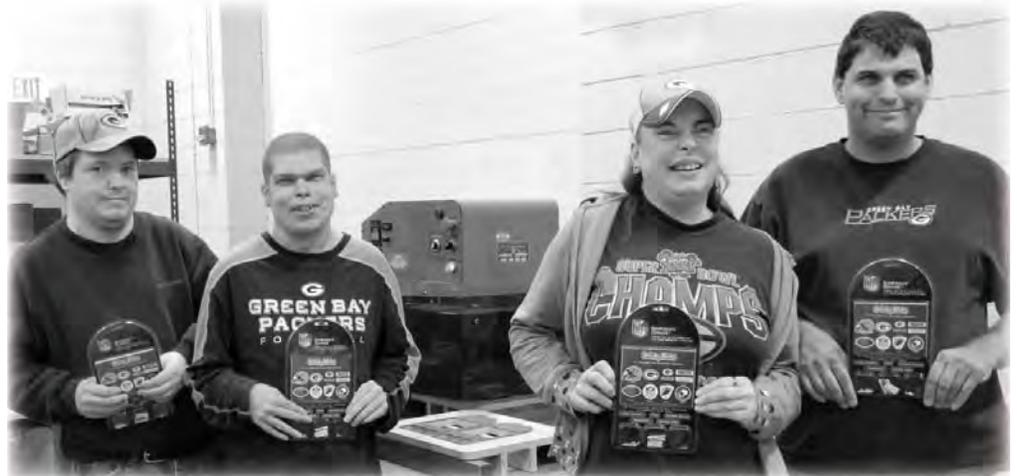


## NEW STRATEGIC PLAN TACKLES CHALLENGING TIMES



*Executive Director Cindy Simonsen and Board President John Nanna review the final draft of the strategic plan developed by Board and staff to guide the course of the agency over the next three years.*



*VIP Services' Kikkoman Foods Foundation, Inc. Employment Training & Production Center serves as a significant community resource to local and regional businesses by providing value-added services. At the same time, clients participate in skill building work that defines the expectations of similar opportunities in community employment such as this ongoing Pangea assembly project.*



*Clients Sandy Olson, Jim Nowak and Brandon Blume are part of a community work experience program designed to expose them to a wide variety of community employment opportunities.*



*Amanda Giacomelli is a quintessential VIP Services community employment success story, enjoying her seventh year of employment at Wal-Mart in Delavan.*

Recognizing that challenging times require hard work and creative solutions, the VIP Services Board and staff have spent a considerable amount of time and energy in the past year developing the agency's new three-year strategic plan.

The five primary goals around which the plan is built include:

- Providing employment choices for every person who wants to work**  
Each component of the plan is designed to enhance the ability of clients seeking services at VIP to have the broadest possible range of life and employment choices. Thanks to the invaluable training and support provided through the Pathways initiative, VIP Services is making great strides in expanding integrated employment opportunities in the community. Cross-training efforts with center-based and community employment staff will help clients to develop new competencies regarding what it means to work in the community.
- Establishing new programs to meet emerging needs of current and new clients**  
Emerging needs encompass everything from expanding transportation access for people with disabilities, to increasing capabilities with technology, to partnering with Lakeland School and other school districts in the area to ensure that the process of transition from school to work is as seamless as possible. Transition programming has become even more important in recent months with the announcement by the State of a new cap on enrollment that became effective on July 1, 2011 and is expected to continue until June of 2013. This means that individuals seeking services supported by Family Care or IRIS will again be placed on waiting lists. VIP Services and Lakeland School are working together to try to develop program solutions for the recent and soon to be graduating individuals impacted by this change, as well as looking at a wide range of issues relating to transition.

# FROM THE BOARD AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - CONTINUED

- **Diversifying and increasing non-public funding**

In the face of enrollment caps, Family Care fee-for-service rate reductions and dwindling funding overall from the public sector, VIP Services is stepping up its annual fund campaign to help address the service gaps that are imposed by the changes. Board members are engaged in creating exciting new opportunities for community involvement.

