

# ANSWERING **THE CALL**



VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED  
2023 ANNUAL REPORT



## MISSION

Unlimited in our desire to provide Purpose, Privacy, and Dignity to all people.

## VISION

Building successful lives through opportunities and choices.

### VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED

330 Village Circle . Sheldon, IA 51201

Ph. (712) 324-4873

[www.villagenorthwest.org](http://www.villagenorthwest.org)



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# BOARD & CABINET MEMBERS

## BOARD MEMBERS

<b>Barry Whitsell</b> <i>President/CEO</i> Sheldon, IA	<b>Trevor Gottula</b> Sheldon, IA
<b>Dennis Ten Clay</b> <i>Chairperson</i> Sheldon, IA	<b>Pastor Marvin Lindley</b> Sheldon, IA
<b>Chad Pettitt</b> <i>Vice Chairperson</i> Sheldon, IA	<b>Ann Maggert</b> Matlock, IA
<b>Dave Van Essen</b> <i>Secretary</i> Sheldon, IA	<b>Nathan Rockman</b> Sibley, IA
<b>Heidi Brown</b> Sheldon, IA	<b>Paul Truesdell</b> Hospers, IA
<b>Tom Fuoss</b> Sioux Falls, SD	<b>Dave Van Den Brink</b> Alton, IA
	<b>Amy Van Marel</b> Sheldon, IA

## CABINET MEMBERS

<b>Barry Whitsell</b> <i>President &amp; Chief Executive Officer</i>
<b>Justin Jonas</b> <i>Chief Financial Officer</i>
<b>Jo Johnson</b> <i>Director of Health Services</i>
<b>Jerry Postma</b> <i>Director Admissions, Quality Assurance &amp; Residential Services</i>
<b>Brian Robyn</b> <i>Director of Human Resources</i>

# A Letter from the PRESIDENT & CHAIRPESON



**Barry Whitsell**  
*PRESIDENT & CEO*



**Dennis Ten Clay**  
*BOARD CHAIRPERSON*

# ANSWERING THE CALL

When we think of “Answering the Call” at VNU it can take on many dimensions, but it ultimately focuses on our mission, which is to provide Purpose, Privacy and Dignity to the people we serve, along with their families and guardians.

When Jerry Postma, Director of Admissions, Residential, and Quality, gets a call from families or guardians seeking services it can be made with some hesitation, nervousness, and indecision. Often times it is a struggle for families to make that call. The good thing is when families do call it opens a door to a new life. After an initial tour families will have responses like:

- “I never realized there was this level of service for my loved one,”
- “I want my loved one to move in tomorrow,”
- “Wow! It is amazing what VNU has to offer,”
- “The programs and services are exactly what we have been looking for and will support my loved one extremely well.”

In this year’s Annual Report, you will read an article written by Dakota Caldwell. As Dakota shares his story and his family’s story it will give you some incredible insight into how VNU has Answered the Call for Dakota and his family.

Another dimension of Answering the Call relates to truly helping VNU residents have Purpose, Privacy and Dignity through employment. For many people, purpose and dignity is derived through their employment. The people served at VNU are no different. It is the role of VNU Employment Services to assist residents in discovering their vocational skills and match them to an employment opportunity with a local business. This year’s annual report highlights how VNU Answers the Call in helping individuals experience purpose and dignity through employment.

Finally, in November 2022 we asked families and guardians to share their thoughts about VNU and the quality of care provided by staff. Many parents and guardians took the time to write letters, mail cards, or send an e-mail sharing their feelings about our amazing staff and the Village program. We wanted to share with you three of the responses and allow you to hear from them how VNU is Answering the Call.

As you read through this year’s report we trust you will have no doubt that VNU is Answering the Call and that we will strive to continue Answering the Call every day going forward.

**Barry W. Whitsell**  
President and CEO

**Dennis Ten Clay**  
Board Chairperson



# SIGHT OF HOPE

Written by Dakota Caldwell

Some people call him the Admissions Director of VNU and some people call him, “Big Jer”. My family and I call him “Our First Sight of Hope.” Now, I do not know what his first thought was when he saw me. As much as I know, it could have been “Yes, I can practice my smooth walking now,” or “That is the hottest guy on Christian Mingle.” All jokes aside, I’m talking about Jerry Postma. Jerry has been working for Village Northwest Unlimited for 36 years, July 1st was his 37th year. As I said earlier, Jerry was my family and my first sight of hope and let me tell you why.

Before Thanksgiving of 2022, my family and I were approached by my previous caregiver and told, “He needs a higher level of skilled care”. My family was overwhelmed with this news and wondered, “Where will Dakota go?” I was like, “What about my podcast? My job? I may have to move further away from my family?”

With these questions, my family came to visit VNU. As soon as we pulled up, my nerves were going wild. After the meeting with Jerry and his team at VNU and a tour around I can say my family and I had a Sight of Hope again in our lives! The Bible says that God puts us in trials and tribulations not because He does not love us but because He knows we can handle it. I’m not here today to tell you everything is sugarplums and raindrops because it’s not. I still have bad days; I still have moments of depression and anxiety but moving to VNU has greatly lessened those moments.

The day when my application for admission to VNU was being reviewed was a day of great anxiety for my family and me. We were waiting for the call from Jerry and could not wait for the phone to ring. I even wondered if he would email the decision so I was refreshing my email probably 20 times a minute. Ok...I may be exaggerating just a little, but it was pretty close to that. When the call came, I cannot describe the relief for me and my family and of course, the Sight of Hope it gave to me. All my family and I can say to Jerry and the fantastic staff at VNU is THANK YOU for everything that you do. We are truly blessed!

