

# The Peoples Press

March 2024  
Newsletter



## “Making lives better tomorrow by what is done today.” **Honks!**

Breaunna Reed for always being there when I need her. -Misty F.

Alondra Ibarra, Alyssa Thiles, and Julia Guilliams for working extra hours at different locations. -Lisa H.

Tree're Edwards and Osvaldo Lopez for picking up extra hours. -Lisa H.

Tree're Edwards for going above and beyond on his shifts. -Kassie J.

Jessica O'neal, Madison Rodriguez, and Ylianna Gonzalez for being flexible and picking up shifts. -Sam B.

Paige Hough for her work and input on an ICP. -Kara L.

Patty McCurry for her work with a client in a SIS and ICP. -Kara L.

Donald Blakeman and Dennis Stolz for their hard work with a new client. -Chaslyn B.

Isabella Marlow for great awareness and assisting clients with finding the correct OTC medications. -Isaiah M.

Michaella Davis for going to Dayhab on a Saturday to geet an item that a client left their. -Diana S.

Have Honks to give? Send an email to [Btravis@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:Btravis@ameriserveintl.com) or [Kjohnson@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:Kjohnson@ameriserveintl.com), or [cbryant@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:cbryant@ameriserveintl.com)

# Honks!

Chaslyn Bryant and Diana Sharp for work they are doing to support the Con-Ed committee and researching information to develop meaningful trainings to team members. -Jim W.

Maintenance team for always being flexible and accommodating with move dates and changes. -Ashley P.

Betty D., Torre C., Bre R., Jan C., Brittany J., Kilene L., and Michaela D., for doing an excellent job when interviewing with the CARF surveyor. -Becky H.

Kristy Stick for rearranging her schedule to accommodate clients and open hours. -Kassie J.

Mashia Reed for building relationships with the clients and having engaging conversations with them. -Joanie R.

ASI 2 for getting billing submitted by the 2nd and getting all power of proofs into compliance. -Amber M.

Torre Childers for painting at Dayhab South before CARF came. -Becky H.  
Heather Harmon for looking over safety drills and pulling February monthly activities. -Kara L.

Stephanie Cox for always being open to work with new clients and having great dedication to the clients. -Kelly S.

Tonya Spurlock and Katelynn Malik for their hard work on deep cleaning Chapel. -Diana S.

Rodnesia Smith-Carter and Paul Menking for supporting the new location and getting to know the clients. -Isaiah M.

Brenna Livingston as she is learning her new role at 213. -Lisa H.

Wendy Lapel-McIntosh and Megan Travis for keeping their cool when difficult phone calls arise. -Amber S.

Have Honks to give? Send an email to [Btravis@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:Btravis@ameriserveintl.com) or [Kjohnson@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:Kjohnson@ameriserveintl.com), or [cbryant@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:cbryant@ameriserveintl.com)

# Honks!

Anne Tiernan for covering 2 shifts at 2733. -Deana B.

Carrie Rouleau for going above and beyond with clients. -Deana B.

All of 3612 for working together will all the open shifts and looking out for one another. -Michelle H.

Margaret Mckenzie for becoming more confident with her role. -Joanie R.

## Client Honks!

Rhonda G. for quitting smoking. -Michelle H.

Cassie M. for using her coping skills while at Dayhab. -Michelle H.

Dawn S for being positive with her new diet. -Michelle H.

Oliver S. for becoming more friendly and comfortable with team members.  
-Joanie R.

Elizabeth L. for always taking things out to the storage shed. -Joanie R.

Greg M. for donating items to help with the new locations. -Deana B.

Mia N. for doing so well with cooking dinner. -Misty F.

Rodnesia Millie-Carter

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[Kjohnson@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:Kjohnson@ameriserveintl.com), or [cbryant@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:cbryant@ameriserveintl.com)

# Client



**Calvin M.**

Calvin joined Ameriserve approximately 9 months ago, initially starting his journey at 2441. Despite being new to both the company and the home, Calvin exhibited commendable behavior, demonstrating respect towards team members, fostering good relationships with housemates, and assuming leadership responsibilities. While Calvin encountered some challenges within the dynamics of the home, he made proactive efforts to steer clear of negative situations.

After a brief period, Calvin transitioned to another location, 2406, where he not only thrived but also served as a positive example to his housemates. Embracing leadership roles and offering assistance to team members, Calvin excelled during his time at 2406. His success culminated in a recent promotion to Lead On, where he relishes increased independence and autonomy. Calvin expresses contentment with his new environment and roommate.

