Name: Ally Balvik

Job Title: ND Reading Corps K-3 Master Coach **SEEC Team Member since:** August 2014

Background information:

I am in my third year with the SEEC as a Master Coach for North Dakota Reading Corps. I have a degree in Early Childhood Education and a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Literacy. I work with 30 member schools every month helping tutors and Internal Coaches implement the Reading Corps program.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I was a Quality Coach for four years before I moved to SEEC. This opportunity combines the best of both worlds. I enjoyed my role as a coach and working with adults, but still making an impact on children. This position allows me to continue to coach and work with adults all while making a lasting impact on children's education.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

The work I do every day with Reading Corps brings me the most satisfaction. I have the opportunity to see firsthand the impact our program makes on students reading abilities. Being in 30 different schools each month I am provided the opportunity to observe students doing Reading Corps interventions. I am able to look at student progress and make databased decisions with the team of tutors and Internal Coaches.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I am proud to be part of a team that is extremely dedicated to the agency's mission and the work we carry out. Knowing we are all working hard to achieve success for schools and students bring me great joy.

Name: Erika Bartunek

Job Title: Administrative Assistant

SEEC Team Member since: August 2012

Background information:

I graduated from Minnesota State Univerisyt Moorhead and received a bachelors degree in Mass Communication with an emphasis in Public Relations. I have worked in the nonprofit sector on fundraising campaigns/event coordination for the American Cancer Society and the Sisters of the Presentation. I chose to leave my profession to stay home and raise my children, while working part-time in retail before returning to the workforce. I was raised in smaller rural community and have family who are/were teachers so working with educators has a special place in my heart.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

When I returned to the workforce, I was looking for a position that offered flexibility to work with my childrens' active schedules and wanted a job where the understanding is that family comes first as I firmly believe that. Also, education is so very important to me personally, that I was eager to work in a place where I could contribute to education in some form (without actually being a teacher).

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

My role at SEEC is to provide support to our staff and instructors to provide professional development for administrators, teachers and other school staff. I am the on-site coordinator for all registration for our PD trainings and events. I love to assist people with registration questions and/or problems. I am also proud of the hard work and planning that have gone into our annual statewide MTSS Conference that last year hosted over 420 people from across the state. My role is to assist with registration, and on-site coordination of the event.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I am proud to be a part of the SEEC team because we work very hard to provide quality professional development for those member schools we serve. And, it's my role to help ensure that all goes smoothly, behind-the-scenes.

Name: Kyle Davison

Tob Title: Executive Director

SEEC Team Member since: September 2005

Background information:

I was the first employee at the SEEC when it was formed in July 2005. I was hired because of my background in building organizations from the ground up combined with my work experience in the University system, K-12 education and workforce development. I believe the key to the SEEC's success is the collaborative relationships we've established with our members, stakeholders and funding partners.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I liked the idea of working to bring schools together to meet the needs of students, teachers and administrators. I believe the best organizations understand the power of collaboration and the innovative solutions which are a product of the process.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

As the Executive Director, my satisfaction comes from supporting our staff in their work to meet the needs of our members.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I'm proud of the flexibility our staff shows to get our priorities accomplished.

Name: Heather Eken

Job Title: Physical Therapist

SEEC Team Member since: August 2015

Background information:

"North Dakota nice" is all I have ever known as I grew up in this state. I attended the University of North Dakota for my undergraduate and graduate/doctoral degrees in physical therapy, and have a passion for serving others. I have been blessed to be able to make my passion an occupation. Along my journey, I married a man with honest morals and beliefs, and we have been graced with four children. I try to hold on to my hobbies of volleyball, outdoor activities, playing cards and traveling as best I can within the hustle and bustle of life.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The freedom of not working or being on-call for holidays and weekends.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Since I travel to many schools for my role, I am happy to provide information to many staff members of the districts of SEEC and what we can offer.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The tremendous effort that every single person provides to make one congruent team; and not only a team, but almost like a family that is dedicated to empowering each member and strive to bring out the highest potential in all of us.

Name: Jolene Garty

Job Title: Program Manager for Student Services **SEEC Team Member since:** January 2013

Background information:

Education background: BA in Political Science and MS emphasis in Public Administration from Minnesota State University Moorhead. I spent seven years working for a U.S. Senator in North Dakota before coming to the SEEC. My husband, Chris, and I have two children: Grace and Jack.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The impact and quality of the programs the SEEC operates.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

The transition of our SEECing Student Program to become a formal Reading Corps replication partner, N.D. Reading Corps.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The impact our work has on students and teachers in N.D.



