

Wyandot Connections

N E W S L E T T E R

Wyandot Inc. meets diverse needs of Wyandotte community

by **Pete Zevenbergen, president/CEO**

It's an exciting time in the history of Wyandot Inc. and in the expansion of service delivery in Wyandotte County as we focus our efforts through individual organizations to meet the diverse needs of the populations we serve. This month, we announced restructuring with Wyandot Inc. as the parent company of five independent but related organizations:

- Wyandot Center—providing mental health services for adults.
- PACES—serving the emotional and behavioral health needs of youth and their families.
- Kim Wilson Housing—creating housing options for persons with special needs.

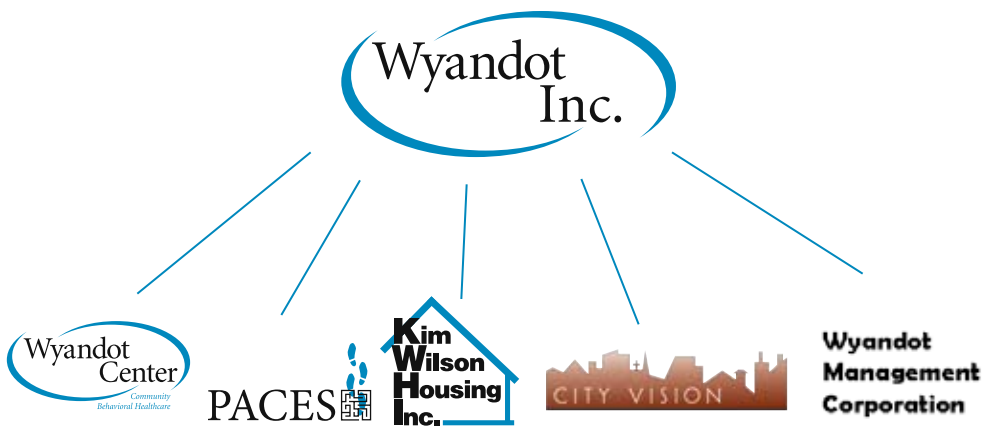


Pete Zevenbergen

- City Vision—building and promoting economic and community development in the urban core.
- Wyandot Management Corporation—developing business opportunities through this for-profit company.

Through this restructuring, we will be more highly focused with energized Boards of Directors and staff as we strive to fulfill the Mission of each entity and develop partnerships to address the broader range of consumer needs.

Wyandot Inc. Family of Organizations



Family of Organizations

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Take assessment; improve health; receive reward

Don't miss this opportunity to improve your health. If you haven't visited myuhc.com® and taken the Health Assessment yet, take a few minutes and do so today.



Sandy Sublett

We're pleased to offer an exciting new program designed to help you get a jump-start on making positive changes to your health and well-being. **(This program is for our employees with UHC medical insurance.)**

To get started, visit myuhc.com—at home or at work! Have your insurance card handy and follow these steps:

Step 1: Log on to www.myuhc.com and enter your username and password. If you are a new visitor, click on REGISTER or "Need a Username and Password?"

Step 2: Select the Health & Wellness menu at the top of the page.

Step 3 (for first-time users): Carefully review the "Terms & Conditions" information. Then, click "I Agree."

Step 4: Review the Welcome Page and personalize your information.

Step 5: Review your personalized Health & Wellness home page where you can:

- Take a Health Assessment.
- Explore "My Health Improvement Plan."
- Get organized with the Personal Health Record.
- Search for health information, update trackers, read messages and more.

On the health and wellness website, you'll find interactive tools, resources, information and programs to help you achieve and maintain a healthy and balanced lifestyle. After completing a brief health assessment, you may be invited to join one of the following programs:

- Nutrition
- Exercise
- Smoking cessation
- Stress management
- Heart health
- Weight loss
- Diabetes

For more information, go directly to myuhc.com.

As an incentive for participating in this program, in about a week, you'll receive an email from UHC/Hallmark-Insights stating you can redeem \$75 for gift cards on the Hallmark-Insights site. If your spouse is on our UHC plan, he/she can also take the assessment and reap the rewards of better health habits—and a \$75 gift card. (No other dependents are eligible.)

The card can be redeemed at the Hallmark-Insights site—with a listing of 350 retailers. Just follow the cues and SHOP! Redeem the \$75 for one card at a retailer OR get three cards/ three retailers/\$25 each [= \$75].

