



Area
Residential
Care

Accolades

Empowering Together.

Spring/Summer 2026



MISSION

Empowering people with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life.

VISION

It is the vision of Area Residential Care that every individual has the opportunity to live, work and participate in a supportive and accessible community.

VALUES

- Every person has rights and the responsibilities associated with them.
- Every person is to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Every person has unique needs and preferences that influence the choices he or she makes about his or her life and services.
- Every person is to be provided the opportunity to live, work and participate in recreational activities in the community as the natural environment.
- Every person is to be provided with encouragement, opportunity and support to live life to the fullest.
- Every person is to be given the opportunity to provide direct feedback on his or her satisfaction with services, and given prompt response to concerns.

A MESSAGE FROM PAM CRAWFORD

Dear Friends,

As we move into the summer months, I'm filled with appreciation for the continued support that makes the work of Area Residential Care possible. Whether you are a family member, staff member, volunteer, or community partner, your connection to our mission helps empower people with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life.



This season brings some exciting updates within our organization. We are pleased to welcome Jane Kuhle as our new Director of Human Resources. Jane brings valuable experience and a strong commitment to supporting our employees and strengthening our workplace culture.

We're also excited to highlight Jason Rubel in his role as Associate Executive Director. Jason brings extensive experience in human services, vocational rehabilitation, and advocacy for individuals with disabilities. His leadership and passion for person-centered services will help guide Area Residential Care into the future.

In addition, we are proud to welcome three new members to our Board of Directors: Matt Jahn, Jacob Mozena, and Sara Brokus. Their expertise, leadership, and commitment to our mission will help support our continued growth and impact.

As always, our focus remains on providing meaningful opportunities, compassionate support, and enriching experiences for the individuals we serve. Thank you for being part of our community and for your continued belief in our mission. We look forward to all that the coming months will bring.

Warm regards,

Pam Crawford

Interim Executive Director
Area Residential Care

Strengthening Leadership:

Welcoming Two New Team Members

Area Residential Care is excited to welcome two outstanding professionals to our leadership team. Both Jason Rubel, Associate Executive Director, and Jane Kuhle, Director of Human Resources, bring a wealth of experience, a passion for serving others, and a strong commitment to our mission of empowering people with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life.

We invite you to learn more about Jason and Jane by reading their biographies below.

JANE KUHLE

Director of Human Resources

Jane Kuhle brings extensive experience in employee engagement, talent management, performance development, and organizational leadership to Area Residential Care. She is passionate about creating positive workplace cultures where employees feel valued, supported, and empowered to succeed.

Throughout her career, Jane has focused on building collaborative teams, strengthening organizational effectiveness, and developing innovative HR solutions that enhance the employee experience. Her commitment to people and continuous improvement helps support Area Residential Care's mission and long-term success.

Outside of work, Jane and her husband, Ken, enjoy spending time with their three children, Zach, Abby (and her husband, Zack), and Lexi. They recently welcomed their first grandson and are excited to welcome a second grandchild soon. Family is at the center of Jane's life, and she treasures every opportunity to spend time with her loved ones.



JASON RUBEL

Associate Executive Director

Jason Rubel is a dedicated human services executive with over 14 years of experience championing community-based support programs, vocational rehabilitation, and regional advocacy for individuals with disabilities. As the Associate Executive Director at Area Residential Care, he assists with strategic operations and program development to ensure high-quality, person-centered services—empowering individuals with disabilities to thrive in the least restrictive environment possible.

Before transitioning into his current role, Jason spent twelve years with the State of Iowa as a rehabilitation counselor and supervisor for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS). Prior to that, he was a Program Coordinator at REM Iowa and Goodwill of Northeast Iowa. He holds a Master of Social Work (MSW) from St. Ambrose University, grounding his leadership in a genuine commitment to advocacy and support for individuals with disabilities.

Jason lives in the rural Maquoketa area with his wife, Maggie, and they have two adult children. Outside of his professional work, Jason enjoys working in his woodshop, riding his motorcycle, and spending time with his family.



SPRING INTO SUMMER

A Season of Growth and Community

As winter gave way to warmer days, something shifted across Area Residential Care. The energy picked up, the doors opened wider, and the individuals we serve stepped into a season full of connection, exploration, and meaningful experiences.

Spring and early summer have been filled with opportunities to get outside, try new things, and engage more deeply with the community. These moments—big and small—are what bring our mission to life: empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life.

