

# IR2 News 4 You



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Supported Employment News	2
Wind City Striders	2
Disability 5k run/walk	2
IBA usage and utilization	3
Attitude of Gratitude Corner	3
Guardianship Information	4
I-REACH Trips and Outings	6



**To benefit I-REACH 2**  
**Friday, November 9, 2012**  
**6:00 pm**

**Casper Petroleum Club**  
**Admission \$25.00**

Hors d'oeuvres ~ Beverages ~ Cash Bar

### FEATURING ART WORK BY

**CAROL SWINNEY, VIVI CRANDALL, GINNY BUTCHER AND  
OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS**  
**Silent Auction and Live Auction with Dan Sullivan**  
**Great Packages, Trips, Door Prizes.**

### Tickets available at following locations:

**Cadillac Cowgirl Bank of the West Lou Taubert I-REACH 2**  
**Hilltop National Bank , Wells Fargo Bank**  
**Jonah Bank Felgoodies in the Dick Cheney Federal Building**

### *Sponsored by:*

**Harry T. Thorsen Foundation Hilltop National Bank**  
**Wold Foundation Lincoln Financial Homax Jonah Bank**  
**The Greiner Motor Companies of Casper and Douglas**  
**Bustards Wyoming Machinery Dick and Jackie Padgett**  
**Ned Hodder Susie and Diemer True Wells Fargo Bank**  
**Gail Zimmermam Lisa Burrige and Associates Real Estate**

For information please call 265-8086 or [www.ireach2.org](http://www.ireach2.org)

## Upcoming Events

- Oct 13—Disability Awareness 5k
- October 23—Employer Appreciation Breakfast
- Nov 9<sup>th</sup>—I-Reach for Art fundraiser
- Nov 16<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Feast
- Nov 19<sup>th</sup>--Parent Advisory and Advocacy Group Meeting 5:30

## Supported Employment News

Katie Romine, Supported Employment Coordinator



Mike and Mai working at Farnhams

Did you know that October is recognized as National Disability Employment Awareness Month? Further, did you know that unemployment rates for Individuals with a disability are often as high as 70%?

I-REACH 2 is planning an Employer Appreciation breakfast on October 23. This event is tentatively scheduled to be held in the Serve Wyoming conference room above Eggingtons from 7:30-9:00am. This Breakfast is being supported by Wyoming Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities and we can't

thank them enough! We hope to see all of our current business partners and future business partners on October 23<sup>rd</sup>!

We are very proud of the support of our local employers who continue to provide paid employment opportunities as well as volunteer employment opportunities for our program participants.

This newsletter's featured employer is the Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies.(WFBR) They have provided Chris K. the opportunity to work in a

volunteer position 12 hours per week.

During a recent site visit the WFBR staff commented on how much they appreciate all of Chris' hard work unloading pallets, stocking and organizing the dry goods and for his attention to detail regarding their health and safety procedures.

Thank you Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies!

## Wind City Striders

Jaime Bordeaux, Service Coordinator

I-REACH 2 INC. has partnered with Windy City Striders to host the first annual I-REACH 2 Inc. Disability Employment Awareness Month 5K Fun Run/Walk. Join us on Saturday October 13, 2012 @ 9am at the Mike Lansing Field/Crossroads shelter for a fun run/walk along the Platte River. The entry fee is \$25. All proceeds benefit I-REACH2 Inc.'s employment program. You can find registrations forms on our website [www.ireach2.org](http://www.ireach2.org) . You

may download your registration form and mail it to PO Box 1060, Evansville, WY 82636. Please make checks payable to I-REACH 2 INC. Pre-registration packets will be available October 12, 2012 at the I-REACH2 Inc. main building located at 1649 East E Street 3pm-6pm. Event day registration will open at 8am at the Crossroads Park Shelter behind Castle Park. If you have questions please contact Jaime Bordeaux

at [psd@ireach2.org](mailto:psd@ireach2.org) or 307.265.8086.