Name: Jim Gibson

Job Title: Human Resources Generalist

SEEC Team Member since: September 2016

Background information:

I retired from the North Dakota Air National Guard after 36 years of service mostly in the Security Forces career field. During the last three years, I was the Senior Enlisted Leader where I was able to work on training, utilization, recognizing and supporting all enlisted members of the N.D. National Guard. Before coming to SEEC, I worked full-time as the Site Security Manager at the Fargo Microsoft campus. I live in West Fargo with my wife Gayle and I have four kids: Samantha, Brandon, Melanie and Olivia.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

Getting into the human resources career field and the connection SEEC has with supporting teachers and schools.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

I have been here a short while but I have had the opportunity to jump in and work on improvements with payroll processing, personnel files and HR processes in general.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

Working as part of an organization that helps students.



Name: Jennifer Glasheen

Job Title: Director of Teaching, Learning & Assessment

SEEC Team Member since: August 2009

Background information:

My background includes 13 years as a high school science teacher (mostly chemistry) and a volleyball/basketball coach in three different states (Alaska, New York and North Dakota). I have a BA in Chemistry and Secondary Education, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, and an ABD in my Doctoral Studies. My husband is a high school art teacher and we have three awesome kids!

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I was excited about the opportunity to join an organization that was focused on innovation, problem-solving and collaboration. There are a lot of barriers in schools that need to be overcome to improve education and at the SEEC this is what we get to focus on!

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

I love working with the school leadership, especially principals, and helping them address challenges in a collaborative way. Providing leadership and helping to grow the SEEC over the past eight years and seeing how far we have come is extremely satisfying.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I am extremely proud of our SEEC staff and of the positive relationships we have with our schools!

Name: Rita Haman

Job Title: Accounts Payable Clerk

SEEC Team Member since: December 2013

Background information:

I was previously employed at the N.D. State College of Science Fargo campus and am n ow semi-retired.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The opportunity to work half days and stay involved in education.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Attending and learning new software the SEEC has bought to help in the transition to its own entity.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

Working with extremely talented people dedicated to education, teachers and students.

Name: Debra Herman

Job Title: Accounting Manager

SEEC Team Member since: July 2005

Background information:

As the SEEC has grown over the years I have done a little bit of everything from human resources to finance to professional development.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I was one of the two original employees that was here when the SEEC was formed.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Taking the SEEC through the transition as it became its own entity.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

Seeing how the SEEC has grown from two part-time staff, Kyle and myself, to now over 100 staff members and the impact the SEEC has had on both professional development for teachers and students.

Name: Keely Ihry

Job Title: Healthy Schools Program Coordinator **SEEC Team Member since:** August 2016

Background information:

I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with a degree in Community Health Education. After finishing my internship at a hospital in Minneapolis, I moved to Fargo for a job as a Health Educator at Clay County Public Health. My role at Public Health quickly shifted from general health education into a role as the Tobacco Prevention Program Manager. I spent the first few years working to pass local and statewide policies that would create smoke-free indoor environments for all Minnesotans. After the Minnesota statewide smoking ban was implemented, our work began shifting towards promoting physical activity and healthy eating in schools, communities and workplaces. After nine years in public health, I made the move to a non-profit foundation to oversee grants and initiatives.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I felt this was a position that would fit my strengths and passions perfectly. Having had the opportunity to work with the SEEC before starting here, gave me some insight into the organization. I saw the support it had for healthy school environments. I could also see it was a forward-thinking organization that would continue to move forward on new and innovative programming.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Even before I was employed by the SEEC, I had the opportunity to partner with its' staff on the Healthy School Summit. This Summit started in 2010 and has grown ever since. It was a great partnership opportunity to impact a greater amount of teachers and administrators from both North Dakota and Minnesota. By partnering together we were able to draw on the different successes and strengths being accomplished by area schools. It also brought satisfaction by seeing so many school staff members engaged in school wellness, and wanting to see or make a difference in the lives of their students.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

This has already proven to be a great team to be part of in the few months I have been employed. There are so many wonderful things happening here everyday that are making such a big impact on those schools located within the SEEC region and beyond. You can definitely see the passion in the work being done by each and every staff person here.

Name: Sheila Kriewald

Job Title: 21CCLC MOST Program Site Coordinator

SEEC Team Member since: 08/2015

Background information:

Major in Elementary Education with a Minor in Early Childhood and Reading. I owned and operated my own preschool for 13 years. I have four children and four step-children. I enjoy going to their activities as well as events in the community.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The services it offers to students and families in the schools.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

The Christmas giving project was so heart warming. To be a part of a team that is willing to donate so much. I was able to shop, wrap and deliver to a family in Ellendale. To see that family light up when I delivered the items brought tears to my eyes. That would not have been able to happen without all the giving people of this organization.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

To be part of an organization with such strong leadership skills and services offered.