It does not stop there; I wanted to know more about why Mr. Postma pours a cup of coffee, gets in his truck, and works for Village Northwest Unlimited Monday through Friday.



**“After the meeting with Jerry and his team at VNU and a tour around I can say my family and I had a Sight of Hope again in our lives!”**

DAKOTA CALDWELL

When I asked Jerry what has kept him here at the Village, he said, “When I first started here at the Village, I only planned on being here for a couple of years, but it did not take long for the place to grab me.” He shared that so much of what has kept him here at VNU has been the VNU mission statement, which is “Unlimited in our desire to provide Purpose, Privacy, and Dignity for all people.” Jerry also said the second reason why he loves working at VNU is that they really try to do things with excellence. If there is something they can do better, they want to know, they never settle for something. They want to stay updated on stuff physically, mentally, and spiritually.

I also asked Jerry, what makes VNU want to give a family a Sight of Hope or even a second chance. He began telling me that a majority of it does return to the VNU mission statement, “Purpose, Privacy & Dignity. He said, “Everyone on this Earth has equal value, as well as being a child of God, so we want to help people reach their potential and also know that they are loved.

**“Everyone on this earth has equal value, as well as being a child of God, so we want to help people reach their potential and also know that they are loved.”**

JERRY POSTMA

As I thought about that it made me think, I do not know what others are going through, maybe the loss of a loved one, health issues or divorce but I know that God loves them and wants the best for them just like He does me. I know He will get you through the problems of life because very early on in my admissions process at VNU, before I even visited VNU, I was mad at God. I asked Him “Why God, why me?” “Why do I have to go through this?” These are the questions I kept asking but through the midst of pain and worry, He gave me this beautiful Village. I am so thankful that I can call the Village my new home. The staff is wonderful and the programs are done with the excellence that Jerry talks about. The Village certainly was the Sight of Hope my family and me were looking for and I could not be happier to be a part of the Village family. There is a song by Castling Crowns called “Desert Road”, I would like to leave you with some of the verses today.

*I don't know where this is goin'  
But I know who holds my hand  
It's not the path I would've chosen  
But I'll follow You to the end*



# Letters from FAMILIES

This past year we invited families and guardians to express their appreciation by letters, e-mails and notes for the staff of Village Northwest Unlimited. After coming through the stress of the pandemic, we asked families to share their thanks and appreciation so that we could share and lift up our staff through the words and feelings expressed in these letters and notes. Village Northwest Unlimited could not be the

organization we are without the help of our staff! Our staff exceed expectations when it comes to the care and well-being of our residents. To follow are a few of the many letters sent from families to show their appreciation of VNU and our caring staff. Enjoy just a fraction of the heartfelt thank you letters we have received from the loved ones we serve.

Village Northwest Unlimited Team,

There are very few opportunities for our disabled adult daughter in our home state and none such as the Village. After hearing about and researching VNU, we flew down to tour the facility with Phil Grove. Driving around the community, interacting with numerous individuals, we felt that Sheldon was a safe community; it reminded us of the farming community where we both grew up in NW Washington state. The VNU facilities were impressive but more so the quality of the many VNU employees we met. One of our questions to each employee we met was: "How long have you worked here?" The typical response was 5 yrs., 8 yrs., 12 yrs. and many were even longer. An unsolicited comment made by many employees was "and I just love working here." The longevity of employment of many and the care and concern expressed by the VNU employees were the primary factors in our decision to entrust the people associated with VNU with the care of our disabled adult daughter. The day we made the decision to release our daughter into the care of the Village was one of the most difficult decisions we as parents made. Shanna has been part of Village Northwest Unlimited for 18 years and we have no regrets about that very difficult decision. We appreciate the excellent care, concern and love expressed to Shanna by so many of the VNU staff. Your ongoing commitment, day after day, year after year, to care for our loved one is a blessing to Shanna and to us parents/guardians. We believe the staff at VNU are God's "hand extended." Your willingness to use your God given gifts are an encouragement to Shanna, us and many others.

We realize all of you also have families, commitments, good times, difficult times in addition to your responsibilities as one of the team members at the Village. We believe in the power, love and provision of God and want you to know that we pray for you and your families regularly that God will supply you with everything you and your family need.

We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. Thank You!

Gary & Helen Korthuis  
Wasilla, Alaska

Dear Barry,

We received your letter and are so glad to offer our words of encouragement and appreciation for VNU staff and direct care staff!

Shawn has been at VNU for 6 years now. What a wonderful difference this community of loving and caring individuals has made in every aspect of his life! His waiver home staff of Nichole, Muriel, Kurt, & Abby are superb at managing, supervising, & supporting Shawn. They are the "family" that he needs when we can't be there. The house outings and vacations are just "over the top" and Shawn loves them! He has learned so many living skills under this house staff, and learned social skills with the housemates as well. I/we know how challenging it can be to be "in charge" day after day - we give our heartfelt thanks to all of you - especially Nic, who has given Shawn guidance as his job coach; VNU receptionist, who I call often, they're always there; Deb, Sara, & Mindy who have made a huge difference with "Special Olympics" in Shawn's life. We're sure there are many, many more who so selflessly work on our loved one's behalf. It shows in every aspect of this outstanding Village of providing purpose, dignity & privacy!

In gratitude & love,  
Cheryl & Luane Todd

When Keli was in her early teens, I started to look for facilities for her. I knew the time would come when she would need a life for herself in addition to the one at "mom's house." I looked in Iowa and surrounding states. Village Northwest was by far the best choice. Keli has now been at the Village for over 40 years!

Last summer, Keli moved to 366 West. That shortly proved to be a truly positive move and it was due to you - THE STAFF!