IMPORTANT NOTE: The gift card comes from UHC in a very plain UHC envelope—an envelope that you may think is holding notifications, information, benefits summary, etc. DON'T put your UHC mail aside or toss it—OPEN IT! It could be your gift card(s).

If you have questions about this program, contact sublett_s@wmhci.org or bysel_t@wmhci.org.

New look, new approach to internal newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of *Wyandot Connections*, the redesigned and refocused internal publication—now serving employees of all Wyandot Inc. organizations.

This first edition introduces each Wyandot Inc. entity with a brief overview of services and programs provided. In the future, we'll spotlight a program, service, staff or consumer served by the different organizations. We'll continue to highlight anniversaries, birthdays and new employees across the organization—although March had so many birthdays that we eliminated anniversary announcements for the month!

Send your comments and story ideas to horvat_t@wmhci.org.

Wyandot Connections

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Communications

Each month, employees receive an online link to the most recent publication. Plus, you can visit <http://www.wyandotcenter.org/Communications/index.html> for past editions of *CenterFocus*.



Transforming urban neighborhoods

The newest member of the Wyandot Inc. family is City Vision, an urban development organization that builds and promotes comprehensive, sustainable economic development in the urban core of Kansas City, Kan.

Since its founding in 1992, City Vision has stayed on course with its Mission while adopting new strategies to redevelop neighborhoods, explained John Harvey, president. City Vision initially served individuals and families—educating and preparing them for home ownership.

“With a desire to create a larger, more lasting impact,” John said, “our Board made the conscious decision to shift strategies for City Vision to become a master developer of real estate. This opened the door to high-impact projects.”

A great example is Mission Cliffs in the Rosedale community, west of KU Medical Center. Working collaboratively with that community, City Vision is transitioning 20 acres of blight into a new neighborhood with town homes and single-family dwellings. Thirty-five of the projected 120 homes are built. In a similar vein, the community development corporation has helped transform neighborhoods in eastern Kansas City, Kan.—Turtle Hill, Chelsea, Strawberry Hill, among them.

Since 2003, City Vision has been a major player in Downtown Shareholders, working to promote redevelopment of the Minnesota Avenue corridor. In July 2009, Downtown Shareholders launched the KCK Downtown Improvement District



John Harvey

and brought the green-vested security and cleaning ambassadors to the streets along with sponsoring events to revitalize the area.

As Kim Wilson Housing creates housing options for persons with special needs, City Vision will be an excellent partner, said Pete Zevenbergen, Wyandot Inc. president/CEO. “We needed a knowledgeable partner that understands how to navigate steps from planning and zoning,” Pete elaborated, “to development and oversight of construction. John Harvey and his staff have this expertise.”

From City Vision’s perspective, the organization will gain operating efficiencies and economies of scale related to employee benefits, purchasing and leasing equipment. Partnering with Kim Wilson Housing, City Vision will be able to further expand the range of housing options it develops to include persons with disabilities and with other needs—all again, consistent with its Mission.



- Founded in 1992.
- One part-time; six full-time employees.
- Office: 726 Armstrong Ave., Kansas City, KS 66101.
- Phone: 913-371-5200.
- www.cityvisionkck.org.



Creating housing options

Kim Wilson Housing (KWH) is rapidly gaining an identity as a leader in creating housing options for persons with special needs, in particular persons with mental illness. Among major accomplishments since July 2009, KWH:

- Has recruited staff and established an office in eastern Wyandotte County.
- Been named the processing center for the largest homelessness prevention grant awarded in Kansas—\$2.16 million to provide services through HUD’s Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP).
- Developed a dynamic website.
- Secured HUD funding for Beacon Homes (four supportive housing units for persons who are chronically homeless).
- Was ranked #1 by the local Continuum of Care for funding requested for Jack’s Creek Apartments, 10 units of housing that KWH will own to serve persons who are homeless and have mental illness. (National announcements regarding the awarding of these grants are expected within the next 60 days.)

For James Glenn, KWH vice president/executive director, these combined efforts have clearly put the organization on the map both locally and nationally. “We have a

lot of exciting things on the table,” he said. “The HPRP grant was the launching pad, and now we are forging ahead.”

Over the next year, James outlined three goal areas that his staff and Board of Directors will address:

- 1. Housing Stabilization Services** through which KWH will develop rental assistance programs and create more respite/stop-gap housing.
- 2. Housing-Plus-Services** that will include the development of new supportive housing programs; increase housing options for persons with special needs; and upgrade and enhance existing housing programs.
- 3. Social Innovation/Entrepreneurial Initiatives** that will actively seek partnerships outside of the social service arena to create (or replicate) new program and service ideas. This will lead to closer partnerships with funders, innovative collaborations with other community stakeholders, and new sources of funding.

