

# ON THE LEVEL

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## From the League of Human Dignity

October, 2017

ON THE LEVEL is the bi-monthly newsletter of the League of Human Dignity, Inc.

The League of Human Dignity is a consumer-based, nonprofit organization, dedicated to promoting independent living for people with disabilities, in their own homes instead of nursing homes. To this end, we will advocate for the rights and needs of people with disabilities, while providing quality services to assist them in becoming and remaining independent citizens.

Established in 1971, the League now offers services in all 93 Nebraska counties and eight Southwest Iowa counties, through our Centers for Independent Living in Lincoln, Norfolk and Omaha, Nebraska, and Council Bluffs, Iowa; our Medicaid Waiver offices in Scottsbluff, Kearney and North Platte, Nebraska; and our Mobility Options shops in Lincoln and Omaha.

ON THE LEVEL is available online, by email subscription, Braille and on audio CD. To subscribe in any of these formats, contact the Public Information Office in Lincoln or your nearest League of Human Dignity office. The newsletter also is archived on our website [League website] [leagueofhumandignity.com](http://leagueofhumandignity.com).

## Golf Event a BIG Success

Photo shows a woman in the foreground, turned away from the camera, next to a man with a microphone. A third man hands a bag to a golfer as several other people, all seated, look on As League Golf Committee Chairman Rohn Loyd (with microphone) emcees the Lincoln Benefit Golf Event awards presentation with the help of League Co-CEO Kathy Kay (foreground), League employee Chuck Rigoni presents a hole prize to golfer Tony Bratten. Bratten had earlier scored a hole-in-one, during the event's four-player scramble.

# League's 2017 Lincoln Benefit Golf Event Welcomes 26 Teams

The 2017 League of Human Dignity Benefit Golf Event was Thursday, Sept. 21 at Highlands Golf Course in Lincoln.

This was the ninth annual event and the League welcomed 26 teams to the four-player, 18-hole scramble, the most ever for the event. Several teams played with three players due to injury or teammates who had registered but did not play.

The event started with lunch and registration at 11 a.m. The golfing started at 11:30. A silent auction was held throughout the day and a buffet dinner, followed by awards started about 4:30 p.m.

The team of Matt Kettler, Ryan Potts, Mike Ehmke and Brian Luhr won the first of the scramble's three flights, shooting a 17-under-par 55.

The team of Jay Moore, Scott Tridle, Jim Moore and Todd Koeppe was second with a 56.

Tony Bratten, whose team finished with a 61, aced the 12th hole, the first ever hole-in-one at the event. There was no hole-in-one contest this year, but Bratten did win the hole prize on the 12th hole, for closest to the pin in one shot.

The annual golf event would not be a success without its sponsors and donors. Those who gave cash or merchandise this year were:

\$500 to \$1000 - Caring for People Services; Telesis (Lazlo's, FireWorks & Data Security); Lincoln Federal Savings Bank; Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gemit and Witt; and INSPRO Insurance Co.

\$250 to \$500 - Lincoln Industries; Hamilton Equipment; Mobile Computer Repair; DuTeau Chevrolet; and Contemporary Woods

\$250 and under - Carpetland; Outback Steakhouse; Target; Trader Joe's; John and Kathy Fink; Nebraska Lottery; Residence Inn by Marriott; Hopcat; Scheels; Bed Bath & Beyond; Security First Bank; Bouwens Plumbing Co. Inc.; Steve and Karen Knobel; US Bank; Julie and James Nygren; O Street Carpet; Davis Plumbing; Rosie's; Ashley Cordier 31:13 Studios; Home Solutions of Nebraska; Radcliffe and Associates; Stop N Shop; Art/FX; Scooter's; LeadBelly; Sovereign Electric; CheeseSteak Grille; Wayne Lenhoff Construction; Dave Claus; Christensen Lumber; Hillcrest Country Club; and Lincoln Chiropractic Center.

The event was organized by a committee including Rohn Loyd; Ed Schulenberg, Jay Rose, Wayne Lenhoff; Mike Schafer; Jeremy Schafer; Stephen Schutz; John Fink; Mitch Miller; Kathy Kay, Chuck Rigoni, Paula Shufeldt; and Jim Anderson.

