 101,779 |
| Special education | \$ 40,247 |
| Special trips and camps | \$ 25,814 |
| Special needs assistance | \$ 615 |
| Spiritual nurture | \$ 8,743 |
| International ministries | \$ 12,925 |
| Scholarships | \$ 1,005 |
| Special Events | \$ 25,889 |
| COC support (capital projects) | \$ ----- |
| Salary and benefits | \$ 85,117 |
| Other | \$ 18,048 |
| Management & general | \$ 52,562 |
| Depreciation | \$ 4,675 |
| TOTAL Expenses | \$ 377,419 |
| (Change in Net Assets) | \$ 274,145 |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | \$ 5,175,418 |
| Net Assets, End of Year | \$ 5,449,563 |
| ASSETS: | |
| Cash | \$ 100,188 |
| Certificates of Deposit | \$ 1,811,408 |
| Stocks and Mutual Funds | \$ 3,457,489 |
| Accrued interest receivable | \$ 8,753 |
| Pledges receivable | \$ 34,040 |
| Property less accumulated depreciation | \$ 202,585 |
| Total Assets | \$ 5,614,463 |
| LIABILITIES: | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 1,744 |
| Annuities payable | \$ 837 |
| Payable to Christian Opportunity Center | \$ 162,319 |
| Total Liabilities | \$ 164,900 |
| NET ASSETS: | |
| Unrestricted | \$ 4,625,256 |
| Temporarily restricted | \$ 287,926 |
| Permanently restricted | \$ 536,381 |
| Total net Assets | \$ 5,449,563 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS | \$ 5,614,463 |