

Memo to : Region V Services Governing Board, Advisory Committee,  
all stakeholders

From : Dave Merrill, Executive Director

Date : December 31, 2015

Re : **JANUARY Director's Report**

### **Employment First**

The name of Nebraska's version of the Federal "Achieving Better Life Experiences" act (ABLE) is EnAble. There are links through the Arc of Nebraska website to describe some of what is occurring. This act allows certain people with disabilities and their families to have tax free savings accounts, similar to the college savings plan. First National Bank of Omaha will be the manager of these accounts and they have managed the college savings plans for over 5 years. We are hopeful that this will allow people to save money in a way that helps them gain employment at some point in the future. Don Stenberg, State Treasurer, deserves much credit for his efforts to implement this law quickly and effectively, as well as the legislature and Governor for passing the law.

**The mission of Region V Services is to provide desired education and supports that promote relationships within community and lessen reliance upon agency services.**

As we move forward in 2016, you can expect to see continued emphasis on staff training and we anticipate our new training center will be in operation at the end of 2016. We will continue to support our supervisors with our four tiered program of management training. (Southeast Community College, Best Care EAP, SourceAmerica, and Geery Howe in Iowa). We will continue to utilize Sensory Processing and Social Role Valorization as core elements of our training and decision making.

We will continue our efforts to support individuals in telling their stories through the Symposium, presenting at Advisory Committee, Governing Board meetings, and Southeast Community College.

### **Financial Update**

At the end of October our revenues were \$15,869,270 and our expenses were \$15,860,603, with revenue exceeding expenses by \$8,669. We typically will have a decrease in revenues as people spend time with their families over the holidays, but we are glad for all those family connections and support.

This is a busy time for the fiscal department with 1099s, W2s, the OSHA 300a, and now the 1095c forms as well. On January 4<sup>th</sup>, our new Assistant Fiscal Director, Darla Cabrera, will begin work. Please welcome her as you have the opportunity.

### **Central Office Training Facility**

We now have a signed purchase agreement for the Williamsburg property that was reviewed by our attorney at Cline Williams. We continue to meet with the architects and Hampton construction and expect to be in the building by next Christmas. We look forward to not scrambling to find locations to provide training especially during this season when weather forces us to cancel some training sessions and we need to reschedule.

**Page three is our Human Diversity Statement of Intent**

**Page four is the calendar for January, 2016.**