



The Access Key

Were Opening Doors to the Community!

February 2018

Access, Incorporated

Hampton, IA 50441

(641) 456-2532

ACCESS INC. IS GROWING & EXPANDING

Over the past several months there has been many significant changes going on with Access, Inc. and in our field of work. Many people have been misinformed or under the impression that Access, Inc. was in the process of shutting down. At this time that is far from the case and in all honesty we are growing in Members and in Staff. It is true over the past year and three months we have closed our Workshop, Meadows Group Home and Main Street Market. But this is not a bad thing, the reason for the closings are because our Members are integrating into the community. They are finding living situations and employment out in the community. Below Executive Director, Jenny Backer, updates you with the changes Access, Inc has been transitioning through recently.

Growth and Expansions

Supported Community Living Programs and Day Habilitation Programs remain strong and continue to grow. Since July 1, 2017 Access has admitted 17 new clients into the programs and Access currently serves 75 individuals. That is a 23% increase for individuals served in just a 6- month time frame and referrals continue to come in. We also opened up our Transitional Living Center (TLC) in Iowa Falls on January 3, 2017. TLC is transitional living and allows a safe haven while allowing residents a chance to get back on their feet. TLC allows for a 30, 60, or 90 day stay and the opportunity to work on transitional goals such as finding a place to live, getting connected to area resources so they can be equipped for reintegration back into community. We have also expanded our services and now provide services in Wright and Cerro Gordo County. Access previously only served Franklin, Butler, and Hardin Counties.

Update on the Meadows Group Home



We will be opting out of the section 8 contract with The Department of Housing and Urban Development otherwise known as HUD. Most of the members requested to move out once they knew they had that option. That was a determining factor for us in opting out. The hunt was on to locate 4-bedroom homes to

accommodate the members moving out. 8 of the 12 individuals have moved out of the Meadows and into Supported Community Living Waiver Sites. We have opened up two new waiver homes in Hampton and are looking for one more for the 4 individuals remaining at the Meadows. We are also growing and finding that waiver homes are a need and for the first time ever Access started providing services in Mason City and in October a Supported Community Living Waiver Home was opened.



Community Store News

Unfortunately, we will be closing our Main Street Market Community Store. Due to the lack of interest in the Pre-Vocational Program we will be closing the doors by 2-28-18. We will no longer be providing Pre-Vocational Services. The expected outcome of Pre-Vocational Services is community employment and many of the individuals who were working at the store have

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located jobs in the community. Even though clients will miss working at the store, many of them are very excited about the work they have found in the community and many will tell you their favorite job is the job that they have found in the community.

Day Hab News



DHS and IME were here in August to do our non-residential review. What that means is that they reviewed the day programs for compliance with the Settings Rules. They stated that our Day Habilitation program is fine the way it is as long as we are offering integrated opportunities and outings within that time. At one time DHS was stating that Day Hab could not be at this location but rather needs to be in the community for the entire Day Hab time. So how we understand it today, this has changed and what we know today is that members can continue to be dropped off and picked up at Access and can be at Access for some of the time. This is a relief in many ways as to be in the community for multiple hours would be very challenging. Day Hab oversight staff continue to look for outings to offer to

the members in Day Hab as that will remain important for them to have integrated experiences out of the building.

The Day Habilitation Program is always looking for opportunities in the surrounding communities to volunteer. They are also seeking different activities and events that they can attend. Please contact Nicole Kramer at (641) 456 2532, extension 111, if you have an organization that is having an event or would like some volunteer assistance.

Transitional Living Center



The Transitional Living Center (TLC) is designed for residents of the Central Iowa Community Services (CICS) Region that have a desire to live in an environment where they will create and carry out a plan to a stable, affordable living arrangement that meets their needs. Residents may stay up to 90 days at the TLC while they work to complete the necessary steps necessary to reach the goals identified in their transition plan. During that time they will connect to a network of resources including a regional service coordinator. The program is designed to primarily serve Franklin, Hardin, Hamilton and Marshall Counties; however individuals from other

counties within CICS are eligible for admission at the discretion of CICS.

Access looks to recruit board members

We have board member opportunities available. If you or if you know someone interested in becoming a board member please give me a shout. We meet 6 times a year/every other month on the last Tuesdays of the month at 5:00pm.

Modern Technology?

If you prefer your newsletters/updates via email, please email the following address stating to send your updates via email. Please email: Rae Jean Ulrichs at raejeanulrichs@accessincorporated.org

**VISIT US ONLINE AT OUR WEB PAGE:
WWW.ACCESSINCORPORATED.ORG**

Single	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Life-Single	\$150.00
Life-Family	\$175.00
Organization	\$200.00

Membership dues for single and family will be due each year around the same time you became a member in 2017. Life and Organizational membership dues are a one time fee. Becoming a member entitles you to a quarterly newsletter and to vote at our annual board meeting. To become a member, just fill out the form below and send a check made out to Access, Inc. If you have any questions, contact Mark Whipple, 456-2532.

Membership Form

Please fill out the form and return it by June. 30, 2018. You may send a check payable to Access, Inc. All membership fees are tax deductible.

Is there is something you would like to see in the newsletter—let us know!

Membership Option-Yearly

- Single—\$10.00
- Family—\$15.00

Are you interested in joining the Board of Directors?

- Yes
- No

Life Membership

- Life-Single \$150.00
- Life-Family \$175.00
- Organizational \$200.00

If a family or organization, who will have proxy vote?

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Will you be an active or inactive member?

- Active
- Inactive

All members shall be recorded on a list of members for the calendar year, shall receive an annual report, shall receive newsletters, shall be invited to attend the annual meeting, and shall have the right to vote (businesses and families need to select a proxy vote) during the annual meeting.

If you would like to make a donation to Access or a memorial, please include the following form, or make a note as to the purpose of the donation. Thank You!

<p>Please accept my:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Donation</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Memorial</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Please check appropriate box</i></p> <p>Amount \$</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">_____</p>	<p>In Memory of: <i>(if applicable)</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>Donation Given By</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p>
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Please make checks payable to Access, Inc. All gifts are tax deductible.

Access, Inc.
20-5th Street NW
PO Box 268
Hampton, IA 50441

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. **POSTAGE**
Bulk Rate
Permit No. 21

Administrative Offices and Day Habilitation

20-5th Street NW ■ P.O. Box 268 ■ Hampton, IA 50441
641-456-2532

Meadows Group Home

420 8th Avenue SW ■ Hampton, IA 50441
641-456-2501



Access, Incorporated Board of Directors 2017-2018

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