Six photos of team winners accompany this article, each showing three or four golfers on a golf course, smiling at the camera:

First place went to the team of, from left, Matt Kettler, Ryan Potts, Mike Ehmke and Brian Luhr, combining for a score of 55.

Second place in the top flight with a 56 went to, standing from left, Jay Moore, Scott Tridle, seated, Jim Moore and Todd Koeppe.

From left, Adam Lenhoff, Julio Diablo and Michael Lenhoff took first in the second flight with a 62.

The team of, from left, Brad Johnson, Ed Boehle, Ed Schulenberg and Steve Knobel was second in the second flight with a 62.

From left, Steve Gealy, Randy Goyette and Mark Hunzeker were first in the third flight with a 65.

The team of, from left, Tim Neal, John Simon, Christi Johnson and Bret Johnson took second in the third flight with a 65.

A seventh photo shows a man teeing off as his three teammates stand and watch. Brian Lowery tees off as teammates, Wayne Lenhoff, Dave Andress and Dave Claus look on, during the League's 2017 benefit golf event.

## All StarTran Handi-Van Riders Invited to Forum

The League of Human Dignity is welcoming Handi-Van patrons to come and share their thoughts about Handi-Van services and transportation options for people with disabilities in Lincoln.

What: Transportation Forum

When: Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Time: 2-3 p.m.

Where: League of Human Dignity, 1701 P St., Lincoln, NE

## CEO's Note

The recent hurricanes which devastated Houston, Florida and other parts of the world, have demonstrated again how we are all interdependent. We saw on television the despairing sight of people in wheelchairs sitting in water. And in Florida, we heard the tragic news that eight vulnerable individuals died after the generator failed at their nursing home and they were left without air-conditioning.

Even though I do not live in Florida or Texas, I have links to people in those states. I recently traveled to the Florida Keys and so I watched anxiously as hurricane Irma was tracking towards the peninsula. There is so much history there and such wonderful people that we met on our trip. After you have visited a place, you do feel as if it you are more connected to it and it impacts you. My nephew was in Naples, FL, so I was very anxious for him and the people he was with during the hurricane. My daughter recently moved from Jacksonville, FL, and I was concerned for all the nice people we met while she lived there. I have family interests in the Houston area, so I worried about Harvey and its damaging flooding. Our disability partners were scrambling to help people find accessible shelter and to evacuate the most vulnerable. Evacuation efforts are more difficult when there are transportation barriers as well as barriers to safe housing. As always, the interconnectedness is apparent.

The hurricanes illustrated to all of us the unique danger that individuals with disabilities face when there is a natural disaster. Just something like air conditioning is a life saver for people with health needs and a killer when it fails. These disasters are a tragic reminder that we have to prepare and be ready for the unique needs of people with disabilities so that they are not put at increased risk. Unfortunately, it is too late for the some of those impacted, but we can learn from the mishaps and move forward with a dedication to understanding and preparing ahead for the next disaster. There will be other disasters, whether hurricanes, tornadoes or earthquakes. During these most recent events, we saw government, relief agencies and just everyday people helping each other out. Houston and Florida became all of us. Instead of being separated by sports rivalries, ethnicities, or political parties, Americans of all backgrounds came together in their shock and horror of how greatly people were impacted by the storms. The government, charities and most importantly just everyday people came together to help.

I have talked before in this newsletter about interdependence. Recent tragedies in our country have shown how distinctly we are interdependent. It is all our job to ensure that we learn and prepare for the next crisis. And preparation includes considering the needs of all people. Then we can see in action the idea that tragedy brings out the best in all of us.

Kathy Kay, League Co-CEO

## 2017 NDEAM Highlights Inclusion, Innovation

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign aimed at educating all Americans about disability employment issues and celebrating the contributions of workers with disabilities.

This year's theme is "Inclusion Drives Innovation."

The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Upon establishment of the Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy in 2001, the new agency assumed responsibility for the observance, and has worked to expand its reach and scope ever since.

