Genesis Development’s first building
Pheasant Ridge RCF in Toledo, IA

In July of 1973, the Jefferson Sheltered Workshop was established with facilities on the Greene County Fairgrounds. The role of that organization was to provide services to people with disabilities in Jefferson, IA. As the needs of the community grew, so did the company. The name was changed to the Greene County Sheltered Workshop Activities Center, Inc. and services were expanded to all of Greene County.

More growth happened and more space was needed. In 1983, the company was moved to a new site and in 1985 the name was changed to Genesis Development.

In 1989, Genesis opened its first group home.

In 1993, Genesis began providing its first services under Title XIX.

In 1995, Genesis received a grant to provide transitional services to students graduating from high school.

From there, Genesis just kept expanding and growing. In 1997, River Valley Residential Services in Boone called to ask for a consultation. This consult led to Genesis taking over the residential care facility and began the process of closing it down and moving the residents into housing in Boone. Later that same year, Genesis received a call from the Buena Vista Work Activity Center in Storm Lake, IA. Genesis was becoming a multi-city operation.

In 2001, Progressive Options of Madison County in Winterset, IA called on Genesis Development to take over services.

In 2003, Warren County called to request a presentation of services from Genesis Development.

In 2008, Genesis began doing mental health services in Perry, IA.

Later in 2008, Genesis began services in Poweshiek County with an office in Grinnell. In 2009, Genesis took over administration of the residential care facility in Toledo, IA. Genesis began the process of closing that facility and moving the residents to housing in town.

Today, Genesis has offices in 13 different Iowa cities and serve people from 3 additional counties. In addition to residential, mental health and employment services, Genesis has day habilitation services, payee services, summer kid’s camps, a crisis treatment center, a transitional living center and a peer support center. In the last year, Genesis has served over 4,300 individuals across the state in the varying services.

While the history of Genesis is rich, they are always looking to the future. Genesis continues to expand physically, adding a site in Guthrie Center, IA and services in Story County this past year, as well as expanding the programs and services that are offered to those that need it.

As Genesis celebrates 45 years and the growth that has come in those years, the future is even brighter with more time, growth and chances to help create opportunities, choices and support for people with disabilities.
Genesis Development Mission Moments

Deb moved to the group home in Ogden. The transition was for better living arrangements and accessibility. The one thing that Deb wanted, however, was a ramp to make the access to her home just a little bit easier. Deb’s brother, Steve is an independent contractor and wanted to figure out how to provide the ramp. Steve got in contact with the landlord. The group decided that the landlord would purchase all the materials and Steve would construct the ramp. On April 14th, the ramp was built. “The ramp makes everything so much easier. Having this ramp frees me. I can go anywhere.”

Michael has always been a big help to his community in Indianola. During this quarter however, he became a hero as he jumped into action and helped elderly residents to exit their apartment building after a fire had started on the third floor. After everyone was out, people came up to Michael to shake his hand and thank him. One person even thanked him for saving their lives by helping to get them all out of the building. Great job, Michael!

Sam works at the Wild Rose Casino in Jefferson. She really her job and her coworkers. Early in June, Sam had a birthday. Her coworkers surprised her with a cake and a gift. Sam was really surprised and excited. Everyone had a great time celebrating Sam’s birthday at work and Sam felt very included and appreciated by the company she works for and the people she works with. These moments make community employment a true delight to everyone involved.

“The ones that are crazy enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones that do.”

- Anonymous

Shopping on Amazon? Try AmazonSmile!

Genesis Development will receive a small percentage of all your purchases when you shop on Amazon Smile! Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Genesis Development. Just choose smile.amazon.com and select Genesis Development. Every little bit helps to raise funds to support individuals with disabilities!
Boone Resident Buys His First Home

A longtime resident of Boone and member of Genesis has closed on his first home!

Chris Ivers has been with Genesis for over 20 years. For the last several years, Chris has said to his staff that he would like to rent a house instead of an apartment. It was always a matter of timing and money.

In the spring of 2017, Chris was informed of an inheritance from a family member. The instructions were that Chris’ inheritance needed to be figured out before any other family could receive theirs. A month later, it was found that nearly all of the money was spent on items for Chris. Staff asked Chris what he really wanted and he said that he would like to buy a house. Staff contacted the lawyer to find the executor of Chris’ inheritance. The group worked to get the money back (over $20,000).

It was discovered that Chris had no credit. Tracy Van Sickle of People’s Bank in Ogden guided them toward some credit cards. He used the credit card to purchase his basic necessities and then paid it off at the end of each month.

Chris finally built up enough credit and was pre-approved for a mortgage loan. He chose a realtor and began looking at homes that included his must-haves (two bedrooms and a garage). A couple months went by without finding “the one.” Then Chris’ realtor called with an opportunity to look at a house. Chris loved it! He left and made his offer. Within four hours, the offer was accepted and the seller agreed to even fix the garage door.

