



THE SCOOP

**Shares
inc.**

Quarterly Newsletter
JULY 2024

Community Employment Updates!

Community Employment Services has had a great spring! Via the Bureau of Disability Services Employment Collaborative Transformation Grant, 14 individuals who are receiving pre-vocational services have successfully obtained community job placements since we began this project. On average they are earning \$12.76 per hour and working an average of 13 hours per week. These individuals are working in culinary, childcare, custodial, and retail positions with a variety of employers in Rush, Shelby, and Hancock counties. Additionally, our new roles, Community Engagement Coordinators, have been hard at work to create new partnerships in our communities and begin blending VR and BDS Services. It is an exciting time of creative growth at Shares, Inc. We are currently looking for additional staff to continue this new way of providing services.



Shares staff members Ryan Bethel, Joe Land, and Sean Power toured Stonebelt's operation at the end of May to learn more about how they have managed to keep their production lines open post transition.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and CES is about much more than finding a job. This service is available to everyone at Shares, Inc. and can help us discover additional services beyond job placement. If you would like to learn more about VR reach out to Joe Land, Director of Employment Services: jland@sharesinc.org or call/ text 812.390.6085

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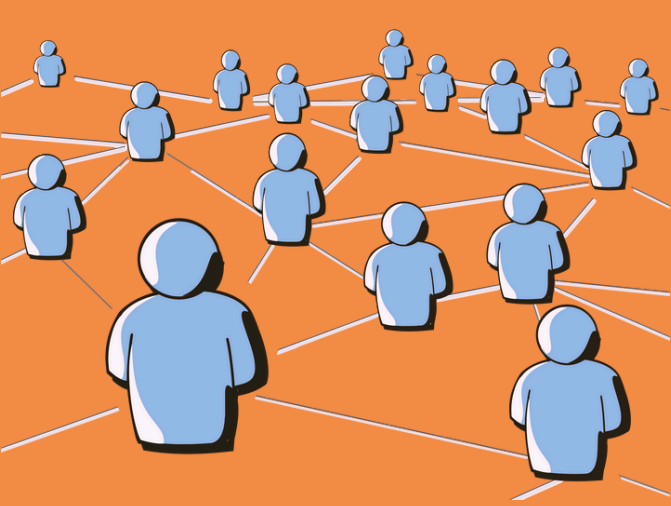
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Jordan Turner

NONDISCRIMINATION ON BASIS OF HANDICAP
Shares, Inc. is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination as required by civil rights legislation, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1990 as a result of the organization's commitment to equal opportunity. EOE-M/F Shares, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Community Engagement Coordinators



Please join us in congratulating Lillian Rowe and Kelly Slaven on their new positions with Shares Inc. Both Lillian and Kelly have accepted positions as Community Engagement Coordinators. Kelly and Lillian will be working to bridge the gap between ADLS/Production and Community Employment. This bridge may not lead to employment for everyone, but it will increase the amount of time that the people we support at Shares, Inc. will spend in the community. This will include things like volunteer work, learning about potential employment options in the community, and interacting with the community as a whole.

Kelly had been an Employment Consultant with Shares since May of 2023. Kelly played a huge role in revitalizing our Employment Services program in Rush county since she started with Shares and has helped numerous people find and maintain employment in her first year with Shares. Kelly is an amazing advocate for the people she supports and helps them to find the jobs that they want to have. Kelly is looking forward to building new relationships for our organization and the people we support. Kelly is also a gifted photographer and took the Open House photos for our organization this year. Kelly is also a mother to an awesome four-year-old girl named Ruby and has a pet cockatoo, Murphy. Kelly will work primarily in the Rush County area to form new connections with employers, other non-profits, and local businesses to develop new and exciting opportunities for the people Shares, Inc. supports.