GETTING OUR HANDS DIRTY

One of the highlights of the season has been spending time outdoors, especially through planting and gardening activities. Individuals across programs rolled up their sleeves and got their hands in the dirt—planting flowers, arranging pots, and helping bring new life to shared spaces.

With the addition of a donated greenhouse, the excitement only grew. The greenhouse has created a new opportunity to extend these activities beyond just a single day. Individuals are now able to nurture plants over time, watch them grow, and take pride in caring for something from start to finish.

Gardening offers more than just a beautiful end result. It encourages patience, responsibility, and teamwork. It also provides a calming, sensory-rich activity that many individuals truly enjoy. Whether watering plants, choosing flowers, or simply spending time outside, these moments have been both peaceful and rewarding.



PRIDE IN YOUR RIDE

Another standout experience this season was attending the Pride in Your Ride event in Earlville, Iowa. This unique event brought together trucks, tractors, and community members for a day full of excitement—and our individuals had an incredible time taking it all in.



From walking through rows of impressive vehicles to talking with participants and exploring the displays, there was something for everyone to enjoy. Events like this offer a chance to step into new environments, spark conversations, and share in experiences that are both fun and memorable.



A special thank you goes to Katie from Camp Courageous for helping make this opportunity possible. Partnerships like these open doors for meaningful community inclusion and create experiences our individuals might not otherwise have access to.



MIRACLE LEAGUE: WHERE EVERYONE GETS TO PLAY

Few moments capture the spirit of inclusion quite like Miracle League baseball. This season, individuals had the opportunity to take part in games designed so that everyone can participate, regardless of ability. From stepping up to the plate to rounding the bases with support, each player experienced the joy of being part of a team. Cheers from the sidelines, high-fives after each play, and smiles that stretched from ear to ear made it clear—this is more than just a game.

Miracle League creates a space where barriers are removed and confidence can grow. It's about belonging, participation, and celebrating every success, no matter how big or small.

For many individuals, this was not only a chance to play baseball—it was a chance to be seen, supported, and celebrated.



BUILDING CONNECTIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

Beyond these featured events, the season has been filled with everyday outings that continue to build independence and connection.

Trips to local parks, community events, and area attractions have given individuals the chance to explore, make choices, and interact with the world around them. These experiences help build confidence, strengthen social skills, and reinforce a sense of belonging in the broader community.

Even simple moments—grabbing a snack, enjoying fresh air, or spending time together outside—play an important role in enhancing quality of life.

Each outing is an opportunity to practice real-life skills while also creating meaningful memories.

WHY IT MATTERS

While these moments are filled with fun and laughter, their impact runs much deeper.

Activities like gardening, attending community events, and participating in sports help individuals:

- Build confidence and independence
- Strengthen communication and social skills
- Experience inclusion in meaningful ways
- Develop routines and responsibilities
- Discover new interests and passions

These are the experiences that shape not just a season—but a life.

LOOKING AHEAD

As summer continues, there is even more to look forward to. Additional outings, events, and activities are already being planned, with the same goal in mind: creating opportunities for individuals to thrive.

At Area Residential Care, every season brings new possibilities. And with the continued support of staff, families, volunteers, and community partners, those possibilities continue to grow.

THANK YOU

None of these moments would be possible without the people who make them happen each day. From staff who plan and support activities, to community partners who open their doors, to families who encourage participation—this is truly a shared effort.

26th Annual Corporate & Community Games Raises Over \$8,000

Silly Games for a Serious Mission

Area Residential Care's 26th Annual Corporate & Community Games was a tremendous success, bringing together businesses, community members, volunteers, and supporters for an evening of fun, teamwork, and friendly competition—all while supporting a great cause.



Thanks to the incredible generosity of participants, sponsors, and donors, this year's event raised more than \$8,000 to support Area Residential Care's mission of empowering people with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life.

Held at the Q Casino, the event featured exciting team competitions, laughter, and camaraderie, showcasing the strong community spirit that has made the Corporate & Community Games a beloved tradition for more than two decades.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS

This year's competition was fierce, but a few teams rose to the top:

First Place: Capra Bank

Second Place: All Seasons Heating & Cooling

Third Place: Hy-Vee

A special congratulations also goes to RE/MAX Advantage Realty, recipient of the Athletic Support Award for raising the most donations in support of Area Residential Care's mission.

