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**Black Friday. Cyber Monday.**

**#GIVINGTUESDAY**

**December 3, 2019**

*Watch for some exciting Giving Tuesday opportunities at Vera French to support mental health care in our community!*

When you shop at  
**smile.amazon.com**  
Amazon donates.

**As you shop on Amazon this holiday season, don't forget to select Vera French Foundation as your charity of choice.**

**amazon.com**

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# FOUNDATION FORWARD FALL 2019

## FOUNDATION MISSION

The Vera French Foundation supports the mental health of our community by inspiring compassionate awareness and generous giving.



## Carol Center Relocation & Peer Drop-In Center

808 N. Harrison St. Davenport, IA 52803

In May, a grand opening was held at the new Davenport location of the Carol Center.

Previously located on E. 32nd Street and named in honor of Carol Lujack in 2013, the Carol Center houses Vera French's Community Support Services, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team, the Homeless Outreach program, Intensive Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Community Based Peer Support, and Medication Management.

**With funding from the Eastern Iowa Mental Health and Disability Services Region, this new location also includes a Drop-In Center.**

Anytime between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, enjoy our low-pressure atmosphere filled with compassionate and attentive peer support specialists. You do not need to be a Vera French client to utilize the Drop-In Center.

Richard K. Whitaker, Jr., Ph.D., Vera French CEO, stated that "the addition of Peer Support Drop-In Services and change of location for the Carol Center increases our accessibility and gives people in crisis another way to get help and start their recovery on their own terms."

**The Carol Center can be reached at (563) 322-5276.**

## NEW PROGRAM AT VERA FRENCH CRISIS STABILIZATION



Vera French Community Mental Health Center is excited to announce the opening of the area's first Crisis Stabilization program. The 5-bed home located in Davenport offers a short-term stay (less than five calendar days) for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

This new service operates 24/7 and is a voluntary program for ages 18 and older. The program is staffed to stabilize the crisis and reintegrate individuals back into the community. Another goal of this program is to provide an additional option for individuals in a mental health crisis rather than relying exclusively on law enforcement or emergency rooms.

With the closest similar service operating in Cedar Rapids, IA, Crisis Stabilization Residential Program Manager, Kate DeRooi, LMHC, explains that, "this unique level of care for individuals involves daily therapeutic intervention on their own terms. Our program is completely voluntary and less restrictive than an inpatient setting."

In order to utilize the Crisis Stabilization program, an individual must be determined appropriate by a mental health assessment. Within 24 hours of admission, an individual will meet with a licensed mental health professional to create a stabilization plan. This will include the individual's short-term goals as well as a discharge plan for aftercare.

**If you are looking to refer or have questions, please contact (563) 396-3017.**

## Vera French Summer Photos

From baseball games to summer camp, we were busy spreading compassionate awareness for mental health.



After rescheduling due to flooding, we were finally able to host the first Mental Health Awareness Night with the Quad Cities River Bandits on July 18th.

Rick's House of Hope staff hosted two summer camps: Camp Good Grief and Camp Rollercoaster.



In August, we celebrated a very special birthday: Chris McCormick-Pries, VF Clinical Director.

The Foundation held a reception to celebrate children of VF employees who were awarded post-secondary scholarships.



We hosted a Well-Being Fair for VF employees to be connected to education and community resources.



Like the Vera French Foundation Facebook page to see MORE photos!



*Celebrating*

1949 **70** 2019  
YEARS

OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

Saturday, October 26, 2019 | THE OUTING CLUB

## You're Invited to help us CELEBRATE!

The Vera French Foundation is proud to announce the Quad Cities' premier charity event of the fall - the Vera French Gala on **Saturday, October 26, 2019** at the beautiful Outing Club in Davenport, Iowa. This yearly event offers an opportunity for citizens of the Quad Cities to help end the stigma surrounding mental health treatment.

Seventy years ago, the agency, which now bears the name of Dr. Vera French, began as the Scott County Mental Health Center. This year's Gala is a celebration of those 70 years and an opportunity to raise critical funds necessary to create real solutions in our community with the understanding that mental health is the foundation of all health.

## Schedule of Events:

Cocktail Hour  
5:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Dinner & Program  
6:45 - 8:30 p.m.

Optional Platinum  
After Party  
Bowling & Euchre  
8:30 - 11:00 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased online at [verafrenchmhc.org/GALA](http://verafrenchmhc.org/GALA)

Contact the Foundation Office at (563) 888-6257 with questions.

## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Dr. Richard and Judy Kreiter  
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