Name: Lana Meissner

Job Title: 21CCLC Site Coordinator - Jamestown **SEEC Team Member since:** August 2015

Background information:

I have a bachelors degree in K-12 Music education and taught in that field for 17 years. I am married with three children and currently live in Jamestown.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The fact that I was still able to be part of the school system when I moved to Jamestown was a big plus for me. I also am very passionate about education and this allows me to stay connected and help in ways that I couldn't as a music teacher.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

As I've been learning and growing with the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Meaningful Out-of-School-Time program, I see the importance of an after school program as many of the students that come to us would be home alone without our program. I think it is important for them to have a place to be comfortable.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I love all the things we do for all schools and how passionate everyone is that works for the SEEC.

Name: Lynn Mitzel

Job Title: Math Specialist

SEEC Team Member since: January 2015

Background information:

I provide grade-specific professional development in mathematics around the state of North Dakota through five of the Regional Educational Associations. Prior to this I was a curriculum specialist/mentor and classroom teacher in Fargo Public Schools. I have also taught in an inner city middle school in upstate NY along with Grand Forks Public Schools.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The SEEC offered to be my fiscal agent for a grant that I was awarded through the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. SEEC secured funding through the Succeed 2020 grant to expand and continue with this professional development.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Just in Time Mathematics began as professional development for Fargo Public Schools; it has grown and developed from there. I am fortunate to say that I have been given the opportunity to challenge and change how teachers think about, learn and teach math. I hope that this impact is reaching all North Dakota students.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The impact that we have on student learning.



Name: Connie Molony

Job Title: ELA Specialist, Projects Consultant **SEEC Team Member since:** July 2012

Background information:

Since 1973, I have taught elementary grades; middle level language arts and reading intervention; and education classes at three universities. I have been a language arts specialist for the Fargo Public Schools, serving 15 elementary schools. During a 9-year hiatus, while my sons were little, I worked in my family's business as office manager. Degrees: BA: Elementary Education and Psychology (Hamline University); MA: K-12 Curriculum and Instruction (Minnesota State University Moorhead); Other: Reading Recovery license, Middle Level Endorsement, Title 1 Reading credential. Most importantly, I am a wife, mom, and grandma. Retirement is imminent!

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I enjoy a challenge. With my experience working with adult learners in schools and professional development, the SEEC provided me an opportunity to help improve instruction in many schools across North Dakota.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

I was hired in 2012 as a result of the Succeed 2020 grant, which was focused on increasing college and career readiness for N.D. students. An important first responsibility was to raise awareness and increase knowledge about the Common Core State Standards. As ELA Specialist, I worked with SEEC teachers and administrators to understand the potential and the impact for implementation. Once a baseline understanding was achieved, I and other professional development staff focused on implementing best practices to improve classroom instruction. Now in its third year, one of the most successful projects has been the Improving Academic Literacy project, in which school-level teams of teachers and their administrators commit to a year-long study to learn multiple, research-based strategies in literacy seminars. They implement the strategies in their own classrooms, and share the benefits with others in their schools. All teachers participate in school site visits to observe each other, offering feedback and coaching. In this way, professionals learn from each other and gain valuable insight about effective instruction that produces greater student engagement and leads to higher student achievement.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

Everyone at the SEEC is committed to service for the benefit of all the stakeholders we serve. I am inspired by so many generous and talented people!

Name: Becky Mueller

Job Title: ND Afterschool Network Coordinator **SEEC Team Member since:** July 2015



I have worked in the afterschool field for eighteen years. Four years as the Youth Director at CHARISM working with new American students and their families, thirteen years at the YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties as the School Age Director overseeing 26 out-of-school-time programs in the Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo school districts. Most recently, as the N.D. Afterschool Network Coordinator at the SEEC. I have a BS in Child Development and Family Science from North Dakota State University.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

During my time at the YMCA, SEEC became the grant manager for the 21CCLC programs that I managed. Through this relationship, I saw the service and quality that SEEC brought to districts to improve the quality for students. When the opportunity arose to partake in the advancement of afterschool through the creation of the statewide Afterschool Network, I knew it was time to join their initiative.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Having the opportunity to take part in the grassroots efforts to grow the N.D. Afterschool Partnership into a Network. The success that we had with participation and outcomes of the 1st Annual N.D. Afterschool Summit.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

We are all in it for the best interest of the children.

