

Director's Notes

The Knights of Columbus and Their Ongoing Support

The Knights of Columbus was officially formed in New Haven Connecticut in 1882 in order to provide financial aid to members and their families. The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to 15,900 councils and 1.9 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam, Saipan, Lithuania, Ukraine, and South Korea.

Their charitable activities encompass an almost infinite variety of local, national and international projects. From international charitable partnerships with Special Olympics, the Global Wheelchair Mission and Habitat for Humanity to their own Food for Families and Coats for Kids projects. In 2017, the Knights of Columbus set a new all-time record for the 19th consecutive year. Their charitable donations increased from \$177 million in 2016 to a new total of \$185,652,989 in 2017.

Headwaters is grateful to receive funding from both the state and local Knights of Columbus Councils on an annual basis. Below is an example of one of those donations- this one from the Wabeno Knights of Columbus. Thank you so much!



Pictured from left to right: John Ehlinger, Deanna Barlow, Ray Ehlinger, and Sandy Maglish



Self-Determination: What is Your Superpower?



Learning how to explore, discover, and use your superpower every day to build the life you want was the theme of the 2018 Wisconsin Self-Determination Conference. Hosted by the Wisconsin Board for People with Disabilities at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells, this conference is designed to empower people with disabilities to become more independent and to have more control in their lives. More than 600 people each year participate in the conference to learn more about self-determination so they can live independently, be members of their communities, and use public funds efficiently. The conference participants include people with disabilities and their family members, direct care providers, and professionals from Wisconsin's disability community.

Headwaters Inc was honored to attend again this year and support 10 individuals with the opportunity to network with peers and services, to learn and share, and to celebrate! Attendees were able to choose from over 27 workshop sessions covering topics from navigating transportation to financial planning to healthy habits. We learned more about self-advocacy and telling our stories, identifying networks of support within our community, the impact of volunteering, and busting through barriers in employment. It was two days packed with resources and information that ended with a dinner and dance party to celebrate.

Participation in this conference is such a powerful experience for the staff and participants at Headwaters Inc. We learn from each other and hone our skills to better serve our mission of empowering lives.



Ashley has many super powers! She is a strong advocate for those who have disabilities. She wants them to be treated fairly and equally. She also wants a fair wage to be paid to those who have a disability. She is president of People First at Headwaters. She is also a peer mentor for Headwaters, where she inspires others to speak up and make a difference. When she is not working at Headwaters, she works at Nicolet College and has her own business! She is very busy, but manages to balance all this while helping create and change policies for the state of Wisconsin. She works together with Governor Scott Walker and Representative Tom Tiffany to make a difference for those who have a disability. Though Ashley has many super powers and is very busy, she always makes time to listen to others and has a big heart. We're lucky to have such a great super hero here at Headwaters.





HEADWATERS CHRISTMAS PARTY 2018

On December 7, 2018, Headwaters held their annual Christmas dinner and dance at the Northwoods Banquet Center. Everyone had a great time sharing the Christmas cheer.





Anniversaries October

Susan R.– 2yrs Jennifer B.– 2yrs Tammy D.– 2yrs Linnea S.– 4yrs

November

Marcia F– 1yr Sherry O.– 1yr Kevin R.-1 yr Martha P. - 2yrs Allie F. –3yrs Nancy C.-4yrs Marcy E.-4yrs Katherine G.-8yrs Brandi G.-9yrs Wendy W. –28yrs

<u>December</u>

Sheryl M. - 4yrs Shelia M.- 5yrs

Birthdays

Todd N 10/11 Andy M 10/27 Karl W 10/31 RJ S 10/30 Marisa M 11/24 Alia R 11/29 Laurence O 12/8 Flora B 12/12 Terese KB 12/15 Joseph F 12/20 Robert S 12/21 Amy W 12/22 Lana H 12/23 BillieJo S 12/25 Holly R 12/28 Brian V 12/30 Jeremy D 12/30

Community Employment



Andy has been part of the Headwaters day service program for a long time. In late November, he started at Pizza Ranch parttime as a dishwasher. If you knew Andy a few years ago, seeing him work as a dishwasher at Pizza Ranch is an incredible thing! He has accomplished so much to get where he is today! Andy wanted to do something, and he didn't let anything stop him! He now has been working at Pizza Ranch a month and has made friends; and even customers know him by name! So next time you're at Pizza Ranch, think of Andy working hard on the dishes and making others smile and laugh! We're so lucky to have such a dedicated and hardworking guy at Headwaters.



January is National Blood Donor Month

To pay tribute to those who donate blood and to increase donation by others; President Richard Nixon proclaimed January, National Blood Donor Month for the first time on December 31, 1969 and it began to be observed since 1970.

Blood is the gift of life; it saves millions of lives annually. It is needed for complex operations, recovery of illnesses, and can be used during childbirth problems. Blood is also important in natural and man-made disasters.

Blood Donation Facts:

- Thirty-eight percent of people can donate blood, but only ten percent do, according to the American Red Cross.
- More than 4.5 million Americans would die every year without blood transfusions.
- One pint of blood can save approximately three lives.
- To maintain an adequate blood supply, American Red Cross needs 13,000 blood donations every single day.
- If a person began donating blood at the age of seventeen, by the age of seventy-six, will have donated fortyeight gallons of blood, according to Brookhaven National Library.
- Blood donors are eighty-eight percent less likely to have a heart attack according to the American Journal of Epidemiology.
- Those who can donate, can do so every eight weeks.
- There is a need for blood every two seconds in the United States.
- One-hundred pints of blood can be required for one car accident victim.
- Dogs can donate too.
- The actual donation of blood usually takes ten to twelve minutes, however, from arrival to leaving it can take an hour and fifteen minutes to donate.
- Most donated red blood cells must be used within forty-two days of collections.

To find out more about the American Red Cross or donations centers for blood drives, you can visit <u>www.redcross.org.</u>