

Horizons Unlimited of Palo Alto County

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Emmetsburg, IA 50536

Horizons Unlimited is a 501(c)(3) organization

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providing limitless opportunities horizons-unlimited.net

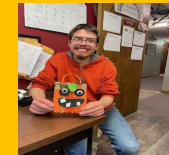
Edition Highlights



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Milestones



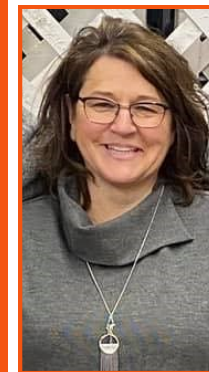
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unlimited POSSIBILITIES

The Newsletter of
Horizons
Unlimited
Fall/Winter 2022



Happy Fall/Winter: We've been busy at Horizons with staff changes, updates at the group homes and keeping the members busy with activities. We have hired an Administrative Assistant, Jessica Haffner. She has been a great asset to me as I now am able to go visit all the members weekly or whenever I am needed and attend Executive Director Meetings. It's amazing how much I can learn in these meetings.

We have also hired a new nurse to replace our long time nurse, Deb Hughes that retired. Kim Williams worked for Horizons in the past before she went back to school for nursing.

Horizons has been working on remodeling the group homes to freshen them up. Palmer and Pleasant Street both received new bathroom vanities and flooring. 21st Street received new flooring in the living room and halls. This is all possible with grants and donations we have received, so thank you to everyone. We have applied for a grant and will replace flooring at Pleasant Street and 15th Street if we receive the grant. If you would like a tour sometime to see the new updates, give me a call and I would be glad to take you for a tour.

Our biggest challenge this year has been finding staff. No shows for interviews are very frustrating. I hope your 2022 was as rewarding as ours has been this year at Horizons.

The staff and members are preparing for Christmas. Watching the members with excitement for Christmas is always the highlight to the ending of the year. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!

Carla Firkins, Executive Director

Join us for fun!!

Every Monday: 1:00 pm
Bingo Family Life Center
Every Tuesday: 1:00 pm Movie @ the
Library
Every Wednesday: 1:00 pm matinee @
the theatre

Connect with us

Website: horizons-unlimited.net
Facebook: [HorizonsofPAC](https://www.facebook.com/HorizonsofPAC)





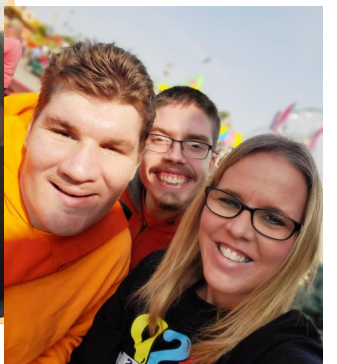
Summer Activities enjoyed with Members Included: Fishing, visiting farms, Chanhassen Theatre in MN & Picnics in the park.



Members Outing in Spirit Lake: Pizza party at the park before riding on the Queen II.



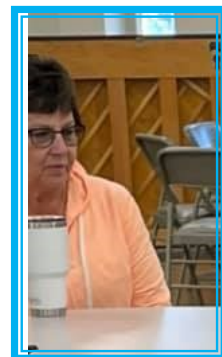
Gardening here at Horizons



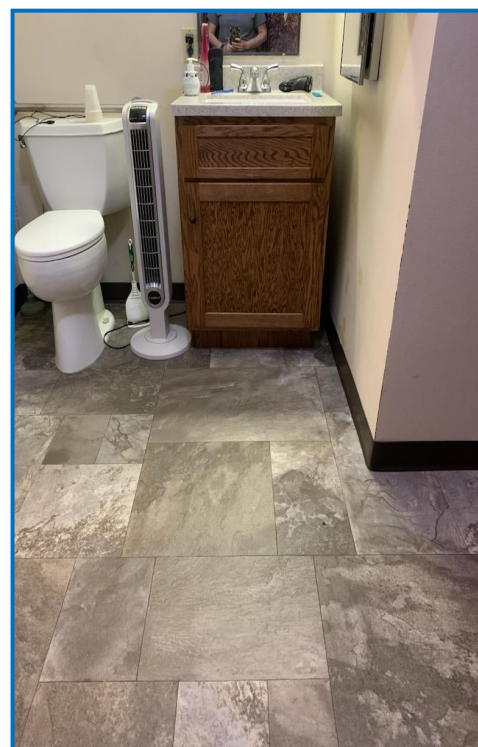
Fun at the Clay County Fair!