I can't find the words to tell you how much I appreciate you - I can't describe the wonderful feeling of leaving a happy and content child when we return from a home visit; the relaxed feeling I have when I go to bed at night, knowing that Keli is tucked in by staff who care so very much about her.

I've spent some time in Keli's house during the past few months and observed the natural and easy manner of staff interacting with the residents. I saw hugs given to them for no special reason; just because they cared. I saw staff singing and dancing with them and saw their smiles and their faces light up. I saw staff talking with residents as if they were best friends or relatives - they were on the same level as staff. Residents were treated with dignity and caring, yet staff remained professional in their direct care-giver roles.

It's no wonder that I heard Keli say, for the very first time, "I'm home" when returning to her house from a home visit.

Thank you to all staff of 366,  
Jan James  
Keli King's mom



VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED

FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of activities of Village Northwest Unlimited and VNU Foundation for the period ending June 30, 2023.

REVENUE

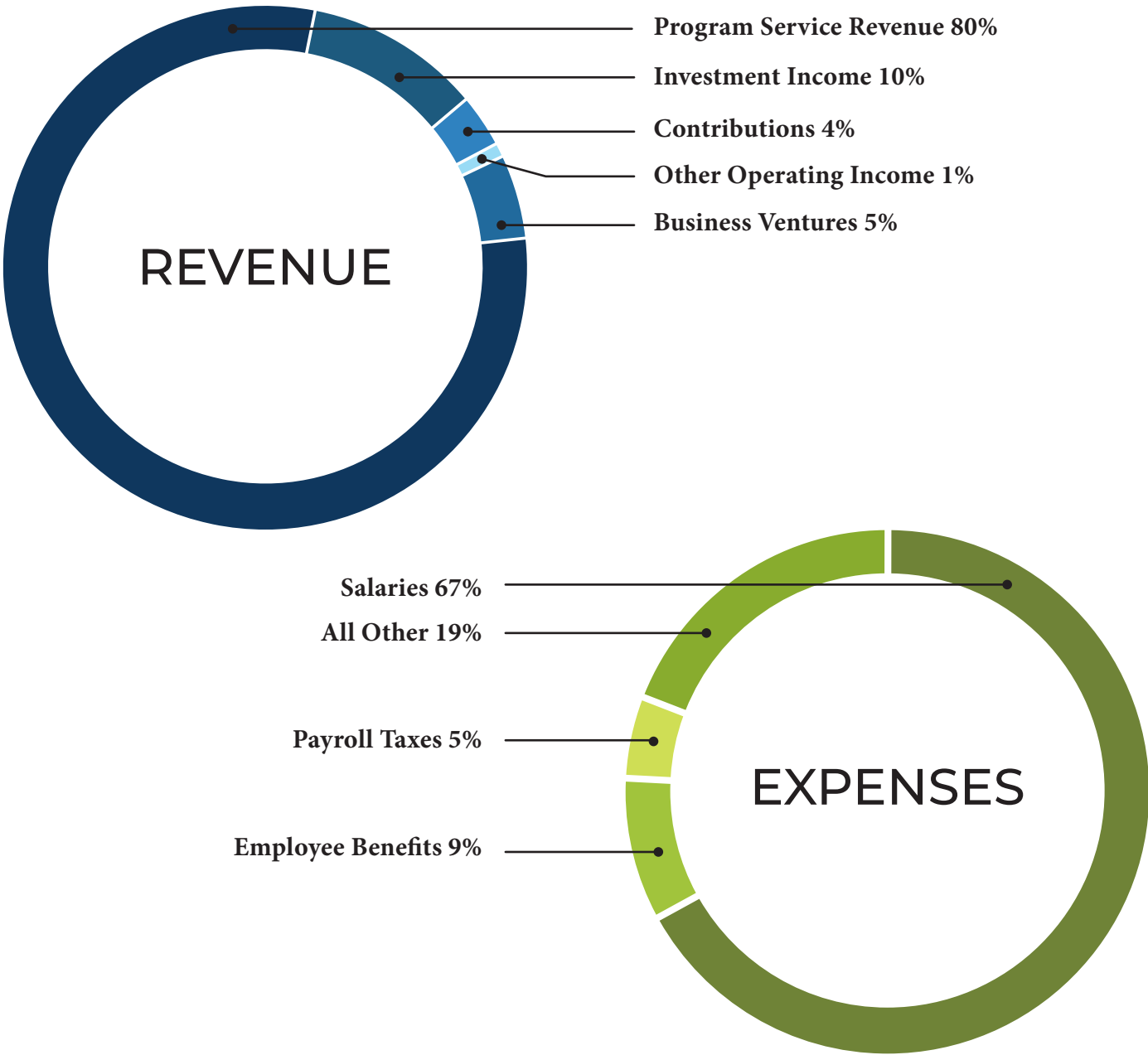
Program Service Revenue	\$	14,728,677	80.00%
Business Ventures		984,937	5.35%
Other Operating Income		83,490	0.45%
Total Operating Revenue	\$	15,797,094	

EXPENSES

Salaries	\$	10,606,514	67.01%
Employee Benefits		1,405,333	8.88%
Payroll Taxes		782,552	4.94%
All other		3,034,326	19.17%
Total Operating Expenses	\$	15,828,725	
Operating Income/Loss	\$	(31,631)	

OTHER INCOME

Contributions	\$	689,491	3.74%
Investment Income	\$	1,924,460	10.45%
Total Operating Income	\$	2,613,951	
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES	\$	2,582,320	





