



Mission: To provide care and services responsive to the individual needs of those we serve with dignity and respect in a cost effective manner placing value on the recipient, his or her family, and our staff.

## Executive Director

### Vaccinations Update, Position Changes, & New Admin

Across all Bethany St. Joseph Corporation locations, the vaccination rate of all staff and residents/tenants combined exceeds 90%! In recognition of the contributions of staff in getting through the worst of the pandemic and in achieving the goal of a 90+% vaccination rate, a second bonus was paid out in early May, equal to the first bonus multiplied by five! Thankfully, the vaccines have proven effective against the Delta variant of the virus.

Currently, there are calls for health systems to mandate vaccinations for their staff. In states where vaccination rates were low, hospitals again are becoming overwhelmed. Hospitalizations now are nearly 100% of unvaccinated individuals. If the rate of new cases continues to accelerate, we will all be facing more restrictions and a return to less in-person, close-contact gatherings. At BSJ, we continue to monitor the local western Wisconsin new case rates and are following the changes recommended by the local health departments as those recommendations continue to evolve.

Getting vaccinated is not only about protecting oneself, it is about protecting each other, the broader community, our fragile economy, in-person school for the children, our vulnerable elders, and our ability to connect in person with each other. The vaccines are safe, effective, and are our way to continued progression back to normal. We either roll up our sleeves and get vaccinated for ourselves and the greater good, or we risk everything we have gained over the last 18 months. **If you are not yet vaccinated, please, make arrangements today to do so!**

Dan Steinhoff, Business Manager of BSJ Corporation, retired in May after 35 years of service. We wish Dan a happy and fulfilling retirement, with lots of time with the grandchildren and many sunny days spent on the river. Elaine Zeman was promoted to Director of Financial Services. Karlie White has been promoted to absorb some of Elaine's duties. Haley Hall joined the Onalaska Care Center as its Administrator, in June. She graduated with a degree in Health Care Administration from UW-Eau Claire and completed a year-long internship under the guidance of Larry Pupp, Administrator of BSJ Care Center. She was administrator in Ripon, WI, and now returns to the area and to rejoin BSJ Corporation. Welcome back, Haley!

*Craig Ubbelohde, Executive Director*

## Human Resources

### Using Your 'Volunteer Time Off' Benefit

BSJ Corporation offers paid "volunteer time" for our employees. This program can support you in your effort to make a difference in the community. Did you know that volunteering also has benefits for you? Not only benefiting people in need, it may also benefit your mental health. The emotions tied to making others feel better through volunteering are essential to overall well-being. The experience of helping others leads to a sense of greater self-worth and trust. Studies have also shown that the physical action of giving one's time has a positive impact on one's overall health, with volunteers reporting better physical health than non-volunteers. To get involved, check with your local schools, libraries, and food pantries to see how you can help. Organizations like the American Red Cross, United Way, VolunteerMatch and AmeriCorps have many volunteer listings based on geographic location, skill set, and personal interests. Contact your supervisor to check your eligibility for VTO Benefits.

*Jennie Sass, Human Resources Director*

## Corporate Fund Development News

### 2021 Adele M. Stolder Scholarship Recipient

Lee Vue, a registered nurse at Bethany St. Joseph Care Center, received the award of \$1,000 for educational expenses. Lee is enrolled in the Doctorate of Nursing Program at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and would like to pursue primary care through health promotion and disease prevention. Her population of interest is the Hmong community, where she not only wants to educate the community, but she would also like to educate other providers on the cultural differences.



This annual scholarship was established by Mary Ellen Stolder, PhD, RN in memory of her mother, Adele M. Stolder, who lived at Bethany St. Joseph Care Center.

*Amanda Acklin, Fund Development Director*

## Corporate Information

### BSJ Awards Additional Education Scholarships

Grace Hebel and Kelsie Helgerson, CNAs at Norseland Nursing Home, received \$250 awards made possible from a grant BSJ Corporation received from LeadingAge Wisconsin and its sponsor, M3 Insurance.



**Grace Hebel** was accepted into the School of Sciences at the University of Duluth with plans for a Bachelor's of Science in Biology and then attend medical school with aspirations of becoming an obstetrician-gynecologist.



**Kelsie Helgerson** is enrolled in the nursing candidate program at Winona State University. She would like to work as an Intensive Care Unit nurse and hopefully become a traveling nurse one day.

## BSJ Community Services – Housing & MERIT Centre

### Welcome New Community Services Nurse

Welcome to Breana Nassar, Shelby Terrace Nurse! Breana worked as a CNA, LPN, and RN in various long-term care facilities and Onalaska Mayo Clinic Family Medicine Department. When she is not working as a nurse, she can be found tutoring nursing students at Western. She is married to Charles and they have three fur babies. She and Charles love to travel. She has studied in Peru & Mexico and visited many famous ruins including Machu Picchu. She also assists a local mission organization collecting and sending medical, farming, and various other supplies to Laos.



MERIT Centre North participants are getting help from staff to reap the rewards of their garden having harvested about 20 fine cucumbers; their award winning tomatoes are getting ready to pick!

