

Lincoln Self Reliance Review October 2020

Twenty Years at LSR

LSR started out as a very small program in July of 2000; our main focus at the time was day services, community integration, and vocational. We wanted to be able to serve individuals in their local community where they have not only the support from LSR but are close to their families as well.

We did our best to become involved in our communities. Our staff and clients have served on a variety community and state committees and strived to harvest positive relationships.

From there we just continued to prosper and grow. In 2005 LSR opened our first residential homes in Afton and Kemmerer. In 2008/2009 we opened our third residential home in Thayne. Currently (2020) the home in Afton houses five clients, Kemmerer houses three clients, and Thayne houses five clients. Thayne started with two apartments but has since been remodeled making it a tri-plex.

We began to do fundraising and activities to get our name, business, and information into the community. In 2013 we opened a Thrift Store in Afton, Wyoming. The store employs four individuals and has also had tremendous growth since opening. The local communities have been very supportive of LSR programs and fundraising over the years.

Our next biggest growth came in 2014 when we purchased a program in Evanston doubling the size of LSR. With big changes come big growing pains, with a lot of hard work, dedication, and support the Evanston program is thriving. Currently they are running six homes that serve seventeen clients, and run an adult day program, and community living services.

In 2003 we stretched out wings and started LSR BIG TRIP. We have been fortunate enough to go several places: Thermopolis Hot pools, Yellowstone, Mount Rushmore, Sea World, Disneyland, San Francisco, and Las Vegas. We have also enjoyed camping trips and closer to home actives like Idaho Falls, Jackson Hole, and Salt Lake. We have attended Disney on Ice in Salt Lake City almost every year.

We have maintained a three year CARF accreditation every 3 years for the last 20 years. Our Executive Director is a peer surveyor for CARF and conducts both admin and program surveys.

We have grown from 3 staff to 107 in the last 20 years our services have expanded from Day Hab (now Adult Day service), Community Integration (now Community Support Services) and Vocational Services to adding Community Living both 24-hour and in home services, respite, companion services and children services in some areas. We are currently serving sixty-one clients. LSR has grown to be in the top five largest service providers in the state of Wyoming over the last 20 years.

To think we started out just wanting a few people to be able to stay in their family homes and close to family/friends to what we are today.

LSR has always been a great place to work. Making a positive impact on someone's life each day brings purpose to a hard day of work.

Mission Statement

It is our mission to provide training and support to individuals with disabilities so they may achieve maximum potential for self reliance and achieve participation in the community



United Way of Southwest Wyoming Grant Funding

Lincoln Self Reliance, Inc. has been awarded grant funding from United Way of Southwest Wyoming's community investment process. LSR's programs in Lincoln County received \$7,938; LSR's program in Uinta County received \$5,643.41. The funds will be used to help cover transportation expenses for individuals with disabilities served through Lincoln Self Reliance programs in Lincoln & Uinta Counties.

LSR was also awarded United Way of Southwest Wyoming funding to help cover COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment purchases - \$6,500 for Lincoln County and \$1,500 for Uinta County.

The United Way of Southwest Wyoming has developed missions for community impact, which include "provide quality services to support independent living for individuals and families", and to "develop a safe and healthy community through partnerships". The programs provided by Lincoln Self Reliance contribute to those missions.

Darrel Skinner, Executive Director of Lincoln Self Reliance, said "United Way of Southwest Wyoming has been a great partner for LSR. Their continued support of programming services provided through LSR, Inc. is not only greatly appreciated but has been very helpful in assisting with covering overhead costs to provide transportation services to the clients served at LSR".



Sam is a resident at Oakwood in Afton having joined the LRS family in 2015. When Sam arrived he walked up to 10 miles a day and could be seen walking with staff all over town on a daily basis. He loved building with lincoln logs and, in particular, loved to eat. Sam was quite the food thief and clients and staff soon learned not to leave snacks under the "watchful" of Sam because he would never hesitate to snatch up whatever was on the table. Sam stopped walking a year ago in May. This lifestyle change has finally given staff a break from the many miles walked but Sam still enjoys his time in the outdoors with walks in the parks and picnics with friends. Building is an activity of the past but when spoken about you can still see a mischievous twinkle in the eyes and know he will always be the master builder. There are many things that remain the

same no matter how much a person changes physically because the true beauty of a person lives in their soul! Sam doesn't usually talk but has the deepest voice one can imagine and if you hear it once you will ask for more. He is a lover of classical music, aviation and his Mom! We are so thankful when choosing a home for Sam, his Mom entrusted us with her beloved boy. We are all better being able to care for "Sam The Man".



Years Of Service

This Quarter We Have...

ONE YEAR

Melissa Eggleston (Afton, DSP)
Svitlana Holm (Diamondville, DSP)

TWO YEARS

Mechelle Skillin (Evanston, Program Manager)
Virgie Torres (Evanston, DSP)
Lindee Knox (Evanston, DSP)

THREE YEARS

Tina Myles (Afton, DSP)

FOUR YEARS

Connie Wigginton (Evanston, DSP)

FIVE YEARS

Andy Ortenzio (Office, IT)
Jordan Austin (Evanston, Program Manager)

NINE YEARS

Sara Pope (Diamondville, DSP)

TEN YEARS

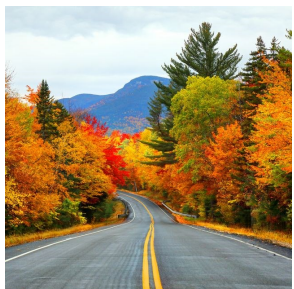
Elaina Wade (Afton, Office)

SEVENTEEN YEARS

Darrel Skinner (Executive Director)

TWENTY YEARS

Annette Eggleston (Deputy Director/Thayne Program Manager)



LSR Thrift Store.