"Americans of all abilities must have access to good, safe jobs," U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta said. "Smart employers know that including different perspectives in problem-solving situations leads to better solutions. Hiring employees with diverse abilities strengthens their business, increases competition and drives innovation."

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by going online to [www.dol.gov/ndeam](http://www.dol.gov/ndeam).

A reproduction of this year's poster accompanies this article. The 2017 NDEAM theme, "Inclusion Drives Innovation" appears at the top of the poster in large blue, black and red letters on a light-blue background that depicts the lobes of the brain. Running through the center of the poster are threads of small innovation icons such as computer screens, transmission towers and lightbulbs. The icons form a roadway that contains four images of people with disabilities offering solutions in inclusive work environments. Below the roadway are the words National Disability Employment Awareness Month followed by hashtag NDEAM. At the bottom is the US Department of Labor's logo and

the words: Office of Disability Employment Policy and the URL to ODEP's website, [dol.gov/odep](http://dol.gov/odep).

## Can You Spare Your Unused Durable Medical Equipment?

From time to time the League of Human Dignity puts out the call for donations of gently used durable medical equipment needed for our Equipment Loan & Rental Program – and this is one of those times.

The program has been active at the League's CILs for many years but now is expanding to League Medicaid Waiver offices in Kearney, North Platte and Scottsbluff.

While the League's Centers for Independent Living have an ample supply of many items, including lifts, wheelchairs, crutches, commodes and the like, shower benches and chairs and transfer benches typically are in short supply.

Anyone with equipment that is in good condition that they would like to donate, please call the League office nearest you to see what is needed.

People with disabilities – whether temporary or permanent -- in counties served by the League have access to the equipment, which can help them remain independent. Included is durable medical equipment used for daily living, bathing, personal mobility and more.

The program includes a small, one-time handling fee and is open to people who live in residential locations, including foster homes, boarding houses and fraternity and sorority houses. People who live in nursing homes, college dorms or halfway houses are not eligible.

## Transportation When You Need It

The Extended Hours Service is for people with disabilities in Lincoln who need accessible, affordable rides when other options are not available.

Service Times: 5 to 11 p.m. weekdays; 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Holidays (Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day)

Service Area: Lincoln, NE

Cost: \$4 per one-way ride

Reserve rides 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call for reservations 1 to 7 days in advance. Same-day requests are subject to space availability.

A HandiVan or EHS identification is required: You can get both at the League of Human Dignity, 1701, P Street, in Lincoln. Stop in or call 402-441-7871 for more information, details about eligibility and registration.

Questions or complaints about EHS scheduling & service may be directed to Servant Cab Company: Kirby (owner) 402-770-3683; Vance (co-owner) 402-525-6355

A service of the League of Human Dignity.

## Barrier Removal Grants

Barrier Removal Grants are available to qualifying renters or homeowners and their family members who have mobility limitations.

Grants are available to:

- People in Omaha, Council Bluffs, and Lincoln & Lancaster County.
- People with low to moderate income, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- People who need help removing barriers in their homes.

Examples of eligible modifications include outside ramps and lifts, grab bars, handrails, widened doorways, accessible tubs and showers, and reachable sinks and counters.

League staff offer a variety of services to assist in making homes more accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or for an application for a Barrier Removal Grant, contact:

Lincoln CIL, 1701 P St., Lincoln, NE 68508, Ph.402-441-7871

Omaha CIL, 5513 Center St., Omaha, NE 68106, Ph. 402-595-1256

SW Iowa CIL, 1520 Avenue M, Council Bluffs, IA 51501, Ph. 712-323-6863

A service of the League of Human Dignity

# Fall Is Here and Winter Is Just Around the Corner: Closing Information

We have designated KFOR Radio as our official weather station. In times of severe weather, please tune to KFOR 1240 AM or go to [www.kfor1240.com](http://www.kfor1240.com) for the latest word regarding cancellations.

KFOR 1240 AM - The one you depend on for winter weather information.

