On a Friday morning in late November, WellFully’s youth clients woke up, ate breakfast, then, for the last time, left for school from the St. James Street resident facility. Following school, they all returned to the new Premier Adolescent Care Center on Waterloo St. That night, they went to sleep, happily, in their new home.

Throughout November and December, WellFully staff were busy packing up the offices, classrooms and residential units at the former location on East St James in preparation for the moving trucks to load it all up and move it to our new home.

By Saturday, November 19th, a majority of WellFully’s operation was housed under one roof, including youth care and educational support classrooms.

On hand to cut the ribbon for the new WellFully Premier Adolescent Care Center were Wellspring (now WellFully) co-founders Dr. Steve Manlove, Judge Marshall Young and Al Scovel. Over a hundred people attended the event, including many local dignitaries, representatives of like-minded organizations and WellFully supporters attended the ribbon cutting held on December 18th. An Open House is being planned for after the New Year to give the community an opportunity for a closer look at our beautiful new facility.
Burke Eilers welcomed as new WellFully CEO

WellFully is happy to announce that its Board of Directors has appointed W. Burke Eilers as Chief Executive Officer, effective November 11.

“With WellFully in the process of moving into its new facility, this is the perfect time for Burke to take over as the new CEO.” commented WellFully Board President Dan Maguire. “WellFully has gone through some substantial changes over the past 5 ½ years, from being strong on the Clinical side, to being strong on the business side. We feel very blessed to have Burke as our new CEO. His experience brings us superior strength in both the Clinical Side and Business Side of our operations.”

A native of Rapid City, Burke graduated from Central High School, continued his education at USD and earned a business degree. After as number of years away, Burke returned home to Rapid City, where he earned his Masters in Counseling from SDSU.

His work background has carried him through a variety of experiences, including retail, banking, microbrewery as well as a 2-year stint in the Ukraine with the US Peace Corps. He has spent the past 16 years as a counselor at Rapid City’s Youth and Family Services (YFS), most recently serving as the Director of the YFS Counseling Center and Family Support Services.

Burke’s wife Beth is a clinical Intelligence Analyst at Regional Hospital, and they have a son, Ryan, 17 and daughter, Megan, 15, both of whom attend attend St Thomas Moore High School.

A typical question in the interviewing process is “Why WellFully?” Burke’s says “It has been his dream to take an important program for helping youth that are struggling and help provide them with the help and support they need to prosper.” The new Premier Adolescent Care Center is an added factor, as he goes on to say; “With our new facility there is no reason that WellFully can’t be the premier adolescent residential facility in the region.”

WellFully Board President Dan Maguire commented, “I personally feel that his energy, his dedication to children and knowledge will carry WellFully to become Premier Adolescent Care Center in the entire 5 State Region.” Board President Elect, Dewey Ertz said of the decision to hire Burke as the new CEO, “He stood out as a person because he could integrate his knowledge effectively and address questions with examples that related to his previous work with people in a clinical setting. My thought about the direction that he will move us in is being trauma-informed and utilizing researched techniques in providing services to those that we work with, as well as integrating other resources within the community as part of this process.”

Of his future as WellFully’s CEO, he sees the opportunity to learn and grow. He has set the goal to “learn from the staff, meet with community leaders to hear what their wants and needs are.” He is not afraid to take a page from the success of others. “I want to visit other successful facilities and explore what we are currently doing, what other successful operations are doing, and see how everything can fit together.”

Burke notes that “with the end goal of improving the lives of the kids we are entrusted with, have our employees experience a rewarding career and meet the need of our community.” Once we are settled into our new facility, he wants to begin work in the development and implementation of WellFully’s Life Above and Beyond (LAB) adolescent after school program. “It is my hope to soon establish relationships with our community partners to prove some new and exciting opportunities for the kids in our other programs as well as the youth in our community.”

Looking to the future of WellFully, Eilers sees WellFully as “the go to facility in the region, a great place for kids to explore there next steps, and prepare themselves for their next steps in a safe exciting way. All anyone wants is for the kids in our community to be happy successful and to guide them into making great decisions. We will all win if that goal can be achieved.”

Santa’s helpers make early delivery!

A huge thanks to the elves at @blackhillsenergy for the donation of gifts for the WellFully youth. Black Hills Energy is proud to share the power of Christmas - happy to give back to the youth of the community who may not normally feel the joy of the season. Pictured with the gifts are WellFully CEO Burke Eilers, Nikki Larson from Black Hills Energy and Clinical Directors Kevin & Ashley Callahan.
“Kiss the pig, kiss the pig!”

The results have come in, and SOMEONE was voted to “Kiss The Pig.”

For our staff to be capable to help the young people WellFully serves, they need to be a team with with a positive attitude. In an effort to improve teamwork and employee morale as well as raise funds for future efforts, In October, the Employee Council held a “Kiss the Pig” contest, selling tickets (or votes) to see who would kiss the pig.

As an added bonus for the committee’s fund, Jim White, of Sound-Pro ledged a $500 donation is WellFully Board President Dan Maguire would kiss the pig. The challenge was accepted.

