



## Executive Director report 2/27/17

### Villa

- A 60-day extension has been approved with an additional \$5000 in earnest money attached by the purchaser. This moves the purchase date to April 4, 2017.
- The Winona EDA board approved a loan for the purchaser.

### Vertex transition

- Linda is lead on the Vertex transition project.
- We are starting to review and demo different products at this time.
- We recently heard about a payroll package through Traverse (which is the same software that the Accounting software and our Laundry software uses) that is used by other rehab providers. Leslie and I are trying to set up a meeting to find out more about this product. This had the potential to very ideal for our needs.

### Legislative

- Funding for all most 95% of ORC employees/clients in the laundry program (DT&H waiver funding) has been **proposed** by Department of Human Services to be restructured, taking employment funding away from the waiver and only providing **time-limiting funding** for those individuals through Pre-Vocational funding.
  - Possible impact: many of the individuals that currently work daily in the laundry would be forced to limit their work time with an end date in mind. I am monitoring the progress of this proposal and have shared my opinion to Public Comment and our representatives.
  - UPDATE: This continues to be discussed but there is no update to the progress of these changes at this time. With the long legislative session, many bills will take time to go through the process.
- WIOA process:
  - 26 individuals out of 188 have shown an interest in competitive employment. None were surprises to the rehab staff. Next steps are for each to have a follow up meeting with their team to determine their needs to gain competitive employment.
  - We have very few (about 16) that still need to go through the WIOA process.
  - We have the documentation needed for DOL compliance for those that have gone through the process.
- Extended Employment additional funds
  - Jeremy Miller has supported our ask to permanently keep the \$1 million appropriation that EE funds received in 2016.



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- Senator Miller has also stated he will try to attend our Banquet in April. Additional asks to our other legislators is in progress.

### Laundry update-new washer

- New washer is to be installed on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Should be operational by Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Lorin had a meeting with St Anne's and the additional laundry to be processed will start April 1<sup>st</sup>. It was pushed out additional 30 days to determine appropriate par for each product.

Respectfully submitted:

*Heidi S. Smith*

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Heidi Smith, Executive Director