

LAWRENCE BUSINESS MAGAZINE

2024 Q4



IMPACT *of* VOLUNTEERING

Fueling Growth, Connection, and Shaping Our Community



“What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.”

H. Jackson Brown Jr

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

STACEY LAMB VAN GO

by Darin White, photo by Steven Hertzog

A good mix of art, young people and hope make Van Go an ideal volunteer opportunity for many community members.

If you see a yellow Volkswagen Beetle (named Sunny) driving around Lawrence, there's a good chance it's passionate volunteer Stacey Lamb. "The first thing I think of with Stacey is her sunny personality," says Van Go office and development coordinator Sarah Humbert. "[Lamb] once donated a retired 'Sunny' to one of Van Go's reunions—a very grateful graduate who desperately needed a vehicle won the car. That's just one instance of Stacey's generosity."

Lamb says at age 5, her daughter Emily got her interested in volunteering. At this young age, Emily discovered what it meant to be homeless and wanted to do something to help. Lamb and her husband took their daughter to Lawrence Interdenominational Nutrition Kitchen (L.I.N.K.) to help serve lunch with the hope that

Adecco

Your Staffing Solutions, Simplified

From temporary positions to long-term placements, Adecco delivers strategic staffing solutions designed for your business. Experience the difference today!

1201 Wakarusa Drive Building B Suite 5
Lawrence Kansas 66049
785-842-1515

Contact Us



THE OREAD HOTEL PRESENTS
HOLIDAY PARTIES



CALL FOR MORE INFO: 785.748.6299

Celebrate the season in style at The Oread Hotel with our festive holiday party packages! Enjoy 15% off our catering menu!

“... volunteering might ease her mind and heart.” She continues, “Our family became quite involved, and we all began to experience the benefits of volunteering. It is putting into action what your heart knows is the right thing to do. I found that volunteering fueled my soul. ... not only was I helping others, I was getting fed, too.”

Volunteering at Van Go was “the perfect equation. I love art. I love young people. I love to encourage others. I love doing something for the greater good,” Lamb explains. “Smash those all together, and it is the perfect volunteer opportunity for me ever. Simple as that.” She also says that founder Lynne Green is a dear friend who inspired her to get involved.

Lamb is a creative and designer who graduated from the University of Kansas with a bachelor of arts degree and worked with Hallmark Cards for 30 years. Humbert personally went through the Van Go program in 2007-2008 and has a direct understanding of the good the program does in the community and how much volunteers help the program. She remembers Lamb's help and encouragement for her during this time, and continued help with career advice for the youth going through the Van Go program.

“Stacey is a working artist who was employed by Hallmark for years and now has her own successful business,” Humbert explains. “We hold career fairs and employment panels for our youth at different points during the year, and Stacey is always willing to come talk about what it really takes to make a living in the arts.”

She's also a great resource for youth interested in applying to the Kansas City Arts Institute or other art programs who need help building their portfolios, she continues. “She's so encouraging to our young people and knows how to give them honest advice in ways that are setting them up for success. Above all else, Stacey is a cheerleader.”

Van Go has a staff of fewer than 10 full-time employees working with local youth ages 14 through 24, and volunteers are invaluable in helping provide the depth of service, Humbert explains.

Lamb is hopeful that her help has positively impacted others. “I hope my encouragement, my listening ear and welcoming smile make me a good volunteer where others feel validated and definitely seen,” she explains. And she is grateful for all the new relationships she has built. “The Van Go graduates especially stick out in my head. They have become very dear friends who have left their thumbprints on my heart. I never would have met them if I did not come to Van Go on a regular basis. I feel so lucky that our paths crossed, because my life seriously is better because of them. It is because of volunteering that my life continues to get richer.”

Humbert believes that without volunteers such as Lamb who help on the art floor, educate the youth, share career paths, conduct mock interview or employment panels, and teach nutrition education or healthy communication skills, Van Go couldn't share what it does with the community at large, as these are all vital parts of the overall services provided to Van Go youth.

Lamb not only volunteers at Van Go but at other community services such as Family Promise, as well. “Volunteering comes straight from the heart. When I work alongside other volunteers, it shows me that people really do care about helping others. I get a real feeling of hope ... It fuels me and feeds me.”

For more information on volunteering, visit the Van Go volunteer page at www.van-go.org/volunteer. ▲

LASER LOGIC IS NOW
BISHOP BUSINESS!

New Family Name, Same Local Service!



Sally Monahan
Account Representative

We've rebranded, but you'll still get the same great service—just with a new name. From now on, it's Bishop Business, your go-to partner for **copiers, printers, and software solutions!**



Brad Farmer
Service Technician

We streamline your office tech to make your workflow a breeze. Big or small, we've got the latest technology and a local team dedicated to you.

New Address, Same Local Crew
Your trusted Lawrence-based account rep and service tech are just around the corner and ready to assist you!



Come See Us At:
Bishop Business | 840 Connecticut Street,
Ste B | Lawrence, KS 66044
785-865-0505 | www.bb.ec.com



DON'T MISS OUT ON THE
“Best Social Hour in Lawrence”
Monday thru Friday | 3pm to 6pm

23RD STREET BREWERY
A proud member of the Lawrence Community.

AND, you and your friends can always enjoy great seats to watch your favorite team on one of our many televisions with the hospitality of our friendly servers bringing your drinks and concessions to your seats.

3512 Clinton Parkway | 856.BEER | brew23.com

KANSAS BASKETBALL
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
VISIT KUATHLETICS.COM TO LEARN MORE

70 years
EST. 1950

**Local Businesses and their Growth continue to be the
Foundation of our Local Economy.**

**The Lawrence Business Magazine Foundation Awards
celebrate our local growing businesses adding jobs.**

THE FOUNDATION AWARDS

Honor Businesses located in Douglas County that are
locally owned or locally franchised,
have been in business a minimum of three years,
and shown growth in employment by 20% or 20 employees.

&

The Minority-Owned Business Foundation Impact Award and The Woman-Owned Business Foundation Impact Award

Honor Minority Owned or Woman Owned businesses located in Douglas County that are
locally owned or locally franchised and have been in business a minimum of three years and
shown stability or growth in employment over the past three years as well as making

LAWRENCE BUSINESS MAGAZINE
FOUNDATION AWARDS

Presenting Sponsor



INTRUST

Bank.

**Has your business grown? Are you adding jobs?
Are you a Minority-Owned or Woman-Owned business
making a positive impact and supporting the community?
Then you should be a part of the Celebration!!
Applications for the 2025 Awards online now.**

For more details, applications, and information about Sponsorships, Previous Honorees,
and this years' Lawrence Business Magazine FOUNDATION AWARDS visit:

LawrenceBusinessMagazine.com/Foundation