

OCCK inc.

# Spotlight

## InMyHome, OCCK, Inc ACHIEVES ACCREDITATION WITH ACHC

**InMyHome, OCCK, Inc** proudly announces its approval of accreditation status by Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy and Home Health Aid effective 12/12/2017.



Accreditation requires healthcare organizations to demonstrate compliance with specific quality and process standards. By choosing a provider that has achieved accreditation, you can take comfort in knowing that you will receive the highest quality of care using best practices.

OCCK, Inc. has been serving people with short and long term disabilities for 47 years. Our not-for-profit organization offers an array of services to communities throughout North Central Kansas. The newest division to OCCK is our home health/home care agencies. InMyHome home health is proud to announce recent accreditation by ACHC which will guide us by a tradition of personal, clinical and technological

excellence. We believe that serving people of all ages in the home setting is the most important activity of the organization. Our skilled nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, medical social workers, and home health aides will strive to provide the highest quality of care with respect and compassion for each person. We will recognize the unique physical, emotional and spiritual needs of each individual.

Achieving accreditation is a process where healthcare organizations demonstrate compliance with national standards. Accreditation by ACHC reflects an organization's dedication and commitment to meeting standards that facilitate a higher level of performance and care.

ACHC is a not-for-profit organization that has stood as a symbol of quality and excellence since 1986.



For more information, please contact us at [inmyhome@occk.com](mailto:inmyhome@occk.com) or 785-823-2025.

# The Benefits of Rural Public Transportation in Kansas

Rural public transportation in north central Kansas is indispensable. It fosters self-sustainability, promotes independence, and permits spending on other household essentials. Access to affordable transportation for low-income workers and families, elderly rural residents, and people with disabilities makes the trip to work, school, medical appointments, social services or even shopping and social events possible.

There are key benefits to improving rural and urban transit. One benefit of improving public transportation is that it preserves small urban and rural communities and sustains their character. By increasing the local customer base for services, such as medical facilities, shopping malls, and local educational facilities, rural transportation can enhance economic growth. Second, transit can improve economic efficiency. For example, when a transit system allows an unemployed individual to find and keep a job, this can save the Government significant costs by reducing payments for

such programs as unemployment compensation, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and/or Medicaid. And, when an elderly rural resident who is unable to drive uses transit to obtain health services, this promotes preventive health care for rural seniors, thereby keeping down overall health care costs.



Furthermore, transit can reduce social and economic inequalities by enhancing mobility for rural residents who may lack cars and need assistance in finding jobs outside their primary resident area. Such jobs serve as an important source of income for those that otherwise face limited employment opportunities. Finally, public transportation lowers household expenses by freeing up income for other uses. A large portion of a

household budget may go to owning, maintaining and operating vehicles that may sit idle for 95% of the time each day. Private transportation costs continue to rise. If reliable transit options were made available to more nonurban areas, it would allow more low-income households to distribute more funds to other essential expenses.

Rural transit will continue to connect workers with their jobs which supports the economic development of small communities, thus allowing rural America to maintain its character. Rural transit will help the elderly access human services such as health care and help to reduce other medical costs. Finally, rural transit can connect tourists to scenic destinations, thus contributing to the health of a local economy.

For more information about the public transportation options in north central Kansas, go to [www.ksrides.org](http://www.ksrides.org) or contact Michelle Griffin, Mobility Manager, at (785) 826-1583 or [mgriffin@occk.com](mailto:mgriffin@occk.com).

## Workforce Solutions: Another Job Obtained

Gary Watson recently became employed at a law office in Salina as a file clerk. Prior to being employed, Gary was staying at the Salina Rescue Mission. With the Mission's help, Gary was able to get connected to services and find an apartment through one of the Veteran Administration's



homeless programs. After getting his apartment, Gary went through Vocational Rehabilitation and was referred to Workforce Solutions. Workforce Solutions helped Gary in his search for employment through job preparation activities such as creating a resume and preparing for interviews. Gary enjoys his job and is now taking on additional responsibilities at his place of employment. Gary obtained his associate's degree in business and accounting from Cloud County Community College in May of 2016. Congratulations Gary on all of your accomplishments!

## Day at the Capitol

On March 14, 2017 OCCK joined many of their fellow Interhab members for Day at the Capitol. We would like to thank the following legislators who took time out of their busy schedule to meet with us. Representative Dierks, Representative Aurand, Representative Johnson, Representative Barker, Senator Hardy, Senator Bowers, and Senator Wilborn. We truly appreciate their support and willingness to listen to our concerns.

Shelia Nelson-Stout, *President/CEO*  
Jan Pfannenstiel, *Editor*

A community partner  
strengthening the quality of life  
and independence of persons  
with disabilities since 1970

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# Know Your Rights

People have the right to be free from Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation (ANE).

