

The Owens Interlink

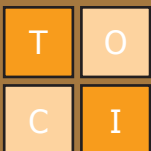
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Bringing in the Holidays

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Family Learning Center Open in Lincoln

By Diana Owens

OES is proud to announce that the Family Learning Center in Lincoln opened October 27th. The Family Learning Center is a licensed facility designed to provide temporary shelter and care to children (ages 0 - 18) who cannot be maintained safely within their family home.

The Family Learning Center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. This allows for access to and entrance into the Center any time it is determined that a child and/or family's safety is at risk. The Center has a

capacity of twelve youth at a time.

Doretta Brookins, former In-Home Service Supervisor in Lincoln is taking on this challenge with excitement and much enthusiasm. She and her team are learning quickly that a child can be placed in the Center any hour of the day or night. Presently there are three youth staying in the Center ranging in all ages.

The Family Learning Center is part of the collaborative project between Visinet, Inc. and the Owens Companies that took affect July 1st of this year. ■

New Supervisory Faces in Lincoln

By Diana Owens

With moving Doretta to the FLC, the Lincoln office needed to hire a new supervisor to oversee and monitor the Tracker, EM and Drug Testing portion for our clients in the southeast service area. We are pleased to welcome Justin McCoy as the new supervisor in this area.

McCoy has just recently completed all the required training in Omaha and is now under the guidance of Willie Hale from Omaha to learn the "ropes" of the program. According to Willie, Justin is catching on quickly and appears eager to learn his new responsibilities.

Congratulations Justin and welcome to Owens.

Also new to the Lincoln staff is Mary Meyer, the new IFP Supervisor. Mary graduated from Iowa State University with an MFCS in Human Development and Family Studies.

Mary is originally from Ankeny, IA. Not only has she started a new career with Owens, she is also a newly-wed who just moved to Lincoln at the end of August.

Welcome Justin and Mary! ■

Kendra Shirkey is Back

Edited by Joe Owens

Only gone three months and still was working for Owens on a part-time basis, Kendra Shirkey has agreed to accept supervisory responsibilities for an In-Home Family Service team in Omaha. Kendra will start her new role on Monday, November 3rd.

Kendra was known for her

abilities to work with a diversified clientele as well as she was a “go-to-person” for the harder cases. We knew she could not stay away from us, and we are so glad she is back full-time and in a supervisory role at that.

Jennifer Owens, New Omaha IFP Supervisor

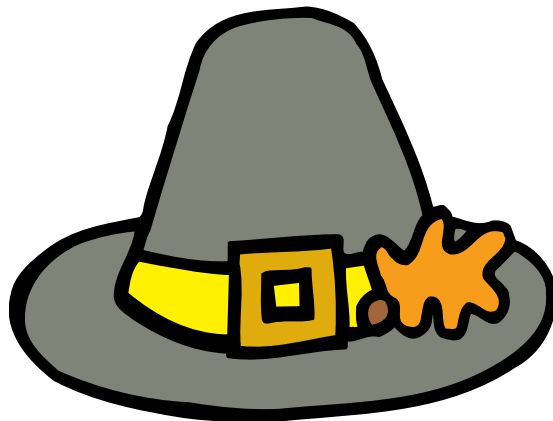
By Diana Owens

In line with taking on a more in depth portion of our In-Home Services Program, Jennifer Owens has been appointed supervisor to take on the program as well as crisis intervention. Jennifer graduated from Iowa State University with honors this past August with her Masters Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy - just the ticket for this program.

Presently she is operating out

of an interoffice cube - until construction can be completed for her office. Not only was Jen promoted, but she took the position just two days after she managed to break two bones in her left foot. Even with hobbling around - she is doing an excellent job.

Congratulations Jennifer!



Plans in Works for New Day Reporting Program

Edited by Joe Owens

With the multiple changes that were under taken by the State in July, Probation has found themselves having to find alternatives for youth on probation. After reviewing several programs, OES was asked to reopen the Center with the same commitment and enthusiasm to the community youth as they have had in the past.

The Center will start with day time hours and then operate a second program for evenings. We

Training, Training, Training

Edited by Joe Owens

Cathy Wilson, our QA specialist, has not stopped training new employees for the past 3 months. We see many new faces that are either in training, or just successfully completed our two week program and are now on their own in the field. We have almost doubled in size.

New employees, leads us to a huge sense of gratitude to Candi Marcantel and Eva Abrams.

are very excited about this opportunity and want to thank Corey Steel, Juvenile Justice Specialist for the State of Nebraska and Cortney Dail, Douglas County Probation Officer, for assisting us in finding funding necessary to proceed. We will keep you posted as events unfold.



They are two hardest working, dedicated In-Home Safety Service Supervisors we have ever had. They are the ones who continually assist with problems and resolve concerns for the new employees. Your loyalty does not go unnoticed. Many thanks to all three of you and the job you have and are doing.



Holiday Drive Under Way

Edited by Joe Owens



As in the years past, Owens will be overseeing the adoption of families in

need for the holidays. Last year, over 72 children and their families were helped by 12 different

Server Up and Running

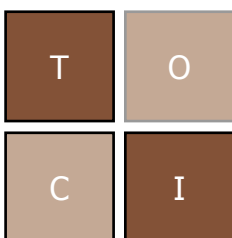
Edited by Joe Owens

Under the watchful eyes of Andrew Real, our internal IT person and an external expert – Marcus Harvey – our much anticipated Server is up and running. It will be a great tool in expediting how employees can access files and information online.

sponsors. If you would like to be part of this “spirited” event, please contact Diana Owens. Remember, Owens screens all the families to make sure they are truly in need of assistance.



Of course, Andy has set up specific guidelines in order to keep the necessary security for the system. Thank you for your many nights and weekends Andy and Marcus. We are really anticipating great things from the new server.



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