Great River Homes, Inc.

12th Street

February Newsletter

The ladies at 12th Street had a wonderful month filled with activities and time spent with friends. Everyone has been enjoying the Fresh Start Program that is run by Gunderson St. Elizabeths in Wabasha. They have had fun exercising, getting to know the staff, and spending time with their peers. They have shown amazing dedication to exercising and learning about a healthy diet and lifestyle.

Everyone has continued to enjoy bowling. They have been able to spend time with friends and help celebrate a birthday or two! On President's Day, the ladies had lunch and watched the movie Wonka with all their peers at the central office. It was a nice change of scenery for them, and many laughs were had by all.

Mary was able to see the Disney on Ice show and had a wonderful time. She loved getting to see all the Disney characters come to life and had fun sharing her experience with her housemates and staff. Suzanne has been enjoying the nice weather. She enjoyed the sunshine while sitting outside on the porch and going for walks around the neighborhood. Jo got out about with a drive to Alma. She was excited about getting to see the town again and showing the staff the places that were important to her. Vicki also got out and about with a drive and she made a stop at Dairy Queen and had a delicious chocolate milkshake. It was a great month for all the ladies, and they are looking forward to the warmer months to come!

NuStep

WABASHA

This newsletter segment will hopefully help you learn more about Great River Homes, Inc. Here, we'll discuss agency processes, things that affect us, and ways you can help.

Cleary defined boundaries are vital for establishing mutual understanding and maintaining harmonious relationships. Many of us are familiar with the fact that the Rio Grande River forms much of the boundary between Mexico and the Texas. What many of us in the Midwest may not realize is that due to flooding and erosion, the course of the Rio Grande River has often changed over the decades. One of the more significant changes in the course of the river led to more than 600 acres of Mexico suddenly being located on the American side of the Rio Grande. The ever-changing course of the Rio Grande has led to confusion regarding boundaries and associated disagreement between the two nations.

What is true geographically and politically is also true in human services; Clearly defined professional boundaries are vital for establishing mutual understanding and maintaining harmonious relationships. Team members strive to maintain clear and consistent professional boundaries as they interact with and support Mary, Suzanne, Jo and Vicki. There are many factors team members need to consider as they maintain professional boundaries including sharing of personal information, use of nicknames, types and purpose of touch, tone of voice, avoiding keeping secrets, accepting gifts and favors from individuals, clothing choices, avoiding spending unscheduled time with individuals, and providing behavior support in a non-emotional, professional manner. If professional boundaries are allowed to erode, confusion and associated disagreements will occur. "Be Friendly, but not a Friend" encapsulates the concept of professional boundaries.

Jerry McMillin

Development and Education Manger