

Sara Weston

Congratulations to Sara Weston for being selected as one of the six statewide ARRM Cares Award winners! We are so proud to have you on our team. ARRM is an association of more than 200 providers, businesses, and advocates dedicated to leading the advancement of services for people with disabilities in Minnesota.

Sara's inspiring nomination exhibits why she is an award-winning caregiver.

Sara shared her passion for serving others immediately. Her confidence and creativity were exactly what Rachel and her family needed.

Rachel is a fun-loving, sweet lady who suffered a traumatic brain injury several years ago. Due to her accident, Rachel is non-verbal, non-ambulatory, and requires full assistance with her personal cares. Due to her high risk of aspiration, she receives all medications and feedings through a G tube. Rachel needs stretches completed daily to prevent her muscles from getting too tight, and must be repositioned every two hours to prevent skin breakdown. Sara was never intimidated by the level of cares she needed to perform and immersed herself in learning Rachel's routine.

In fact, within her first weeks of working with Rachel, Sara confidently volunteered to take Rachel on a special trip to her sister's wedding in Duluth—four hours away.

Always thinking of Rachel's needs, Sara advocated taking a minivan rather than Rachel's large wheelchair-accessible van. Sara knew



this vehicle would be more comfortable for the long ride to Duluth. Always prepared, Sara brought along a stool for Rachel's feet to rest on in the car, pillows to help prop her up and also a blanket to keep her warm on the ride. Sara was willing to work extra hours before the trip, to ensure Rachel was fully packed and ready for the trip. Due to Rachel's cares, there are many things required to be sent with Rachel on overnight trips. Some items

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include an oral suction machine to prevent aspiration, a suitcase and cooler specifically for her daily medications, a suitcase for her personal care supplies and of course a suitcase for her clothes. Sara ensured the seemingly daunting preparations were not a barrier for Rachel to experience such an important event in her life.

Earlier this spring, Rachel's roommates were attending the CCRI prom. They were getting their dresses, figuring out hairstyles, make-up and dates; all things Rachel simply adored. Unfortunately, Rachel was unable to participate. Sara wanted Rachel to feel part of the prom bliss too, so she planned a fun evening out with Rachel's family. Sara took Rachel to pick out a pink sparkly prom dress,

helped her pick out new make-up and continuously talked to Rachel about the fun she was going to have! On the day of Rachel's special prom, Sara did Rachel's hair and make-up, got her all dolled up in her dress, and took her out for a night on the town.

Sara arranged for Rachel's parents to meet them at the mall where Rachel was all smiles. She blew kisses and waved at everyone she saw. Sara even arranged a ride on the Scheels

Ferris wheel for Rachel and her family. Rachel was on cloud nine the entire night and looked like a princess.

With Sara by her side, Rachel never shies from an adventure. She knows she can leave the packing and planning up to her extraordinary caregiver and just enjoy the ride.



Sara at the award ceremony with Rachel's parents.



TABLESCAPES

The Art of Dining

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Courtyard by Marriott; Moorhead

For ticket information, contact Anna at

ALarson@CreativeCare.org

or 218-331-2036

Celebrate With Us!

2017 marks our 40th year. This is an important milestone for us to recognize on our continuing journey of providing customized support to people with disabilities.

To commemorate this achievement we are showcasing the vast network that CCRI has built over the years.



Thanks for helping to make CCRI such an incredible organization. Each of you is the spark that helps us drive new ideas and opportunities.

We would love to celebrate with you at our 40th Anniversary Celebration 4–7 P.M., August 1, 2017 at Gooseberry Mound Park in Moorhead.

Good Things Come In Threes

What better way to celebrate 40 years than to be named one of the Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota by the Star Tribune!

For the third consecutive year CCRI has received the special recognition of being named a Top 150 Company—a ranking that places us among the best of the best. Top Workplaces recognizes the most progressive companies in Minnesota based on employee opinions measuring engagement, organizational health and satisfaction. The analysis included responses from more than 69,000 employees at Minnesota public, private and nonprofit organizations.



CCRI Executive Director, Shannon Bock, states it best *"Our dedicated and skilled team recognizes the importance of the work we do. Together we strive to ensure people with disabilities have the opportunity to live their best life possible. We are honored."*



CCRI Prom 2017

Like the stars in the sky, the group shines the brightest when they're together.

Thanks to our wonderful community, the Seventh Annual CCRI Prom was certainly a night to remember.

With family and friends seated around them, elegant prom goers enjoyed the grand march, dinner and dance.

Formal wear was donated by members of the community, decorations were recycled from area high schools, the venue was donated by Courtyard by Marriott and volunteers provided head-to-toe makeovers and alterations. CCRI is fortunate and grateful to our community for embracing this wonderful night.