- **Establishing supportive living programs in the community**

VIP Services already offers a daily living skills and supportive home care program to help individuals who desire to gain and/or maintain independence and live successfully in the community. We will be expanding and refining services to better serve individuals with this goal. In an effort to afford individuals a greater degree of control over their lives, VIP Services will be developing new programs to assist them in learning about the practice of self determination and to devise the strategies and skills necessary to successfully pursue a more independent lifestyle in the community.

- **Enlisting volunteer expertise to expand and enhance programming**

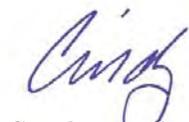
As readers of the VIP Voice are aware, for the past several years VIP Services has been working hard to build up its volunteer program in an effort to expand and enhance opportunities for clients. To that end, the agency has brought on a part-time volunteer coordinator to “beef up” our volunteer program, and we are expanding the program with a variety of important new roles.



*Career Central has been an exciting new addition to the programs offered by VIP Services. Every Thursday, community employment staff members meet with groups of clients who have an interest in pursuing work in the community. They discuss various job seeking strategies and review practical techniques to aid their success.*

We recognize that these are ambitious goals, particularly in the face of today’s many external challenges but, like our founders forty-two years ago, we remain committed to the belief that creating new possibilities is the cornerstone of our mission. Then, as now, VIP Services focused on empowering people with disabilities to learn new work skills, obtain interesting jobs and, increasingly over the years, to live with dignity and independence in the community. With your continuing support we will continue to “walk the talk” for the next forty-two years!

  
John G. Nanna  
President

  
Cynthia D. Simonsen  
Executive Director

## 2011 Board of Directors

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Walworth

### ORGANIZATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

**Positive Work Environment**  
individual growth, challenging, rewarding

**Personal Worth**  
value each individual

**Shared Commitment**  
trust, sense of belonging, mutual support

**Communication**  
mutual sharing of meaningful information

**Leadership**  
provision of vision, guidance & direction

**Accountability**  
keep commitments, joint solutions

# SUMMER PICNIC SIZZLES - LITERALLY!!



*The Kikkoman Foods Foundation, Inc. Employment Training & Production Center was transformed for one very special and popular game of volleyball at the 2011 summer picnic.*

The 2011 VIP Services Client Picnic didn't go exactly according to plan but, in the end, thanks to the ingenuity of staff and the energy of over forty VIP Services volunteers, a good time was had by all!

The annual event, scheduled for July 19th fell in the middle of one of the summer's hottest weeks. With temperatures reaching the high nineties, plans to hold the picnic outdoors at Delavan's Inlet Park underwent an overnight revision. Staff and members of the Volunteer Steering Committee rolled up their sleeves to come up with some creative indoor activities and the VIP Services building was subject to an amazing transformation.



*While it wasn't quite the same as the real thing, "metallic fishing" proved to be an activity that required a considerable amount of angling expertise.*



*Judy Murphy demonstrated one of her many new fitness achievements to volunteer Paul Kremer in the Community Bank Delavan Fitness Room.*

From indoor volleyball to arts & crafts, bingo, board games, an awesome scavenger hunt and even cookie baking, clients were engaged in fun activities throughout the day, culminating in a no holds barred water balloon fight. **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the success of the indoor picnic.