Name: Taryn Nims

Job Title: Occupational Therapist

SEEC Team Member since: August 2015

Background information:

I am currently in my second year as an occupational therapist for SEEC, serving the South Valley Special Education Unit. I graduated with my Master of Occupational Therapy degree from the University of North Dakota.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I was first drawn in by the amount of support they provide to both their staff and their member schools. When I went in for my interview, I immediately felt welcomed. I have felt welcomed and appreciated everyday since.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

The other occupational and physical therapists and I are working to develop more cohesive therapy programming in order to better serve our students and schools. This has been a great way to collaborate with each other and look at our roles with both SEEC and the schools we serve.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I am proud to be a part of SEEC because as a team, we all work together to make a difference for the students and individuals we work with.

Name: LaCosta M. Potter

Job Title: Math/STEM/Data Specialist

SEEC Team Member since: August 2012

Background information:

I began my journey into education after several years in the field of electrical engineering. As a math teacher I taught grades 4-8 in a couple of districts. While teaching it was quickly observed by administration that I possessed both leadership skills and innovative thinking. I pursued an administration endorsement and was moved from my math classroom to a district position where I coached and wrote common assessments in mathematics in grades K-12. I then earned a district position as the data and assessment coordinator for Brooklyn Center Schools. 2008 brought a move to the Department of Education in lowa, where I served as a math and program consultant for the state. 2012 began my journey at the SEEC.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

My experiences in Iowa afforded many opportunities to work with Regional Education Associations and observe the direct impact they have on teaching and learning. I knew this was the place for me. I have worked at various levels in education and I truly feel we have an opportunity for great impact at this level in the system.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

Just in Time Mathematics has been a great success across the state.

Math Science Partnership grant has afforded collaboration and community from multiple educational entities. Along with engaging professional learning opportunities for educators.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The tireless efforts to improve the educational opportunity of students that is demonstrated by nearly every staff member is impressive. I consider myself one of them and am happy to boast of my colleagues that perform the same.

Name: Christopher Thompson

Job Title: Data Support Coordinator

SEEC Team Member since: May 2015

Background information:

I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Minnesota, Morris in 2012. Immediately after graduation I began attending graduate school at North Dakota State University. I received my Master's of Science in Education with a specific emphasis in Curriculum and Instruction as well as a graduate certificate in Statistics from NDSU in May 2015. For my Master's Thesis I collaborated with the SEEC in analyzing teachers' attitudes towards implementation of the Common Core State Standards. The SEEC then contracted with me to do additional work immediately after graduation and formally hired me full-time in July 2015.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The scope of the work I would be doing in my position. I was also attracted to the open and collegial atmosphere of the staff. They all perform their jobs at a high level and will do whatever it takes to provide the greatest output for the organization and the member districts.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

I receive satisfaction through working across ALL of the programs the SEEC offers. However, I would say I am very proud of the work that has been done to scale up the Just in Time Math program from the regional level to the state level. This program has demonstrated a significant impact across a wide variety of math educators throughout the state. Secondly, I would say I am very satisfied with the Improving Academic Literacy project. This program has been a staple of our PD offerings over the last few years and is strongly embedded with evidence-based instructional practices. It also benefits a wide range of teachers and supportively forces teachers to observe and be observed by their colleagues.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

I am proud to be a part of the SEEC team because I have a chance to work with some amazing coworkers who have a deep passion for education. The staff that the SEEC has is top-notch and committed to making a difference in teaching and learning. I feel like my work is helping increase the quality of their work, which ultimately leads to enhanced teaching and learning in schools.

Name: Lori Vesel

Job Title: Administrative Assistant

SEEC Team Member since: December 2012

Background information:

I am married, no children, one dog and am semi-retired. I worked as a state employee for 36 years until my retirement in July 2012. I returned to the workforce in December 2012 with the SEEC.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I did not know anything about the SEEC prior to my hire and was initially attracted to the position because of the hours. I was looking for limited, part-time work following my retirement and the position with the SEEC met those needs.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

With the transition away from Fargo Public Schools, I temporarily took on payroll until the Human Resources Generalist position was filled.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The SEEC is a very strong, committed team. Everyone works hard and is very friendly, approachable and appreciative.