## On Sale Now! Fleece Vests

Blue or Gray with League logo embroidered on left breast / Sizes medium through 4XL  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST - All sizes \$29.95 (price includes sales tax)

## Are you a person with a disability or a family member or caregiver of someone with a disability?

The Center for Disabilities and Development, Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities is holding community meetings across Iowa to collect information on the needs and concerns of the state's disability community. Information collected with help people with disabilities across the state.

Please join the Community Conversation

6:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 25

At the Council Bluffs Public Library, 400 Willow Ave, Council Bluffs, IA

The meeting will focus on 5 key topics: Employment; Health & Wellness; Transportation; Housing; Education & lifelong learning

Meeting staff also will be interested in hearing other areas of concern.

If you are able to attend and if you need any accommodations, please contact Jessica Gallegos at [jrgallegos@healthcare.uiowa.edu](mailto:jrgallegos@healthcare.uiowa.edu) or call 319-384-5848 by Monday, October 16. If you are unable to attend you still can provide your input.

Si necesitas información en español, por favor utiliza la información de contacto arriba.  
Si habla español.

## What Is ‘Youth Transition’

Youth Transition . . .

It is about putting the pieces in place that a young adult may need to accomplish their dreams and lifelong happiness.

The Purpose of Youth Transition — to ensure that young adults will gain the skills, knowledge and interagency relationships to establish long-range goals for independence after high school.

The League of Human Dignity’s transition component serves students age 14 to 24.

The League assists youth and young adults with disabilities to transition from high school and life with parents to post-secondary education, employment and, for some, independent living.

## League Employees . . .

### Saying Hello:

Erin Nevius Goodrich, Services Coordinator, Omaha

Janey Ulmer, Services Coordinator, Omaha

Carol Brun, Services Coordinator, Omaha

Leshann Miller, Independent Living Advisor, Omaha

Zeppelin Ann Allen-Windels, Secretary, Omaha

Tom Bridge, Mobility Options, Lincoln

Amy Hayes, Secretary, Lincoln

### Saying Good-Bye:

Lynn White, Secretary, Lincoln (moved to part time)

## League Donors

July 13, 2017 through August 8, 2017

Builder (\$500 and above): Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gritmit & Witt

Supporter (\$250 to \$499): Christian Home Health, Richard S. Little

Century (\$100 to \$249): Jerald F. Kloppenborg, Joyce S. Miller & Todd D. Miller,, Jesse M. Peterson

Friend (\$25 to \$49): Helen Kloppenborg

To Everyone Who Has Given to the League:  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## Where to Find Us

LINCOLN Center for Independent Living & Mobility Options  
1701 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Phone 402-441-7871

OMAHA Center for Independent Living & Mobility Options  
5513 Center Street, Omaha, NE 68106  
Phone 402-595-1256

NORFOLK Center for Independent Living  
400 Elm Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701  
Phone 402-371-4475

SW IOWA Center for Independent Living  
1520 Avenue M, Council Bluffs, IA 51501  
Phone 712-323-6863

PANHANDLE Medicaid Waiver Office  
17 E 21 St., Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
Phone 308-632-0470

KEARNEY Medicaid Waiver Office  
3811 29th Avenue, Ste 2, Kearney NE 68845  
Phone 308-224-3665

NORTH PLATTE Medicaid Waiver Office  
2509 Halligan Dr., North Platte, NE 69101  
Phone 308-532-4911

[leagueofhumandignity.com](http://leagueofhumandignity.com)  
& Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

# Show Your Support for the League of Human Dignity

Support the League of Human Dignity When You Shop at Amazon By Buying Through AmazonSmile!

Go online to Amazon's AmazonSmile site, sign in and shop away - Amazon then will donate a portion of the value of your purchase to the League!

## Adaptive Sports & Recreation

Madonna's Adaptive Sports and Recreation program offers a wide range of adaptive sports opportunities for children and adults with acquired physical disabilities, people of all abilities, to enjoy a new sport or get back into a sport they once enjoyed.

The program provides three basic areas of focus: open recreation, periodic workshops and competition opportunities. Instruction and adaptive equipment are available.

