New Hope Provides Valuable Economic Contributions

The Sustainable Economies Program managed by CIRAS at Iowa State University and funded by the Economic Development Administration University Center provides regional trade centers (RTCs) in rural Iowa with an in-depth economic assessment of the financial, social, and environmental well-being of the region.

New Hope, located in the Carroll RTC, is a community-based residential facility for individuals with developmental disabilities or brain injury. The facility was recently acknowledged for its regional economic contributions in a study by the Sustainable Economies Program.

According to the study, New Hope provided a total annual economic impact in the Carroll area of $41 million in 2011 and is responsible for 560 jobs in the immediate economic region.

The Iowa State study takes into account the ancillary economic effects from New Hope activities in the Carroll area including annual operations, personal spending of residents, estimated local medical spending of residents, and the annual value of construction and facility rehabilitation activities.

More than 400 people are employed by New Hope today on a full- or part-time basis, and approximately 350 committed volunteers dedicate their time and talents to supporting the 225 clients.

New Hope believes that every person thrives when provided with the basic needs of comfort, security, love, and a sense of belonging. A home-like atmosphere and friendly surroundings are integral components enhancing the quality of an individual’s life.

This philosophy was the basis for the creation of the nonprofit organization in 1977 by a group of families and interested citizens in west central Iowa.

New Hope provides support, assistance, education, and encouragement that enhance the quality of life for adults with developmental disabilities. The programs pave the way for involvement and integration opportunities in order for clients to enjoy their own homes, their own jobs, and the satisfaction of taking part in their community.

New Hope offers residential services ranging from intermediate care to supported community living. Training and support is provided in independent living skills, personal care, communication skills, health and nutrition, and leisure skills. They also administer two vocational programs—New Hope Enterprises offers organization employment services to local businesses and organizations, and New Hope Employment Resources serves partner companies by coordinating job placements, vocational evaluations, and supported employment.

In addition, New Hope provides life skills training, community integration, community volunteer opportunities, and structured and supervised leisure activities.

Over the years as New Hope has grown, it has been recognized as one of the leading providers in this field. New Hope continues its tradition of innovation and creativity, developing new services that meet the changing needs of people with disabilities.

“Not only does New Hope make a tremendous impact in the region by enriching the lives of individuals with disabilities, the ISU study documents the economic investments we are making in the community as well,” states Rhonda Mart, executive director of New Hope.

For more information on the Sustainable Economies Program, please contact Mike O’Donnell at 515-294-1588 or modonnll@iastate.edu.