

# relationships

SUMMER  
2013

CITIZEN  
ADVOCATES  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

"MAKING A POSITIVE  
DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF  
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES."

VOLUME 9 NO. 2



Program Coordinator Jessica Frederick sorts through photos with Katie, an Our Place, Coop Worker.

## The Our Place Story

If you come downtown West Bend looking for Citizen Advocates you will find us in a building right on the corner of Hickory and Main, up on the second floor. Our sign and a few pictures are in the window on the Main Street side. Two and half years ago we moved to this space which was a block away from our previous office in the Centrum building.

When we were looking for new office space 2 ½ years ago, we were looking for a space that we could share with someone, a way to be more cost effective. We were made aware of a new day service provider that was moving in town and we began to talk

with them about how we could help each other out.

Our Place Day Services is run by Donna Ellenbecker. "Our Place is the day service portion and Our Jobs is the worker co-op," said director Donna Ellenbecker. A worker co-op, Our Jobs, is owned by the people with disabilities. The organization brings in community volunteers who share their skills with clients who have intellectual and physical disabilities.

Ellenbecker's goal is to "create community through a mutually beneficial relationship." "Many people with disabilities are isolated from the community, so we would love to have

community volunteers come in and teach classes," she said.

If you are familiar with the mission of Citizen Advocates, to create relationships that make a positive difference in the lives of people with disabilities, you can understand why

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