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Supporting Individuals to achieve their dreams.
 3RD Quarter 2010

The Review

Patrick Tate, CEO

I don't think that any of us in the Community Providers Business will ever forget February 7, 2009. I know I won't and many of my peers won't. On that day the state Fire Marshal shut down the 106-year-old Atalissa Bunkhouse where 21 men with Intellectual Disabilities were found living in what one state official called "deplorable" conditions.

Because of the conditions found at Atalissa the state filed with the Iowa Protection and Advocacy. Out of that filing, came a decision to review a number of Community Providers in Iowa. West Fork Services, Inc. was the seventh facility selected to be reviewed by Iowa Protection and Advocacy.

During the visit five consumers were interviewed by three Disability Rights Advocates from Iowa Protection and Advocacy. Our consumers were asked questions like: how are you treated, do you feel you are paid fairly for the work you do, do you know how much money you make, do you receive the medical care that you need, is your living environment clean, do you get all the money that you need, and what do you do with your free time. These were just a few of the questions asked during the interviews.

After the interviews they then toured our residential living units. One of our consumers went with us and gave a tour of her home. When they asked what do you like about living here? Our young lady answered having only one roommate instead of 14. This young lady previously lived in the Group Home.

After the tour the Disability Rights Advocates asked me if I wanted to make any comments. I asked them who would be seeing their report when it was completed. It is important to over 150 Community Providers in Iowa to have this report read by the people that set our rates, so they may restore 2010 rate cuts (\$7.6 million cut in provider rates produced \$385,000 savings to the State of Iowa.) We need to build the capacity of the community providers such as West Fork Services as best practices. Service rates in the private sector have a current cap of \$315.00, while the State Resource Centers service rates are at \$797.00 per day. The State Resource Centers have enjoyed rate increases the past three years of 43%, while private facilities (West Fork Services, Inc.) in the same three years got 1.4%. This last year also brought a 2.5% rate cut in Medicaid rates.

When I ended my comments the leader of their group stated, "If Atalissa looked like West Fork Services and the other six facilities we have reviewed, there wouldn't have been 21 men treated, living without medical care, in deplorable conditions. West Fork Services, Inc. is to be commended for the services and support given to the people they serve."

West Fork Services, Inc. today

- Serves 70 individuals with disabilities
- Employs over 67 individuals * Provides services to 14 counties
- Has an annual totaling nearly \$2 Million



Supporting Individuals to achieve their dreams.



Please help **West Fork Services, Inc.** with costs associated with the new housing project and refurbishing of the former **Group Home on 9th Street.**

___ \$50

___ \$500

___ \$5,000

___ \$50,000



All donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to: **West Fork Services, Inc.**

PO Box 587

Humboldt, IA 50548

Your generous donation will help in supporting individuals to achieve their dreams!



2010-2011 Board of Directors

- Larry Lynch, President
- Patricia Becker, Vice President
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- Christine McNeese
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West Fork Services accepts shredding and cardboard for recycling anytime during our regular business hours 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Just bring them around to the back door and we will help you unload it. Call us with any questions!

Looking for a different flavor of Jumpy Monkey Coffee? Stop in and see all the different flavors that you may like! New flavors include Cookies and Cream and Praline & Cream.