Molly working at K-Mart



## IBA Usage and Utilization

Jaime Bordeaux, Service Coordinator

Upon being approved by the Behavioral Health Division to receive services from the Home & Community Based Waiver each individual is assigned an Individual Budgeted Amount (IBA). The IBA is the total dollar amount an individual is allocated to spend on services, such as supported living, companion, day-habilitation, supported employment, respite and residential habilitation. Both Adult Waiver and ABI Waiver IBA's are based upon the median historical cost for like individuals based upon the service score taken from the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP) assessment.

It is unlikely that an individual's IBA will change throughout the course of their service however if additional services and money are needed, there is a process to address these needs. An individual must experience significant changes in service and support needs in order for additional services to be added to an existing IBA. A few examples of these changes are:

- Onset of critical medical or mental health condition
- A transition occurred beyond the individual's control resulting in a reduction or loss of non-waiver supports and services in the last year
- A significant change occurred in the individual's functional abilities, verifiable through the ICAP it another approved assessment
- Additional units are needed to assure a participant's health and safety

The Behavioral Health Division requires supporting evidence of the change in condition or need in order to review the request. All requests are not approved.

An IBA is based upon historical annual plan units and usage. For this reason we encourage all families to use all of the units they are allocated for services. Past usage will dictate future allocation. For example, if a team requests 260 day-habilitation units, and the individual uses 180 for the plan year, it is likely the money for the 80 unused units will not be allocated in the future plan year. Additionally an individual must be in service anywhere from 15 minutes to 8 hours minimum in order for a provider to bill for the service. Providers cannot bill for days an individual does not receive service. Lastly an individual can be removed from the Home & Community Based Waiver if they did not chose to receive services in a 3 month time period.

In a time where Medicaid is under great scrutiny and the Home & Community Based Waiver is likely to receive additional cuts in funding, it is important to understand how the IBA is determined. More importantly it is critical to use the services to the fullest.

## ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE CORNER.....

### Employee Anniversaries July, August, September

Sandy Alexander	1 yr.
Rob Arrowood	3 yrs
Kalynn Averett	1 yr
Jacob Barr	2 yr
Dale Ford	1 yr
Jackie Ford	1 yr
Alaura Garriott	6 yrs
Janet Jensen	1 yr
Barb Maluchnik	1 yr
Ron Rufenacht	6 yrs.
Kristen Smith	1 yr

### Amazing ParticipantVolunteers!

**Chris K**—Food Bank.  
**Liz L**—NC Public Library  
**Zach H**—Science Zone

### Amazing Donors

#### I Reach for Art Sponsors

Harry T. Thorsen Foundation  
Hilltop National Bank  
Wold Foundation  
Lincoln Financial  
Homax  
The Greiner Motor Companies of Casper and Douglas  
Bustards  
Wyoming Machinery  
Dick and Jackie Padgett  
Ned Hodder  
Susie and Diemer True  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Gail Zimmermam  
Lisa Burr ridge and Associates  
Thank you to ITC Electric for your donation of  
processed Pork delivered to our group homes on  
9/14/12

## Guardianship Information

Carmen Dolen, I-REACH 2 Board Member

Parents and guardians of special needs adults in Wyoming must adhere to the Wyoming Statutes regarding petition for and the determination of legal guardianship. Once determined and appointed, Guardians must provide a written report twice a year to the court which states the well-being of the ward.

For a fee, an attorney will assist in the process for petition determination of guardianship. Costs will vary, and if financially eligible, fees may be less. See list of resources below.

A guardian is not required to provide for a ward out of his or her own funds, nor is he or she required to provide actual custody of the ward. In addition, a guardian is not liable for a ward's behavior.

### What are a Guardian's Duties and Responsibilities?

The general duties of a guardian are: to determine where the ward should live; **Guardianship**

Guardianship is one of the least understood forms of assistance for adults. It can be a valuable means of protection for a severely at risk individual.

### What is a Guardian?

A guardian is a person or persons, 21 years old or older, appointed by a court to assist with the personal affairs of a minor or an adult who is incapacitated. A person under a guardianship is called a ward.