Chris closed on his first house on June 15th, 2018.

Here and There in Our Communities

- Members from Grinnell made treats and delivered them for National Police Week.
- Discovery members in Boone took an overnight trip to Omaha to visit the Henry Doorly Zoo.
- Members from Storm Lake visit the Veteran’s Memorial Wall in Pocahontas.
- Discovery Members in Indianola gave gifts to children at the Yess Shelter.
- Guthrie Center Members had an after hours outing.
- Toledo Members tried their hands at painting.
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**Contributions made April 2018 through June 2018**

With grateful thanks, we acknowledge the generosity of our many donors. THANK YOU!

**Every effort has been made to ensure a full list of donors. If we have omitted or misspelled your name, please accept our sincerest apologies and contact us at (515) 432-7288**

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**Memorials**

- In Memory of Helen Eason, by Carol Eason, Scranton
- In Memory of Genie Eason, by Carol Eason, Scranton
- In Memory of Bill Limburg, by Patricia Rusnak, Jefferson
- In Memory of Bob Rhoades, by Louise Harris, Jefferson
- In Memory of Darlene Ott, by Marlene Larson, Jefferson
- In Memory of Dean Wolf, by Carol Eason, Scranton
- In Memory of Dean & Barb Wolf, by Shirley Clark, Jefferson
- In Memory of Aunt Doris Dickel, by Rebecca Eason Opalinski, Parker CO
- In Memory of Uncle Bruce & Aunt Doris Dickel, by Carol Eason, Scranton
- In Memory of Joanne Trost, by Don & Alice Yepsen, Jefferson
- In Memory of Ken Putzier, by Terry & Darla Johnson, Mrs. Lester Juhl, Storm Lake
- In Memory of Marian Gibson Gulardo, by Terry & Jody Lang, Jefferson
- In Memory of Tim Bedel, by Tony Bedel, Storm Lake
- In Memory of Warder “Dub” Hillhouse, by John & Alana Curnyn, Jefferson

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**Honorariums**

- In Honor of Peg Eason, by Carol Eason, Scranton
- In Honor of Lacey Carico, by Downey Tire Service, Indianola
- In Honor of Terry Johnson, by Warren Robson, Scranton
- In Honor of JC Watts, by Jody & Larry Watts, Norwalk

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**Gifts-in-kind**

- Heather McKasson, Indianola
- Heidi McNamara, Indianola
- Helping Hand, Indianola
- Jodi Dishman, Indianola
- Steve & Julie Rentfle, Indianola
- Nick Vanderwarka, Boone
- Kevin Walter, Ames
- Riverside Women Ministries, Linn Grove
- The Gardens Retirement Community
Genesis Gives Back for Their 45th Year

In celebration of the 45th anniversary of Genesis Development, each site chose activities that gave back to all of the communities that have given so much to Genesis over the last 45 years.

Winterset staff and members paint kindness rocks to hide throughout Madison County.

Members from Boone work on cleaning up a local park.

Indianola members collected can tabs and delivered them to the Ronald McDonald House.

Members in Belle Plaine baked treats for area businesses and organizations.

Genesis Staff Giving Program

*If you’re part of the Genesis team/staff and would like more information on how you can be a part of this list and give, please contact Sara Morton at sara@gendeviowa.com or 515-632-7288.

Samantha Adams
Laurie Allen
Lisa Anderson
Melinda Austin
Shannon Blackburn
Donna Borst
Connie Bosier
Misty Boucher
Lori Brandt
Makayla Carney
Denise Charlson
Shannon Clark
Ashley Coil
Robert Dale
Michelle Dickson-Lawrence
Kaitlyn Duzynski
Warmice Edwards
Robert Ewing
Theresa Fabor
Bill Gebhart
Alicia Herrera
Lillian Herridge
Emily Herron
Jessica Herzberg
Beverly Hurt
Danene Janssen
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Christopher Lawrence
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Micah Luethje
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Catherine Miller
Sara Morton
Michele Myers
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Bobbie Peterson
Sandra Pettry
Sandra Pingel
Kathy Pitman
Linda Pitzer
Stephanie Redig
Angela Richards
Mary Richards
Laura Robertson
Karen Rosengreen
Hannah Saf
Anita Schlender
Deborah Scott
Carolyn Shannon
Terra Sievers
Jody Stern
Mary Sullivan
Nancy Swenson
Bessie Marie Trask
Josh Tuel
Carrie Wilde
Donald Wills
Andrew Wiskus
Tammy Zoch

WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET.
WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE.
Employees of the Quarter

Every Quarter, staff and supervisors nominate fellow employees that go the extra mile in their interactions with members, other staff and the community. An Employee of the Quarter is a person that exemplifies the core values of Genesis Development (integrity, teamwork, caring and open-mindedness) and really live the mission (to create opportunities, choices and support for people with disabilities).

