



INSPIRE • EMPOWER • CONNECT

Ascend Services, Inc.  
2818 Meadow Lane  
Manitowoc, WI 54220

920-682-4663

July 2024

Summer

## From the Heart...

by Deanna Genske, Executive Director

### Teamwork is the Key to Success!



Every success story begins with the dedication and passion of our remarkable team. Our journey is defined by the milestones we achieve together, and none of these would be possible without the steadfast commitment of our team. Whether on the front lines or working behind the scenes, our team's contributions are invaluable and make a profound impact every day.

One of the greatest strengths of the team at Ascend Services lies in its diversity of talents, backgrounds, and perspectives. It is this richness that fuels innovation, fosters creativity, and ensures that we approach challenges with a range of solutions. Each team member brings something unique to the table, and together, we are stronger and more capable of creating services to meet the needs of each person we serve!

The path we tread is not always smooth, but it is our collective resilience that sets us apart. We prioritize a culture of collaboration and support. Each accomplishment is a testament to our ability to work together as a cohesive team. Let's continue to inspire, empower, and make a positive impact together. Cheers to our incredible team and the bright future we are creating together as we focus on the mission of Ascend Services.

From the Heart,  
Deanna

## Get Ready to Toss Some Bags... Ascend's Toss With All Your Heart Bags & Brews Cornhole Fundraiser is August 10th! Registration is Open!



**Saturday, August 10, 2024**  
**Noon - 4 p.m.**

**SABBATICAL BREWING CO.**  
835 S 29TH ST, MANITOWOC



### It's time to "Toss Some Bags!"

We are excited to announce our Third Annual Toss With All Your Heart Bags & Brew Cornhole Fundraiser. This year the event will be Saturday, August 10th, once again at Sabbatical Brewing.

The event will benefit the people we serve and help Ascend to fulfill our mission which is to promote individual growth through community experiences, education, and employment opportunities.

20 teams (2) people per team will compete in a fun day of Cornhole!

Plenty of fun and games will accompany the main competition with Holla on Wheels Food Truck on site selling delicious food, raffles and plenty of sun!

Ascend Services, Inc. serves over 200 youth and adults with diverse abilities in Northeast Wisconsin. The organization aims to empower these individuals through employment opportunities and development of personal and social skills to build full lives.

**Cost is \$60 to register a team of 2**

**The schedule for the day is:**

**11:30 AM - Registration**

**NOON - Tournament Begins**

**4:00 PM - Finish**

**Scan this code to sign up your team!**



## Exciting Changes to the Day Service Program

We have exciting stuff happening at Ascend Services! We have taken a new approach to our Day Services area to assist with the growing numbers of clients in the program. We now offer three Day Services options. We continually monitor the quality of our services and seek feedback from our stakeholders. One of the areas that we quickly identified needing some improvement, was in our Day Services program.

We continue to serve more individuals in this program, which has caused us to run out of space in the Day Services room. We decided to create an opportunity to better serve our clients by developing a plan and being flexible in our traditional model. We hope by being creative and developing three different service models, we will empower the people we serve (and their guardians) to envision which model would best serve their outcomes! We believe in providing choices for the people we serve, empowering them to live their lives their way! As we are often heard saying at Ascend, "Let's make it the best day ever!"

### Generations - Day Service



Generations is for individuals who may be retired, close to retiring or whose outcomes would best be served in a more traditional setting. Generations will continue to be served in the current Day Services Room. We have a full kitchen set up in this room for healthy cooking and some daily living skills training. Full and half day openings!

### Explore - DayService



Explore is for individuals who may not wish to work, or who want a blend between work and social activities. Explore is a blend of community and facility-based services. They receive services in a variety of settings and will spend 50-60% of their day in the community. Ascend added a full kitchen to provide healthy cooking and daily living skills to this group. Typically serve six individuals to one staff person. Full and half day openings!

### LINKED - Day Service



LINKED is for individuals whose outcomes would best be met by receiving 100% of their services through community-based activities and volunteering experiences. Typically serve 4 individuals to one staff person. Full day and half day openings!

## Youth Summer Program is in Full Swing and Full of Adventure

Our summer youth program is off to a great start. Our clients have been participating in themed activities that have kept them busy.

The first week of services, they participated in team building games, hosted a lemonade stand, and went frisbee golfing. The second week, they were epic explorers in our community, going on cave tours, building their own birdhouses, and making rockets. All Star Sports week, was next, our clients athletic talents shined through. They went footgolfing, and played basketball, learned how to build forts, and demonstrated yoga

positions. Party in the USA with Community Heros, was the next week where clients learned about Manitowoc's hometown heroes including police officers, firefighters and jail representatives. Our halfway through the summer week, clients took field trips to learn about cooking. Pizza Garden hosted an event, where they toured their kitchen and made personal pizzas. Clients also made their own recipe books and enjoyed an ice cream treat at Pine River Dairy. Our youth continue to bring smiling faces, bright and positive personalities, and joy to our services.



## Ascend's Mobile Work Crews Help to Fill Employment Gaps



- Screening & skill matching of potential work crew candidates done by Ascend Services, Inc.
- On-the-job training support provided by Ascend reducing time and costs to the company
- Assistance as needed with recommendations for job site modifications
- Ongoing follow-up with work site to ensure success of all crew members
- Transportation provided by Ascend
- Typical work hours between 9:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.

### Mobile Work Crew Capabilities

Assembly  
Janitorial  
Packaging  
Re-work  
Inspections  
Labeling  
Manufacturing  
and more...



Ascend Services' Mobile Work Crews are designed to provide community based work opportunities for small groups of participants along with crew leaders at your location. Ascend will provide support and training to participants in the area of both the actual work and the culture of the company.



## 3rd Annual Swing Fore Ascend Golf Outing Sun & Fun!



June 24th was the date of our Third Annual Golf Outing at The Golf Course at Branch River and we could not have asked for a more beautiful day or a better group of golfers! This year there were featured hole sponsors with games, a beat the pro contest and hole in one contest.

When golfers returned to the clubhouse there were plenty of raffle baskets to enter to win and a few silent auction big ticket items, including a golf trip. The evening ended with taco bar dinner and raffle pulling and lots of smiles all around! We can't wait for next year!

**Save the date - June 23, 2025 at Autumn Ridge Golf Course.**



## Employer Recognition Reception

**Thursday October 17, 2024**

More information to follow.

A reception to thank Manitowoc County businesses for their partnership with Ascend Services Workforce Solutions Programs.