

Gem State News

State Licensing and Certification Renewal

We are pleased to announce that the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare has renewed our state licensing and certification certificate for period of three (3) years.

During March 11th to March 13th, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of State Licensing and Certification conducted our developmental disabilities agency licensing and certification review. During those three (3) days, the state licensing and certification team conducted a very thorough, consultative, and constructive review of our policies and procedures; personnel qualifications, knowledge, skills, health and safety procedures; records; and other local, state, and federal statutes and regulatory requirements.

We truly appreciated their time, attitude, and commitment to assist us with identifying points of regulatory oversight, improving our efficiencies and service delivery while acknowledging the quality of our personnel, services and our unique differences among other developmental disability agency providers in the state.

On behalf of Gem State Developmental Center, we wish to express our sincere appreciation to our amazing personnel for their hard work and dedication and to you (participants, their families and all interested parties) for being a part of our ongoing success. Thank you!



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Special points of interest:

- 3 Year Re-Certification
- Staff Recognition
- Participants Talk
- Participants Enjoy Activities

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A Big “Thank You” to our Staff

GSDC has a great team who work really hard. We would like to personally thank them and recognize their dedication to making GSDC a great place for Exceptional Service for Extraordinary People. We appreciate all the hard work put into our recent successful License and Certification renewal.

~ Martin and Rosalie Landholm, Owners



As the Clinical Supervisor for the Meridian Adult Program, I would like to thank each one of the staff that does a tremendously superb job each and every day, not just during survey week.

Every time we experience a survey, the staff likely rolls their eyes at my mantra that “every day is survey day!” However, it is this reminder and this commitment from each member of our team that creates excellent results with very happy participants.

Our company motto is “EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE FOR EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE” and it takes exceptional and extraordinary staff to do this! You make the magic happen! Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication each and every day!

*~ Lori Jo Poole, LMSW
Meridian Adult Center*



A Big “Thank You” to our Staff

Our Staff deserve kudos for their dedication to our participants during our recent recertification. I am impressed and proud to be a part of this team.

Regardless of the flu season, new supervisor, building improvement projects and day-to-day demands, their level of commitment was amazing. They continue to maximize their skills, provide continuous active treatment, and optimize every opportunity to use each moment as teachable moments. Why do they deserve kudos? How about because the entire staff embraced the challenges before them in a professional and team orientated spirit!

We came. We saw. We conquered.
We are Team Nampa!

~ Tim Schank
Nampa Adult Center



Over the last few month the **Gem state children's Program team** put in a lot of hard work in preparation for and throughout our Survey. I want to thank all of my staff for their assistance with the preparation. Our team also did a great job at presenting the new Redesign Services to the team observing. The survey team was very impressed with the our Habilitative Intervention and Habilitative Support Services and how they were integrated and delivered.

Awesome Job Everyone!!!

~ Anna Crane,
Children's Center



PIECES from the Children's Program!

April is Autism Awareness month and GSDC would like to thank all of the parents and providers for working and cooperating with us over the many years we have been providing services. We have enjoyed getting to know every participant who has Autism because each has such a unique personality and watching them succeed and discover who they are or what they like is rewarding and motivating to keep helping them succeed. Going the extra mile is something that GSDC strives toward because each voice deserves to be heard by someone and the more advocates the more success and independence we see. This can be anything from communicating with parents or providers, having them volunteer and be apart of the community, attending and incorporating outside services like occupational therapy, physical therapy, or school services.

The children's program has changed over the past year and so have the activities that we have been doing with the children at the center and in the community. We encourage them to participate and socialize with peers while providing opportunities for them to expand their interests or include their own interests. We also have sensory outlets and activities that meet some of the needs that children with autism have. We put together different sensory bins like; beans, rice, bird seed, flour, water beads, and sand. In the bins there are items of different textures and colors, and tools to dig and play with. We also have weight bags that they can use on their laps or shoulders. With the warm weather moving in we have been going to the all abilities west park where they have different sensory equipment for them to access. Our entire children's program is based on the idea of puzzle pieces:

Practicing Skills,
Independence and Self-Identity Building
Exploring Interests,
Community Integration,
Expanding and Reinforcing Skills, and
Socialization & Friendship Building

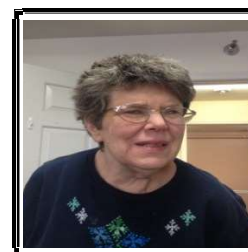
The Children's Summer Program is also right around the corner and we have started to prepare for the program by contacting parents, planning community activities, and putting together a plan of action that will allow each child to come and have their needs meet. We are very excited about this year's summer program and are expecting the kids to make a lot of progress with each piece of the puzzle! We would like to thank parents and providers for their continued cooperation and communication with us as the school year comes to an end.

By Meghan Barker

Nampa Speaks Out

Many believe Spring has traditionally been associated with renewal, growth, and overall happiness. All three of these have become a permanent part of the Adult Program here in Nampa.

"I love coming to the Nampa Center because it is a fun place to learn a whole lot of things; the staff are really, really, nice; they have a riding bicycle to help me work on my personal goal of losing weight; they have fun activities – especially the craft and puzzles, and they help me volunteer at the library. Everyone would have fun here!" Suzanne A.



"I like being able to go out in the community; I like the staff members; I also like the friendships I am able to make here at the center." Yolanda F.

"I like the center here because it helps me be not so nervous around other people; I like when our group goes out into the community; I like the dances here; I also like how the staff watches out for my health!" Ella W.



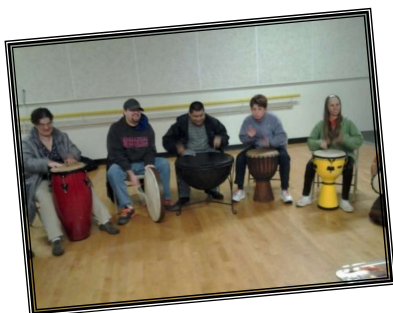
The Nampa Adult Center is a place for consistent renewal, growth, and overall happiness. Please consider taking the first step by hopping into spring with us!

All we need is You!

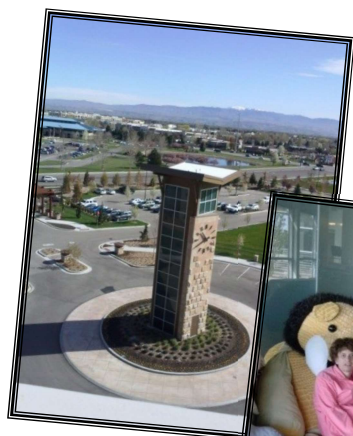
By Tim Schank

Meridian Adult Center

The Meridian Adult program has had an exciting couple of months!
We have been out and about at a lot of fun activities and learning even more!



It was great fun taking turns drumming and using different instruments at the bimonthly drumming activity at the Boise Community Center!



We also got a bird's eye view of the beautiful Boise skyline while touring the new Zion's Bank building!



Recently, we got to tour the Scentsy Corporate Complex!

By Lori Jo Poole, LMSW

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