



## April 2022 Nominations

### **Ashley Bendickson** – Behavior Therapist

“Ashley is a fantastic person to work with. Everyday she shows up with a positive attitude, unique perspective, and forward thinking. Ashley thinks about situations in a creative way which has helped me learn to problem solve in a new way. You are awesome, Ashley!!”

### **Vanessa Burkhart** – Behavior Therapy Assistant

“Vanessa has been a fantastic addition to TRC-Montevideo. She continues to build strong relationships with her coworkers and the clients she serves. Vanessa has also been very flexible with changes throughout the day which helps with overall client and team success. Thanks for all that you do, Vanessa!”

### **Jastin Jensen** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Jastin is new to Belview this year but she has done an exceptional job working with the students. She follows directions and makes meaningful relationships with the students. We are lucky to have her on the team.”

### **Tony Miller** - Site Administrator

“Tony has been a great administrator, he is patient and kind. He tries to build relationships with the students when time allows. He makes time for staff and students. Tony does his best to put the safety and welfare of both students and staff first.”

### **Hannah Redmond** – Behavior Therapist

“Hannah truly values our team and let’s them know she appreciates them! She makes our clinic a fun place to be for everyone who enters! Thanks, Hannah!”

### **Gail Polejewski** - Career Development Coordinator

“Gail provides a rich learning experience for area students with the Schwans Culinary Skills Challenge. This event takes considerable time, effort, and coordination to run smoothly, yet Gail makes it look effortless. But beyond the planning and implementation of all the challenges, Gail takes time to personally visit with many of the students and teachers. It is very apparent that she is a positive role model for them and deeply cares about their learning experience.”

### **Nora Gonzalez** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Nora shows so much kindness, compassion, and patience with all of our students! In stressful situations she is calm and willing to find ways to help students work through big emotions. We are very lucky to have her at ELC Montevideo!!”

**Tish Kalla** – Director of Special Education

“This is my first year having Tish as my supervisor. I have found her to be fair, compassionate, and always willing to listen. Tish has always supported and helped me navigate difficult situations. She is a great leader!”

**Mindy Halverson** – Site Administrator

“Mindy is the kind of administrator that everyone would want. She is always supporting and encouraging her staff. She helps each of us grow and reach our potentials. She is always willing to help out and answer the questions we have. She does a great job of helping to meet the needs of each student. We are lucky to have her.”

**Molly Ludwig** – School Social Worker

“Molly does a great job of supporting students and helping meet their needs. She provides fun ways to help students develop social skills. She also is a great member to have as part of my team. She always is willing to help out in my classroom and share ideas that will benefit students. The students and I are lucky to have her!”

**Ann Dettman** – Instructional Coach

“Annie provides amazing support to the teachers she works with. She has helped me to grow immensely since I began working as a teacher. She is patient and kind and provides positive feedback to me to allow me to learn. I truly appreciate her and am thankful for all that she does.”

**Lisa Blegen** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Lisa is new to Belview this year and she has been a great addition to the team. She focuses on being positive with the students and developing meaningful relationships with them. The students respond well to her. She has worked in many different classrooms and has done well. We are lucky to have her on the team!!!”

**Abby Ruhr** – School Social Worker

“Abby is a Social Worker in her first year at ELC Cosmos. She has taken on several initiatives such as Snack Shack and Morning Announcements. Her positivity and support of students and staff is greatly appreciated. Thank you Abby!”

**Beth Paulson** – Special Education Paraprofessional

“Beth was very gracious and positive when learning on a Monday morning that she needed to help with other students for the day. This was a big change from students she usually assists. Everyone was so appreciative of her support and she did amazing work with those students. Thank you Beth for putting student needs first, we are so happy you are part of our Cosmos Team!”

**Abby Polzine** – Director of HR

“Abby's kindness and clear communication are greatly appreciated. Abby is always positive and professional during employee interactions and is great about investigating, gathering information and options, and following up when addressing questions. Thank you, Abby, for looking out for SWWC/The READY Clinic employees!”

**Mason Garbe** – Technology Support Assistant

“Mason truly lives SWWCs vision and values. From his kindness and willingness to help, to the knowledge and expertise he offers, Mason deserves recognition for his outstanding work. I sincerely appreciated Mason's willingness to problem-solve and support.”