*Thanks to the generosity and talents of Jon Kasnich and volunteers from the EndZone, clients and volunteers were treated to culinary delights fresh off the grill.*



*Volunteer Lynn Coon (c) assisted Wendy Harmon and Scott Lehn in learning a new game in the refreshingly cool Kirt & Dixie Fiegel Volunteer Community Room.*

# LIFELONG EMPOWERMENT OPEN HELPS TO BRIDGE THE GAPS



*VIP Ambassador Amanda Giacomelli (r) assisted by her coach Donna Neshek, shared her story with the audience at the Push/Walk/Ride.*



*Everyone in the VIP Services "family" of participants salutes Mercy Health System, Culver's and the Geneva National Foundation for putting on such an outstanding event.*



*Guest speaker Butch Lumpkin crosses the finish line of the Push/Walk/Ride with VIP Services Board member Bob Putnam and VIP Services Ambassador Sadie Hintz.*

The three premier courses of Geneva National, and a much hoped for break in the stormy June weather, provided an ideal setting for the 2011 Lifelong Empowerment Open (LEO) on Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by the Geneva National Foundation, the event featured 334 golfers and drew 600 people for the gala dinner and silent auction that followed and raised over \$135,000.

In addition to the golf outing, the Geneva National Resort was also the setting of the second annual Push/Walk/Ride on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Nationally known motivational speaker Butch Lumpkin participated in both events. Through its efforts over the past five years, the Geneva National Foundation has set an unprecedented standard for philanthropic leadership in Walworth County.



*Maria Lynn Bates, Frank Hoover and Maria's mom Mel broke into wide smiles when they crossed the finish line!*



*VIP Services Board Vice President and LEO Committee member John English gets ready for the shotgun start that will kick off the 2011 LEO.*



*Barton Gruber was one of the many VIP Services clients who delighted in earning a medal for his participation in the 2011 Push/Walk/Ride.*

*VIP Services would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of the clients, family members, Board members and friends who helped to make the 2011 Push / Walk / Ride event so spectacular. Each of the four participating charities involved with the LEO were given the opportunity to raise additional revenues in support of their programs through this event and we are proud to report that VIP Services's supporters generated over \$19,500!*

# CLIENTS TAKING THE LEAD

## CLIENT PHOTOGRAPHY REFLECTS NEW PERSPECTIVES

Ron Duell is one of many Day Services clients to have benefitted from the new photography program supported by the Elkhorn Fund of the Southern Wisconsin Community Foundation. Digital cameras provide clients with a new window on the world. Ron started his photography by taking many photos of one of his true loves, the buses that bring VIP Services clients to the Elkhorn site. Gradually, Ron has expanded his photography subjects to include some of his VIP Services friends and the activities that they engage in as a regular part of the Day Services program.



*In this photo, Ron has captured the pure joy of the face of his friend Eric Norman when he caught his first fish at a summer outing.*

## VIP KIWANIS AKTION CLUB DONATIONS AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY



*VIP Kiwanis Aktion Club President Mark Anich (l) is joined by Club Vice President Jessica Morley, Club member Bob Boardman and Club Advisor Ruth Jones to present a check for \$200 to Matheson Memorial Children's Librarian Jennifer Wharton (c). This is the second consecutive year that the VIP Aktion Club has elected to help support the Library children's program. The 2011 gift will help provide new materials for the children's area.*

Members of the VIP Kiwanis Aktion Club take their group's mission of helping children seriously and have spent several recent meetings debating how the dollars they raised at last spring's Pancake Breakfast could be spent. Their deliberations have resulted in awarding grants to several local institutions, including the Lakeland 4-H Club, the children's program at the Matheson Memorial Library in Elkhorn, the Elkhorn Food Pantry and the Walworth County Fair Barnyard Adventure Area. VIP Aktion Club members also joined with members of the Elkhorn Kiwanis Club on September 23<sup>rd</sup> on a Peanut Day fundraiser to raise funds for Agape House. The group held its annual installation of new officers meeting on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.



*VIP Kiwanis Aktion Club Advisor Ruth Jones (l) looks on while Club Treasurer Connie York and Club Secretary Sharon Harkness present a check for \$100 in support of the Barnyard Adventure and Butterfly Barn at the Walworth County Fair Grounds.*



*New VIP Aktion Club officers, installed on October 18th, are joined by Elkhorn Kiwanis members. From left: Larry Kocha, Jessica Morley, Connie York, Michael Cotter, Sandy Olson, Mark Anich & DJ Richardson.*

## VIP AMBASSADORS TAKE ON NEW ROLE



VIP Ambassadors and their coaches assembled at VIP Services on August 19<sup>th</sup> for a refresher training that featured an opportunity to discuss past accomplishments, what's in VIP Services future, how new technologies can aid in presentations and concepts related to client self determination.



