







## OUR MISSION

To empower people of all abilities to achieve all they can in the community, workplace, and in life, so they can realize their dreams.

## OUR VALUES

Meaningful Work  
Safety  
Integrity  
Community  
Honesty

# A LOT TO BE GRATEFUL FOR!

Friends of Rock County Opportunities,

As we reflect on 2024 RCO is proud to share that we have remained committed in advancing our mission to empower people to achieve all they can.

In 2024 RCO significantly grew our Vocational Rehabilitation Services programs. Launched our Individualized Home Supports, Respite Services programs and Project Search Partnership. Expanded our supported employment opportunities through innovative business to business partnerships.

Thank you for being a part of our community. With your continued support, RCO and our amazing staff team remain committed to improving the lives of the individuals and families we serve.

WITH GRATITUDE,

**ERIC SAGE**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## 2024 BOARD ROSTER

Craig Oftedahl  
Carol Morgan  
Jeanne Bowron  
Walt Moser  
Jennifer Radtke  
Molly Carbonneau  
Amanda Delaney  
Evan Verbrugge  
Nancy Walker

# OUR STORY

RCO's founding date as a private non-profit organization was January 20, 1967. We began as the Day Activity Center in the basement of St. Catherine's Church in Luverne serving only two children. In 1979, we moved to our current location at 807 West Main. We officially became Rock County Opportunities (RCO) in 2007. Today RCO provides person-centered services to over 80 individuals and their families in four counties, contracts with 28 businesses and supports 17 individuals over the age of 65 to remain living independently in their home.

## OUR SERVICES

### Self-Directed Person-Centered Services

Individuals served by Rock County Opportunities can participate in self-directed services that empower them to make choices about their own support and care. This approach allows participants to take an active role in designing and directing the services that best meet their personal goals and needs.

### Basic Support Services — flexible support when you need it most

- **Respite Care** – available in-home or out-of-home to provide temporary relief for families and caregivers
- **Individualized Home Supports** – customized assistance tailored to each person's unique needs and goals

### In-Home Support Services — comprehensive support with skill building

- **Individualized Home Supports with Training** – personalized assistance combined with skill development to promote independence and community integration

### Day Services — meaningful daytime activities and preparation

- **Prevocational Services** – job readiness training and skill development to prepare for employment opportunities
- **Day Support Services** – structured activities, social engagement, and community participation programs

### Employment Services - Pathways to meaningful work and career development

- **Employment Development Services** – comprehensive job preparation, placement assistance, and career planning
- **Employment Exploration Services** – discovering interests, abilities, and career possibilities through hands-on exploration
- **Employment Support Services** – ongoing workplace coaching and support to ensure job success and retention

### Vocational Rehabilitation Services

With the right kind of training, preparation and workplace accommodations, people with disabilities can have rewarding careers. RCO's Vocational Rehabilitation Services team can help you prepare for, find and keep a job, and live as independently as possible.

### Project SEARCH

This provides an opportunity and an atmosphere of high expectations. People with disabilities have the right to choose a path toward education and employment.



# RCO IN A SNAPSHOT



**85 Individuals Served**  
(22% increase)



**Earning Increased 7%**  
for Individuals Served



**2% Increase in**  
Community-based  
Employment Hours



**2% Increase in**  
Day Service Supported  
Employment



**Over 13,000 Trips**  
(2% increase)



## CELEBRATION OF LIFE LORI BOELMAN

Lori was a proud worker at Rock County Opportunities beginning in 1975 and officially retired in March 2023. Lori appreciated attending community events, watching people, eating, and watching the Hallmark channel. She loved being with her family and spending time with them for holiday events. Lori enjoyed shopping and was an avid fan of the Minnesota Vikings and the Minnesota Twins. Lori will be remembered for being joyful, simply for her life.