We consider ourselves fortunate to have such a dedicated and motivated individual like Calvin in our company. With his exemplary qualities, we are confident that Calvin will achieve numerous milestones and continue to inspire fellow clients with his leadership and role-modeling capabilities.

# Spotlight



# Power of Proof

## Michael M. and Rick W.

Early this month, Michael and Rick attended an electrifying Yu-Gi-Oh tournament in Bellevue, where they clashed in a duel of wits, strategy, and an arsenal of meticulously curated cards. Months of tireless preparation led to this moment—countless hours spent assembling the ultimate decks, engaging in high-stakes trades, and fine-tuning their strategies to perfection. The air crackled with anticipation as they embarked on a two-bracket tournament, each step a dance of fate on the dueling arena. Their journey kicked off with a head-to-head showdown, a riveting encounter that saw Michael emerge victorious, setting the stage for a series of battles that would unfold like a captivating saga. With a collection of the finest cards at their disposal, Michael and Rick embarked on a quest, clashing with five different opponents in a whirlwind of excitement and suspense. Wins and close calls became the currency of their narrative, shared moments of triumph and heart-stopping tension that resonated through the tournament hall. The duelists' skills and strategies were put to the test, creating a tapestry of intensity that captured the essence of the Yu-Gi-Oh battlefield. The Yu-Gi-Oh tournament became not just a battleground for cards but a theater of thrilling narratives, where every draw of the card held the promise of victory or the specter of defeat.



# Volunteering in the Community

Recently, the Ameriserve DayHab program has been actively engaged in volunteer activities at The Council Bluffs C.A.R.E.S center, located in the Lake Manawa area. CB Cares, a nonprofit organization, is dedicated to enriching the lives of community members living with intellectual disabilities and special needs. The organization aims to highlight each individual's talents and life's purpose while addressing gaps in community support.



The C.A.R.E.S program encompasses three main areas: CARES Crafts, Cares Cafe, and Cares Gifts. DayHab clients have been actively involved in the crafts program. Upon arriving at the C.A.R.E.S center, clients immerse themselves in the day's project, infusing their creations with their unique flair. These crafts are then collected and sold at local craft fairs, with proceeds reinvested into the Craft's program. The mission of the Craft's Program is to foster a supportive community for special artists, showcasing their creativity through their distinctive gifts. This initiative not only empowers individuals but also spreads joy, independence, and confidence throughout the community. The volunteer activity at the C.A.R.E.S center has quickly become a highlight for DayHab clients, who eagerly anticipate their weekly visits. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Council Bluffs C.A.R.E.S and its exceptional team. We eagerly anticipate continuing our collaboration to cultivate an inclusive community for all our clients and community members living with disabilities.

Tami A.	Giel K
Angela E.	David L.
Emily E.	Sabrina M.
John H.	Stacy S
Patrick H.	Aaron W.
Roger J.	

## Client Birthdays

Its time to celebrate!  
These individuals have birthdays  
in March!



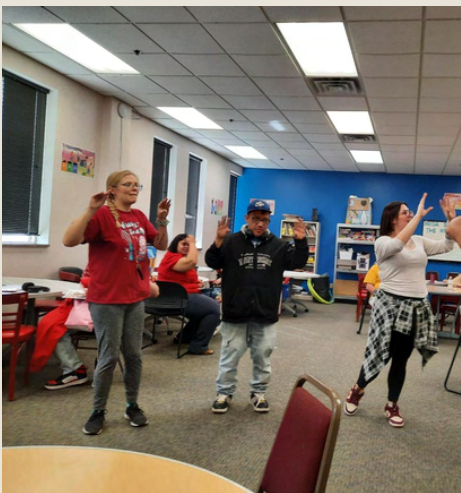
# Festivities

Last week, all three Dayhab locations came alive with Valentine's Day festivities. Love filled the air as clients enjoyed delightful snacks, refreshing drinks, and lively music and dance. It was a joyful atmosphere where everyone reveled in the spirit of the occasion.



Clients enthusiastically engaged in song requests, belting out tunes and grooving to the beats. The Cupid Shuffle and Cha Cha Slide were definite favorites, igniting a collective dance frenzy among everyone. Additionally, clients had the opportunity to indulge in crafting Valentine's Day snacks, including cheesecake dip, strawberry shortcakes, and rainbow fruit salad, which added a delicious touch to the celebration.

While some clients danced the day away, others opted for a more relaxed pace, dedicating their time to crafting heartfelt cards and Valentine's Day-themed crafts. As the day drew to a close, the clients departed looking forward to resting after a joyous day spent celebrating with friends.