Incapacity is a legal definition, not a medical one. Guardianships are based on the decisional capacity of the person without regard to the diagnostic reason. Courts may require evidence of cause and effect, but bottom line it is the effect, the decisional capacity that is the focal point.

- Guardians have the awesome responsibility of substituting their judgment for that of another individual. Much work and debate has, and continues to take place over the procedural protections to be provided for the individual prior to the imposing of a guardianship, but not nearly enough work has been done to guide the activities and decisions making process of the individual appointed guardian.
- Guardianship is best described as a quasi-social, quasi-legal animal. Guardianship is a mostly legal concept that most often carried out professionally in a social services context which surrounds the ward's ability to make and communicate decisions about their person or estate.

### Who is an Incapacitated Adult?

An individual, 18 years of age or older, who lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make or communicate responsible decisions concerning his or her person. Such incapacity may result from mental illness, mental retardation, physical illness or disability, or chronic use of drugs and/or alcohol, brain injury or other causes.

### Is a Guardian Financially Responsible for the Ward?

- to arrange for necessary care, treatment or other services for the ward;
- to see that the basic daily personal needs of the ward are met, including food, clothing and shelter; and
- financial management for a ward with limited assets.

A guardian has the responsibility to assure that the ward maintains the greatest degree of independence and self-esteem possible.

The Court requires that a guardian submit semi-annual reports to the court regarding the status of the guardianship and the condition of the ward.

## **WYOMING STATUTES**

### ARTICLE 1 - APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN

3-2-101. Petition for appointment of guardian.

(a) Any person may file with the clerk a petition for the appointment of a guardian. The petition shall state:

- (i) The name, age and address of the proposed ward;
  - (ii) The status of the proposed ward as a minor, an incompetent person or a mentally incompetent person and the reasons for the petition;
  - (iii) The name and address of the proposed guardian, and his qualification as a fit and proper person to serve as guardian;
  - (iv) The residence of the proposed ward in the county or his presence in the county;
  - (v) The facts to show that the best interest of the proposed ward requires the appointment of a guardian in this state;
  - (vi) The name and address of the person or facility having the care, custody or control of the proposed ward; and
  - (vii) The interests of the petitioner.
- (b) The district court may transfer jurisdiction of a petition for appointment of a guardian to the juvenile court if the proposed ward is a child who is under the prior and continuing jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

### **Resources:**

#### **Wyoming Guardianship Program**

Emily Smith, CSW, NCG  
P.O. Box 2778  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
Office: 307-635-8422  
[guardian.ombuds@gmail.com](mailto:guardian.ombuds@gmail.com)

#### **Wyoming Statutes**

<http://statutes.laws.com/wyoming/Title3/chapter2>

**Mary Kubichek**  
Paralegal Instructor  
Casper College  
125 College Drive  
Casper, WY 82601  
307-268-2618  
[Kubichek@caspercollege.edu](mailto:Kubichek@caspercollege.edu)

