St. Mary’s Adult Day Health Center

Address: 2440 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI, 53704
Website: http://www.stmarysmadison.com/Services/Pages/AdultDayHealthCenter.aspx
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Mission: St. Mary's provides day-long care for adults 18 years and older who do not require 24-hour professional care, but may need assistance with personal care, or activities of daily living. The Center is a place where adults with special needs can receive daily care while staying as active and involved with others as they are able.

Target Population: Largely elderly population, although they work with 18+. 43-108 years of age. Individuals who do not need constant care but need assistance with daily activities and personal care. The Center helps families who want or need to keep families members at home but need help in caring for them. Clients start arriving at 8-8:30 in the AM.

Current Programs:

- Social Services
- Nursing Care
- Recreational Programming
- Companionship programming
- Therapy
- Meal programs

Resources:

- Large volunteer base (60+ people)
- Large audience of participants. 60 enrolled
- Arranged transportation (paid by individual)
- Adult Day Health Center Program provides assistance and supervision from others for day to day activities
- Space

Project Development Guidelines:

- Interested in programs that open up a previously unfamiliar or inaccessible area
- Symphony, performance, client participation, science and biology programming (previously worked with Engineering 101 and Chemistry courses at UW-Madison)
• Hands-on projects that assist St. Mary’s in design needs of the building (worked with Engineering 101 students on building projects)
• Flexibility in offering meetings on multiple days or on rotating days to include more of the clients
• Recruiting a healthy group of volunteers to assist in more frequent meetings was very successful in Angela Zito’s project
• Expect a small core group of participants and others to circulate in and out; communication is not a primary indicator of interest or successful participation given the speech impediments that many clients face. Attendance is a better gauge for success.

**Neighborhood resources and community institutions:**

• St. Bernard’s pre-school partners with St. Mary’s on a monthly puppet show performed by St. Mary’s clients for children
• Madison Symphony Orchestra Heartstrings project has partnered with St. Mary’s in the past to offer performances on-site
• Café Zoma and Goodman Community Center are available for off-site group visits, but need to be coordinated for transportation and with client mobility needs

**Former HEX Project:** 2009-10 Poetry Circle (John Bradley and Chris Syrnyk) and 2010-11 Poetry to the People (Emily Madsen, Max Rankenburg, Todd Goddard); 2012-2013 Poetry Circle (Angela Zito)

**Keywords:** Central Madison (Atwood); Seniors; Health and Recovery; Disability; Continuing Education; Reading groups; writing and narrative groups; therapeutic; theater/playwriting and/or theatre of the oppressed; physical recreation programs; spoken word/poetry; Music and music cultures