

# YOUR Shares

newsletter

JANUARY 2013



## Transportation Service

Effective September 1, 2012, Shares, Inc. was approved for a new transportation service available to individuals enrolled in Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver. Depending upon the needs of the participant, there are three levels of transportation.

**Level 1:** Transportation via vehicle that is not specially equipped.

**Level 2:** Transportation in a vehicle specially designed to accommodate wheelchairs.

**Level 3:** Transportation in a vehicle specially designed to accommodate a participant who for medical reasons must remain prone during transportation.

Shares, Inc. is certified to provide all levels of transportation under CIH Waiver. There is an annual cap under each level of transportation.

Transportation has not changed for the Family Support Waiver (formerly Support Services Waiver) and continues as before.

For more information regarding Transportation Service, please contact your social worker or service coordinator.

## PARTICIPANT HOLIDAY PARTY

On December 12th, Shares, Inc. held the annual Holiday Party at Maxim Events in Shelbyville. Participants and staff from all three counties came together for a holiday celebration that included a fine meal, a message from Cliff, and live music from the band, Group Therapy. The crowded dance floor revealed how much our agency has grown in the past year. The band took requests, played some holiday tunes, and even let some people take over the microphone and sing.

A good time was had by all, especially those on the dance floor. A great thanks goes to the agency for kicking off the holidays with a fantastic party.



**"Food and music, rock and roll!"**  
Travis T. (Shelby)

## The best things about the party?



**"I loved singing with the band!"**  
Michelle A. (Hancock)



**"The music and Christmas, man."**  
Harold R. (Rush)

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Committee: Jo Jurgensen, Varsha Mehta, Anna Buker, Brian Montgomery

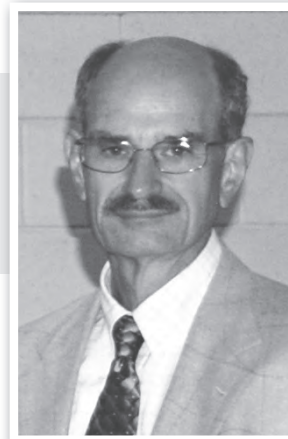
**NONDISCRIMINATION ON BASIS OF HANDICAP**  
Shares, Inc. is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination as required by civil rights legislation, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1990 as a result of the organization's commitment to equal opportunity. EOE-M/F  
Shares, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity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



## REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2012 has come to a close and much has been done to establish Shares in new areas that provide continued programs and services to adults with disabilities.

As the number of participants in our program grows, so does the need to increase the volume of work. Several methods that we will use to grow business in 2013, as highlighted in our new Business Plan, developed by our Sales Department and Management team are:



### 1 GLOW PLUG PRODUCTION

We signed contracts to produce glow plugs for both E3 and Champion in 2012. In 2013, we should be producing Champion's entire glow plug line which is estimated at 200,000 - 250,000 glow plugs worth roughly \$600,000 - \$750,000.

### 2 WIRE HARNESSES

We are now involving participants in the assembly of wire harnesses and bolt assemblies for AirDog installation kits. This program has not only given new opportunities for participants in the program but also provides a cost savings for WAP, LLC.

### 3 FIRST AID KITS

The kitting we do for outside first aid supply kits is slowly progressing to take over more of the work for an Indianapolis based establishment that has been impressed with our past track record.

### 4 WORLD MEDIA GROUP

World Media Group is a business solutions company, focused on manufacturing high quality optical discs, custom printed USB drives, plastic card printing, full color printing, media packaging and direct-to-customer fulfillment.

WMG is going to outsource their assembly and fulfillment division and if we are awarded these projects, Shares would have consistent work for a large portion of our work force.

### 5 SHARES FINISHING SERVICES

2013 should see a steady increase of new jobs, revenue and operating profit that were started in late 2012.

The goal is to reduce the dependence on Ryobi and Tuff Torq business that was 94% of SFS revenue in previous years.

### 6 GLASS FOR GOOD

The Glass for Good website is complete along with a printed piece to distribute to potential customers.