# Snoezelen

## The Neon Sensory Room

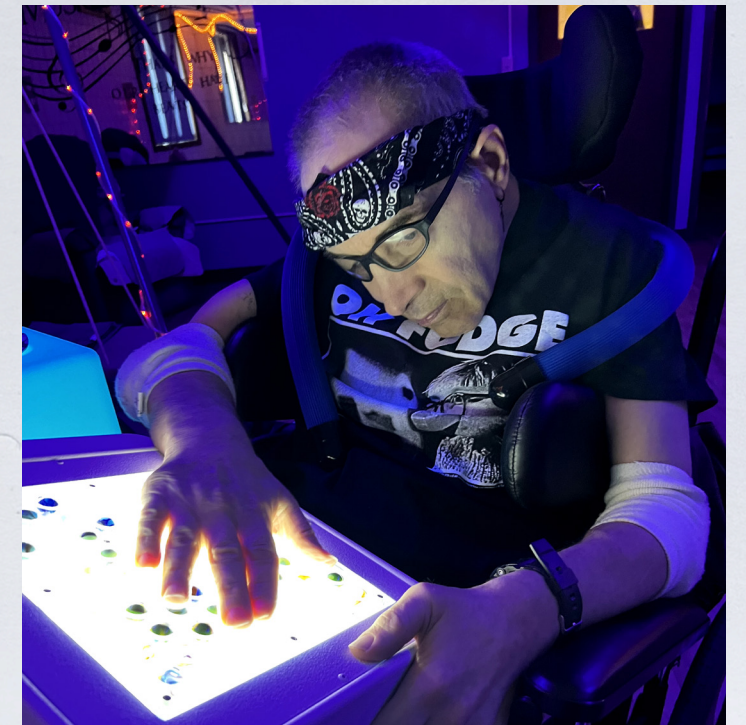
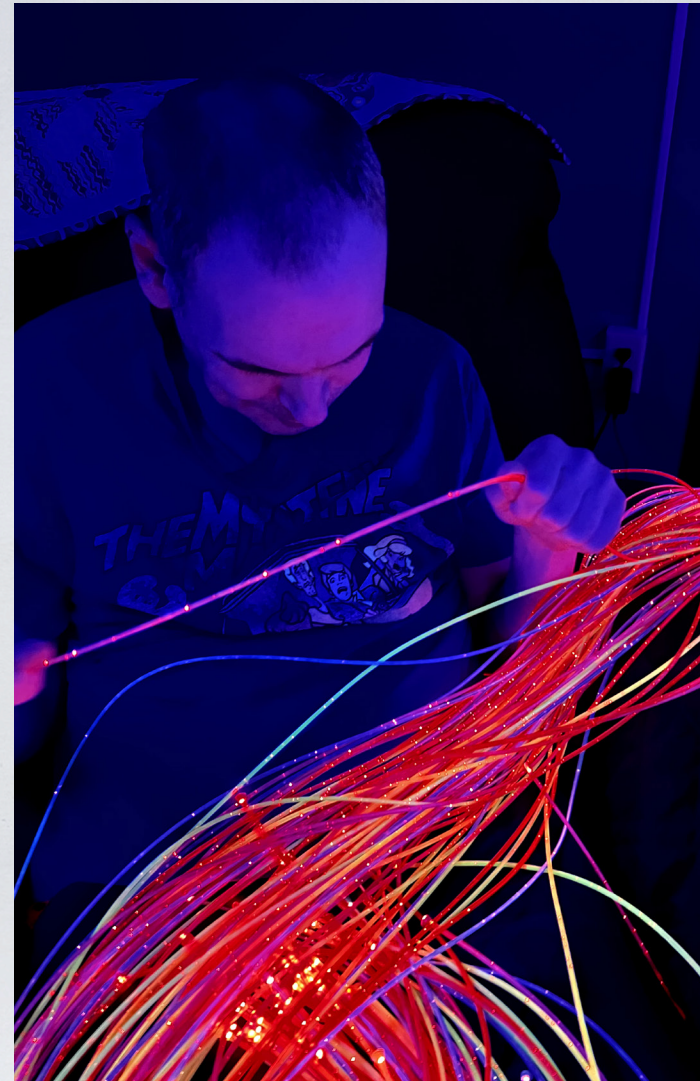
Given the Dutch influence in Northwest Iowa have you ever heard the Dutch term “Snoezelen?” Did you know that Snoezelen is a part of the day program services offered at VNU and is an extension of the therapy program?

According to the official Snoezelen website, “During the late 1970s two Dutch therapists; Jan Hulsegge and Ad Verheul experimented with a sensory tent at the DeHartenburg Institute. The goal was to increase enjoyment and sensory experience for those with intellectual disabilities. The result of a one-weekend fair was overwhelmingly positive for both verbal and non-verbal patients. The term Snoezelen® was coined soon after, which is a contraction of the Dutch verbs “snuffelen” (to seek and explore) and “doezelen” (to relax).”

Since Snoezelen is a part of the therapy program of the Village, not every resident can have it as a part of their day programming options. A resident has to go through an evaluation process with VNU staff in order to be part of the Snoezelen program. Rachel Schuetz, Therapy Lead in the Snoezelen room, says, “The great part of the Snoezelen room is that it can support each resident’s individual needs while still serving more than one resident in the room. The sensory items can help an individual relax their minds and bodies. The different items can calm an anxious mind, decrease outbursts, pacing, and promote a relaxed body posture.” There are many sensory tools involved and used in the Snoezelen environment to provide relaxation and promote a sense of calm for people and they include lights, switches, massaging tools, music, swings, beads, rice, sand, sensory wall, and sounds.

Once the resident enters, they are welcome to find the item their preferred sensory item. “We have residents that come in and find the one sensory tool that provides relaxation and comfort for them. We also have residents that come in looking for something new and we help them discover a new tool to use,” said Laura Abels, head of the Therapy Department. Jo Johnson, Director of Health Services, said, “The residents are able to find the tools that help their emotions. The Snoezelen room gives them the independence to find tools that help them relax.” Johnson gave the example of someone with ADHD, “If an individual has ADHD, their brains are going everywhere all the time. Their minds are constantly racing in every direction. Snoezelen provides the resources for residents to find tools that help soothe their mind and body.”