Kelly Slaven



Lillian Rowe

Lillian has been an Employment Consultant with Shares since October of 2022, and has made a substantial impact on both the people she has worked with and the Employment Services team. Lillian strives to get to know people and help them find the best outcome possible when it comes to employment. She is looking forward to helping the people we support become more active in the community in which they live. Lillian is also a mother to an incredible eight- year-old girl and a rambunctious dog. Lillian will work primarily in the Shelby County area to form new connections with employers, other non-profits, and local businesses to develop new and exciting opportunities for the people Shares, Inc. supports.

Joe Griffin: From Sheltered Employment to Bakery Success - A Journey of Growth and Contribution

Joe Griffin has been a dedicated member of Shares, Inc. since the spring of 2021. Initially, he began his journey working in the Shelbyville workshop while attending various classes. In 2022, Joe's exceptional performance earned him the Pre-vocational Employee of the Year award at the Shares, Inc. annual Open House. Joe is recognized for his hard work and willingness to assist others, and he also enjoys volunteering at Rupert's Community Days during his class time.

In 2023, Joe embarked on his quest to find a community job through Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Collaborating with his VR coach, Lori, Joe chose Shares, Inc. as his employment provider.

Employment Consultant Graham Trotter supported Joe during the discovery phase in the fall of 2023. With his recent move to a new apartment, Joe sought employment close to his residence.

In March of this year, Joe applied to Linne's Bakery, where he participated in job shadowing and trial work periods. He quickly adapted to working with customers and efficiently learned to operate the cash register and manage item pricing.

Joe was officially hired at Linne's in April.

Joe thoroughly enjoys his role at the bakery, particularly the opportunity to meet new people and acquire new skills.



He shares, "The workers at Linne's are so nice and fun to be around when I'm there. They make me feel so happy and glad to be working at Linne's."

Andi, the manager at Linne's, praises Joe's contributions: "Joe is an invaluable member of our Linne's family. He does not hesitate to help customers and does his best to assist them with kindness. He is always ready to lend a helping hand to other employees to help make their tasks go faster. Thank you for joining our team, Joe!"



Shares, Inc. is seeking candidates to fill several open full-time positions. If you are looking for employment or know someone who is and you feel like they would be a good fit at Shares, Inc., please have them complete a job application and leave their resume with Jenni Gilbert, jgilbert@sharesinc.org. Shares, Inc. offers 8 hour shifts, Monday through Friday, with no weekends required. We also offer dental insurance, health insurance, vision insurance, health savings account, and paid time off.

Milwaukee

Important Dates

- Aug 2 - Trip must be paid in full and spending money due
- Aug 19 - Medications due
- Aug 23 - Suitcases may be dropped off early*

*Rush Co. folks need to bring to Shelbyville

2. Label your belongings.

A name tag on your suitcase, C-PAP, walker, and wheelchair are required. Please provide a gallon of distilled water for your C-PAP (put your name on this, too).

1. Only pack one suitcase

A wheeled suitcase would be ideal as many cannot carry their own luggage. It should be large enough to hold all your clothing and any souvenirs that may be purchased. Keep in mind that radios, CD players, tablets, etc. are often misplaced or lost on the trips. We suggest that you do not bring these items unless necessary.

3. Pack for the weather and activities.

Milwaukee has a similar climate to that of central Indiana. Make sure to pack lightweight clothing for summer travel. This looks like shorts, jeans, shirts, tee shirts, and a light jacket or sweatshirt. If you like to swim, don't forget your swimsuit, as there is an indoor pool. Bring comfortable rubber-soled shoes for walking.



4. Don't forget your undies (and other essentials)!

Pack plenty of underwear and socks. Double-check that you have all personal items. This includes toothbrush & paste, razor, body wash, deodorant, comb & brush, sanitary supplies, shampoo, etc. Bring a laundry bag for dirty clothes and label it with your name (an empty trash bag will work fine).

5. Look the part of an American tourist!

We all know that look - hat, sunglasses, binoculars, snacks, and bottled water! It's not complete without a camera/smartphone. Just don't forget to pack your charging cables.