Thanks to our sponsors for making the night magical. Courtyard by Marriott, Davies High School, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton High School, Fargo South High School, Classic Cakes & Catering, Family of Darrel Barth, Carol Olson and Sarah Kalmbach, Stylists and Make Up Artists who gave of their time and talents, Volunteers who served on the planning committee and helped tonight, Camelot Cleaners, Affairs by Brittany, Sharon Grugel and Beth Dykema, Zims Entertainment, Lakes Country Cruisers Car Club, and the Community who donated BINGO prizes, dresses, mens wear, and silk flowers.





Camp HERO, A Summer Tradition

Do you have fond memories of summer camp? For many, memories elicit a lot of firsts—first time away from home, first time in a canoe, first time on a horse, first love.

For most of us, summer camp opportunities are right at our fingertips. Flyers are sent home from school and numerous ads are found online. The hardest thing to do is to narrow your choice down to just one. For people with disabilities, it is much more difficult. Accessibility, specialized nursing care and experienced staffing are a necessity. The cost is also much higher.

This year we need to raise \$27,900 to close the funding gap on Camp HERO. Closing this gap allows us to lower the cost for each participant to just \$175.

CCRI's Camp HERO is a three-day camp where people of all abilities can have fun and enjoy the magic of summer. Campers are offered a wide variety of traditional camp activities in an environment adapted for people's abilities and not limited to their disabilities. We bring our own team members to ensure a safe and pleasurable camping experience. Caregivers have worked with the campers in their home setting which is reassuring to the camper and their family. This familiarity eases fears and allows campers to relax and enjoy their vacation. Our caregivers make the most out of every minute by offering individualized support that ensures a unique experience for each person attending.

To provide such a specialized camp is expensive. This three-day experience costs more than \$700 per person which includes transportation, lodging, staffing and food. For more than 25 years, we have depended on our generous donors to keep the campfire burning.

Please consider joining us in making camp memories that will last a lifetime.



Memorials/Honorariums

Received from January 1, 2017 to June 19, 2017

In Honor of All CCRI Clients & Team Members

Loren & Deb Eken

In Honor of All CCRI Team Members

Loren & Deb Eken

Donna Schneider

In Honor of Jackie Bekkerus

Bill Grommesh

In Honor of Shannon Bock & The Amazing CCRI Team

Kim Pladson

In Honor of Breck Hanson

Shelly Mahowald

In Honor of Ashlin Heng

Boyd Bradbury

In Honor of Shena Holtgrewe

Anonymous

Donald Perius

In Honor of Jody Hudson's Hard Work

Kathy Berry

In Honor of Erica Johnsrud

Amanda Allen

In Honor of Krystal Kjelvik

Tami Bergson

In Honor of Deb Kukowski

Sara Aigner

In Honor of Pat Lenertz

Sue & Marshall Korman

Amy Kracht

In Honor of Nathan Reda

Jeffery Fideler

In Honor of Rachel Schoephoerster

Ben & Anna Meland

In Honor of Reese Stotts

Jessica Kuznia

Rachel & Rick Stotts

In Honor of Wacky Jackie

Amy Wohlhuter

In Honor of Margo Wolf

Carissa Wolf

In Honor of Becky Wolter

Leah Dalton

In Honor of Rebecca Jo

Joyce & David Wolter

In Memory of Darrel Barth

Beth Dykema

Kirstin Grant

In Memory of Marge Brandt

Phil & Jennifer Behrens

In Memory of Ordell Grant

Phil & Jennifer Behrens

John & Shannon Bock

Holli Brager

Beth Dykema

In Memory of Diane Hilde & Bob Jenkins

Dorene Rurup

In Memory of Gladys "Mickie" Jensen

Jason & Renae Bookman

Gordon & Nancy Boucher

Dennis Erickson

George & Marlene Neys

Lori Neys

In Memory of Laura Johnson

Karen Skarpness

In Memory of Shirley Johnson

Paula Wald

In Memory of Howard Olson

Arlene Stock

In Memory of Jessica Rick

Valerie & Charles Rick

In Memory of Randy Smebak & Grace Smebak

Philip & Gwen Sallberg

Jon Smebak

In Memory of Justin Williams

Fred & Jody Hudson

"I am CCRI and I aspire to change the way disabilities are perceived."—Jaden Spooner (L)



While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of donor records, errors occasionally occur.

If your name has been omitted or misspelled, please accept our apologies and contact Jody at 218-331-2024.



Creative Care for
Reaching Independence

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The mission of CCRI is to enhance and enrich the lives and learning of people with disabilities.

The vision of CCRI is to provide an environment where people of all abilities may experience life's possibilities.

RDO Caters Taters

CCRI has been named the 2017 benefiting charity for RDO Caters Taters, happening November 21, 2017.

*We are so excited we are partners!
Stay tuned for more information.*



CCRI team members were treated to these donuts by RDO Caters Taters to let us know we were selected as their 2017 beneficiary.



#RDOCatersTaters



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