

BRIDGEWAY

Welcome to April!

3 months into 2024 already, here is what's been going on at Bridgeway!

Visit our website



Welcome West Central Illinois ROSC's New Coordinator, Jeff McFadden!

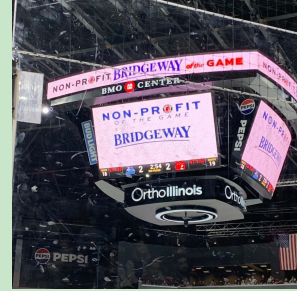


Congratulations to Jeff McFadden, Bridgeway's new West Central Illinois ROSC System of Care Coordinator. Jeff previously served as the McDonough/Fulton County ROSC Coordinator for the last 2 years. Jeff will continue to do excellent work for those in the recovery community. He is excited to work in the Knox, Warren, Henderson and Henry counties.

Bridgeway's West Central Illinois ROSC (Recovery-Oriented System of Care) is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve abstinence and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems. To learn more visit our (soon to be redesigned) website at www.bway.org.

Bridgeway Honored as Nonprofit of the Game-Rockford IceHogs





On February 3rd, Bridgeway was honored as the 'Non-Profit of the Game' at the Rockford IceHogs hockey game. This opportunity allowed us to promote Bridgeway in multiple outlets- at a table, on the big screen multiple times, social media posts, through a video shown at the game, and through great representation of our staff and their families. We were able to hand out hundreds of Bridgeway items and resources!

This was a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness about the great services we provide in Loves Park and to show appreciation to the wonderful staff who provide those services. Thank you to our Loves Park team!

Bridgeway in the Community



On the Radio

Stacy Brown, Bridgeway's Vice President of Behavioral Health Services, went on the radio to discuss new opportunities in the new year, mental health, counseling, winter blues, upcoming community events, support groups, and more on the WRAM Morning Show.

Listen to her interview here:

<https://977wmoi.com/2024/01/stacy-brown-vice-president-of-behavioral-health-services-at-bridgeway-5/>



Narcan Training

Thank you to Michelle Dennison (Certified Peer Recovery Specialist) and Jeff McFadden (West Central Illinois ROSC Coordinator) for training individuals in the Gray Matter Collective at Black Hawk College in Moline in Narcan Training.

The Gray Matters Collective The Gray Matters Collective is a mental health awareness and suicide prevention movement that started among college students and has now spread to colleges and universities across Illinois and Iowa!

Please contact info@bway.org if your organization would like Narcan training.



Job Fairs

Bridgeway was well represented at a job fair at the GAVC (Galesburg Area Vocational Center), which focused on health care careers in the Galesburg community. Bridgeway representatives were Leasa Haskin (HR Assistant), Denise Roach (HR Director), and Alyssa Hart (Vice President of Disability Services).

Upcoming Job Fair we will be attending:
Carl Sandburg College (Galesburg)
2024 Career Expo
April 10th 11am to 1pm

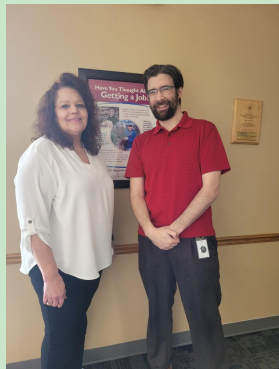


Project with City of Rockford

When the City of Rockford contacted Bridgeway requesting help with “rolling out” the new Garbage/Recycling can program, Bridgeway-Loves Park responded without hesitation. “We are always looking for new projects to expand our consumers’ work skills and positive experiences, says Lori Mills, Director of Production & Business Development-Bridgeway Loves Park location.” The project of collating two brochures into a bag was time sensitive but consumers and staff happily stepped up to the challenge.

Here is what City of Rockford Mayor, Tom McNamara, had to say about the project,

“We are very thankful to Bridgeway for their outstanding work on our urgent project,” says Mayor McNamara. “The team was incredibly thorough, efficient and dedicated to getting our project completed in a short timeframe. Their effort was a crucial component in launching an important city-wide initiative.”



Kewanee CES- IPS Review

A big congratulations to Tracy Blanks, Employment Specialist in Kewanee and Eric Hoffman, CES Director, on receiving an Exemplary score on their recent IPS review. This is the **highest rating range** that can be received, so we are very proud of the work that Tracy is doing in Kewanee!

