

Deborah Johnson, LPN, Recovery Coach, Director of the Sauk Prairie CARE Recovery Program

Debbie has 38 years of experience in the medical field. She retired and started volunteering for the local free clinic and was hired by St Vincent as the Client Coordinator / Recovery Coach of the C.A.R.E. Program in 2014. In collaboration and support of St. Vincent de Paul of Sauk Prairie, Joan Mack R.N., Ted Hall Pharmacist, Medical Provider, Ho-Chunk Nation, the concept of the C.A.R.E. Recovery model was developed.

Sauk Prairie CARE Recovery Program connects individuals with substance use disorder to the resources necessary for over all quality of life. Debbie assists individuals in identifying recovery barriers and provides guidance to overcome those obstacles. Debbie started the weekly Sauk Prairie Al-anon Family Group meeting, knowing addiction is a family disease. St. Vincent Resource Center hosts all Twelve Step Meetings every night of the week, either in person or virtual. Over 700 individuals attend meetings in a month at our center.

The CARE program has seen over 500 individuals with Substance Use Disorder since 2014. In collaboration of the Good Neighbor Clinic, our local free clinic, we were able to provide through Alkermes, injections of Vivitrol to our clients. Vivitrol is a once-a-month injection prescribed to treat opiate and alcohol addiction. St. Vincent also provides counseling services to the uninsured. Counseling is vital to teach coping skills, identify cravings and triggers. St. Vincent Resource Center host A.A., N.A. and Al-anon meetings.

Debbie is a native to Wisconsin. She has three adult children and five grandchildren, married to her husband Kerry for 38 years. She enjoys traveling, boating and hiking the beautiful local parks with her family.