

## Overview of WACOSA

**“WACOSA provides people challenged by disabilities the opportunity to work and live in their community”.**

WACOSA has been providing services for persons with disabilities since 1963. In 2017, we served approximately 665 individuals in our five physical program locations and our community work sites. We had 52 total community crews and 85 individual placements at area businesses in and around the St. Cloud area.

### **Services:**

Vocational Services:

The opportunity to experience success at a job contributes to an individual’s independence and self-sufficiency as well as their self-esteem. WACOSA provides the following options for persons with disabilities who have challenges in securing and maintaining employment:

- Individual placement in a community business:  
*WACOSA provides job-search, placement, initial training and on-going follow-up services.*
- Work crew placement:  
*Job placement is at a community business with four to six workers with on-going training and/or supervision by a WACOSA job coach.*
- In-center work opportunities:  
*Production jobs with on-going training and support are provided at five of WACOSA’s program sites.*

Other services:

- Recreation and leisure activities as well as volunteer opportunities for seniors with disabilities through a cooperative effort with the Whitney Senior Center.
- Transportation services to and from program and work sites.

**Governance:** 12-member Board of Directors

**Service Area:** St. Cloud area, rural Stearns, Sherburne & Benton Counties and Sauk Centre

**Program Sites:** 310, 320, 321, and 322 Sundial Drive, Waite Park, MN  
Whitney Senior Center, St. Cloud, MN  
712 Lincoln Loop, Sauk Centre, MN

**Licensing:** Day Training and Habilitation (DT&H) Services licensed by the State of Minnesota, Department of Human Services through license 245D.

Certified to provide Extended Employment (EE) Services through the Minnesota Department of Economic Employment and Development (DEED).

Accredited by the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission (CARF).

Member, Charities Review Council

Certified, National Association for Information Destruction (NAID)

Service Enterprise Certification, WACOSA Volunteer Program

**Annual Budget:** 8.4 million dollars (2018, approximate)

**Employees:** 150 - 160 full and part time (approximate since this fluctuates regularly)