Amy Holland, Belle Plaine —
Amy has been terrific at training in multiple functions in the office and training direct line with the consumers. She is a good team player with support and feedback. She has also been a great mentor for eDoc. Amy has helped another staff in an emergency situation and detoured it from becoming a violent situation.

Liz Geiselman, Dallas County —
What makes Liz special is three-fold. First, her organization is incomparable. Second, she is a wonderful communicator. Finally, she is as caring a person as you will ever meet. In two years, Liz has proven to be a thoughtful, dynamic, intelligent leader in this organization.

Courtney Jayne, Guthrie Center —
Courtney has taken on a lot of responsibility in a short time and has done so effectively. I have never heard Courtney complain. Instead, when there is a challenge, she has come to her supervisor with ideas for solutions and demonstrated effective problem solving skills. Courtney has the skills of a leader.

Jenni Paulson, Jefferson —
Jenni jumps at the chance to help with anything the team in Jefferson is trying to do, whether it’s big, small, in her department or not. She gets on board and is always willing to help. Jenni has great ideas and a passion for giving back to the community and doing great things for the members we serve.

Madelon Harms, Toledo —
Madelon has been the Team Leader for the Overlook Home for 6 months. She has modeled what needs to be done at Overlook. Madelon has always shown her staff that she will step up and do any part of the job that is necessary. That is what a real leader will do. Madelon is a true asset to Genesis.

Lori Williams, Boone —
Lori takes time to help me with my billing and billing questions. Lori is never rude when she needs something, instead she takes time to explain and talk through things together. When the December billing changed due to the MCOs, Lori took a lot of time out of her schedule to help me to understand it. I appreciate her more than she knows.

Amy Arens, Grinnell —
Amy had a string of placements and successfully managed fitting in all the job coaching. She worked nights and weekends to make this happen. During this, she had excellent, timely paperwork and maintained the safety chair. She helped two placements keep their jobs when positions were going to be eliminated.

Makayla Carney, Indianola —
Makayla always demonstrates teamwork and is willing to help—including residential shifts at another site. She dedicated hours of her time helping with the January audit and kept up on all of her own work. Makayla also does outcome reporting and keeps everyone in the loop regarding deadlines and report corrections.

Karen Morenz, Storm Lake —
Karen has done many good things over the years in her role as a staff to benefit our clients and the organization as a whole. Karen has created opportunities to assist members with shopping for new clothes, meeting other needs, vacations and many other things. She shows our values by caring about the members in all ways.

Lori Stayley, Winterset —
Lori always steps up to fill a shift, no matter what house it is. She jumps right in when something needs to be done. Lori has earned the trust of our members. Our folks always ask when Lori is going to be working again. Lori is a leader and she likes her job and it definitely shows. She is a very caring lady.
Staff Recognition

25 Years of Service
Sandra Persoon, Storm Lake

15 Years of Service
Barb Wishman, Perry

10 Years of Service
Angela Dellamuth, Belle Plaine
Tamera Beaman, Boone

5 Years of Service
Tammy Zoch, Storm Lake
Kimberly Jacobson, Jefferson
Whitney Koester, Boone
Kristie Wiskus, Boone
Joshua Tuel, Adel
Korryn Johnson, Boone
Justin Terry, Indianola

Genesis commemorates five-year anniversaries for all staff. The persons listed above have reached a milestone between April 2018 and June 2018.

Genesis Gives Back for Their 45th Year

In celebration of the 45th anniversary of Genesis Development, each site chose activities that gave back to all of the communities that have given so much to Genesis over the last 45 years.

Boone staff hosted tables at Ericson Public Library’s Stories Under the Stars.

Winterset members made May Day baskets for the community.

Storm Lake staff and members volunteered for activities during BVU’s Choose Blue Event.

Guthrie Center staff and members made cake pops for the local Humane Society fundraiser.

Jefferson staff held a daffodil fundraiser to support Relay for Life.

Grinnell members made and delivered gifts for local public servants.

Boone staff and members filled Easter Eggs for local Easter Egg hunts.

Indianola members collected and delivered donations of toys to the YESS shelter.

Jefferson members painted rocks for community members to find and share.

Toledo staff and members volunteered at the Senior Center and for Meals on Wheels.
Yes, I would like to make a contribution to help Genesis Development accomplish its Mission:

(Please give your name as you would like it to appear in our donor recognition list)

I would like my gift to be:

___ In Memory of ________________________             ___________________________________________

___ In Honor of __________________________             ___________________________________________

___ I’m interested in making a monthly contribution

(Please send information)

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

$5,000 $1,000 $500 $100 $50 $25 Other_____

Thank you for including Genesis Development in your charitable giving plans

Mail to Genesis Development, 927 8th St., Boone IA 50036

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