What an amazing place to shop with an amazing team providing excellent customer service.

LSR Thrift Store opened in 2013. Since opening day, the store has become more and more popular among the community members, the sales and donations are always on the climb.

The Thrift Store sells anything from books to couches, clothes and household small appliance, as well as everything in-between.

Thrift Store Associates are always hard at work to make sure great things end up on the shelves. If you are looking for a great deal on items, the LSR Thrift Store is the place for you.

The LSR Thrift Store gives the wonderful people that we serve an option for meaningful employment, as well as income earned all goes back in to the programs within Lincoln Self Reliance to provide great opportunity to our participants served; such as helping them to afford fun and once in a life time vacations.

We want to thank our community in the Star Valley Area for such great donations that help our clients flourish in their everyday lives.

-Kallie Bennion

EVANSTON

We went for a hike. The clients really liked getting out of town and going for a long walk. Cowboy days were a fun change to go to. Everyone seemed to enjoy watching the horse and bull riding. We also enjoyed going to Bear Lake. We have learned how to make some new food every month we pick a different recipe that no one has tried.



This last Quarter here in Thayne has been a lot of fun. The clients have enjoyed a number of great activities like hikes up Swift Creek, around Canyon View Park and around Palisades. They went up and had lunch with our group that went camping, the campers enjoyed learning a number of camping skills, cooking over an open fire. We did some nature walks and scavenger hunts. They did a leather class, soap making class and a marbling class with Ms. Kathy Erickson. They loved making the soap and have enjoyed using it. They did the leather class and made gifts for Father's day. Everyone loved fair and went to a number of the events there. We did a marbling class they died face masks to wear with Ms. Kathy. They loved how the colors blended and made such great designs. We are planning a monthly craft project with her through the winter. We took a group to Bar J Wranglers and had a great time. The clients have loved all of the cooking projects we have been doing most weeks. We took a trip to Bear Lake for the day and had fun playing in the water and getting our milk shakes. We have redecorated most of the client's rooms in the themes they chose. They enjoyed picking out the new items and getting things put in their rooms the way they wanted. We have been invited to do our bells choir again this year in Alpine so we have started practicing for that. We have been doing some volunteering at the food bank this last couple weeks.





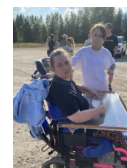
CYNTHIA GENINI

Every year the organizations around Wyoming are asked to nominate someone from their program to be recognized as a Direct Support Professional; Cynthia was picked this year and here are a couple of reasons why and the things her Program Manager had to say about her.

Cynthia is always going above and beyond to encourage the clients in their own physical needs, she is very good at motivating the client to maintain a happy and healthy lifestyle. Cynthia helps the clients know what a real friendship is; she is very forthcoming in her own personal friendships which teaches the clients good boundaries and what is a healthy balance to get out of a friendship. She also has had her mother come in and help the clients out which shows the clients there are other non-paid individuals who care for and value them. Cynthia has been employed with us since Feb. 2018. In the time that she has worked here she has picked up countless hours of overtime, whenever I need a shift covered she is the first person to offer, she has also done this for her coworkers if they need a day off. Everyone knows they can rely on Cynthia. She has helped train many of our new staff on day to day needs. Her ability to stand up in a staff meeting and voice what others might be thinking is outstanding. The thing I value very most about Cynthia is her ability to work. From the very first day of hiring Cynthia I was her direct supervisor, she was timid and very unsure of herself but she wasn't afraid to work. I would ask something of her and she would get it completed. During her time working with us I have saw her develop far beyond the timid girl we hired, she now takes things head on and stands up for what she believes in! She is honest and 100% loyal, she is hard working, compassionate, driven, and a friend to all! She has improved and grown leaps and bounds working for us! She is confident and works with confidence! She is CPR, MANDT, and MED trained and takes those trainings very seriously. I Think Cynthia is an outstanding employee and is a great face of what a DSP looks like; she is hardworking, dedicated and loyal.



On August 28, 2020 some of the Afton and Thayne clients/staff got to experience an amazing night out at the Bar-J Wranglers. This event is held in Jackson, Wyoming and consists of a musical/comedian act as well as a very delicious dinner. We try to do this event every year and it's always something new and a great time!



LSR

Lincoln Self Reliance, Inc.

P.O. Box 1449

1038 S. Washington

Afton, WY 83110

www.lsrservices.org



Community Partner



Board of Directors

Darren Bateman, President

Kimberly Zuniga, Vice President

Anji Taylor, Secretary/Treasurer

Lisa Beachell, Member

Harold Jones, Member

Jayson Kennington, Member

LSR

Thrift Store

Monday-Friday
10:00am-5:00pm

Saturdays
10:00am-2:00pm

AFTON

P.O. Box 1449

1038 S. Washington

Afton, WY 83110

Phone: 307-885-1577

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THAYNE

250 Van Noy Parkway

Thayne, WY 83127

Phone: 307-883-2577

Fax: 307-883-5578

EVANSTON

100 Bear River Drive

Evanston, WY 82930

Phone: 307-789-2037

Fax: 307-789-0407

DIAMONDVILLE

P.O. Box 367

20 Adaville

Diamondville, WY 83116

Phone: 307-877-1321

Fax: 307-877-5774