Village Northwest Unlimited strives to assist residents in becoming as independent as possible. Snoezelen assists residents in finding a calm and relaxing space to process. “We often have anxiety and stress everyday but our residents do not always know what those feelings are. The goal of Snoezelen is to provide a place where residents know they can come in and have a peace of mind” Johnson said. Each resident is different in the tools they choose to use and the Snoezelen room provides the necessary equipment to assist them in becoming as independent as possible. Everyone deserves to relax, the Snoezelen room is where our residents thrive at learning to calm their mind and body.







**YEAR IN PICTURES**







# Job Coaching

Village Northwest Unlimited has a great reputation for the variety of day programming we offer. In addition to day programming, residents have the ability to participate in finding community-based employment, in-house employment, or small group employment. Job coaching is a part of our employment program where a professionally trained VNU staff member supports individuals teaching necessary and essential jobs skills to help our residents become successful in their chosen jobs.

The goal of all participants in the employment program is to be successful in their employment. Each individual who has an interest in employment begins their employment journey with a skills assessment through Linda Van Meeteren, the Community Employment Specialist at VNU. “The purpose of the assessment is to recognize the skills and abilities each resident possesses. As we assess each person, I am constantly adapting to where the resident is and attempting to meet them at their skill and interest level. I focus on their strengths and develop ways to support their weaknesses. This job is not a one size fits all. We want to challenge those we serve and watch them grow while giving the support they need to become as independent as possible,” Linda explained.

As Linda talked about the process of assessing the individual’s skills, she explained how grateful she is for the surrounding communities and being open minded. Linda further explained, “Businesses have kept an open mind and see the value of employing individuals with disabilities. We are very grateful for the wonderful community around VNU for looking to employ people with disabilities.” We have 28 businesses that are currently employing Village Northwest Unlimited residents.

The following is the list of businesses who have provided employment opportunities to VNU residents.

- Bomgaars
- Boyden Hull Elementary
- Church of the Brethren
- Creative Living
- Dollar General
- Edward Jones
- Fareway
- Hardees
- Holiday Inn
- Hy-Vee, Sheldon
- KT Industries
- Life Long Learning & Recreation Center
- Maintainer
- McDonalds
- Neal Chase Lumber Company
- Perspective
- Pizza Ranch
- RTA, Rides
- Sanford Sheldon
- Sheldon City Offices
- Sheldon Police Office
- Staples
- Sudenga
- Travel World
- Treasure Chest
- Village Northwest Unlimited
- Voc Rehab of the State of Iowa
- Wheelchair Dynamics



While the business employs the resident, VNU provides a job coach to help support the individual. The job coach is with the resident until the resident is ready to be independent at the job. A common route for residents to begin their employment career is to have them start as an employee in a job at VNU. This option can help staff witness the abilities, strengths and training opportunities of a resident. After employment at VNU, the individual can go two ways, one, is to do small group employment and the second, is to start with a job coach doing community-based employment. Every resident has a different route, some start with small group employment, while others are ready to do job coaching and community-based employment.

Job coaching is a wonderful asset for residents. The job coach is a tool for residents to use to help support them with gaining proficiency in the new skills they are learning to be successful in their employment. Job coaches assist residents in learning how to problem solve, improve their weaknesses, excel and practice social skills and learn the various components necessary to complete their job duties. Van Meeteren notes, “The job coaches can help residents improve and gain skills that range from attention to detail when completing a task, working and interacting with co-workers, accepting direction and correction from supervisors, gaining maturity on the job, dressing for work and being on time, and being a team player. Job coaches are an important part of the employment process in order for residents to successfully attain their employment goals.

**The job coach is a tool for residents to use to help support them with gaining proficiency in the new skills they are learning to be successful in their employment.**

Job coaches also make it possible for the employers we work with to have the opportunity to work with and employ people with disabilities. By Village job coaches being on-site working with the residents and helping residents to learn the skills they need to be successful the employer is more willing to provide a job. Employers know the job coach will properly train the person and be available in the future, as needed, to provide follow up and give guidance as needed.

VNU job coaches know they are essential to the community-based employment goals of the people we serve and they are committed to their resident’s ultimate success on the job. To become a job coach VNU staff have to complete specialized training to become a job coach. Job coaches have to complete a total of 9 ½ hours of classes to become a “certified” job coach and then 4 hours of recertification each year. VNU has 30 certified job coaches working to make employment a reality for our residents.



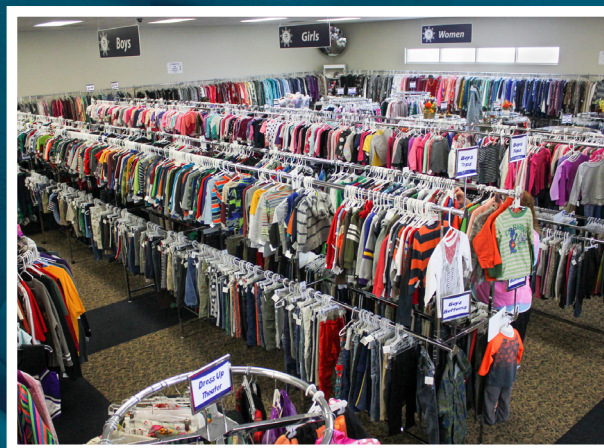
Support Village Northwest Unlimited

# THE VILLAGE TREASURE CHEST



The Village Treasure Chest is a high end thrift store, run by volunteers. All merchandise is donated by the public, consisting of clothing, shoes, small appliances, books, knick-knacks, notions, dishes, furniture, and much more.