For more information, go to [www.Madonna.org](http://www.Madonna.org), click "news" and then "events. Or contact Rick Haith at 402-413-3722 or send e-mails to [rhaith@madonna.org](mailto:rhaith@madonna.org)

## Talking Book & Braille Service

People with limited ability to read, hold a book or turn pages still can enjoy their favorite books and magazines, through to the Nebraska Library Commission's free Talking Book and Braille Service.

The program provides free audiobooks and audio magazines and braille through the mail and through digital download to individuals with a visual or physical condition, or a reading disability which limits use of regular print.

The collection consists of books and magazines similar to those found in a public library. The program provides easy-to-use playback equipment on long-term-loan free of charge. Materials in the collection and the playback equipment are mailed to and from the library postage-free.

The service is available to individuals, as well as schools and other facilities, such as nursing homes, hospitals and senior citizen centers.

The program's in-house sound studios also record and produce audiobooks and audio magazines from Nebraska and regional authors as well as material about Nebraska and the Great Plains. The recordings from the Nebraska Collection also are made available for loan to patrons.

For more information, e-mail [nlc.talkingbooks@nebraska.gov](mailto:nlc.talkingbooks@nebraska.gov) or call 1-800-742-7691. The Web site is [www.nlc.state.ne.us/TBBS/applyforservice.aspx](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/TBBS/applyforservice.aspx)

## Join Us on Social Media

Find us on Facebook — just click the logo in the electronic version of this ad or on our webpage or search for us from your own Facebook page.

Follow us on Twitter too. Just click the logo in the electronic version of this ad or on our webpage or find us @LHD68508.

## Classifieds

Classified ads cost \$5 for the first 25 words and 25 cents for each additional word. To place an ad, write to: On The Level, League of Human Dignity, 1701 P Street, Lincoln, NE 58508; call Jim at 402-441-7871 v/tdd; call toll free at 888-508-4758; or fax: 402-441-7650. Equipment, supplies and other items for sale must be accessible to, or for the use of, people with disabilities.

FOR SALE: Wooden wheelchair ramp, 24' x 4' with rails and non-skid paint on path. Well made of pressure treated lumber, used only one year. Call Gene 402-450-7832 (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: Six adjacent cemetery plots in Westlawn-Hillcrest Cemetery in Omaha. Section 8, Lot 24R spaces 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. \$1,000 each or \$5,000 for all six. Call the League of Human Dignity, 402-441-7871.

## League Apparel

### League of Human Dignity LONG-SLEEVED T-SHIRTS

from the League of Human Dignity  
Sizes Small through 3XL  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

\$13.95 (price includes sales tax)  
Available at League offices

## HOODED SWEATSHIRTS

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

small/medium/large/extra large - \$24.95

2XL - \$25.75; 3XL - \$27

(prices include sales tax)

# The League of Human Dignity Housing Corporation

Is taking applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments with roll-in showers in Lincoln, Omaha, York, Columbus, Norfolk and Hastings.

These units come with Section 8 certificates and rent is based upon income. Eligible applicants must qualify under income guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Applicants must experience disability to qualify.

To apply or for more info, call Paula Shufeldt at 1-888-508-4758 V/TDD or email [pshufeldt@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:pshufeldt@leagueofhumandignity.com)

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.

## Bruno Lifts Ad

- In Stock, visit us at 1720 O Street in Lincoln
- Helps you maintain your independence
- Safe, economical, efficient way to overcome architectural barriers

Call MOBILITY OPTIONS at 402-441-7871 about this great product!

## Football Fans:

The League of Human Dignity Membership Group is selling parking spaces again this season in our lot, 17th & P streets, on NU home football game days.

Remaining 2017 NU Home Games:

Sat. Oct. 7 Wisconsin\* TBA

Sat. Oct. 14 Ohio State\* TBA

Sat. Nov. 4 Northwestern\* TBA

Fri. Nov. 24 Iowa\* 3 p.m.

\* Big 10 Conference Games

## Associations & Support Groups

The League maintains a list of associations and support groups in Nebraska, Southwest Iowa, the region and the nation for people with disabilities and their loved ones.

To see the complete list, in pdf format, please visit our website:  
[leagueofhumandignity.com/getinvolved](http://leagueofhumandignity.com/getinvolved) and click on "Support Groups."