Ambassador Lynne McIntyre, who pioneered the use of the i-Pad in place of note cards, demonstrated the effectiveness of using this technique when presenting a speech.

## VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Since the formation of the Volunteer Steering Committee in the fall of 2007, volunteers have played a vitally important and continually expanding role with VIP Services. On Tuesday, October 13th VIP Services hosted a Volunteer Recognition Reception to say a big “thank you” to the volunteers who have done so much over the past several years to enrich the lives of our clients. Board President John Nanna, who welcomed attendees, announced that volunteers have donated over 2,300 hours of service since the start of the year.



Among the volunteers honored at the event were (seated) Carrie Pawinski, Rose Mohr, Lynn Coon, Nancy Lehman, Dianne Matteson, Sharon Knobel and Doris Sprague. (back row) VIP Services Executive Director Cindy Simonsen, Phil Knobel, Cherrie Ackman, Melita Grunow, Cliff Johnson, Harold Morris, John Nanna, Ruth Jones, Bob Putnam, Mary Reich, Steve Pils, Carol Prchal, Jan Beardsley and Missy Putnam



VIP Services Ambassador Steve Pils thanked volunteers on behalf of all the clients and presented Mary Reich, the agency's first “volunteer” Volunteer Coordinator with flowers.



Volunteer Dianne Matteson shared some very special and moving perspectives that reflected her interviews with a number of VIP Services volunteers as to why they had chosen to be involved.

There are broad ranges of fun and rewarding opportunities to volunteer at VIP Services. The options are endless, running from assisting clients one-on-one, to working with small groups, chaperoning community outings or assisting with special events, we can work with you to accommodate your interests and availability. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with VIP Services, contact Lynne Dempsey at (262) 723-4043 x106 or by e-mail at [lynnedempsey@vip-services-inc.org](mailto:lynnedempsey@vip-services-inc.org).

# SALUTING OUR GENEROUS DONORS

## Annual Fund Drive

VIP Services is grateful to its many friends, supporters and family members for their generous annual gifts. These gifts allow VIP Services to be as flexible as possible in meeting the complex and varied needs of our clients. In addition, annual gifts can be designated to special projects that best meet an individual donor's interests. Annual gifts of any size are welcomed by VIP Services. All gifts listed on this page were received during the period of April 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011.

### Platinum Champions

#### (\$25,000+ Donors)

- Geneva National Foundation, Inc.

### Community Champions

#### (\$10,000+ Donors)

- Bob & Maryellen Fettig
- Shodeen Family Foundation
- United Way of Walworth County

### Designated Grants & Gifts

- Geneva Lake Women's Association

### Community Leaders

#### (\$1,000+ Donors)

- Knights of Columbus, Council #1647
- Nieuwenhuis Brothers, Inc.
- Prop Shaft Supply, Inc.
- San Jamar, Inc.
- St. Benedict Congregation
- Walworth Fontana Rotary Foundation, Inc.

### Community Supporters

#### (\$250+ Donors)

- Elkhorn Lions Club
- The Golden Years of Walworth
- Keefe Foundation, Inc.
- Knights of Columbus, Council #1690
- Knights of Columbus, Council #3464
- Pleasant Lakers Snowmobile Club
- Truist - Daniel & Lanette Maurina
- Walworth County Tavern League



Mark Anich and Tony Arneson accepted a check from Judge James Carlson and the Knights of Columbus Council #1690 in Whitewater.

