



Winona ORC Connection

educate • empower • employ

Welcome Executive Director Heidi Smith!

Winona ORC is pleased to announce that Heidi Smith is the new Executive Director at Winona ORC. She received her



BA from Buena Vista University in psychology and human services and just completed her Masters in Business Leadership (MBL) from William Penn University in February.

For the past 17 years, she has been an advocate in leadership roles for underrepresented populations in Iowa. Her

recent position as Deputy Director for the State of Iowa Department of Human Rights gave her the opportunity to lead and serve in this capacity. She has spoken at several

conferences on issues related to brain injury, including the difficult subject "ambiguous loss".

Heidi served the community of Des Moines, Iowa through the Junior League of Des Moines, Vice President of the American Society of Public Administrators (ASPA), and board member of Amanda the Panda.

Due to her desire to reconnect with her first passion of serving individuals with disabilities in the local community and coupled with Heidi's and her husband's love of fishing the Mississippi, she accepted the opportunity to work and serve as a leader at Winona ORC.

"I am so proud to be a part of an organization that is working hard to do all the right things for the people we serve", stated Heidi. "There are great things happening here!"

Welcome to the team!



1053 East Mark Street • Winona, Minnesota
www.winonaorc.org | [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/winonaorc) [winonaorc](https://www.winonaorc.org)

LEAD LIKE A COWBOY!

*Do not go where the path may lead, go instead
where there is no path and leave a trail.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

It was a rootin' tootin' good time at our annual recognition banquet held at Vision Event Center on February 20th. Over 200 people were in attendance to help celebrate and recognize the contributions that clients, staff and area businesses have made to Winona ORC.



For more pictures, visit our website at: www.winonaorc.org

“Lead like a Cowboy”



**Congratulations
Michelle!**

Michelle Matchey Employee of the Year

Michelle has had a long and productive career at WORC. She is a great asset to the organization and is always willing to share her expertise. When not working Michelle enjoys cheering her favorite sports team and listening to country!



**Customer of the Year
Winona Health**



**Congratulations
Winona ORC Scanning Crew!**

Winona County Scanning Crew One Million Scans!

Approximately twenty Winona ORC members were recognized by Jill Johnson, Winona County Special Projects Coordinator for their outstanding work digitalizing over one million documents for Winona County.



**Supported Employment
Employer of the Year
Quality Building Maintenance**

Years of Service Awards

5 Years

Ron Bergerson
Arne Evenson
David Girod
Tom Kohlstedt
Chad Lundahl
Denise Matejka
Eli Myers
Bob Priem
Abby Quaintance
Michael Reed
Sarah Semling
Troy Stafford
Ashley Stoops
Cindy Thompson

10 Years

John Bloomfield
Scott Espe
Marcell Hunter
Amy Koch
Nicole Lakin
Peggy Moll
Scott Monahan
Clint Nikitopoulos
Diane Pinkerton
Tammy Riska
Maria Sardegna

15 Years

Derek Briesath
Dannette Frasch
Todd Olson
Terry Scholl
Debra Thiele
Marcus Tyler
Ed Vater
20 Years
Don Seavey
Ann Walsky

25 Years

Cheryl Connolley
30 Years
Carol Beck

35 Years

James Feine

40 Years

Lynn Myers

WE NEED YOU ON OUR TEAM!

The difference
between
ordinary and
extraordinary
is that little
extra

**Thank you for being an
important part of the
Winona ORC team!**

You have always been a generous supporter of the people that we serve at Winona ORC and their goal of more independent lives.

**Now you have an opportunity to
double your support!**

We are excited to announce that the Otto Bremer Foundation has offered to **match up to \$100,000** of individual donations made on **GiveMN.org** to Winona ORC during the month of March as part of the Otto Bremer Foundation's March Millions campaign.

Your online donation during March Millions may also help us receive an additional donation of \$1,000.

How? From March 1 through March 31, every gift made on GiveMN.org to Winona ORC will be entered into a daily drawing for a \$1,000 Bremer Boost to be awarded to an organization in southeastern Minnesota. That means 31

opportunities for you to help us receive an extra \$1,000!