WIU Ag Mech Show

Bridgeway staff attended Western Illinois University’s 52nd Annual Farm Expo in Macomb. The Farm Expo, considered the largest student-run agricultural event in the country, had hundreds of individuals walk through. This was a great opportunity for us to give out information on our services!

Jonathan Fitch, Director of Community Living and Support Services, was a great part of this event. He noted the conversations he had about our services in general, those interested in employment opportunities, the connections made for Community Employment Services and Affirmative Business



opportunities, and other beneficial conversations for partnerships. Thank you to Jon and the other Bridgeway staff who attended this successful event!



Bridgeway Nominated for Nonprofit of the Year

Bridgeway was nominated for Nonprofit Organization of the Year through the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce. Bridgeway was nominated among other great recipients: Macomb Beautiful Organization, YMCA of McDonough County, Humane Society of McDonough County, and McDonough District Hospital.

Bridgeway was nominated based on the impactful contributions our services make to the Macomb community; through consumer outings positively impacting local businesses, our Affirmative Business services supporting local business operations and providing consumer work, our collaboration with other agencies to promote services, our community employment service placing individuals in jobs of their choice, plus much more!

While Bridgeway did not win this award, it was an honor to be nominated among other great organizations in Macomb! Congratulations to the winner, YMCA, and to our very own Bridgeway Foundation Board member, Seth Minter, on winning Business Leader of the Year! (Pictured bottom picture in the middle). Representing Bridgeway at the awards were Deb Moehler, Keri Dodson, Robert Johnson, and Tammy Diefendorf.



First Annual ROSC Awards

March 2nd marked the first annual West Central Illinois ROSC (Recovery-Oriented System of Care) Awards. The ceremony took place at The Vault in Galesburg and had between 30-40 people in attendance. The purpose of the event was to recognize members of the ROSC Council for their contributions to West Central Illinois ROSC's success in 2023.

The awards that were recognized included:

- Showing up and Showing Out
- Hustler of the Year
- People's Choice Award
- Mr. Clutch
- Priceless Partnership
- Community Advocate
- Breakout Speakers of the Year
- Appreciation Certificates

Individuals who won an award were able to share their connection to West Central Illinois ROSC and share their testimonies. It was a great first awards ceremony and Jeff McFadden, Coordinator of the West Central Illinois ROSC, did a great job facilitating the event.

Consumer Spotlight



NEON Project- Pekin Classes Translating to Work

Angie Smith, Life Skills Coach/Community Living Coach-Day Program in Pekin, had a wonderful story to share about Reggie, a consumer in Pekin:

“I picked Reggie up from work and he had a huge smile on his face. I asked him how his day went and as he often says it was really good. He continued on saying I did what your class said today..... I swept and mopped and my manager was so happy with me and told me I didn't have to do that because I wasn't told to. He said she told him that's called initiative. I told him I was very proud of him for using what he learned in class the day before. He told me that the class is his priority because he uses what he learns in class because he wants do his best and get as far up in his job as possible.”

What a great example of the impactful work the day program has on Bridgeway consumers!



Loves Park Consumer Awards

Four Loves Park consumers were recognized for their MANY years of service. Thanks to Friends of Growth, Loves Park was able to celebrate these wonderful accomplishments with donuts. Congratulations to:

Haley N- 10 years

Kurt E- 45 years

Thomas W- 35 years

Jeffrey B- 5 years (not pictured)



Macomb Consumers Tour City Hall

A group of Macomb CDS consumers visited Macomb City Hall on Friday, March 15th. They were provided a tour by City Clerk, Renee Lotz. In addition to learning where city offices were and duties of each, they got to



Loves Park consumers and staff enjoyed a trip to the Carlson Ice Arena in Rockford to skate!

hang out in the City Council Chamber Meeting Room and find out about what goes on at the weekly Monday City Council and Committee of the Whole meetings. What most consumers said they liked the most about the tour was learning about the history of the original building, which was built as a home in the 1800's and what parts of the original building are still present today. Renee Lotz delivered an informative tour and provided each consumer with a City of Macomb pin to wear proudly.

Upcoming Events

May

Mental Health Awareness Month

Check in on your mental health and reach out if you need help

September

20

Discover Wellness Summit SAVE THE DATE

Follow us on Social Media



We're Hiring Awesome
People!

Bridgeway Inc | 2323 Windish Dr, Galesburg, IL 61401

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