Preparations. Tips. Expectations

6. Don't get burned!

Nobody wants to spend their vacation sunburned. Please bring sunscreen! If you need assistance in applying sunscreen, we ask that you bring aerosol sunscreen.



7. Plan for souvenirs.

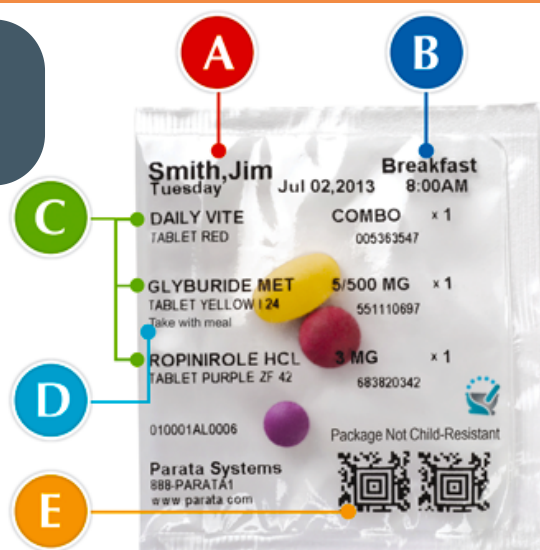
Shopping opportunities will be available. Please make a judgment as to your interest in souvenir shopping and send an appropriate amount. Please provide ideas for shopping on the emergency information sheet.

8. Label medications.

It is essential that each person's medication be appropriately labeled with the name of medication, individual's name, dosage, and time to be given. Medication Pass Packs are the best option for this - please contact your local pharmacy to have your medication packaged this way. If lotions, mouthwashes, Carnation-type drinks, etc. can be deferred for this week, please do not send these items and do not include them on the Emergency Information sheet. All medications will be kept and monitored by a staff member throughout the trip. This is one area that is monitored closely for everyone.

Example of a Medication Pass Pack

- A** Patient name
- B** Time of administration
- C** Medication names and strengths
- D** Directions
- E** Optional bar code for bedside scanning



Living Skills Updates



Our Living Skills participants have been bustling with activity in all three counties! From cooking classes to bowling and movie outings, everyone has been eagerly learning and enhancing their skills.

We've had the pleasure of visiting the local fire department, where participants gained valuable safety knowledge. They've also honed their culinary skills by trying out various recipes in our cooking classes. Additionally, our sewing sessions have been a hit, allowing participants to explore their creativity and craftsmanship.

Music classes have brought joy and rhythm to our days, fostering both individual and group musical talents. Each outing and class has been a wonderful opportunity for learning and growth. Stay tuned for more exciting updates from our Living Skills program!



Living Skills Updates



Greenfield and Shelbyville Shares attended the Strawberry Festivals in Greenfield and Shelbyville. Some of the Shelbyville participants made yellow cakes to donate to the festival.



For the past year, Greenfield and Shelbyville Shares have been volunteering at Rupert's Kids Community Days. This involves unpacking boxes onto tables, tearing down boxes, and being a greeter to those who are participating!



HOW AND WHY TO CELEBRATE DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH

Disability Pride Month is celebrated every July and is an opportunity to honor the history, achievements, experiences, and struggles of the disability community. Why July? It marks the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), landmark legislation that broke down barriers to inclusion in society.

People with disabilities deserve to live full, self-determined lives, just like everyone else. Yet discrimination persists for the 1 in 4 U.S. adults living with a disability.

You can learn more about the history of disability pride here:
<https://www.womansday.com/life/a43964487/disability-pride-flag/>

Learn about the disability experience by meeting people with disabilities. You can meet them in person or read one of the following articles that shine a light on what people with disabilities want society to know. The more we listen to people with disabilities and share their truths, the more we can drive positive change!