*Karen Sepich, Community Services Admin*

**BSJ Community Services – Housing & MERIT Centre**

- ◆Laurel Manor ◆Mill St. Manor ◆OnaMain ◆OnaTerrace ◆Prairie Home
- ◆Salem Terrace ◆Shelby Terrace ◆Welcome Home ◆Windsor Place

**Celebrating Successful Training & Vaccination Rate**

Community Services celebrated a great year of care during their annual June training. There was much to celebrate including a 96% vaccination rate throughout Community Services at the time. That vaccination rate included tenants, participants, and staff!



**Norseland Nursing Home & Friendship House**

**Happiness Project, Car Cruise, & Awards**

The staff helped the residents connect with students of UW-La Crosse. Where students do not typically get to do distant outreach projects, the use of telehealth technology closed the gap and brought happiness for the residents during the pandemic's grip in 2020 and 2021. Thank you UW-La Crosse students! In June, we were finally able to have our recognition lunch for our milestone anniversaries at the KOS Restaurant in Westby.



We celebrated Angie Hagensick, Dave Weimar, Laurie Anderson, Kris Holen, and Wayne Peterson. We participated in a Community Car Cruise with extensive staff help. The Car Cruise was really fun, especially with the law enforcement vehicles leading the way past our facility and all the way to town.

Congratulations to Grace Hebel and Kelsie Helgerson, both CNAs, who received scholarships through LeadingAge WI to help with education expenses.

*Megan Feirtag, Administrator*

**BSJ Care Center**

**Heart of Healthcare Award & Certifications**

Congratulations to Belinda Nickelatti, Director of Nursing for being nominated as the Heart of Healthcare Nurse Of The Year. She was nominated by the spouse of a resident, which makes it more special. Belinda's work over the past year especially motivated the nomination. Belinda has been instrumental in keeping residents and staff safe during the COVID pandemic. Her leadership in the nursing department is key in making BSJCC the great place that it is.

We are happy to have two new Wound Care Certified nurses. The difficult course has been completed by Brooke Riffey, Avalon Charge Nurse, and Tisha Bennett, Night Charge Nurse. This is a rigorous certification and shows their commitment to excellent care. We are excited to have them as a resource. Congratulations to Lee Vue, Registered Nurse, for being selected as the 2021 Adele M. Stolder Scholarship recipient with the award of \$1,000 for educational expenses. Lee is very compassionate and loved by the residents at BSJCC.

*Larry Pupp, Administrator*

**Onalaska Care Center**

**Celebrating, Graduates, & Milestones**

OCC celebrated May's nursing home week with lots of fun activities. Staff participated in dress up days, relay races, and a picnic. Two temporary nurse aides, Elle Karlan and Jadin Hauser, become certified nursing assistants and two staff members graduated as RNs, Olivia Parkhurst and Macala Hale. Charge nurse, Nicole Craig, became a resident care coordinator and Emily Steinhoff, nurse scheduler and QA Specialist, moved into the business administrative assistant position. I started as the new administrator in June. I completed my yearlong administrator-in-training at BSJ Care Center in 2019 and am very excited to return to BSJ Corporation and to serve the residents and staff at OCC. We celebrated several staff at our anniversary luncheon in July. CNA Darlene Schave for 35 years of service, CNA Deanna Davis and Nurse Manager/RCC Richelle Daffinson for 30 years, CNA Marylou Brueske and LPN Sandy Hall at 25 years, Cook Patty Mueller for 20 years, Social Worker Kris Weis, CNA/Med Assistant Laura Bialecki and Housekeeping Supervisor Deb Greene for 15 years, CNA Kim Walsh for 10 years, Charge Nurse/RCC Nicole Craig and RN Cassie McCormick for 5 years. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to OCC over all these years. It is truly incredible!

*Haley Hall, Administrator*

**Marinuka Manor & Eden House**

**Survey Success & New Director**

Marinuka Manor experienced its Annual State Recertification Survey for the first time since COVID. A HUGE thank you to all the staff for their hard work and effort caring for our residents. There is no doubt we have an amazing team here. With that being said, big congratulations on a deficiency free survey! The surveyors did many observations, interviewed residents, staff, family members, and were amazed by our satisfied customers. They said many great things about their interactions with the staff and residents. We strive to ensure Marinuka is a great place to work and live and a deficiency free survey is a great way to show that.

Congratulations to Taylor Docken for accepting the position of Director of Nursing. She has been a strong presence in the building since she began in 2011 and has worked in several positions including CNA, LPN, LPN Manager, and RN Manager. She is a great example of what hard work and commitment can lead to. I assure you that not only the nursing department but all staff at Marinuka Manor are beyond joyed to have such a knowledgeable, positive, driven, and dedicated leader in this position. Congratulations, Taylor!

*Megan McLean, Administrator*

**(Cont'd) BSJ Care Center**

**CPR Instructors & Interns With Energy**

We have new CPR Instructors to assist with teaching and certifying staff with CPR. Nichole Weissenberger, Nurse Manager, and Emily Clements, Charge Nurse, both completed Instructor Training this spring. Pam Haller was recently hired as a Health Unit Coordinator and is a CPR instructor. Along with Kay Bell, Assistant Director of Nursing, all three will assist in conducting CPR classes for staff.

Two new Recreation Therapy Interns started this summer. Julia Schultz and Andrea Richmond will be with us through August. They have already made a positive impact with their positive attitudes and energy. Among many other activities, they have been helping get residents out on the Tri-Shaw bikes regularly which is always a treat for the residents.

*Larry Pupp, Administrator*