Area Residential Care extends a heartfelt thank you to all participating teams, volunteers, donors, and sponsors who helped make the event possible.

Major Sponsors

Mi-T-M Corporation

The Vogt Group

Gold Sponsor

All Seasons Heating & Cooling

Silver Sponsors

Abbadent Dental

Cottingham & Butler

Modernfold

Morrison Brothers

PBS Systems

Rousselot

UMB Bank

Your support makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. We look forward to continuing this tradition and welcoming everyone back for the 27th Annual Corporate & Community Games next year.



Meet Our New Board Members

Please join us in welcoming three new members to the Area Residential Care Board of Directors. Matt Jahn, Jacob Mozena, and Sara Brokus bring diverse backgrounds, valuable expertise, and a shared commitment to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life.

MATTHEW JAHN LNHA, BSN, RN

*Director of Health Services/Administrator
Stonehill Communities*

Matt Jahn has worked in healthcare since 2008, beginning his career as a Certified Nursing Assistant before earning his Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Dubuque in 2011. In 2024, he became a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator.

Throughout his career at Stonehill Communities, Matt has served in several leadership roles and currently serves as Executive Director of Healthcare Services/Administrator. He values servant leadership, teamwork, and creating positive experiences for residents, families, and staff.

Matt also serves on several local advisory committees and commissions. A lifelong Dubuquer, he and his wife Hannah enjoy raising their two children, Ella and Bennett, and spending time outdoors hiking, hunting, and fishing.

Matt is grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Area Residential Care Board and support Area Residential Care's mission and the individuals they serve.



JACOB MOZENA

*Project Manager
Gronen*

Jacob Mozena serves as a Project Manager at Gronen, where he manages construction and development projects. He joined the Area Residential Care Board of Directors as a way to give back to the community and support a mission that has been meaningful to him since childhood.

Jacob's connection to ARC began through Camp Albrecht Acres, where his grandfather, Ken Mozena, and later his father, Terry, were actively involved. Growing up, he spent summers volunteering at camp events and helping campers, experiences that left a lasting impact on him.

Outside of work, Jacob enjoys staying active through tennis, golf, skiing, and volleyball. He also has a strong appreciation for nature and animals and hopes to someday own a hobby farm.



SARAH BROKKUS

*Outpatient Occupational Therapist
MercyOne*

Sarah Brokus is an Outpatient Occupational Therapist at MercyOne, where she primarily works with pediatric and mental health patients. She is passionate about helping individuals gain and maintain independence in the activities they want and need to do each day — a passion that inspired both her career in occupational therapy and her decision to join the Area Residential Care Board of Directors.

Born and raised in Dubuque, Sarah attended the University of Iowa for her undergraduate studies before earning her graduate degree from Drake University. Outside of work, she enjoys thrifting, reading, crafting, attending concerts, and spending time with friends and family. She is also a proud Iowa Hawkeye fan.



Give Your Gently Used Items *a Second Life*

at Area Residential Care

As the seasons change, many of us take time to clean, organize, and refresh our homes. At Area Residential Care, that simple act of cleaning out a closet or cupboard can turn into something truly meaningful for the individuals we serve.

We are currently accepting gently used donations to support activities, programs, and everyday experiences for the people in our care. Items like books, movies, purses, sunglasses, jewelry, hats, and non-glass household items—such as cups and kitchenware—can all be put to great use. These items often become part of recreational activities, life skills programming, or simply bring joy and a sense of personal choice to those we support.

While we appreciate all generosity, we are asking donors to focus less on stuffed animals and more on practical, everyday items. In general, if it's something you would feel comfortable donating to Goodwill or Stuff Etc., it's likely a great fit for Area Residential Care. For safety and ease of use, we do ask that items be non-glass, and non-metal items are preferred when possible.

Donations can be dropped off at our main building, located at 3355 Kennedy Circle, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Your support helps us continue creating engaging, meaningful experiences for the individuals we serve—whether it's through a favorite movie, a new accessory, or supplies for a group activity. Thank you for thinking of Area Residential Care and for helping us turn everyday items into something special.



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COME WORK WITH US!

Join a mission-driven team that has been empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to achieve their highest quality of life for more than 55 years.

Learn more and apply by visiting
www.areasidentialcare.org or calling 563.556.7560!

1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD SHIFT AVAILABLE.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY, TRAINING PROVIDED!

RETENTION BONUS