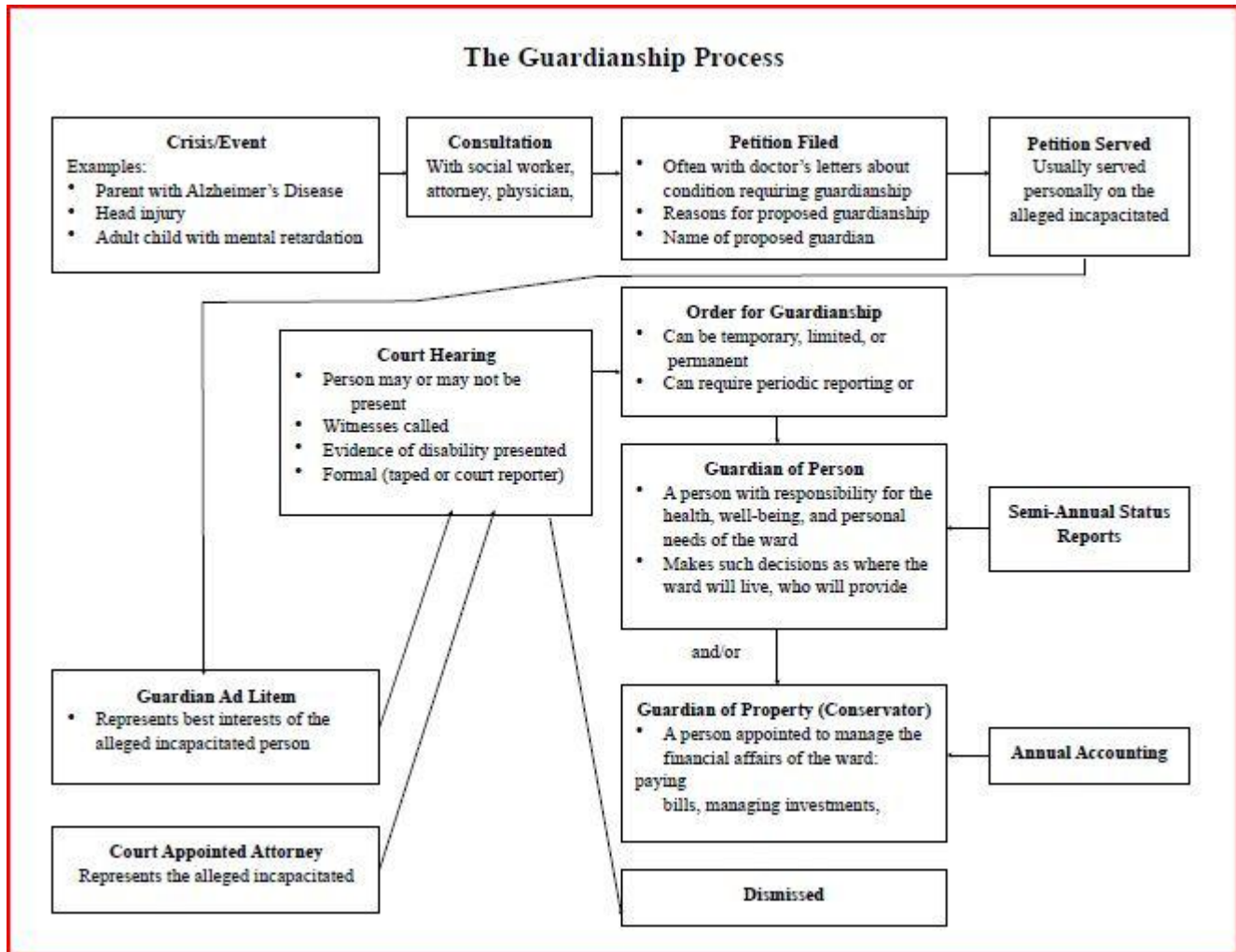
#### **Ann Rochelle**

Rochelle Law Offices PC  
152 N Durbin Street #120  
Casper, WY 82601  
307-266-5000  
[rochellelawoffices.com](http://rochellelawoffices.com)

#### **Wyoming Kinship Advocacy**

PO Box 1504  
3001 Henderson, Suite H  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
307.632.1591 (w)  
307.632.6197 (h)  
[wyka.org](http://wyka.org)





As several of you are aware, one of our day habilitation groups recently went on a trip to Denver. This trip was the culminating activity of a long study on ocean life and habitats and the main event of this trip was a visit to the Aquarium. The participants and staff had a great time!

We are mindful that many of you have expressed concerns that I-REACH has not taken as many trips recently as we have in the past and I want to assure you that we do intend to make trips available for our participants.

However, these trips will be in significantly smaller groups than in previous years to allow for greater staff supervision and more meaningful experiences for the participants. We have directed our staff in the residential and day-habilitation programs to explore options for various trips so all participants have the opportunity to participate if their individual budgets allow it.

Please call me should you have any further questions or concerns.

~Tina Conley~