

Fall 2013

## Gerontology Newsletter, Fall 2013

University of Northern Iowa. Gerontology Program.

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## MEMORY TRUNKS PROGRAM

UNI's Gerontology program coordinates a Memory Trunks discussion-based activity for those with Alzheimer's and related dementias. We visit nursing homes, assisted livings, and adult day service centers in order to promote positive quality of life for individuals who are affected by memory programs. This innovative program was started by alumni Michelle Remond in 2011. Students are always encouraged to take an active role in the program.

The principles we use when relating to individuals with memory challenges are based on current research in the field. We believe that individuals with dementia are capable of meaningful and enjoyable interaction. We understand the challenges associated with memory programs but strive to value each individual "where they are at." Those affected by Alzheimer's and related dementias are capable and deserving of joy and laughter. For more information, contact Dr. Eshbaugh.

## ALUMNI YOU SHOULD KNOW

### Jake Bates



**When did you graduate? What was your major?** May 2013, General Studies Major w/ Minors in Gerontology and Marketing.

**What is your current job title?** Assistant Director in Marketing and Residence Counseling at Friendship Village in Waterloo, Iowa.

**What is the most rewarding part of your job?** All of the daily feed back I receive from residents and their families. It is extremely rewarding to know I work for a company that cares for our residents and their future.

**Why do you enjoy working with older adults?** I enjoy all of their positivity. I enjoy hearing everyone's stories and the history they find important.

### Kayla Stokes

**When did you graduate? What was your major?** May of 2010. My major was Gerontology: Social Sciences.

**What is your current job title?** Person Directed Care Consultant for ABCM Corporation.

**What do your job duties include?** Orienting new Social Workers/ Activity Coordinators, conducting mock state surveys in 30 Nursing Homes throughout the state of Iowa, working with a team of consultants on various programs for our corporation to continue to improve in the long-term care field.

**What is the most rewarding part of your job?** The most rewarding part of my job is the creative freedom I have to work on projects that I am passionate about.

