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"Creating Opportunities for People with Disabilities"

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CELEBRATING A QUARTER CENTURY OF SERVICE

NOWCAP Services started in 1985 under the direction of NOWCAP of Wyoming, Inc's CEO, Joe Stolns in Mills, WY. At that time, the program was funded through a \$600,000 grant from the Developmental Disabilities Division and the community embraced the new program when it opened its doors on July 1, 1985. It started out as a supported workshop, refinishing furniture (which, we still do today) and detailing cars. With 54 participants and 18 staff, it was a huge undertaking and John Clark, the first executive director was up to the challenge. Two group homes were purchased through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which can be largely credited to one of NOWCAP's original board members, Archie McCulla. One stipulation placed on new programs in the 1980's was that they had to become CARF accredited within the first year. In May of 1986, NOWCAP Services received its first CARF accreditation and has been continuously accredited ever since. It was a lot of work, as literally hundreds of policies and procedures had to be created.

By 1987, NOWCAP Services had outgrown its original home located on Burd Road in Mills. It's new location was on 'E' Street in Casper and it wasn't until 1991 when NOWCAP Services moved to where it resides today on North Walsh Drive. Since it's beginning, NOWCAP Services has always been focused on people and has had stable leadership. Joe Stolns is still the CEO, and in twenty-five years, executive leadership has changed only three times with the current executive director, Chris Boston, taking over in 2002.

With substantial downsizing at the Wyoming State Training School in the early 1990's, NOWCAP Services saw tremendous growth. With an increased need for community based services and a slow economy, NOWCAP Services acquired several properties, expanding its residential program. In 2003, NOWCAP Services purchased the Oakcrest Apartments and in September of that same year, NOWCAP Services opened its first satellite office in Worland. Less than a year later, services started in Cody and in February of 2005, NOWCAP Services opened its newest office in Rock Springs. Shortly thereafter, a six-unit apartment building on Wisconsin Street opened up in Casper and in 2007, the main offices received a complete facelift and three new homes were built.

NOWCAP Services is proud of where we've come over the past 25 years, now serving four communities, 150 participants and operating on an \$8 million budget. We are celebrating on September 17, 2010 in Casper. There will be live music, light hors d'oeuvres and virgin cocktails. Join us as we look back and remember a quarter century of service. The party starts at 6:30 p.m. at 345 North Walsh Drive in Casper. Don't miss it!



CLIFF PLAYS IN THE NATIONAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS GAMES

When Cliff Haley, a participant in the NOWCAP Services program in Casper, discovered that he was going to be given the opportunity to go to the National Special Olympic Games in Lincoln, NE this July, he was ecstatic. This was truly the opportunity of a lifetime. Cliff was going to be on one of five unified teams playing from Wyoming. Unified teams are teams in which Special Olympic athletes are combined with unified partners to form a team. The team was only able to get together and practice one time before going to the national games. In Wyoming, athletes are nominated by coaches and teams are formed from individuals from all over the state. Cliff was selected to play right field and although the team didn't come out on top, they gave a few teams a run for their money and learned the true meaning of teamwork.

It is a huge honor to be able to go the national games. Out of 53 delegations across Wyoming, only 33 of about 1,100 athletes are selected to participate. Nationally, there are under 2,500 athletes who participate. Cliff had a wonderful time and enjoyed representing Wyoming and NOWCAP Services at the games. We are very proud of Cliff and are thrilled he had the opportunity to be part of the 2010 National Special Olympic Games. Way to go, Cliff!



PUSH AMERICA JOURNEY OF HOPE PAYS A VISIT



On June 30, NOWCAP Services in Casper hosted the 2010 Push America Journey of Hope Team for a dinner and friendship visit.

The Journey of Hope is a cross-country bicycle trek beginning in Seattle, Washington and ending in Washington, D.C. The men who participate in the event are all members of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity and are from all over the United States. The event raises funds and awareness for people with disabilities. Simply put, the Journey of Hope is a ride with a purpose. It is about challenging the

norm. It is about serving our communities. The men who participate find out more about themselves than they ever imagined, but they also meet great friends along the way. It is about having a dream. It is about a mission. It is about hope.

The true impact of the Journey of Hope can be felt through its programming across the nation. After riding an average of 75 miles a day, you won't find team members napping preparing for the next day's ride. They will be playing games and enjoying a good meal at a friendship visit with a local organization, such as NOWCAP Services, that supports people with disabilities. You can find them performing puppet shows to educate children on the abilities of people with disabilities, and learning life lessons that will impact them for the rest of their lives.

NOWCAP Services recently received a check for \$250 from the 2010 Journey of Hope Team and we are grateful for their dedication to people with disabilities. The journey is service above self and the men of Pi Kappa Phi have been dedicated to people with disabilities since 1977. It was a huge honor to have them stop by and visit us and we look forward to hosting them when they cycle through beautiful Wyoming next year.

THE NAME FITS

Tuffy Arnoldi was born on March 15, 1957 in Kemmerer, Wyoming, as James Steven Arnoldi. But the name James didn't stick, and he quickly became 'Tuffy'. As a young child (Tuffy couldn't remember exactly how old he was), he went in for an operation and amazed hospital staff, family and friends at how tough he was throughout the procedure and recovery. From that moment on, his dad started calling him 'Tuffy' and he's been known as 'Tuffy' ever since. He was the second of three children, having both an older and a younger sister. Tuffy was born with cerebral palsy and from day one he was a social butterfly.

