

HERITAGE of Care

THE BETHESDA LETTER

BETHESDA HOME...independence, respect, dignity since 1899

More Than Social Work

Bethesda has a very bright future. It also has a couple of bright new faces to welcome you.

Sara Hiebert and Ashley Vogel are the latest additions to the Bethesda family. They both work in the Social Services Department.

Sara grew up in the Goessel area and worked at Bethesda while in High School, so she is a very familiar face to many. She returned to Bethesda in March of 2010.

Ashley has been the Social Services Admissions Coordinator for about three months now. She grew up in El Dorado, and now resides in rural Marion. She feels that Bethesda is a great place because of the caring, family-like atmosphere.

Vogel came to Bethesda after working with kids in a foster care situation. She enjoys working with older folks because of the wisdom they have.

“Getting to know the residents is the best part. I feel like they teach me so much and I enjoy learning from them,” said Vogel.

For Sara and Ashley, Social Services is just the name of their department. While accurate, it hardly explains what these two do on a daily basis.

Taking care of their current and future resident’s needs, getting to know the residents on a personal level and becoming a reliable friend would be a good start in describing what they do.

“Every day is different,” said Hiebert. “We get a lot of variety in our jobs.”

Variety is good, but not on Thursdays. Every Thursday is Care Plan day. That means that the Bethesda team meets with several residents and their families, if they are available, to find out how things are going for that resident and his or her family.

“We love to involve the family in this process so they can be an active participant in the care of their family member,” said Vogel.

The Care Plan meeting includes a Social Worker, Nurse, Dietitian, Restorative Aide, Activities Director and Caregiver. Care Plans are held weekly.

Both Hiebert and Vogel have their L.B.S.W. Degrees and are fully trained, certified and qualified Social Workers. That’s



Sara Hiebert and Ashley Vogel are ready to assist you with anything related to making the transition to Bethesda! While being friendly and approachable, they are also covering all of the details and making it easier on families in the middle of this process.



Hiebert and Vogel work hand in hand to make sure that all of the needs of current and future residents are met.

important, but don’t let their titles fool you. They are very approachable and ready to help any family find the necessary resources to get their family member ready to make the transition to Bethesda.

“Most of the time Sara or Ashley will be the first people you talk with when you inquire about care at Bethesda

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Home,” said Eric Schrag, Director of Marketing, Development and Independent Living. That is a good thing, because they both are so ready to help and really show how caring Bethesda Home is.

When asked what the one thing families should know when thinking about the transition to Bethesda, both Hiebert and Vogel said, “Call us first.”

“We have a step-by-step process that we will walk the family through in the correct order so that all of the requirements are met in advance,” said Ashley.

“The staff at Bethesda is so very reassuring, attentive and positive that you can’t help but feel good about this place,” said Sara. They really go above and beyond to make sure that residents and family members are comfortable with everything that is happening.”

Something else to consider when thinking about elder care, is that Bethesda has re-designed their whole approach to living and caring for residents.

“Bethesda has really opened things up for residents to live life on their terms. The Neighborhood concept has been wonderful in terms of how it has made care and life so much more per-

sonal and meaningful for residents,” said Hiebert. “The caregiver in a neighborhood can really get to know that group of people on a much deeper level than they could before. This really helps everyone involved to know what each resident wants or needs. It has made that process work a lot better.”

When it comes time to make a decision or get more information about retirement homes, Sara and Ashley are ready and eager to answer your questions and make you feel right at home at Bethesda. Call them today to schedule a visit or to request more information. You’ll be glad you did!

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Donors are positive influences in changing the lives of Bethesda residents.

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Congress Passes IRA Charitable Rollovers

Welcome News! The IRA Charitable Rollover passed. On the afternoon of December 17, 2010, the President signed into law The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010. This bill restores the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2010 and permits its use in all of 2011.

If you own an IRA and are over age 70, you may transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to Bethesda Home because we are a qualified charity. You may not have taken your 2010 required IRA distribution and may reduce your income taxes with an IRA charitable rollover. Even if you have taken your required IRA distribution, you still may find the IRA charitable rollover a very convenient way to make a year-end gift. Thanks very much for your support.



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Residents were treated to a Christmas Party on Dec. 23. The party featured Linda Peters reading the Christmas Story as well as music and singing with Charlie Woelk, Rick Woelk, Gayle Voth, Eric Schrag, Galen Miller and Denise Woelk.