One hundred volunteers, along with a full-time manager and 5 part-time assistants, staff the store and are involved in sorting, pricing, and selling the donated items. Last year over 15,000 hours of volunteer service was put in at the Treasure Chest. Items are priced and put out on the floor daily, so our customers enjoy stopping by often to make sure they don't miss a thing.



Follow the Treasure Chest and stay up to date on merchandise and sales at  
Village Treasure Chest on Facebook!

## July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 VOLUNTEERS

Coleen Ahlers  
Logene Anderson  
Marlyss Bauman  
Jane Beltman  
Lorna Blumeyer  
Elaine Boogerd  
Barb Bootsma  
Bill Boscaljon  
Sally Boscaljon  
Jessica Broesder  
Beverly Brouwer  
Akoya Cabanas  
Thelma De Kok  
Gerdena Dirksen  
Dorothy Dykhuizen  
Alice Dykstra  
Liz Elgersma  
Cathy Engelsman  
Helen Evink  
Art Franken  
Jo Franken  
Judy Gaarder  
Elinor Gesink  
Mary Goebel  
Diego Guevara  
Joyce Heitritter  
Donna Hoadley  
Shirley Jager  
Muriel Kanengieter

Joan Klein  
Stacy Klein  
Marilyn Kleinwolterink  
Sally Koedam  
Peggy Koele  
Donna Koepnick  
Bernice Kreykes  
Betty Kreykes  
Kathy Kuyper  
Rose Leeds  
Jane Lode  
Taylor Madden  
Libertee Martens  
Charm Neeley  
LouMae Novak  
Fran Peelen  
Chris Peters  
Delores Popma  
Donna Poppema  
Eleanor Poppema  
Millie Portz  
Isabella Rains  
Bonnie Roder  
Dorothy Rohwer  
Karolien Roling  
Elizabeth Rozeboom  
Donna Schaeffer  
Verilyn Schilling  
LaDonna Schmith

Dian Schueller  
Helene Schuiteman  
Barbara Sorensen  
Carol Sterk  
Wanda Stratman  
Sonja Townend  
Dee Van Beek  
Bonnie Van De Brake  
Harper Van Meeteren  
Harriet Van Meeteren  
Lois Van Meeteren  
Maria Van Velzen  
Gert Van Wyk  
Al Vande Kamp  
Freddy Vande Kamp  
Darlene Verrips  
Charlotte Vierhout  
Sandy Voss  
Harold Wagenaar  
Karen Wagenaar  
Arlene Westerveld  
Iola Whitsell  
Jenna Woelber  
Myrna Wolfswinkel  
Micah Zielenga  
Verna Zylstra



July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

# DONORS

## BUSINESSES

Aggregate  
American Investment & Trust  
American State Bank  
AMPI  
Assurity  
Beck Engineering  
Bengard & Associates, Inc.  
Blackhawk Automatic Sprinklers, Inc.  
Boer & Sons  
Bon Bon Inc  
Brady's Pub  
C & O Dental Enterprises  
Cain, Ellsworth & Co.  
Citizens State Bank  
CMBA Architects  
CoBank  
D2K Farms, Inc.  
De Kruif Disposal  
DeKoter, Thole, Dawson Rockman & Krikke, P.L.C.  
Den Hartog Industries  
Dethmers Mfg.  
DK Plastics  
Downtown Hardware  
Edward Jones  
Eric & Jessica Oolman, LLC  
Farmers Market Concrete & Excavation Inc.  
Farmers Mutual Insurance Association  
Fred's Plumbing & Heating  
Frontier Bank  
G & E Cabinetry, Inc.  
Gesink & Vander Wilt Agency  
Hospers Auto Inc.  
Hubers Plumbing, Heating & A/C, Inc.

HyVee  
Innovative NonProfit  
Interstates Companies  
Iowa State Bank  
J & J Building Contractors, Inc.  
JElectric Inc  
K. F. Murphy Company, P.C.  
Kass & Company  
KIWA Radio  
Langer's Bar & Grill / Cook's Café  
Lewis Family Drug  
Maintainer Corporation  
MidAmerican Energy  
Mr. B's / Lady B's  
Neal Chase Lumber Company  
North Star Community Credit Union  
North West REC  
Northwest Decor & Furniture/T.C. Home Furnish-ings, INC.  
Northwest Iowa Community College  
Northwestern Bank  
O'Brien County Implement  
Orange City Sanitation, Inc.  
Peoples Bank  
Peoples Bank & Trust  
Perspective Insurance  
Perspective Insurance  
Pizza Ranch  
Pluim Publishing Inc.  
Poppema & Sikma Construction  
Precision Alignment & Repair, Inc.  
Premier Communications  
Prins Insurance Inc.

ProActive Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab  
Quality Living, Inc.  
Relax Massage & Bodywork LLC  
Remsen Fire Department  
Romero Bertelin  
Ron Drenkow Motors, Inc.  
Rosenboom Frame & Body  
Sam's Barber Shop  
Sanborn Hardware  
Sanford Health  
Sanford Health - Sheldon  
Schmitz Enterprises, INC  
Security Savings Bank  
SFM Mutual Insurance Company  
Sheldon Chiropractic Clinic  
Sheldon Family Dental Clinic  
Sheldon Vision Care  
Siouxland Fabricating, Inc.  
Summit Dairy  
Tacos Torres  
Te Slaa Trucking  
Ten Kredit Electric  
The Blackbaud Giving Fund  
The Dental Office  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
Van Engelenhoven Agency, Inc.  
Vander Haag's, Inc.  
Veldhuisen Real Estate LLC  
Vogel Paint & Glass  
West Hills, Inc.  
Wiersma Enterprises  
Williams & Co.