# OUR IMPACT

## PEOPLE & PLANET

Rock County Opportunities is committed to maintaining the highest standards of service quality while providing meaningful employment opportunities that foster personal and professional growth. Our Document Destruction & Recycling Program exemplifies our mission to create inclusive opportunities that benefit both individuals and the broader community. This program creates valuable paid employment positions for individuals looking to develop workplace skills and gain hands-on experience in a supportive environment.

In 2024 RCO saw a dramatic increase of paper materials from 5,820 to 15,961 pounds ( +64%).

Based on standard recycling metrics for 1 ton (2,000 pounds) of paper, recycling 15,961 pounds is equivalent to recycling approximately 7.98 tons of paper. This would result in the following environmental impacts:

- **Trees saved: 136 trees** (17 trees per ton x 7.98 tons). These trees could have absorbed a total of 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.
- **Water conserved: 55,860 gallons of water** (7,000 gallons per ton x 7.98 tons). This is because manufacturing new paper from raw materials uses 50% more water than using recycled materials.
- **Energy saved: 32,718 kilowatt-hours (kWh)** (4,100 kWh per ton x 7.98 tons). This is enough energy to power the average American home for more than 47 months. Manufacturing recycled paper uses 60% less energy than producing it from virgin wood pulp.
- **Landfill space saved: 23.94 cubic yards of landfill space** (3 cubic yards per ton x 7.98 tons). This is a crucial benefit since paper takes up a significant amount of space in landfills.
- **Oil conserved: 3,032 gallons of oil** (380 gallons per ton x 7.98 tons).
- **Reduced air pollution: 479 pounds of air pollutants** prevented from being released (60 pounds per ton x 7.98 tons). This is due to reduced fossil fuel consumption and fewer manufacturing emissions.





# 2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Your support allows RCO to provide critical service to over 80 people living with moderate to complex disabilities. Individuals with disabilities want to work but sometimes require additional support and specialized services. This is where RCO excels in fulfilling our core mission by providing a broad array of life-enrichment activities and transformative work experiences that bridge the gap between an individual's abilities and the training needed to become employable. As a non-profit organization RCO receives funding from the government, often referred to as a "fee for service." For the past decade, these payments have not covered all expenses forcing RCO to annually raise additional funds over and above the reimbursement amount. The Impact of financial support to RCO is felt every day by the people who receive the individualized support, community experiences, training, and work opportunities needed to lead a full and productive life. We are so thankful for your generosity and support.







## BALANCE STATEMENT

### Current Assets

**2024**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 928,182
Accounts Receivable	\$ 95,362
Accrued Interest	\$ 1,212
Total Property and Equipment	\$ 803,737
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,828,493

### Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable & Accruals	\$ 3,360
Accrued Salary & Related Cost	\$ 26,084
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	\$ 31,944

### Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 1,796,549
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,796,549
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 1,828,493

### Income Statement

Contributions	\$ 13,652
Program Services	\$ 1,265,924
Other	\$ 48,539
Total Revenue	\$ 1,328,115

### Expenses

Program Services	\$ 1,050,638
Administrative & General	\$ 190,914
Total Expenses	\$ 1,241,552

### Change in Net Assets

**\$ 86,563**



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## WAYS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE



### BLOOMERANG

Donate today with RCO's donation software, Bloomberg. Scan the QR code with your phone camera for a quick, easy way to show your support.

### MANY WAYS TO GIVE!

Give through a donor advised fund, estate gifts, or through a company match program and various other opportunities.



**Luverne Area  
Community Foundation**

Our endowment fund is managed by the Luverne Area Community Foundation. Visit their website [luvacf.org](http://luvacf.org) and select the RCO fund to make a donation.

Memorial and estate gifts have made significant impact on our mission. If you would like to learn more, contact:

**Eric Sage**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

507-283-4582 | [esage@rockcountyopp.org](mailto:esage@rockcountyopp.org)

Rock County Opportunities are a registered 501(c)3 organization. This means your donation is completely tax deductible (to the fullest extent allowed by law).