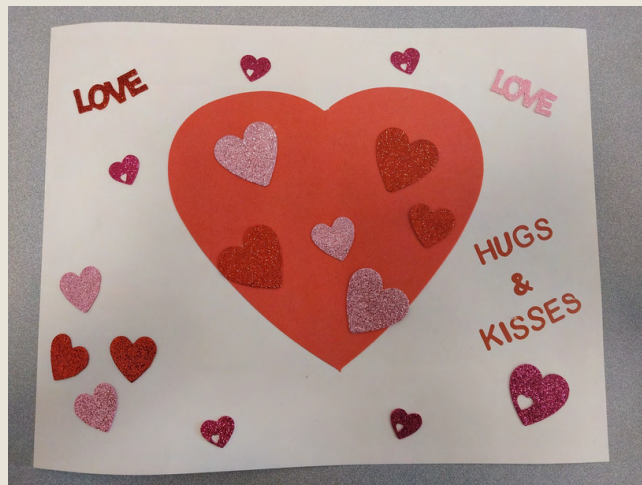




# Client Creativity



Gina I.



Hannah G.



Josh H.





# Celebrating Doug M.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our dear friend Doug. Doug became a part of the AmeriServe family in 2005, bringing with him a vibrant spirit and a larger-than-life personality. Affectionately known as "Sassy Pants" by his team members, Doug's determination and occasional stubbornness earned him this endearing nickname. Despite his spirited nature, Doug had a smile that could illuminate the darkest of rooms and brighten anyone's day.

A deeply affectionate individual, Doug was known for his warm hugs, occasional kisses and (playful taps on the rear) which he generously bestowed upon his staff and friends. Always eager for adventure, Doug was ever ready to accompany anyone wherever they went, though he often succumbed to sleep on the journey before reaching the destination.

Doug found joy in the simple pleasures of life, from listening to music and dancing to indulging in coloring sessions and building with Legos alongside his roommate. His extensive collection of stuffed animals, which he treated as cherished companions, accompanied him everywhere, even joining him and his roommates at the dining table for meals.

Doug's presence has left an indelible mark on our AmeriServe family, and he will forever hold a special place in all of our hearts. His unique spirit and unwavering affection touched each of our lives in profound ways, and his memory will continue to inspire us.



# Welcome!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new team members who have joined our team!

Precious Belew-Williams

Sandra Bryan

Amber Chohon

Jesus Dones-Delgado

Hannah Evers

Shelby Fastnacht

Laura Freeman

Brianna Frieze

Aaliyah Green

Madison Hanna

Alexandria Irwin

Genesis Izaguirre

Tyrone Kiner

Carolyn Lewis

Garrett Little Bear

Christopher Martini

Dakota Miller

Nykhia Miller

Alexis Roof

Landon Rowland

Shifatul Shafin

Avery Thomas

Taylor Thompson

Joshua Whitelaw

Jaiden Wiese

Edward Wilson





# Team Member SPOTLIGHT



## Brenna Livingston

We are thrilled to spotlight Brenna, who joined Ameriserve in March 2022. Brenna began her journey with us as a CSR in our DayHab program. From the outset, Brenna has embodied the spirit of a true go-getter, consistently demonstrating a hunger for learning and a willingness to tackle challenges head-on.

One of Brenna's standout qualities is her unwavering dependability and remarkable consistency. Her calm demeanor and compassionate nature serve as invaluable assets, enabling her to effectively coach and redirect clients with grace and ease.

Recognizing her exceptional dedication and contributions, Brenna was rightfully promoted to the role of LCSR at DayHab in September 2022. Her promotion underscores her commitment to going above and beyond for both her clients and her fellow team members.

Throughout her tenure, Brenna has exemplified a strong work ethic, readily stepping in to cover classes and offer assistance, even without being asked. Her recent promotion to CSC in The Residential Program is a testament to her outstanding performance and leadership qualities.

While DayHab will undoubtedly miss Brenna's presence, we wholeheartedly congratulate her on this well-deserved promotion and wish her every success as she embarks on this exciting new chapter within Ameriserve. Brenna, your journey with us has been nothing short of inspiring, and we eagerly anticipate witnessing the continued progress and growth you will undoubtedly achieve. Congratulations, Brenna—we can't wait to see what the future holds for you at Ameriserve!



# ASI UNIVERSITY



Congratulations to: Faith Vanhorn, Jessalyn Galvin, Anne Tiernan, Kristy Stick, Isabella Marlow, Ylianna Gonzalez, and Warda Mohamed on completing Coaching 1!