On Monday, December 17, WellFully’s Behavioral Clinical Director Ashley Callahan (the winner of the contest) and Dan were on hand to give it a smooch.

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### Community donations WellFully appreciated

Over the past year, through contributions of monetary gifts or donations of merchandise and services, we proudly continue to help the boys and girls of Rapid City and beyond. For this... We Thank You!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Supporters</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visionary Support - $25,000 and up</td>
<td>Deborah/Robert Mudge, Gwenolyn L Stearns Foundation, John T. Vucurevich Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazing Support - $5,000-$24,999</td>
<td>Stan Adelstein, Dennis/Lavonne Anderson, Black Hills Energy, Rapid City Regional Hospital, Constance Nelson Lane, Fidelity Brokerage Services, Beardsley, Jensen &amp; Lee Prof. LLC, Constance Nelson Foundation, Midcontinent Foundation, Scheels All Sports, Sheldon F. Reese Foundation, Dennis/Lavonne Anderson, Coeur Mining/Wharf Resources, Black Hills Federal Credit Union, Arlene Ham, Roger Johnson, Joseph McFarland, Rapid City Morning Optimists, Rick/Patty Schlimgen, Roger &amp; Janets Knutsen, LB Lane Family Foundation Inc, Stan &amp; Alice Mettler, RCS Construction, Merle Symes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passionate Support - $1,000-$4,999</td>
<td>Altrusa Club of Rapid City, Black Hills Runner Club, Family Dental Care, H&amp;R Block, Kohl's, Timothy/Marie Olson, Strider Sports International, Inc., Harry Christianson, Arlene Ham, Roger Johnson, Joseph McFarland, Rapid City Morning Optimists, Rick/Patty Schlimgen, Roger &amp; Janets Knutsen, LB Lane Family Foundation Inc, Stan &amp; Alice Mettler, RCS Construction, Merle Symes</td>
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*Includes monetary contributions made to WellFully from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018.*

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Pucker up, Wilbur! Board President Dan Maguire (left) and Behavioral Clinical Director Ashley Callahan smooch with Wilbur in front of a crowd of staff and WellFully youth. The pig in question is Wilbur, a piglet provided by Heather Maude of Maude Hog & Cattle of Caputa.

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Hello, Wilbur! Youth from the WellFully Behavioral Health Care Unit (BHCU) greet Wilbur following the kisses.
A new address for the future of our youth care

Over 16 months ago, WellFully’s staff, leadership along with the many boys and girls we care for, gathered on a dusty, overgrown lot off Omaha Street to witness the first shovel of dirt being turned at the official ground breaking ceremony for the WellFully Premier Adolescent Care Center.

While the original completion date was targeted for September, weather played a heavy part in delaying the buildings progress. According to Justin Vangraefschepe, Project Manager for Scull Construction, “there are typically a few weeks of cleanup/punch-list items that will be ongoing while you guys are moving in furniture and getting setup to operate.”

WellFully’s moving itinerary called for the classrooms to be the first to move from their location on Deadwood Ave., followed by the kitchen and St. James administration offices. The Addiction Recovery Unit as well as the Behavioral Health Care Unit was next, with the youth spending their first night in the new building in mid-November.

The WellFully leadership and administration, along with the remaining furniture and inventory will be the last to move into the building from their temporary office location on Deadwood Ave on December 13th.

With input from WellFully leadership and staff, the new facility was designed by Williams & Associates Architecture of Spearfish, providing a unique look that leans to the youth that WellFully serves.

Scull Construction of Rapid City provided the construction and contracting services of the project. Discussing their participation in the project, Vangraefschepe commented “It has been a fun and challenging project for us. This building is very unique on its exterior and definitely stands out as you are driving down Omaha.”

He goes on to say, “The biggest plus for us is being a part of providing Wellfully with a highly functional and hopefully morale boosting facility to continue serving our youth in this community. We love to build things, but it makes our jobs much more rewarding when you know our final product (the building) will do so much more than just provide a place for people to work, play, or live.”

Many local dignitaries, and WellFully supporters attended the ribbon cutting held on December 18th. An Open House to be planned for after the New Year to give the community an opportunity for a closer look at our beautiful new facility.

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On-site classroom for youth to study and do homework

Light and airy entry and front desk greet visitors

On-site medical station to help youth stay healthy

On-site medical station to help youth stay healthy

Light and airy entry and front desk greet visitors

Dining room and large new kitchen to feed the youth

Large recreation room to help keep youth entertained

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Large recreation room to help keep youth entertained

Rich Cartney, WellFully COO

“I am most excited about having all operations under one roof, allowing more interaction between the leaders and the kids. This will provide positive role models for the kids from community leaders who make decisions that directly effect them.”

JE, WellFully Youth client

“Something I will be excited for is more space to do stuff - like hackey sack and more group activities. We will probably be able to play basketball more often.”
Ribbon Cutting
December 18, 2018

Our thanks to our community that supports endeavors that will help our children now, and in turn, helps our community in the future.

A special thanks to the Dunn Brothers for donating the coffee for our many guests.