We are currently developing packaging materials for the glass that should be designed and ready for print by the end of November. ASG Glass (distributor) has agreed to drop ship to alleviate the need for Shares to warehouse materials until our customer base is developed.

Strategic Materials (parent company of ASG Glass) is in the process of installing three new furnaces at their Indianapolis facility to produce the glass for Shares.

Our target customers will be regional retail chains in industries that include; pet supplies, floral, wedding, decorative, and outdoor products.

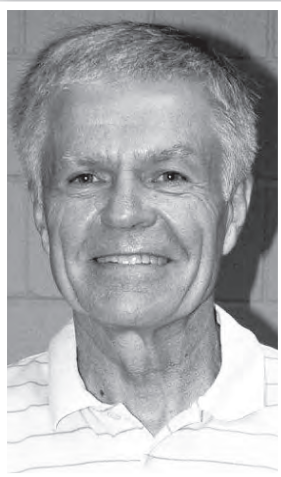
### 7 SUMMER TRIP

Educational trips at Shares, Inc. continue to be one of the highlights for our participants. We create these vacation trips with fun for all in mind, but also as a learning experience.

Our next trip will be in late August to Michigan. We will tour a Ford factory and watch F-150 trucks being built, see the Soo Locks, go to a lumber jack show and more!

Hope you had good holiday season with your loved ones and that you can visit us in this New Year.

*Clifford Strachman*



## LETTER FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

The holidays have come and gone and it is my hope that those who are reading this article had a wonderful Christmas and are now looking forward to the New Year.

At the beginning of the New Year we have the opportunity to look back to the last year, assess our value and ask ourselves what we would like to bring to this New Year. This can be a daunting task for much of the time we are focused on the "things." The things that are most important in life are not the seen but the unseen.

I believe that for Shares to be most valuable, we must focus on the way in which we help others and how we might be able to be involved in bringing about a change in the way others see us.

I hope the New Year brings much satisfaction to your life and our progress at Shares will bring joy and hope as we encourage each other to bring our best to the challenges of the future.

*David Oaks*



# YOUR COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

William Settles, who prefers to be called "Buddy", has been selected to receive the Employee of the Quarter Award for Community Employment Services.

In September of 2012 Buddy began working as a Production Worker at Toray Resin, a Shelbyville company that develops plastics for use in automotive, electrical and electronic, appliance and consumer markets in North America.

After a successful job trial at Toray Resin, Buddy was offered a position. He currently works part-time, four days a week while continuing to work part-time at Shares, Inc. He works closely with Julie Sewell, Employment Specialist, who assisted him with finding community employment.

When Buddy was asked how he liked his job at Toray, he stated "I love my job; I wouldn't trade it for anything. There are so many nice people to work with at Toray." During the past four months, Buddy has proven to be a very dependable employee. He reports to work on time, maintains a positive attitude, follows through with his work thoroughly, and cooperates well with his coworkers.

Not long after he began employment, Buddy was given a Toray t-shirt in recognition of his hard work and positive attitude. His supervisors praise Buddy's performance stating, "Buddy is an asset to Toray" and "Buddy is doing a great job on 2nd shift keeping the boxes built



and is overall being a big help." The entire staff has been very supportive and has made Buddy feel like part of their team.

Buddy is very proud of his job and hopes to maintain his job for years to come.

**Congratulations Buddy!**

**Brian Montgomery**  
*Director Employment Services*

*If you or someone that you know has a disability and may need assistance with finding a community job, please contact your local Vocational Rehabilitation Services office. SHELBY COUNTY 1-877-876-2864 (toll-free) RUSH COUNTY 765-966-0932 (local) HANCOCK COUNTY 317-845-1637 (local)*

## YOUR SOCIAL SERVICES

### Money Talks!!

Don't forget to file your tax return in order to claim the benefits you earned this year! You may be eligible for the **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)**.

To qualify for the EITC, you must meet the following rules:

- You must have earned income (less than \$13,660 or \$18,740 if married and filing jointly)
- You cannot qualify as a dependent of another person
- You must be between the ages of 25 and 64 by the end of the year
- Have children under 19, a student can be under 24, or a child who is disabled can be any age

The Earned Income Tax Credit refund will not count as income toward your SSI, Medicaid, Food Stamps, cash assistance, or public housing. However, some of these programs may have a limit on how long you can keep your refund in your bank account.