Congratulations to: Shae Ruger, Maria Dean, Aline Aragon Gonzalez, and Madison Rogers (not pictured) on completing Coaching 1!



Interested in taking ASI Way or Coaching 1? Call the front desk to be added to the upcoming classes!

# **ASI Birthdays!**

**March 1st: Sierra Haddix**

**March 2nd: Nicolette Garry Perdunn**

**March 4th: Katelynn Malik and Madison Rogers**

**March 6th: Tanika Grotz**

**March 8th: Delvin Thompson**

**March 10th: Dawn Wilson**

**March 11th: Precious Akoh, Annie Jackson, Harlee Shoemaker, and Sarah Smith**

**March 17th: Shae Ruger**

**March 31st: Courtney Christiansen**

# **ASI Anniversaries!**

**Gina Smith 03/05/2007 (17 years)**

**Kathy O'Neal 03/20/2007 (17 years)**

**Noelle Christensen 03/15/2011 (13 years)**

**Greg Scott 03/25/2015 (9 years)**

**Julia Guilliams 03/07/2017 (7 years)**

**Jordan Murphy 03/16/2022 (2 years)**

**Gregory Clark 03/22/2022 (2 years)**

**Brenna Livingston 03/29/2022 (2 years)**

**Sierra Ross 03/01/2023 (1 year)**

**Kaleb Hansen 03/02/2023 (1 year)**

**Monica Estes 03/16/2023 (1 year)**

**Lisa Gaunt 03/20/2023 (1 year)**

**Susan Hastie 03/24/2023 (1 year)**

**Jessica O'Neal 03/24/2023 (1 year)**

**Tonya Carroll 03/27/2023 (1 year)**

**Djenane Lafleur 03/28/2023 (1 year)**

**Brooke Scott 03/31/2023 (1 year)**

**Katelynn Malik 03/31/2023 (1 year)**

# Goal Achievements

Brenna Livingston was promoted to CSC!

Tonya Carroll for going on a cruise!

Kara Lambries was promoted to PC!

Heather Harmon was promoted to LCSR!

Jennifer Guyett has lost 90 lbs!

Cassidi Woodbury moved into a new apartment!

## Upcoming Events and Holidays:

March 1-3  
Omaha Home and Garden Expo  
CHI Event Center

March 2 and 3  
Omaha Comic and Toy Show  
Oak View Mall

March 2  
Night of Wonders  
5050 Harrison St Omaha  
5pm-8:30pm

March 8-10  
69th Annual O'Reilly Auto Parts  
World of Wheels  
CHI Event Center

March 8  
Hot Wheels Monster Truck Live  
Mid America Center  
7:30pm

March 9  
St Patrick's Day Parade  
Old Market  
10am

March 9  
Shamrock Shuffle and  
Leprechaun Chase  
100 Block  
9:30am

March 9  
Spring Craft Fair  
LIED Activity Center  
9am-3pm

March 9  
Water Fest  
Council Bluffs Library  
11:30am-2:30pm

March 15- March 17  
Harry Potter Weekend  
The Bubbly Tart  
11am-2pm

March 17  
NE Bridal and Wedding Expo  
CHI Event Center  
1pm-5pm

March 23 and 24  
Brick Days  
Mid America Center  
10am-5pm

March 23  
Midtown Pickle Party  
Midtown Crossing  
3pm-6pm

Easter Bunny  
Village Pointe  
1pm-4pm

Bingo Nights  
Goldmine Bar  
Thursdays at 6pm  
Saturdays @ 1pm

Many Hockey and Basketball games in  
the area this month! Check them out!





# Continuing Education

In the 1950s, Willowbrook, a facility located in New York, was thought to provide solace for individuals with intellectual disabilities. However, beneath its benevolent facade, Willowbrook operated in stark contrast, lacking the fundamental elements of respect and dignity for its residents. This Continuing Education class explores the profound transformation since that era, reflecting on the evolution of our societal approach towards individuals with intellectual disabilities.

The class commences with a documentary showcasing the lamentable treatment at Willowbrook, offering a sorrowful insight into the historical mistreatment of those labeled as "mental defectives." Notably, the video features Bernard, an advocate and former resident, who denounces Willowbrook as a disgrace. Subsequently, the class engages in an open discussion, providing a platform for participants to express their sentiments regarding the unsettling past.