And here's the really exciting part: On March 31, one donation will be randomly drawn from all March Millions donations throughout the month to receive a \$10,000 Bremer Boost prize grant!

The more online donations we receive between March 1 and March 31, the better our chances to receive a Bremer Boost. So mark your calendar to double your donations in March!

Visit **GiveMN.org/MarchMillions** and click on:

Winona ORC Industries

or go to: <https://givemn.org/organization/Winonaorc>



About the Otto Bremer Foundation

Based in Saint Paul, Minn., the Otto Bremer Foundation is a private charitable trust that empowers people to achieve full economic, civic and social participation in and for the betterment of their communities. It was established in 1944 by Otto Bremer, a successful banker and community and business leader.

The Otto Bremer Foundation is the 92 percent owner of Bremer Bank and also manages a diversified investment portfolio.

The returns on these holdings provide the funding for Otto Bremer Foundation's grantmaking, which benefits the communities that are home to Bremer banks.

About GiveMN

GiveMN links donors with organizations that are working to make Minnesota a better place. Its online giving website, GiveMN.org, enables charitable giving any time and any place, allowing people to donate with ease and enthusiasm. GiveMN brings innovation, energy, and fresh ideas to Minnesota generosity.

One spirit,
one team,
one win

• *educate* • *empower* • *employ*

TAKING IT TO THE HOOP!

"The best way to appreciate your job is to imagine yourself without one." Oscar Wilde

For most of us, our basic living needs are met through our work. However, work does much more than merely provide income; it provides identity, purpose, structure and social interaction. Work brings independence and helps us to be productive members of the community. For those with a disability, work may be the most important element in their lives.

Help make dreams come true by supporting our mission of providing vocational training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

*"When it's played the way
is spozed to be played,
basketball happens in the
air; flying, floating,
elevated above the floor,
levitating the way
oppressed peoples of this
earth imagine themselves
in their dreams."*

~ John Edgar Wideman

*"I learned from my mom and
dad, who didn't have a formal
education but had doctorates of
love. They told me that if you
gave 110 percent all the time, a
lot of beautiful things will
happen. I may not always be
right, but no one can ever accuse
me of not having a genuine love
and passion for whatever I do."*

~Dick Vitale

Our staff has a genuine love and passion for their work. Each year Winona ORC provides hundreds of hours of training so that they are equipped to meet the challenges they face on a daily basis.

Training includes such topics as: Vulnerable Adult Maltreatment, First Aid and CPR, HIPAA and data privacy requirements, diversity awareness, positive intervention, rights of persons served, person centered practices, workplace safety, types of disabilities, adaptive technology, team building, safe transportation and much, much more.

Your support will help us continue to provide this essential training so that we can offer our clients the best possible service available.

"I want the people at Winona ORC to know how grateful I am because they helped pull me from a dark place I didn't want to be in. The people at Winona ORC have made a difference in my life."

Sharon Burns, Winona ORC Employee

The people we serve face obstacles every day. Winona ORC gives them the tools and support they need to overcome those obstacles. We work with individuals that have mental illness, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, brain injuries, chemical dependency and other disabilities. They all share a common goal of improving their lives and fully participating in the community.

With your help, we can overcome obstacles and realize goals.

*Obstacles don't have
to stop you. If you run
into a wall, don't turn
around and give up.
Figure out how to
climb it, go through it,
or work around it.*

~ Michael Jordan

OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION

MARCH MILLIONS

for Southeastern Minnesota

www.winonaorc.org

Winona ORC Board of Director News

Farewell

Jim Yenish

It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to board member, Jim Yenish who is moving out of the area.

Jim served on the board since 2007 and was the Board President in 2014. Over the years Jim has been instrumental in guiding our organization's success.



Jim has been a very active board member and most recently lead the board and search committee in hiring our new Executive Director. We will be forever grateful for the time and energy he has devoted to our mission. Jim brought insight, compassion and expertise to the table. We appreciate all of the wonderful things he has done for Winona ORC and our clients and staff.

Thank you Jim, from the bottom of our hearts!

