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Julie Basma, Executive Director
Katelyn Boulton, Employment Specialist
Eric Brown, Education & Advocacy Coordinator
Anne Consentino, Office Assistant/Information & Referral Specialist
Dana Crane, VR Coordinator
Brooke Daffron, Development Associate
Alice Daniels, Curriculum Services Manager
Dawn Davis, TBI Case Manager
Heather Foukler, Quality Assurance Manager
Autumn Gabriel, Project SEARCH Employment Specialist
Abby Greenfield, Transition Specialist
Jane Hendrickson, Transition Coordinator
Dave Honnuth, Senior Accountant
Megan Howard, Youth Services Specialist
Ron Jackson, Employment Specialist
Stephanie Jacobs, Office Assistant/Information & Referral Specialist
Michele Johnson, Youth Education Advocate
Macy Kellenberger, Project SEARCH Coordinator
Star Kroyman, Independent Living Advocate
Autumn Kubatke, Stephenson County Manager
Katie Lee, Boone & DeKalb County Manager
Amber MacKin, Independent Living
Amber Maurer, Office Assistant/Information & Referral Specialist
Robin Meyer, Executive Office Assistant
Amy Moore, Development Director
Elizabeth Moshure, Office Assistant/Information & Referral Specialist
Jana Mueller, Fast Track Specialist/Independent Living Advocate
Jeremy Munson, Employment Services Manager
Renée Noordhoff, Winnebago County Manager
Victoria Novorolsky, Project SEARCH Employment Specialist
DeAnna Robbins, Fast Track Coordinator
Brett Santiago, Project SEARCH Employment Specialist
Taylor Sarver, Project SEARCH Employment Specialist
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Mark Spain, Human Resources Generalist
Jackie Sundquist, Services Director
Justine Whitehouse, Development Associate
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202 Market Street
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www.RAMPcil.org
**What is RAMP?**

RAMP’s mission is to build an inclusive community that encourages individuals with disabilities to reach their full potential. RAMP takes a creative approach to find resources and opportunities available to team up with individuals with disabilities to access the community where we live, work, and play. We have this knowledge because the majority of our staff and board of directors have disabilities. RAMP staff meets those we serve where they’re at and together as a team we take them where they want to go.

**INDIVIDUALS SERVED**

RAMP assists people of any age with any disabilities (cognitive, social/emotional, physical and/or sensory impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities), facing a barrier to control and direct their own lives and goals.

**INDIVIDUAL SERVICES**

- Information & Referral
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Individual & Systemic Advocacy
- Peer Support/Peer Mentoring
- Community Reintegration – assisting individuals from moving out of institutions back into the community
- Bus Training
- Employment/Job Placement
- Pre-Employment Transition Services for Youth
- Personal Assistant Referral
- Youth Education & Advocacy

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

- Disability Awareness/Sensitivity Training
- Technical Assistance
- Accessibility Assessments
- Curriculums - for grades pre-school through high school covering topics related to disabilities and every day life beyond school.

**Community Reintegration Program**

The purpose of the Community Reintegration Program (CRP) is to transition individuals from an institution back into the community with home based supports. CRP is funded by the State of Illinois.

| Number of RAMP consumers reintegrated into the community in the past year. | 15 |

Yolanda, a Community Reintegration consumer, is excited to be reintegrated into her daughter’s home with her grandchildren. She is happy to be back in the community and active again in her church.

**Traumatic Brain Injury Program**

The Traumatic Brain Injury Program is funded by the State of Illinois with the purpose of providing intensive case management to consumers who have a TBI to ensure they are able to remain living independently in the home versus an institution.

| Number of RAMP consumers receiving Traumatic Brain Injury case management in the past year. | 61 |

On average, the amount RAMP saves the State of Illinois per case managed individual every 12 months:

| $32,213 |

Bill Haynes, RAMP Board Member and former Traumatic Brain Injury consumer, teaches the iBelong curriculum to a classroom.
Youth Education & Advocacy

Project SEARCH is a unique, business led school-to-work program that takes place entirely at a healthcare, government or business. Selected students work in three internships over the course of the year in combination with classroom instruction, goal setting, career exploration, and hands-on training through worksite rotations. Each student works with a team that include their family, an instructor, a department mentor, rehabilitation counselor and skills trainers to create their employment goal and to support the student during their transition from school to work.