### Community Friends

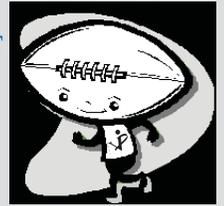
- Ms. Betty Aguirre
- Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Amann
- Anonymous - Multiple
- Ms. Cheryl A. Baker
- Michael & Peggy Bentley
- Ms. Lorna Buckel
- Delavan Service League
- Mrs. Betty Doebert
- Douglas & Connie Edens
- Mr. & Mrs. Donald F. Ellsworth
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- Ms. Geraldine Van De Kreke
- Ms. Deanna E. Weber
- Mr. Paul V. Weinstock
- Mr. Gregory W. Zito

### In-Kind Donors

- Anonymous
- Elkhorn Area School District
- Ms. Pat Harkness
- Mr. & Mrs. Dale G. Matteson
- Mr. Kyle Nemetz
- Pangea Brands
- Mr. David Perkins
- Walworth County ARC, Inc.

JOIN US FOR  
VIP'S 4TH ANNUAL  
ULTIMATE INDOOR  
TAILGATE FUND RAISER  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2011  
11:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

CONTACT NANCY AT  
(262) 723-4043  
EXT. 105  
FOR  
TICKETS!



### Memorials and Honorariums

We are especially grateful that the following VIP Services donors have chosen to honor those who are or have been important in their lives.

#### In Honor of:

- Frank Kosik & Robert Kosik*
- Mr. & Mrs. Laddie J. Svarc

#### In Memory of:

- Harriett Alberth*
- Michael & Peggy Bentley
  - Jule Cardella
  - Mr. & Mrs. Allen C. Lehman

#### *John Anderson*

- Continental Engineering & Manufacturing, Inc.

#### *Jeff Fibiger*

- Mr. & Mrs. Ronald C. Fibiger

#### *Peggy Grenning*

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#### *Bill Truesdale*

- Jack & Delene Dentinger

#### *Bobby Vahovius*

- Mr. & Mrs. Duane L. Neuendorf

#### *Gracie, Mark & Max - 3 of the World's Finest Pets*

- Dr. Carol L. Prchal



## VIP SERVICES, INC.

811 East Geneva Street  
Elkhorn, WI 53121  
Telephone: 262-723-4043  
Fax: 262-723-4984

Website: [www.vipservices-inc.org](http://www.vipservices-inc.org)



## SAVE THE DATE

- **Client Halloween Dance Sponsored by the Elkhorn Kiwanis Club**  
*October 28, 2011*
- **New Ambassador Training**  
*November 11 - 13, 2011*
- **Ultimate INDOOR Tailgate Fund Raiser**  
VIP Services, Inc.  
*November 20, 2011*
- **Client Holiday Party**  
Monte Carlo Room  
*December 9, 2011*
- **VIP Annual Recognition Dinner**  
Evergreen Golf Club  
*February 2, 2012*
- **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowl-a-thon**  
Delavan Lanes  
*March 10, 2012*
- **VIP Golf Outing**  
Big Foot Country Club  
*June 11, 2012*

## VIP SERVICES GARDEN IN FULL BLOOM

For the second consecutive year, VIP Day Services clients have harvested an incredible yield from their raised garden area. The bounty from this year's plantings provided a wide range of ingredients for different cooking projects, including a delicious salsa that was enjoyed by all.

A fun new addition has been the arrival of George, the Tin Man. Staff member Linda Craig came up with the fun recycling idea and Jennifer Schiller helped clients with the creation of George. Once constructed, he was taken on a tour of the VIP Services building and then positioned in a place of honor by the garden. He will be coming inside for the winter and clients are already looking forward to getting him repaired for another season next fall.



*Gardeners Lauren Green, Sonya Blacks, Brian Ragusca and Mark Anich placed George, the Tin Man in the VIP Services garden after having introduced him to staff and clients.*

### **The VIP VOICE**

Content Editor: Nancy Ward  
Copy Editor: Sharon Cobler  
Designer: Luann Dall