New Board Member

John Milek

John is an attorney and for the past sixteen years has worked as General Counsel for Fastenal. John attended the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and received his degree from Hamline University School of Law.

He is married to Shelley who is currently the Executive Director of the



Winona Senior High School Foundation. They have 2 children, Kale and Dulcey. In his spare time, John likes to snowmobile in the winter and boating/fishing in the summer at his cottage in Buffalo City, Wisconsin.

John says "I believe it is important for community members to volunteer their time and actively participate in non-profit organizations. By participating on the Board, I hope to contribute my skills to enrich and improve the lives of those served by WORC and work with other Board Members to help guide this organization into the future."

Welcome to WORC!

New Board Member

Matt Semling

Matt is the Distribution Center Manager for Watkins, Inc. Previously, Matt was employed at Winona ORC for ten years, most recently as the Director of Operations and Sales. He graduated from Winona State University in 2002.

Matt has always embraced our mission and is passionate about the people we



serve. He will be able to bring a unique perspective to the board and his experience will serve our organization well.

Matt is married to Tricia who is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and they have one son, Archer. Matt is an avid outdoorsman and loves archery, hunting, wildlife, shed hunting and spending time with his family.

It's great to have you back Matt!

Welcome New Staff!



Rob Polachek
Driver



Dakodah Hartwig
Job Coach



Nadia Nasiff
Job Coach



Eldridge McClatchey
Production Supervisor



Bill Rodgers
Driver

Winona Shredding Service



Winona Shredding Service is pleased to offer a new option for your business or personal use.

Seal N' Shred is a great alternative for low volume or overflow business needs. Easy and economical.

- Purchase a sealable shredding bag
- Fill the bag with your documents, seal shut
- Drop off at Winona ORC for shredding
- Simple and cost effective
- Two convenient sizes

Small - Holds 15 pounds

Large - Holds 35 pounds

\$10 (includes shredding)

\$15 (includes shredding)

For an additional \$10, call us and we will pick-up the full bag for shredding.

Make sure to order a replacement bag and we can bring it with us!

And don't forget our container service!

Secure and timely destruction of confidential documents is important in today's business world.

As easy as 1,2,3...

1. Select your lockable container(s).
2. Fill with your documents - no need to remove staples or paper clips.
3. We will take care of the rest.



Our service is a convenient, economical and secure solution for your document destruction needs. We also offer a one time purge service.

Contact us today at 507-452-1855

Winona ORC Board of Directors

Steve Volkman, President
Engineer

Bob Peterson, Vice President
Aerojet

Jim Pomeroy, Treasurer
County Commissioner, Winona

Maggie Modjeski, Secretary
Sugar Loaf Senior Living

Voting Members

Dave Adank
St Croix Knits

Chad Anderson
Merchants Bank

John Milek
Fastenal

Deb McClellan
Live Well Winona

Ann Nelson
Peerless Chain

Kevin O'Reilly
Peerless Chain

Bill Reinarts
Reinarts Stained Glass

Matt Semling
Watkins, Inc.

Ron Wenzel
Retired

Advisor
Blaine Krogh
Hawkins Ash, CPA

Senior Management Staff

Heidi S. Smith - Executive Director

Rich Anthony - Director of Facility Management

Michael Bellesbach - Director of Finance

Jayne Grupa - Director of Human Resources

Todd Olson - Director of Laundry Operations

Paul Sanders - Director of Community Operations

Leslie Swartling - Director of Client Services

Lorin Thilmany - Director of Center Based Operations



Winona ORC Industries, Inc.
1053 East Mark Street
Winona, MN 55987

educate • empower • employ

Non-Profit
Presorted
Standard
US Postage
PAID
Winona, MN
Permit No.
127

Or Current Resident

Inside the Winona ORC Connection

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2nd Annual Starlight Stroll
Board of Director News



Our Mission:

It is our mission to provide community based employment, vocational training and comprehensive job related skills and services to people with special needs. We will design programs to work harmoniously with other community resources to maximize opportunities to our clients and our community.

We envision a world where all people are uplifted by working. Through pride, dignity, continuous learning and respect for all, we build a healthier community.