Name: Brittney Waloch

Job Title: Occupational Therapist

SEEC Team Member since: May 2013

Background information:

I have worked as an occupational therapist in outpatient pediatrics and school systems since graduating with my Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Mary.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

What was appealing to me about SEEC is the broad number of schools, teachers, staff and students the SEEC is able to impact through the conferences, programs and services it offers.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

I greatly enjoy the impact I am able to have in providing direct occupational therapy services to a number schools and students. It is a rewarding experience when a student is able to better achieve their education goals as a result in the participation in special education services. I also enjoy my ability to be involved in the School-Based Medicaid billing project. It serves as a means to assist the schools in receiving Medicaid funding that helps to prove the direct therapy services for their students.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The SEEC is committed to meeting the needs of schools, staff and students in our region and beyond. Everyone at the SEEC has the drive and determination to make a difference in the lives' of the students we work with both directly and indirectly.

Name: Kerri Whipple

Job Title: Program Manager for 21CCLC and EL, ND Reading Corps PreK

Master Coach

SEEC Team Member since: August 2013

Background information:

2004-2010 West Fargo Public Schools English Learners District Coordinator, 2010-2013 DPI Title III and English Learners Program Assistant Director

Elementary Education major, Special Education minor, Masters in Reading Education with English Language Cognate

Served on national panels regarding the identification and screening for English Learners, presented at numerous programs and created N.D. English Learners Boot Camp which has been replicated in another state.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

The flexibility in my work schedule (FTE); ability to work with great, well-respected professionals and for a reputable organization; and the opportunity to work with schools who wanted to better the education for all of our students.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

My involvement with the growth of the PreK N.D. Reading Corps program and trainings has allowed me to apply the concepts about adult learning into other programs and trainings.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

Working with such a great team who attends to current research in the field and is committed to improving education for students in our member schools

Name: Sandy Zahn

Job Title: Director of Instructional Technology, Valley City Area Teacher

Director, Data/IT Coordinator - Edgeley **SEEC Team Member since:** July 2008



Background information:

I started out as a classroom teacher and taught for 12 years in Kulm, N.D. I also was the district technology coordinator at that time and was in charge of integration of technology. I truly believe that teaching and using technology led to the success of technology integration in the Kulm school. In my years at there, I presented at many technology conferences and was hired by area schools to lead teacher in-services. I have been with the SEEC and Valley City Teacher Center for the past eight years. I am also the new data/IT coordinator for Edgeley School, where my office is located. I live in Kulm and am married with three children.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

When I applied, it was a half-time professional development coordinator and half-time Valley City Teacher Center Director. What appealed to me was being able to work with teachers. My first two years at the SEEC, I focused on teaching teachers/principals on how to use NWEA data.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

I am very happy with where we are at with escWorks, our registration software. It still is a work in progress but I feel good about choosing it. It is software written by an ESA for ESA's. Currently, five N.D. Regional Education Associations use it with the goal to get the remaining three on board. We are working on a state calendar where we can publish events and share out across the state. We also have a users group that meets yearly to help support the use of escWorks. The Principal Advisory Committee is a very important part of our organization which meets monthly face-to-face and usually has 30 to 40 in attendance. This groups lets us know what they are looking for from the SEEC. The Valley City Area Teacher Center has recently moved under the SEEC and I am very proud of the impact that has had on our member schools. We have lots of great resources that are used in our member schools on a daily basis.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

What makes me proud to be part of the SEEC team is to see all the accomplishments we've achieved over the past eight years. Our staff has the passion and the drive to accomplish great things. I am very proud of the impact the SEEC has on our member schools.

Name: Alison Zima

Job Title: Communications Coordinator

SEEC Team Member since: January 2014

Background information:

Graduate of Minnesota State University Moorhead with a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications with an emphasis in Advertising and Public Relations. Prior to working at the SEEC, I was the Communications Coordinator for the Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead for four and a half years. My husband, Tyler, and I live in Fargo with our 8-month-old son, Grayson.

What drew you into applying for a position within the SEEC?

I always wanted to be involved with education and working with/for children. When this position opened, it was a new position for the organization so it held great opportunity for me to create a communications "department" that I believed in. When meeting the team and learning more about the SEEC I knew that it would be a great opportunity for professional growth and I would get to be a part of great programming that is working to better the education of all students in our state.

Describe a project (or two) that has had a significant impact and brought you satisfaction:

The SEEC has begun assisting school districts and special education units in billing for Medicaid eligible services they are providing for students. I have been on the project since it piloted in 2014 and the number of school districts reached has grown immensely. It is a great feeling knowing that we are helping districts bring in money available to them to support the services their students are receiving that help ensure they excel in the school setting.

What makes you proud to be part of the SEEC team?

The SEEC team is extremely knowledgeable and passionate in what we do. It is great to know that we are a go-to source for so many educators in North Dakota, but also for many outside our state as well.