**Abuse Means:** Putting a person at serious risk of harm either through

- VERBAL ABUSE: the use of words (spoken, written or signed) by one person toward another to demand, swear, intimidate, harass, cause emotional pain, or threaten harm.
- PHYSICAL ABUSE: causing intentional physical harm to the person.

**Neglect Means:** Through negligence causing severe harm to a person.

In other words, it is the failure to provide care and services for someone who needs assistance in caring for him or herself.

- Medical Neglect: Not being able to get to see a doctor when necessary or not getting your medication when needed.
- Personal Neglect: Not getting the proper amount of Hygiene, Nutrition, or social Interaction with others.
- Lack of Needed Supervision: Being left alone for long periods of time where a person's physical safety is jeopardized.

## Retirement Program Assists Meals on Wheels Program

Several of the individuals who participate in the Retirement Program wanted to do some volunteer work. The group decided to help the Commission on Aging Meals on Wheels Program deliver

**Exploitation Means:** Using a person for financial, sexual or other personal gain.

- Some Examples: If someone asks you to wash their car or do their yard work, but doesn't offer to pay you a fair wage.
- Staff asks to borrow some of your money.
- Staff write down their regular hours even if they are very late to work, or credit themselves hours they didn't work.
- Borrowing your personal property without permission.
- Eating your food without permission.

**If you suspect you or someone you know is being Abused, Neglected or Exploited, please report it to**

- Kansas Protection Report Center at 1-800-922-5330. Every call is taken seriously. The lines are staffed 24 hours a day, and all calls are confidential.
- In the event of an emergency contact your local law enforcement or call 911.

**Excerpts from the Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas, Rights and Responsibilities, Know your Rights.**

## Assistive Technology Device Assists with Reading



Kiescha Gormley called the Solution Outreach Center with questions about assistive technology available to assist her with her vision loss. She lost her vision at the age of 43 as a result of choroiditis. She had a very hard time dealing with the loss of her vision and went to the School for the Blind in Topeka in 1998. Kiescha had also taken Braille which proved to be very hard for her as her fingers just would not feel Braille, so she used tape recorders and could use a type-writer but that's all she knew about at this time.

Kiescha had tried some other devices and heard about a device called Sara CE that scans pages and reads the text aloud. With the help of Nancy Stork, an Assistive Technology Specialist with the Solution Outreach Center, Kiescha was able to try the Sara CE. With the help of two other organizations, Kiescha was able to buy one and since that time it is just been a dream! Kiescha said "I feel kind of sighted again because I can read on my own now and don't have to depend on other people to read my mail and can keep things private". Kiescha said "It's just so nice to be able to have a machine that reads for me and makes me feel like I can take care of things and to a certain extent I don't feel lost like I was since I acquired Sara CE, I feel so much more independent than I have in years, it's really made a big difference in my life!"

meals. Mark Redeker assists with driving to make the deliveries. The people have really enjoyed visiting with patrons of the Meals on Wheels program and enjoy giving back to the community.



Ron Calhoun, Phillip Estok, and Bobby Aills help deliver meals

# Celebrating our Employees!

OCCK, Inc. recognizes that hardworking, dedicated staff are a key to the high quality of services provided to customers throughout North Central Kansas. The Annual Employee Service Banquet was held at the Salina Country Club on March 28th. This year 41 employees with 3 to 40 years of service received awards. The employees who were recognized were:



## 3 Years

Debra Beals, Residential, Beloit  
Amanda Bentley, Residential, Salina\*  
Paula Downie, Transportation, Salina  
David Fischer, Transportation, Salina  
Lexie Gilbert, Residential, Concordia  
Tammy Griffith, Human Resources, Salina  
Staci Lackey, Residential, Beloit\*  
Brandy Larson, Residential, Salina  
Rick Levin, Transportation, Salina  
Nancy Martin, Residential, Beloit  
Cynthia Ortman, Residential, Beloit  
Amanda Talkington, Residential, Concordia\*

Back Row: Deb Beals, Rick Levin, David Fischer, Brandy Larson, Tammy Griffith.

Front Row: Paula Downie, Cynthia Ortman, Lexie Gilbert, Nancy Martin.

## 5 Years

Nancy Bolden, Solution Outreach Center, Salina  
Jenny Cook, Residential, Abilene  
Crystal Cosand, Residential, Beloit\*  
Janae Cramer, Administration, Salina  
Robert Ducharme, Transportation, Salina  
Cassie Ramon, Solution Outreach Center, Salina  
Cilby Rogers, Employment, Concordia  
Phoebe Rortina, Employment, Salina\*  
Traci Stigge, Human Resources, Salina  
Tammy Wessling, Residential, Beloit



Back Row: Robert Ducharme, Nancy Bolden, Tammy Wessling, Janae Cramer, Traci Stigge.

Front Row: Cassie Ramon, Jenny Cook, and C.L. Rogers.



Larry Holmgren and Linda Wenger.