## CHURCHES

Alton Presbyterian Church - Alton  
Alton Reformed Church - Alton  
American Reformed Church - Primghar  
Archer Reformed Church - Archer  
Bethel Reformed Church - Little Rock  
Calvary Christian Reformed Church  
Carmel Reformed Church - Rock Valley  
Christian Reformed Church - Ocheyedan  
Church of the Brethren  
Ebenezer Presbyterian Church  
First Christian Reformed Church - Hull  
First Christian Reformed Church - Orange City  
First Christian Reformed Church - Sheldon

First Christian Reformed Church - Sioux Center  
First Presbyterian Church - Paullina  
First Presbyterian Church - Sibley  
First Reformed Church- Boyden  
First Reformed Church- Inwood  
First Reformed Church- Maurice  
First Reformed Church- Melvin  
First Reformed Church of Maurice  
First Reformed Church- Sanborn  
First Reformed Church- Sheldon  
First Reformed Church- Sibley  
Grace Lutheran Church  
Hope Christian Reformed Church

Hope Reformed Church  
Hospers Christian Reformed Church  
Immanuel Christian Reformed Church  
Lyon County First Presbyterian Church  
Newkirk Reformed Church  
Peace Lutheran Church  
Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque  
St John Lutheran Church ELCA  
St. Paul Lutheran Church - Sheldon  
Tabernacle Baptist Church - George  
United Methodist Church - Sutherland  
United Presbyterian Church - Boyden  
Wesley United Methodist Church

## GROUPS

American Legion Buss-Johnson Post 316  
Bethel Women Ministires  
Boyden Community Foundation  
Catholic Daughters of America  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Grace United Methodist Women  
IA State Knights of Columbus Council 3810  
Knights of Columbus  
SCDC Marketing Committee  
Sheldon Noon Kiwanis Club  
Sheldon United Fund  
United Commercial Travelers #357  
YourCause, LLC

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Chace & Barbara Anderson  
Monica Anderson  
Patricia & Dale Anderson  
Gary Anderson  
Brandon Anderson  
Terry Andringa  
James A. Andringa  
Paul & Trudy Anema  
Karen Anema  
Lowell & Karen Appleton  
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Paul Arens  
Dorothy Arens  
Nicole Arens  
Allison Arens  
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David Asmussen  
Margie Augustine  
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Daniel Baker  
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Bonnie Barkley  
Ann Barkley Clark  
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Katryna Bart  
Anna Bartlett  
Gary Barwick  
Harvey Bauman  
Ben & Jill Bavier

## ESTATE

Helena Ludens

## FOUNDATION

Amazon Smile  
Arlan J. Van Wyk Family Foundation  
The Arnold Winter and Martha Winter Charitable Fund  
The Lori & David Scott Foundation

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Elmer Beltman  
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Tonya Beltman  
Tracy Beltman  
Jonathan Beltman  
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Margaret Benson  
Twilla Bents  
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Maranda Betz  
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Nate Bever  
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La Vonne Blankers  
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Jon Bloemendaal  
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Ruthann Boender  
David Boender  
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Wayne Bomgaars  
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Shantele Brink  
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Randy & Liz Bruns  
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Janyce Brunsting  
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Jim & Kimberly Buenger  
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Harvey Dale & Marilyn De Boer  
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Kendall De Groot  
Kelly & Pam De Groot  
Julie De Groot  
Gary & Nadine De Hoogh  
Ronald De Jong  
Pam De Jong  
Shirley De Smet  
Edgar & Phyllis De Vries  
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John Den Boer  
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Elmer Den Hartog  
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Melanie Post  
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Dr. Keith & Jan Rolston  
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Lois Schilling  
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Wilmer & Wynetta Van De Berg  
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Ann Vander Vegte  
Mag Vander Wilt  
Nelva Vander Wilt  
Dorothy Vander Wilt  
Art Vander Wilt  
Ed & Becky Vander Wilt  
Arnold Vander Wilt  
Lora Vander Zwaag  
Joan Van't Hof  
Jamison Vant Hul  
Cory & Lynn Vaselaar  
Ken & Karla Ven Huizen  
Brenda Vermeer  
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Dell Vos  
June Vos  
Zachary Voss  
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Bert Walinga  
David Wallin  
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Marcia Wassenaar  
Chad Wassenaar  
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Matthew Wellendorf  
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Iola Whitsell  
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Karey Winkel  
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Sheila Zanela  
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Brad Zeutenhorst  
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Eric Zylstra

TRUSTS

Dorothy E McCormack Charitable Trust  
Emily A. Waund Rev. Trust  
Marvin Fintel Revocable Trust  
Matthew & Terri Vander Pol Charitable Gift Fund  
Stanley and Janice Ten Kley Family Trust

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

GIFTS IN MEMORY

Memorial gifts recieved from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 were sent by friends and family in memory of the following individuals

Janet Anderson	Raychel Hughes	Sharol Miedema
Stanley Anderson	Shirley Klosterman	Carol Moret
Eugene Baumann	Lloyd Knight	Ken Mulder
Bruce Berhow	Josh Koons	Charlie Nelson
Meagan Bonestroo	Fred Kramer	Jake Ralston
Connie Butler	Lora Kruse	Wayne Schons
Dave De Kok	Garry Leathers	Daniel Smith
Deb Dixon	Denise Mastbergen	Calvin Sneiderman
Shawn Dudley	Irene Mayer Pierce	Les Van Engen
Kim Fischer	Chris Mennen	Belva Van Gorp
Junior Gesink	Mike Merley	Mark Voy
Joyce Hommes	Katheron Middle	





# WAYS TO GIVE

## Outright Gifts

Monetary donations given to Village Northwest Unlimited are used for purchase of equipment, remodeling, renovations, and program development. Your donation will directly benefit those we serve, providing purpose, privacy and dignity for all people.