<https://thearc.org/about-us/stories/> and
<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/health/wellness/a60343482/disability-quotes/>

Learn about disability rights in Indiana and the United States by visiting the following sites:

<https://www.indianadisabilityhistory.org/time> and
<https://www.accessibility.com/resources/timeline-of-disability-rights>

Share your disability story using #DisabilityPride and #DisabilityPrideMonth. What are you proud of? What do you want people without disabilities to know?

Take Action by reaching out to elected officials to educate them on policies that harm or strengthen the quality of life of people with disabilities.

Teach your children to acknowledge and include disabled people. This will help foster inclusion for future generations. Here are some tips:
<https://www.today.com/parents/how-teach-children-about-disability-every-age-t187942>

Hire people with disabilities. Right now, 85% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are unemployed however many of them want to work and have skills that they are able to contribute. Here are some stories:
<https://thearc.org/employdisability/>

“

One big misconception is that I am not able to follow directions, learn, or be employable. I want to work so I can be independent and get my own apartment.

Marcus Stewart

2024 Theme:

“We Want a Life Like Yours”

“

People with disabilities are just as worthy as those without disabilities to live happy, productive lives.

Sydney Badeau

Greenfield Staff Highlights

My name is Logan Amos and I'm the newest Life Skills Instructor in Greenfield. Prior to Shares I worked as a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) for about 1.5 years. My hobbies include spending time with my family, especially my little boy Andrew, and reading. I look forward to working with and helping all the participants at Shares.



My name is Misti Dyer and work at Shares, Inc. as a production supervisor. I have been at Shares for a year in July. I have two children, a son and daughter, and 3 grandsons. One of my hobbies is flying. My fiancé and I have our own private plane and try to fly as often as we can. One of my favorite vacation spots is Lake Tahoe, California.

Hello, I'm Donna. I've been privileged to work at Shares, Inc. in Greenfield for 20 years; first, as a Service Coordinator for about a year, then my position changed to Program Manager.

Before coming to Shares, I had other jobs in the field of disability services, but my experience at Brandywine Shares has been the most rewarding for me. I've learned a lot from each participant—each of them is unique and has a story of their own. Every day is different, and certainly never boring! I'm very thankful for my many blessings—most of all, my husband, son, daughter, and precious granddaughter.



Hey everyone, I am Zach Hanselman and I have been the janitor here since 2020. I enjoy cleaning and doing vacuum cleaner projects to make them look nice.

Good day! I am Sheila Hubbard and I have worked at Shares as a production supervisor for five years. I love working with the people here and assisting them to reach their goals. I am a mom of three and grandmother to five - Jaylen, Riley, Bentley, Luca, and Jordan. I enjoy spending time with my three dogs, Stella, Sophie, and Roman and my grandbabies.



I am Stacie Kirkham. I started at Shares many years ago as a driver in Rushville for seven years. I left for a time and have been back for a year in a new position as a production supervisor. I enjoy the participants we serve and enjoy working with them. I have worked as a manicurist for 22 years when I am not at Shares. I enjoy gardening and growing flowers.

Greenfield Staff Highlights



Hello I am Carol and I have been a part of the Shares ,Inc. team for 14 years. I started as a supervisor in Greenfield in 2010, and was promoted to Plant Manager in Greenfield in 2017. I enjoy working with the participants in various different capacities, from production work, to Coffee \ Coke time , to helping with behaviors, to chaperone on the trips. My favorite parts of the job are watching a participant and supervisor work together to be successful at accomplishing a job task or goal and also watching their faces on pay day Friday - that is the best! I am a Colts fan, and I enjoy antique shopping and going to flea markets with my husband .



Hello, I am Pennina McMullen. I have worked at Shares, Inc. for the last twenty years. Prior to working here, I was in retail for thirty years. Outings are my favorite part of being a Living Skills Instructor and my favorite spots to go are parks, zoos, musuems, and lunch. Spending time with my family brings me great happiness - daughter Mandi, pictured, husband Phil, grandson Jacob, and son-in-law Matt. I turn 70 in November and am considering retiring in the the next year.