Following the discussion, the class strategically compares the harrowing testimonials of Willowbrook residents with the uplifting narratives of current clients at AmeriServe. This contrast emphasizes the progress made in the treatment of individuals with intellectual disabilities. Our clients here at AmeriServe stand as a testament to positive change, fostering an environment where individuals are not only cared for but also respected. This continuing education class offers a compelling experience, blending historical context with contemporary success stories. The emotionally charged session encourages introspection, fostering a deeper understanding of the strides taken to rectify past injustices. We highly recommend attending this class, as it promises to be an enlightening journey through history, ultimately leaving participants with a renewed appreciation for the progress achieved in the care and respect for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Be sure not to miss this opportunity.

Is there a topic you would like to see offered? Please email suggestions to Briana Travis at [btravis@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:btravis@ameriserveintl.com), Isaiah McGrone at [imcgrone@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:imcgrone@ameriserveintl.com), or Becky Hargens at [bhargens@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:bhargens@ameriserveintl.com)

# Continuing Education

Have you ever faced the challenge of navigating workplace rumors or felt the impact of unprofessional behavior? These issues can often arise, and our upcoming class aims to equip you with valuable insights on effectively addressing and mitigating such challenges. In today's professional landscape, upholding the highest standards of workplace professionalism is crucial.

We are thrilled to announce a Continuing Education class scheduled for this month that will focus on various aspects of professionalism in the workplace. The class will cover key topics such as gossip, appearance, harassment, phone use, and appropriate communication with clients and team members. These discussions aim to foster a workplace culture that promotes respect, integrity, and positive interactions among team members.

We firmly believe that cultivating a professional environment not only contributes to individual well-being but also plays a vital role in the success and harmony of the entire company. Throughout the session, we will use videos to underscore the importance of maintaining a professional atmosphere and highlight the detrimental effects that gossip can have on workplace dynamics. Our objective is to empower participants with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate such situations confidently. Unprofessional behavior can have far-reaching implications, impacting both individuals and the organization as a whole. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that our workplace is a space where everyone feels valued, respected, and supported.

Together, let's contribute to creating a workplace characterized by professionalism, positive interactions, and a shared commitment to success.

Is there a topic you would like to see offered? Please email suggestions to Briana Travis at [btravis@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:btravis@ameriserveintl.com), Isaiah McGrone at [imcgrone@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:imcgrone@ameriserveintl.com), or Becky Hargens at [bhargens@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:bhargens@ameriserveintl.com)

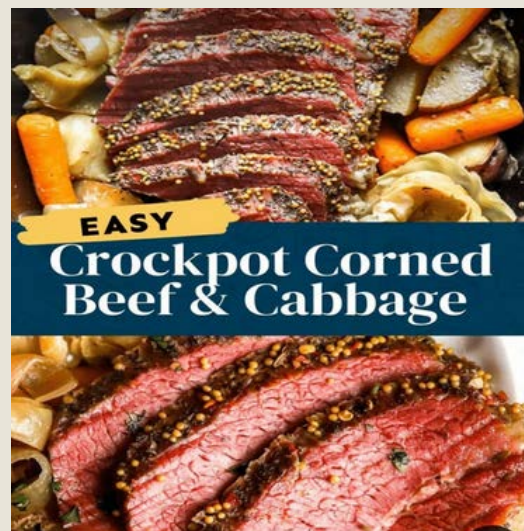


# ASI Cookbook Recipe of the Month!

## Crockpot Corned Beef and Cabbage

### Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 lbs. corned beef brisket
- 1 yellow onion (sliced).
- 6 red potatoes (peeled and halved).
- 2 cups baby carrots
- 1 beef bouillon cube
- 1 clove garlic (minced)
- 1 tbs Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp dry mustard
- Spice packet included in the corned beef package (optional)
- 1 head of cabbage (cut into wedges)
- 1 tsp caraway seeds.
- 2 cups of low sodium beef broth.



### Directions:

- 1.) Trim the brisket of all visible fat.
- 2.) Spray a large crockpot with nonstick spray.
- 3.) Place the onion, potatoes, and carrots in the bottom of the crockpot.
- 4.) Place the corned beef on top of the veggies.
- 5.) Whisk together the bouillon cube, garlic, Worcestershire sauce, dry mustard, and beef broth then pour over the brisket in the crockpot.
- 6.) If using the spice packet from the brisket package, sprinkle over the top.
- 7.) Cook on low for 8-10 hours or on high for 4-5 hours.
- 8.) For the last hour of cooking add the caraway seeds and cabbage wedges to the crockpot.
- 9.) Serve and enjoy!

End up making the recipe of the month? Send pictures of everyone creating the recipe to [bhargens@ameriserveintl.com](mailto:bhargens@ameriserveintl.com) to be featured in the next newsletter edition!