**Venmo:** @vnuiowa

**Website:** [www.villagenorthwest.org/donate](http://www.villagenorthwest.org/donate)

## Memorial Gifts

The memory of the person you honor with a memorial gift to the Village will continue to live on through the lives of those who benefit from your gift. Gifts in memory are applied toward the Resident Needs Fund, and are made available to residents for the purchase of specific personal needs that they are not able to purchase on their own because of limited financial resources. We will, however, honor special requests, should you wish your memorial gift to be used for a specific need.

## Charitable Gift Annuities (Life Income Gifts)

Donors may transfer cash, securities, and/or real estate to Village Northwest Unlimited with the understanding that they, or their designated beneficiaries, will receive income for life or a term of years with Village Northwest Unlimited retaining the remainder.

## Donor Advised Fund

VNU is a participating organization through DAF Direct and as such, you can request VNU as the designated charitable cause through your Donor Advised Fund!

**Legal Name:** Village Northwest Unlimited

**Address:** 330 Village Circle, Sheldon, IA 51041

**Federal Tax ID Number:** 42-1044017

## Life Insurance & Retirement Plan Assets

Donors may transfer life insurance policies to Village Northwest Unlimited as owner and beneficiary, or name the Village as the primary or secondary beneficiary under qualified retirement plans.

## Cash Securities & Real Estate

Gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, and/or land may be made outright or in installments over a period of years.

## Cash Securities & Real Estate

In large part, Village Northwest's present endowment has been built from generous gifts from the estates of its benefactors.

- Bequest by will, irrevocable trust, or revocable trust
- Charitable gift annuity
- Charitable remainder trust
- Gift of residence or farm with retained life use
- Life insurance policy
- Retirement plan

# GET INVOLVED

## Volunteer

Village Northwest Unlimited has a wide variety of volunteer opportunities. Options include working in the Treasure Chest, assisting maintenance, playing games or reading with the residents or helping in one of the many program areas. Donation of your time and talents directly impacts the lives of the individuals we serve.

## Donate Items to the Treasure Chest

The Village Treasure Chest is a thrift store that relies on donations of clothes, furniture, home décor and more from the general public. Items are sold in the store, which is run primarily by volunteers, and proceeds are used to help fund the services we provide.

Donations can be dropped off at 1979 Park Street in Sheldon, IA.

## Shop at the Village Treasure Chest

The Village has one for-profit business: The Village Treasure Chest. Proceeds from the Treasure Chest are used to fund the services VNU provides. You can explore the endless variety of merchandise available at the Treasure Chest all while supporting the Village mission.

## Become a Village Visionary

What is a Village Visionary? A Village Visionary is a special part of the VNU family that supports the persons served on a monthly basis. A Village Visionary shares in our passion of providing Purpose, Privacy and Dignity to all People. Their ongoing financial support is critical as we continue providing premier programs and therapies for adults with disabilities.

Don't wait!! Start supporting those we love today!

[www.villagenorthwest.org/villagevisionary](http://www.villagenorthwest.org/villagevisionary)

And as an added bonus...all new Village Visionary monthly givers will receive a free gift!

# GIFTS THAT WON'T COST YOU A DIME

## Good Shop

Hundreds of great stores including, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting Village Northwest Unlimited. Just go to [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com) and be sure to enter Village Northwest Unlimited as the charity you want to support...and spread the word to friends and family members!





In September 2022, The Des Moines Register announced that Village Northwest Unlimited (VNU) had been named a Top Workplace by its employees. In order to be named a Top Workplace an organization has to enroll in an employee survey process. Employee surveys are then distributed to staff members who provide their feedback and evaluations on the organization. Based on the survey results from VNU staff members the Village was named a Top Workplace for the third time. VNU has participated three times in this employee survey process and each time VNU has been the recipient of a Top Workplace designation. The other years when VNU participated were 2014 and 2013.



## VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED

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Find us on Instagram, X, Facebook,  
and LinkedIn or check out our website  
to stay up to date with everything  
happening at VNU!



# VILLAGE VALUES

## CHRISTIAN ATMOSPHERE

The daily activities, decisions, and all the Village is involved in will be performed according to Christ's teachings. Christ treated others with love and compassion, urging his disciples to be servants to others.

## PURPOSE FOR EVERYONE

We recognize that each person has unique abilities and gifts that they use to contribute to society and their community. We will encourage each member of the Village family to use these abilities and gifts as they are able.

## RESPECT

Our relationships will be built on mutual respect; a recognition and appreciation of the value of each person, a sense of pride in ourselves and others, showing consideration and courtesy to all, and expressing admiration and encouragement for others' efforts and intentions.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Each of us has the obligation to complete our responsibilities and be responsible for the quality of the results.

## INTEGRITY

We will adhere to the moral principles of the Village in our pursuit of purpose, privacy, and dignity. We will not violate the trust placed in us by the people we serve.

## UNITY

As a Village family, we pursue a common goal. We will encourage, support and nurture each other on the path to that goal. We will utilize each person's strengths and applaud each person's accomplishments. We will work together in a participatory environment while meeting our personal commitments.

## EXCELLENCE

We are continually striving to improve ourselves and the services we provide, making changes when changes are beneficial, while remembering that excellence is a process, not a destination.

## DEDICATION

Dedication will be exemplified by giving ourselves, our time, and our energy to enrich the lives of others. It will be evident in our commitment, belief in what we do, and striving to be and do our best.