Tuffy started school in Kemmerer, but the family moved to Green River, Wyoming when he was seven. His father, Jim, was the Game & Fish Supervisor there. Tuffy completed school through 9th grade and then moved to the Gottsche Program in Thermopolis, Wyoming for a short time. The stay in Thermopolis only lasted about four months before he was back in Green River. He continued to live with his family until the age of 23, at which time, he began receiving services and supports from Southwest Wyoming Rehabilitation Services (SWRC) in Rock Springs.

Tuffy remained in SWRC's program for the next twenty-eight years, during which time he met Roy Lloyd, the current coordinator of the NOWCAP Services program in Rock Springs. Tuffy had a dream to work in a community job and in March 2008, when NOWCAP Services opened up their Whitewater group home, there was a place for Tuffy and he transitioned into the NOWCAP Services program from SWRC. Within a couple weeks, he also had that job he wanted and was working part time at Home Depot watering the flowers and other various plants. He started out with a job coach to assist him for the first couple of months, but quickly learned the job and began working independently. His co-workers now give him any assistance he may need and he has now advanced to a greeter - a job that entails a lot more than just greeting customers. He provides direction to customers, maintains a clean and tidy storefront by arranging carts and doing light cleaning and makes sure every customer is greeted with a friendly smile. This year, Tuffy also received a very special honor and was selected as the 2010 Employee of the Year by the Business Leadership Network in Rock Springs.

Everyone knows Tuffy, as confirmed by his younger sister, Jackie and Rock Springs program coordinator, Roy Lloyd, who says he is one of the most recognizable faces in Sweetwater County.

Tuffy is very smart and has a lot of interest in sports. He is a huge Chicago Bears fan, but hasn't yet made it to a game. Maybe one of these days he'll be able to fit it into his busy schedule. He is also a big supporter of the local high school teams and when he can't make it to a game, he's sure to tune in on the radio. Tuffy also has a strong interest in politics and keeps up with the political beat. He is registered to vote and makes sure he always makes it to the polls.

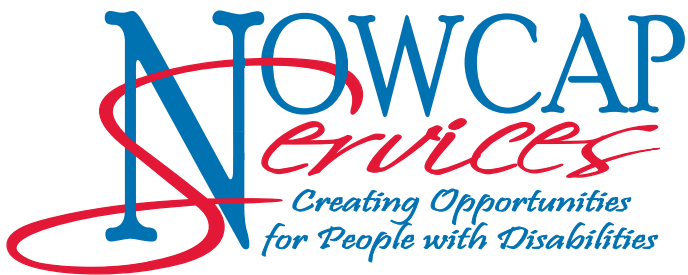
Traveling is another one of Tuffy's interests and he welcomes the opportunity to get out of town. He's even made it to a Los Angeles Rams game and last summer, joined a friend for a trip to Salt Lake City to see a George Strait concert. He has become very responsible with money and saves as much as he can for trips and activities.

Since becoming a participant at NOWCAP Services, Tuffy has become very involved in the Rock Springs and Green River communities. He has volunteered his time to help with the city planter project in downtown Rock Springs and has also donated time to help out with some of the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce and Urban Renewal Agency projects.

Tuffy enjoys spending time with his family; he has a niece and nephew in California and two nieces in Green River. Tuffy is also a member of a local church. He loves to join friends for a drink, going to the movies and participating in community events. We're glad he's a part of the NOWCAP Services family.



TUFFY ARNOLDI



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Staff Recognition - Employee of the Month



Kristi Price
March 2010

Kristi Price works as an Assistant Coordinator for Habilitation Services in Casper. Kristi has instinctive people skills. She is always a joy to be around and has a heart to be of service to others. She is admired by staff and participants alike. Kristi has a strong work ethic and although she keeps busy with her everyday duties, she will take time to listen and can be flexible when something unexpected comes up. Kristi keeps a positive attitude and is rarely seen without a smile. She works hard and the NOWCAP Services team would like to thank her for her efforts. Good job, Kristi!



Candy Burkhardt
April 2010

Candy Burkhardt works at the Oakcrest Apartments in Casper. Candy comes up with solutions that everyone is satisfied with and has done a good job helping to train fellow staff members. It was Candy's idea to create the NOWCAP Services Library. A local bookstore came on board and we now have a library full of both used and new books the participants can check out, many of which have been donated by Candy herself. Candy is dependable, creative and lends to a positive and productive work environment. Thank you, Candy, for your dedicated service!



Chelsea Hancock
May 2010

Chelsea Hancock works overnights in one of the group homes in Casper. Chelsea excels at her job and knows how to be a true team player. She is diligent in making sure information is communicated to staff and coordinators. Chelsea is willing to step outside her comfort zone and work in a new area if a shift needs covered. Chelsea is 100% dedicated to the participants she works with and is very careful in ensuring plans of care are being followed. You will never hear her complain and she comes to work everyday with a smile and a positive attitude. Great work, Chelsea!