Kitty Schneider has made the decision to retire this year! She has worked at Horizons for **23 years as our bookkeeper**. She has stayed faithful with many staff and member changes and a location move. **We truly appreciate all her hard work and willingness to lend a helping hand to make Horizons run smoothly.** We will truly miss her positive attitude and fun personality. **She will always have a very special place in our hearts!** Congratulations on retirement and now she can enjoy spending more quality time with family.



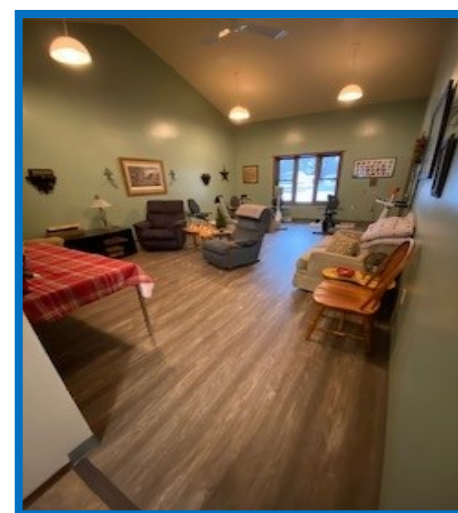
UPDATES TO THE GROUP HOMES



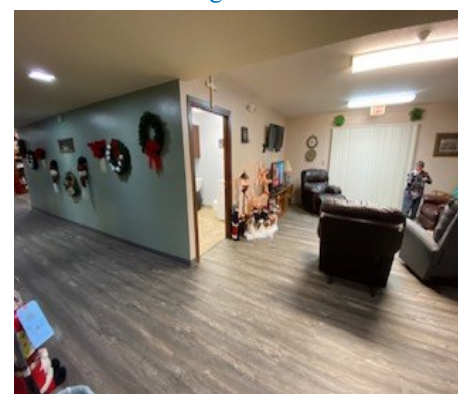
New bathroom vanities and floors.



New cupboards and flooring at 15th & 19th offices



Flooring at 21st Street



We want to thank the following individuals and businesses for making a donation to Horizons Unlimited since the Spring/Summer newsletter was sent out. Thank you again for your generosity.

Fenton United Methodist Church
Catherine Faber
Zion Lutheran Church
Mike Woods
Apostolic Church
Knights of Columbus
Joan Tunnicliff
CY Homes

VFW Post—Emmetsburg
Jessie Hember
Chris Louscher
Ruthven Methodist Church
St. Paul Ladies
Steve & Mary Lou Morrison
Larry & Ruth Nepl
Rosie Culbertson
Dan & Mary Cooper

Horizons Employee milestones



Katie Simonson has been working at Horizons Unlimited for 22 years. She is the residential manager at our Palmer Group Home. She also does all the dismissals and admissions as well as take care of all the HUD paperwork.

Katie says "I enjoy working at Horizons because I am able to assist the members in many areas of their lives. I'm an advocate for my members and work to insure that their mental and physical health are stable and they are happy. I train my DSP's and they are what makes us a **great team.**"



Holly Carter has been working at Horizons Unlimited for 16 years. She is the residential manager at our 21st Street Group Home. On top of all of her manager duties she is also our computer whiz for our documentation software.

Holly says "Working at Horizons is the most fulfilling job I've had. I started as a DSP and then became a residential manager after 7 years. During that time I have discovered **I'm a caretaker**, something I had never realized until working here. I enjoy the daily challenge, conversations and compassion this job provides. I feel I've become a better listener and in turn a better person while fulfilling my need to try new things, be adventurous, and to think outside the box."



Members cooking for themselves and other members!



Gary's Story



Gary has lived at the 15th Street Group Home for a little over a year. He can make anyone's day better just by his smile and friendliness. Gary works three jobs in the community and does a great job. He cleans the bowling alley, the Extension Office and Casey's General Store. Staff at the Extension Office says " Gary is dependable and shows up ready to take on any task that may be needed for the week with a pleasant, can do attitude. **He** is a joy to have around and does a great job cleaning for us!"

Gary likes to participate in all of our activities of bowling, playing Bingo and movies. His favorite color is **orange** and his room shows it. Gary's favorite past time is coloring and drawing.



More Summer Activities!



Thanksgiving here at Horizons!