“We want Kim Wilson Housing to be a catalyst in designing housing options,” James said, “but beyond this, we want to be a leader in ‘doing housing’ more efficiently and effectively.

“Our ultimate goal is to meet the



James Glenn

needs of the tenants we will serve and to increase the quality of life for all the people that live in our community,” James added.



- Founded in 2008; renamed summer 2009.
- Four employees (three FTEs).
- Office: 730 Armstrong Ave., Kansas City, KS 66101.
- Phone: 913-233-3356.
- www.kimwilsonhousing.org.

Winterfest 2010 an all-round success

Good food, good music, good time as employees across all Wyandot Inc. organizations came together to enjoy Winterfest 2010. Organized by the Fun Committee, the event was a casual post-holiday celebration that attracted 290 staff, Board members and their guests. Great way to start 2010 and to bring staff together in a united spirit!





Wyandot Inc. parent company

As the parent company of the five independent entities, Wyandot Inc. provides the infrastructure to support these different organizations. Wyandot Inc. departments/functions include:

- Administrative services
- Communications
- Community relations
- Corporate compliance
- Facilities management
- Fiscal services
- Information technology
- Medical records and transcription
- Organizational development
- Public affairs
- Quality management



- Incorporated in 2008.
- 61 full-time; 20 part-time employees.
- Office: 757 Armstrong Kansas City, KS 66101.
- Phone: 913-233-3300.
- www.wyandotinc.org.



Significant growth in youth services

In his 17 years with Wyandot Center, Randy Callstrom has helped direct the significant growth of services for kids and their families. As the newly named vice president/executive director of PACES, Randy will have an even more focused role in strengthening programs, building a dedicated Board of Directors and developing a continuum of care.

Randy has seen PACES (formerly called Community Based Services) grow from four case managers to 100. He has participated in the transition from a kids' outpatient program to intensive community-based services. Under his leadership, PACES has expanded its array of services beyond traditional mental health to include respite care, the Exchange and Visitation Center, and the emergency shelter.

address the diverse needs of kids and families—ranging from providing nutritious food to primary care to best practice behavioral health services. High on Randy's list is the commitment to continue to strengthen quality and the clinical dimensions of care. "We will increasingly emphasize the need for our work to be purposeful and intentional, as we use evidence-based

models that have proven effective. Restructuring is going to allow us to do this in a new, different and more focused way."



Randy Callstrom



- Renamed in 2008; incorporated in 2009.
- 164 full-time and 78 part-time employees.
- www.paceswc.org.
- Locations, phone numbers:
1301 North 47th Street
Kansas City, KS 66102
913-563-6500
1620 South 37th Street
Kansas City, KS 66106
913-956-3420
7840 Washington Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66112
913-328-4600

And Randy is convinced that there are many more opportunities to



Strengthening adult services

While it's a challenging time for mental health services with state-wide budget constraints, Tonja Speer is confident that Wyandot Center will remain innovative and proactive in providing services that are recovery-focused and responsive to needs of adult clients.

The newly named vice president/executive director of Wyandot Center sees tremendous opportunities to strengthen adult services through the combined efforts and talents of staff of the Comprehensive Outpatient Services and Community Support Services departments. She said there could be blended clinical

programming in the future to help keep services vibrant for adults.

"As we adapt to meeting community needs in an environment of funding changes," she observed, "we'll need to develop strategies to address the challenges that exist."

Tonja speaks from experience, having been with Wyandot Center for almost 20 years. She was instrumental in the development of the first assessment center for adults and kids, the Crisis Clinic, consolidated outpatient services and bilingual services. She has also had a lead role in disaster response services offered by the Center.



Tonja Speer

"Our focus will remain on providing the best service that we can and celebrating recovery with the consumers we serve," she concluded.



- Founded in 1953.
- Today encompasses adult services offered through Comprehensive Outpatient Services (COS) and Community Support Services (CSS) departments.
- 149 full-time; 67 part-time employees.
- Main locations, phones:
 COS
 7840 Washington Avenue
 Kansas City, KS 66112
 913-328-4600
 CSS
 1301 North 47th Street
 Kansas City, KS 66102
 913-287-0007
- www.wyandotcenter.org.

