

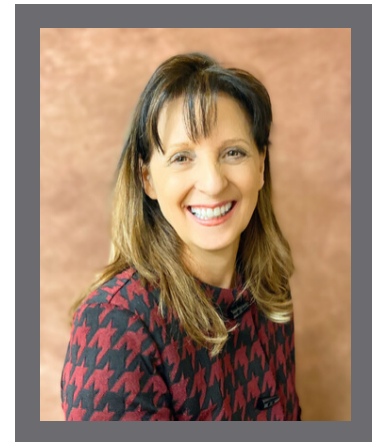


AS WE ADJUST TO THE TIMES - A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With COVID-19, we face unprecedented times. I could share with you many things, such as our agency plan and our continued focus on health and safety practices. I could reassure you with our successes thus far. All these things are important.

But today, I choose to focus on: positivity, creativity, and gratitude. Our day to day business looks much different now and each day brings a new set of challenges. It is during times like these, that we must cultivate a spirit of positivity. Here are some things to celebrate:

- We have deepened our relationships with families.
- We have strengthened our relationships with our medical community & providers.
- Our communication strategies have been modified with more digital connectivity.
- We're learning new tools such as Teams, Messenger, and other online platforms.
- We entered the spirit of the global Giving Tuesday Now event and saw how many people were inspired.



As we continue to adjust and collaborate, I'm honored to lead a team that has tremendous depth in experience and skills. I am full of gratitude for all that I've witnessed in the past few months. We have superb and dedicated employees who are working very hard to keep everyone safe!

A special thank you to families who have had to stay away. They have shown great flexibility and patience. Many families have likely learned a new skill in visiting via technology.

We are extremely grateful to ABLE's Board of Directors, community members and local businesses who have rallied to provide fabric masks, wages for people we support, getting needed supplies and providing good advice. We have much to be thankful for and I have no doubt that as our journey continues, our resilience will shine on.

-Mary Anderson, Executive Director



"We will meet the challenges ahead because we are a dedicated and very special group of professionals who share a very particular trait, we have resolve. We do what it takes for however long it takes. We quite simply don't know how to fail." -S. Dianne Moore



EARTH DAY POSTPONED

Due to COVID-19, we are sad to announce that we had to postpone our **EARTH DAY CELEBRATION** that was scheduled to take place on April 22nd in Bowman. As this is such a special day to us and those in the community, we hope to reschedule. Watch our Repeat Outlet Facebook page for the new date and keep saving your cans! Thank you for your support! ♻️



MOMENTS THAT TOUCHED OUR HEARTS

As part of our service to the community during this pandemic, the Repeat Outlet in Bowman has made over 750 fabric masks for individual people as well as businesses, health care providers, postal workers, in-home workers, delivery people, and our own family at ABLE. They were given at no charge, although some people did choose to donate back towards the cost. What a privilege for us to give back to so many people!



Pictured above: Kay Fletcher sewing masks. Pictured left: Jason Andersen
Jason Andersen's mother sent some of the masks to his brothers.



His brother, Greg, who resides in Killdeer, manages employees and shared the following in his weekly update to them:

"...My brother Jason... works at ABLE – normally they make rugs, blankets, pillows, etc. Jason has not been able to work because of the response to the pandemic but the ladies that work at ABLE shifted gears and started making cloth masks which is a great story and just an awesome act of good will..."



Paulette Wenko, Joe Zent's sister, dropped by with May Day gifts for those who live on 4th Avenue. She sewed masks on the bunnies as it is the reality of our times: people supported see staff wearing masks. Paulette wanted to give a bit of joy to those at the home and she certainly did! We thank you for your kindness!



Sue and Samantha Walz share a moment together, even while being apart.



Communication is key. With a little bit of practice, we were able to adjust to online meetings fairly quickly. Seeing everyone's faces on the screen brought comfort as we knew we had many difficult conversations to host in upcoming weeks.



Randy Weiler visited with his brother, Jesse, and his family. On Jesse's phone is Randy's mother, via Facetime. The power of smiles.



Mary Anderson accepts an AED for the T-Rex Plaza from Patricia Billings of CHI St. Alexius Health as part of a grant received by Dickinson's Cardiac Ready Community Initiative. We are delighted to keep all that frequent and work at the T-Rex Plaza safer.

Satchia Herring, the owner of local company TurkeyButt Threads, decided that she wanted to support ABLE by donating fabric masks. Sneaking in as much sewing time as possible on weekends and during her kids naps, she provided masks for over half of our staff.



TurkeyButt Threads offers comfortable and cute clothing for babies, kids and dolls. Find her on Facebook if you are interested in supporting her. Thank you Satchia for all that you have done!

10 Days to #GivingTuesdayNow Facebook Campaign

Bringing moments of kindness, joy and social connectivity



From left to right: Alisha Edwards & Shannnda Sickler, Colin Schmidt & Kayla Weber, Ronda Colbert, Mary Haas & Nora Hyde, Jodi Pelton

ABLE, Inc. hosted a Facebook campaign from April 25-May 5 in conjunction with the global event Giving Tuesday Now. The people we support and staff participated in planning and creating content to share on Facebook. The intention for the campaign was to:

- Combat the negative effects of social isolation
- Help people we support gain interest & skills in using social media
- Spread joy and kindness to others
- Provide meaningful activities to participate in while maintaining physical distancing
- Create awareness of ABLE, Inc. and our mission and values.

Many people really enjoyed the campaign, which has sparked further conversations about how we use Facebook in the future. We thank everyone for participating and commenting on the activity. The videos that were shared each day are now saved on ABLE, Inc.'s YouTube channel. A special thanks goes to the ND DD Council for awarding this project a grant to cover the cost of supplies as well as awarding other individual grants for people we support who needed iPads or equipment.

Pictured below from left to right: Greg Wolk, Shawn Mauer, Laura Schmidt & Emily Johnson, Randy Wyman & Ken Everson, Carissa Hibl, Herman Hecker & Kayla Matlock



Thank you to the following supporters during this time:

Fabric masks:

- Satchia Herring
- Sarah Carlson
- Jessica Dukart-Bell
- Carol Harriman
- Arlinda Carlson
- Kendra Miller
- Cheryl Fadness
- Carol Carter
- Becky Conrad
- Repeat Outlet
- Dacotah Sew & So

Supplies for masks:

- Woodleys Construction
- Tiger Electric
- Joyce Wilburn
- Linda Andersen
- Beth Molmon
- Lori Vail

Disinfecting Supplies:

- Marathon Oil
- Lorie Frohlich
- Dollar General
- Dickinson Public Schools
- Rita Messer
- Arlinda Carlson
- Country House
- Megan Vanson Artistic
- Ell MK
- Exchange Dance Studio
- Joelle Dolechek

We also would like to thank:

Gaffaney's Floral for the flowers delivered to people supported
 Army's West for providing wages for people we support not working at this time

Pictured on front header: Wendy Obritsch, Chrissa Prestridge, Moriah Schroeder, Jodi Pelton via Teams



ABLE Thrift Center is still taking donations at the north door during business hours!



Thank You

We thank you for your continued support as our retail locations have been closed due to COVID-19. Watch Facebook or join our email list for updates on future reopening.

We look forward to serving our communities again and getting all people we support back to work.

-The teams at ABL Thrift Center, Decades, and Repeat Outlet