Benefits of Project SEARCH to the Host Business

- Access to a new, diverse talent stream with skills that match labor needs
- Gain interns/employees with disabilities who serve as a role model for customers
- Access to a demographic of the economy with intense buying power: people with disabilities represent one of the fastest growing market segments in the United States
- Experience increased regional and national recognition through marketing of this unique program
- Increased performance and retention in high-turnover, entry-level positions

RAMP now has two Project SEARCH locations, one in Rockford at Mercyhealth and one in DeKalb at Northwestern Medicine.

Second graduating Project SEARCH class at the Mercyhealth location.

1/12 2018 graduates are working as of May 2019:
92% Of those working are earning minimum wage or higher.
100% Of those working are earning minimum wage or higher.

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Parent Training Series Workshops

88% of parents surveyed stated a better understanding of the special education process, law, and their rights.
242 Number of youth served.

Number of youth served.
242

Everyone has the right to achieve their full potential and this starts with a solid education. RAMP works with students and their families to learn the laws that protect the rights of a student with a disability, how to navigate the maze of community services, and to learn the skills required to achieve their goals.

Services Include:
- Educational rights training
- Self-Advocacy skills training
- Transition planning guidance
- Assistant with letter writing (to request services)
- Attendance at IEP, 504 or other related school meetings

What parents are saying:
“5/5 stars! This was such a great class. Tessa was knowledgeable and compassionate. Offered ideas and resources. I wish I could go back in time so I could have learned this earlier in our journey.”

Check out the online schedule for dates, times and locations. Workshops begin soon!
https://tinyurl.com/parenttrainings

The workshops are great for you if:
- You are struggling with getting the educational services your child needs to succeed.
- You would like to be equipped with the knowledge and resources that will help you, to help your child.

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First interns at the Northwestern Medicine Project SEARCH location.

Former youth consumer, Landon pictured with his mother, after graduating from college Suma Cum Laude. His mother stated, “If it had not been for RAMP I’m not sure what we would have done.”

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Employment Ignite

Fast Track, RAMP’s newest training program lays a foundation for youth ages 14-21 with disabilities to reach their full potential by encouraging enrollment in college, preparing for employment or career opportunities, and preparing for independent living. These services can be provided in a group setting or via individual instruction. The goal is to leave students with the tools needed for a successful transition to further their education and/or employment desires.

67%
Of youth served stated their desired career and/or education path.

89%
Of students increased knowledge of post-secondary education/training opportunities.

89%
Of students plan to attend or already attended their most recent IEP or transition.

70%
Of students increased comfort in discussing disability related issues or their own experiences.

62
Number of Employment consumers that received a job in the last year.

RAMP’s Employment Services mission is to assist individuals with disabilities in identifying their own vocational goals while helping them to obtain the necessary tools to turn those goals into a reality. By reaching those vocational goals they will increase their independence, move towards self-sufficiency and a better quality of life.

BENEFITS OF HIRING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

- Receive federal tax credits such as the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, the Disabled Access Credit, or the Barrier Removal Tax Deduction.
- Minimal turnover rate, only 8% among individuals with disabilities - the average cost of turnover is 21% of annual salary.
- 87% of all U.S. adults spend money at businesses that hire individuals with disabilities.
- Insurance rates are not impacted by hiring an individual with a disability.

50%
Number of Employment consumers surveyed after one year that reduced dependence on government assistance.

Employment Services consumer, Walter Steward, applying for jobs with RAMP’s guidance.

25
Average hours worked per week.

$10.82
Average hourly pay rate.

25
Average number of applications.

Employment Services consumer, Walter Steward.

4
Average number of interviews.

26%
Of youth obtained a job as a result of Fast Track.

Curriculums

TNT
High school students gain skills in order to prepare students to live independently, obtain employment, and choose post-secondary education and training goals.

IGNITE
Middle school students learn how to become active participants in their Individualized Education Plan.

IBelong
A disability awareness curriculum that focuses on acceptance, believing in oneself, and how actions and attitudes affect others.

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