Wyandot Management Corporation

Wyandot Management Corporation is the only for-profit entity of the Wyandot Inc. organizations. It will develop business opportunities that may arise in support of efforts of the Wyandot Inc. family of organizations. For example, Wyandot Management owns 25 percent of Corridor Technology Solutions, the software development company that owns Powerface.

Wyandot Management is located out of Wyandot Inc. offices at 757 Armstrong.

Designated mental health center

Wyandot Center and PACES continue to operate as Wyandotte County's designated community mental health center and its largest social service agency. For more information about services, call 913-328-4600. For the 24-hour Crisis Line, call 913-788-4200.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- March 1 Jennifer Crowe, visitation and exchange facilitator, PACES
- March 1 Dawn Diaz, case management program specialist, PACES
- March 1 Sha'Ree Grant, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 1 Pete Zevenbergen, president/CEO
- March 2 LaTonya Jackson, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 3 Vicky Walter, peer support specialist
- March 4 Rodney Burgin, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 4 Angela Lightle, program coordinator, CSS
- March 5 Caitlin Barnett, case manager, PACES
- March 5 Karen McDaniel, peer support specialist, CSS
- March 5 Rabia Ozkan, peer support specialist, CSS
- March 6 Walter Coleman, Jr., day porter, facilities management
- March 7 Blair Hines, case manager, CSS
- March 8 LaToya Bounds, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 8 Carol Hughes, peer support specialist, CSS
- March 8 Derrick Watson, case manager, CSS
- March 9 Brenda Baker, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 9 Melissa Bynum, community relations director
- March 10 Wayland Brown, respite house manager, CSS
- March 10 Sara Henry, case manager, CSS
- March 10 Troy Pollock, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 11 Laurel Reynolds, ARNP, CSS
- March 12 Kurt Colvon, Jr., attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 13 Allison Blough, hospital screener/therapist, COS
- March 13 Edie Harrison, service coordinator, CSS
- March 13 Andrea Henricks, service coordinator, CSS
- March 13 Beth Holtwick, director of marketing and communications, City Vision
- March 13 Jaresa Ross-Bey, service coordinator, PACES
- March 14 Kelly Loeb, student, COS
- March 15 Toyce Garlington, account specialist, fiscal services
- March 15 Anthony Oliseka Jose, case manager, PACES
- March 16 Angelia Flora, case manager, PACES
- March 16 Rose Jackson, case manager, CSS
- March 16 Malissa Potter, community support assistant, CSS
- March 17 Zoe Ann Amey-McCleary, contractor, medical records
- March 18 Roberta Whisonant, assessment center specialist, COS
- March 19 Carmilla Hales, attendant care worker/psychosocial worker, PACES
- March 19 Cherlisa Jackson, visitation and exchange facilitator, PACES
- March 19 Annette Rasmussen, therapist, COS
- March 22 Jeanne Bryant, therapist/therapeutic case manager, PACES
- March 22 Donavan Gardner, peer support specialist, CSS
- March 22 Gwendolyn Gilbert, attendant/respite care provider, CSS
- March 22 Amy Schlicht, attendant/respite care provider, CSS
- March 23 Kari Anson, Child Exchange and Visitation Center Services coordinator, PACES
- March 23 Carolyn Hollstein, case manager, PACES
- March 23 Ed Linnebur, director, Downtown Shareholders
- March 24 Joyce Adams, service manager, PACES
- March 26 Barbara Panigot, nurse, PACES
- March 26 Stephanie Stroud, medical assistant, PACES
- March 26 Kris Winegar, clinical coordinator, COS
- March 28 Maranda Davis, therapist, PACES
- March 29 Cynthia Harris, community support assistant, CSS
- March 30 Nikay Fowora, case manager, PACES
- March 30 Calos Barnett, day porter, facilities management
- March 31 Heather Clancy, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES

WELCOME new employees

- Kristin Bailey, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- Michael Buie, day porter, facilities management
- Larry Burnett, day porter, facilities management
- Zuberi Carr, community support assistant, CSS
- Jennifer Crowe, visitation and exchange facilitator, PACES
- Shirley Guice, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- Larry Jackson, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- Kenneth Leveringston, day porter, facilities management
- Brian Nelson, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- Whitney Sandifar, attendant care provider/psychosocial worker, PACES
- Erin Springer, case manager, CSS

Editor's note: Apologies if we have overlooked your name or omitted a birthday, anniversary date or welcome to a new employee. If this has occurred, please email horvat_t@wmhci.org so that we can correct this oversight. Also, if you have ideas for stories in upcoming editions of *Wyandot Connections*, please email Therese at the same address. Thank you.