

## THE SUCCESS STORY

February 2011



### Eliminating the “R” Word

by Erin Baumann



My name is Erin Baumann and I am just like you except I have Down Syndrome. That means that I have an intellectual disability. All children deserve to feel special and they deserve respect and not hearing that dumb “R” word. Using the “R” word makes people feel not cool and uncomfortable. Teasing about the “R” word makes people feel not wanted and alone for being slow.

All children are important and it doesn’t matter if you have an intellectual disability or not.

When someone says, “retarded” or “You retard”, even if they are teasing, makes fun of people with Down Syndrome. My mom doesn’t like the word retarded because it was said to make fun of people with Down Syndrome. My mom told me to not say that anymore because it’s not nice and it is not funny to make fun of people who are different.

Using the “R” word is not fair or not even cute. Nobody should destroy our lives. To stop the use

of the “R” word people need to stand up and say don’t use the “R” word. If you make other people feel bad you’re letting people with intellectual disabilities down. All it takes for the world to go wrong is for one good person to look the other way. Therefore, everyone needs to get involved into the act in order to stop the “R” word.

We like to have fun and we have feelings like everybody else. So next time you hear someone use the “R” word, I say “Stop the “R” word and use RESPECT!”

### From the Desk of Tanja Kapinos, CEO

My first 3 months as CEO have definitely been a learning experience; what did I learn, one might ask? Well, that there is still much more knowledge to be gained!

With 2010 behind us, we are tasked with the challenge of discovering new and exciting directions for 2011.

- ⇒ Consumer focus groups will provide information & gather ideas to help us improve our support services.
- ⇒ A wellness initiative is in the works, in order to allow people to gain the skills to be the best they can be!
- ⇒ An employee training schedule, for the coming year, is designed to maximize the quality of our service delivery.
- ⇒ Community involvement & giving back are things that we take great pride in. If we are involved, ourselves, we are in a position to encourage others to participate, too!

A brand new year gives us the opportunity to push forward with new ideas with an abundance of enthusiasm!



Photos inside

### Inside this issue:

WINTER WARM UP 2

PEOPLE WE SUPPORT 2

CONSUMER FEATURE 2

2010 IN REVIEW 3

OUR CORE VALUES 4

UPCOMING EVENT 4

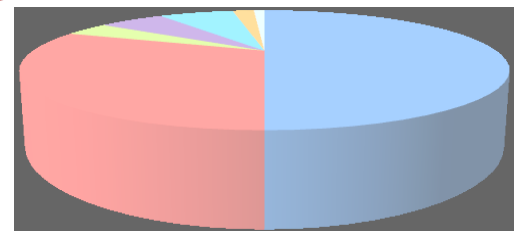
# The Success Story

Winter Warm Up



The mission of Success Unlimited is to maximize the income and independence of people with disabilities through employment in their community. Our focus is the provision of quality training and support services to secure long term employment opportunities. Job placement efforts are geared towards longevity, to establish solid work records and to provide a sense of continuity to each place of employment. Success Unlimited has provided support services to over 500 individuals since 1991 and currently provides ongoing support for 75 people with disabilities.

People We Support



### Types of Disabilities

- 50% Intellectual Disabilities
- 31% Mental Health Diagnoses
- 4% Traumatic Brain Injuries
- 6% Visual Impairments
- 7% Hearing Impairments
- 2% Learning Disabilities

## Celebrating 15 years at UND



Aaron Williamson

Aaron Williamson has been employed as a dishwasher at the Terrace Dining Hall with the University of North Dakota Dining Services since 1995.

He attended school in Wahpeton, ND taking liberal arts, graphic arts and parts training courses.

Aaron received a pool table for Christmas in 1967 that started his interest in the game & he hasn't put down his pool cue since. He has been to Las Vegas twice to both observe and participate in pool tournaments & played in an exhibition game against former pool

champion, Willie Mosconi, in Wahpeton. Aaron is currently in 2 different pool leagues.

He also enjoys playing chess with the UND Chess Club & traveling.

Aaron has been supported by Success Unlimited for 19 years.



# 2010 In Review



 **Support Our Troops**

## Our Vision

Self-sufficiency  
&  
quality of life  
for people  
with  
disabilities

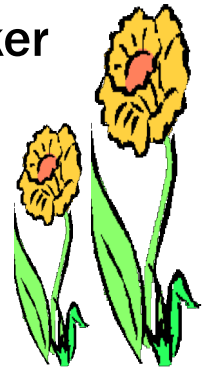
## Our Core Values

- Productive, satisfying, and rewarding relationships with all, including the people we support, their families, fellow employees and the broader community
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect
- Ensure safe environments to foster personal growth & self sufficiency
- Fulfill promises and obligations
- Work together toward common goals



Questions on how working  
might affect Social Security benefits?  
Join us for a discussion with guest speaker  
Howard Kossover  
from the Social Security Administration

**THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2011**  
**2.30—4.00PM**



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**Employment  
Support Services  
for People  
with Disabilities**



**We're on the Web**  
[www.successunlimitedinc.org](http://www.successunlimitedinc.org)