## 10 Years

Brianne Beck, Residential, Beloit\*  
Liana Dickey, Residential, Salina\*  
Larry Holmgren, Transportation, Salina  
Felicia Johnson, Residential, Concordia\*  
Sue McMahan, Transportation, Salina\*  
Linda Wenger, Administration, Salina



## 15 Years

Dobb Morton, Maintenance, Salina\*  
Myrna Martinez, Financial Management Services, Salina  
Karen Pearson, Residential, Beloit  
Mary Peter, Solution Outreach Center, Salina

Karen Pearson, Myrna Martinez, and Mary Peter.

## 20 Years

Callie Bader, Personal Supports, Beloit  
Deb Dragoo, Transportation, Salina  
Deanna Lamer, Human Resources, Salina  
Karen Scott, Personal Supports, Salina  
Jacque Skieff, Administration, Salina\*



Deb Dragoo, Karen Scott, Callie Bader, and Deanna Lamer.



## 25 Years

Nancy Bowden, Personal Supports, Salina  
Shelia Markley, Employment, Salina\*

Nancy Bowden.

## 30 years

Mike Gallagher, Employment, Concordia  
Mark Redeker, Employment, Salina



Mike Gallagher and Mark Redeker.

## 35 years

Shelia Nelson-Stout, Administration, Salina

## 40 years

Barb Wise, Administration, Beloit

\*Not pictured



Barb Wise and Shelia Nelson-Stout.

# Transportation and CityGo Host Give & Go Event

OCCK Transportation and Salina CityGo held the first 2016 Holiday Give & Go charitable campaign on December 14, 2016.

The 2016 Holiday Give & Go campaign is a community fundraiser. All monetary fares received by OCCK general public transportation and on the Salina CityGo buses on December 14, 2016 were donated to a local charity. This year's charity was Catholic Charities. "We are continually looking for ways to give back to the community," said Michelle Griffin, Mobility Manager for OCCK. "The 2016 Holiday Give & Go program allowed us a great way of doing just that. We look forward to making this an annual event."

OCCK Transportation and Salina Citygo are also on social media and can be followed on Facebook (@occktransportation and @salinacitygo) and Twitter (@occktransit and @salinacitygo).



Yvonne McNeal, Debbie Atkinson, Michelle Martin, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, and Michelle Griffin.

## Dillons Offers Community Rewards Program to benefit Non-Profit Agencies

Help OCCK earn \$\$\$ by enrolling your Dillons Shopping Card at [www.dillons.com/communityrewards](http://www.dillons.com/communityrewards)

Dillons has a new community rewards program that can allow OCCK to earn up to \$30,000 per quarter based on your purchases. The great news is that you are still earning rewards too. Here are the steps on how you can help.

To create an online account at Dillons website:

1. Visit website at [www.dillons.com/communityrewards](http://www.dillons.com/communityrewards)
2. Click on "Register" at the top of the page -top right side in blue letters
3. Enter your email address, password, zip code (select

preferred store) and check the box if you desire to receive email communication from Dillons.

4. Click on "Create Account" at the bottom of the page
5. You will receive an email confirmation in your inbox to activate your account click on the link in the body of the email and enter your sign in information to confirm.

Steps to Enroll if you already have a Dillons Account Setup-or once you set up your account from the steps above

1. Go to above website and select Community and then Community Rewards
2. Click on "Enroll Now"

3. Enter the 5-digit number assigned to OCCK = 43500

4. Select OCCK and click on "Enroll"

Specific purchases that cannot be included are: alcohol, tobacco, fuel, Pharmacy purchases with gov't assistance, postage, bottle deposits, lottery, Western Union, and other customer services, promotional tickets, sales tax, Dillons gift cards, reloadable gift card products.

For help setting up an online account or with general questions, please feel free to contact Dillons at 800-576-4377, option 3 or Jan Pfannenstiel at Ext 148, [jpfannen@occk.com](mailto:jpfannen@occk.com). Thanks for supporting OCCK!

# Contributors

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Peg Romine, Salina



The Match Madness event was held on March 14, 2017. The event is hosted by the Greater Salina Community Foundation! Over \$241,372 with 645 donors was raised for 75 non-profit agencies. All eligible donations received a 33.5% cash match.

Access Foundation of Kansas, Inc. received match money of \$857.60 from the match funds that Greater Salina Community Foundation provided for a total of \$3,417.60 to benefit our foundation. We have participated in this Event for the past 6 years. There are many worthy non-profit agencies that participate for your donation and we really appreciate that you took the time out of your day to make a donation to Access Foundation of Kansas.

Thank you supporting our foundation.



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Please contact Jan Pfannenstiel 827-9383 at ext. 148 if you have any questions.

## Upcoming Events

### May

May 15 Brain Injury Support Group  
1710 W. Schilling Rd, Salina  
4:30 p.m.

### June

June 19 Brain Injury Support Group  
1710 W. Schilling Rd, Salina  
4:30 p.m.

### July

July 20 Brain Injury Support Group  
1710 W. Schilling Rd, Salina  
4:30 p.m.

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