My name is Theresa Mozingo, I was born and raised here in Indiana. I have one sister and three brothers. I'm a mom of one daughter and two grandsons. I am also a dog mom of a beautiful Morkie named Sassy. In my free time I like doing Diamond Art, watching TV, and spending time with my family and my dog. I have worked for Shares, Inc. for 14 years and I love my job.



My name is Bobetta "Bobbi" Shaw. I enjoy knitting and crocheting in my free time. I also love to bake. I dabble in gardening by trying to grow flowers. I've been married for nearly 12 years to the best man in the world. I have 4 cats and I want a dog really badly. I like old cars and trucks. A fun fact about me, I wanted to be a mechanic but I don't like getting my hands dirty.

Hey I am Candy Sink and I have been at Shares for six years and I have been the morning receptionist for three years. I enjoy being helpful and greeting people. I got married in April and enjoy spending quality time with my husband. I also like painting and going for walks.



Greenfield Staff Highlights



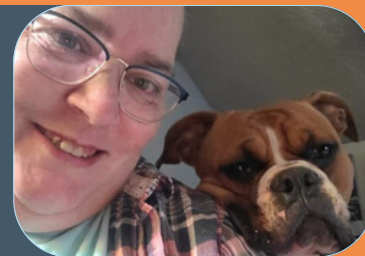
Hello, I am Paul Smith and I am the afternoon receptionist. I recently had a commitment ceremony with my girlfriend. I enjoy fishing and going shopping and to yard sales. I like to collect shot glasses and Coca-Cola glasses. I would like to get a dog sometime in the future.

My name is Jordan Turner and I am the Social Worker. I have been at Shares for nine years although I began my time here as an Employment Consultant before transitioning to my current role. I enjoy seeing the participants each day and love the positivity, courage, and determination. I am married and have two wonderful children, Aubrie age 4 and Corbin age 1.5. In my spare time I enjoy using my creativity by painting and scrapbooking.



My name is Cindy Weisheit, and I am Senior Program Manager at Shares. In June 1981 I began my career at Shares, Inc. as a work adjustment supervisor. My job has changed duties and titles over the years, participants have attended and many moved on, and numerous staff have become lifelong friends even after they have moved on to other jobs. I do enjoy working to help folks find another way to perform the production jobs we do at Shares. Often we can find ways to do a task that seemed difficult in the beginning, but is accomplished with some new methods. Much of my job is meeting with the teams that serve our participants. A highlight of working at Shares has been the opportunity to take folks on the trips around America. I have been able to attend 19 of those trips.

Hi my name is Paula. I started Shares about 6 months ago. I really enjoy my time with all of the living skills and day program participants. I have been told that I am now the resident baker of the facility as I make a lot of cookies, cupcakes, and other desserts. When I'm not at Shares I enjoy spending time with my family, my grandbabies, and my dog Shay. Most weekends in the spring and summer you will find me at the dirt track in Paragon, going to Indiana Fever games, and going to concerts.



Hi. I'm Annalise. I used to work at Ashford Place in Shelbyville as a Dietary Aide. I am glad to make the switch to here and work with everyone. I enjoy seeing everyone everyday and just talking and connecting with everyone. I have a white German Shepherd named Phantom and a cat named Roy. I do have a boyfriend named Connor, and he is a EMT and volunteer firefighter in Rushville. I am so happy to be working with everyone.

About Shares...

Save the dates!

Shares, Inc. Closed
Thursday July 4th

Shares, Inc. Board Meeting
Monday July 8th at 7pm,
Shelbyville

**Shares Trip Must be Paid in Full
Deadline**
Friday August 2nd

Shares, Inc. Educational Trip
Sunday August 25th to Friday August
30th

Shares, Inc. Closed
Monday September 2nd

Self Advocates of Indiana Picnic
Friday September 20th at 10am, Hummel
Park in Plainfield

Shares, Inc. Board Meeting
Monday September 23rd at 7pm, Virtual



Contact Us



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