To learn if you are eligible for the EITC, please visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and search for EITC.

### Free Tax Help!!

Why pay to have your taxes done when you can have them done for free? If you earned under \$49,000 in 2012 you can get free tax help. Call 1-800-906-9887 to find the nearest Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site near you.

### 2013 Important Social Security Changes

- All Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries will receive a 1.7 percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2013.
- Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) for 2013 is \$1040/mo if you are non-blind and \$1740 per month if you are blind.
- The Trial Work Period Amount for 2013 is now \$750/ mo.
- The SSI Federal Payment Standard increased to \$710/mo for an individual and \$1066/mo for a couple.
- The Social Security Administration allows people to attempt to return to work and still collect their benefits. Please feel free to contact a Social Service Department member for further information on how these changes and incentives can benefit you.



# YOUR 2012 AT A GLANCE

## 1. SHELTERED INDUSTRY:

People served: .....	266
Piece-rate jobs performed: .....	197
Customers (companies): .....	45
Customers for Shredding Plant: .....	254
Participants also employed in the community: .....	25

## 2. COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES:

Placements: .....	69
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### TYPES OF JOBS:

Grocery .....	3
Retail .....	12
Restaurant/Food Service .....	10
Factory .....	13
Professional/Technical/Office .....	6
Transportation .....	5
Maintenance/Janitorial Service .....	11
Childcare/Caretaker .....	6
Phone/sales .....	2
Animal Care .....	1
Average wages earned: .....	\$8.38/hr

### HOURS WORKED:

Full-time (over 32 hours) .....	17
Part-time (less than 32 hours/week) .....	52
Participants receiving follow-along services: .....	51
Participants who received Benefits Consultation and Planning: .....	54

## 3. LIVING SKILLS PROGRAM:

Living Skills Classes: .....	168
Living Skills Day Program: .....	76
Participants providing volunteer services in the community .....	26
Training time in the community: .....	42%

## 4. TRANSPORTATION:

Agency transportation: .....	140
Participants using public transportation .....	30

## 5. COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

Participant members on Community Council: .....	64
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# Meet YOUR BOARD MEMBERS



Indicates Shares, Inc. Program family member



*Adam Wilson*

**Hometown:** Rushville  
**Occupation:** Product Engineer, Trane  
**Years of Service on the Board:** Newly elected  
**Board Committees served on:** To be decided



*Amy Kleine*

**Hometown:** Greenfield  
**Occupation:** Greenfield Banking Co, Assistant VP & Fortville Branch Manager  
**Years on the Board:** 2  
**Board Committees:** Finance



*Andrew Buzzard*

**Hometown:** Rushville  
**Occupation:** Executive Director, Miller's Merry Manor Nursing & Rehab Center in Rushville  
**Years on the Board:** 1  
**Board Committees:** Personnel Committee Chairperson, Planning



*David Oakes*

**Hometown:** Greenfield  
**Occupation:** Retired, Eli Lilly  
**Years on the Board:** 5  
**Board Committees:** Board President since 2011



*Jerry Lux*

**Hometown:** Shelbyville  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Years on the Board:** 1  
**Board Committees:** Building & Grounds



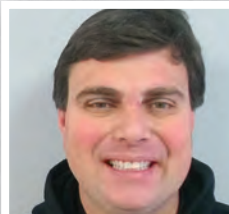
*Peg Dovidas*

**Hometown:** Shelbyville  
**Occupation:** Med-Works Specialized Billing Rep  
**Years on the Board:** 4  
**Board Committees:** Building & Grounds, Public Relations, Vice President in 2013 & Planning Committee Chairperson



*Betty Lyle*

**Hometown:** Fountaintown  
**Occupation:** Retired, Northwestern Consolidated Schools Food Service  
**Years on the Board:** 14  
**Board Committees:** Planning, Monitoring Committee Chairperson, Human Rights



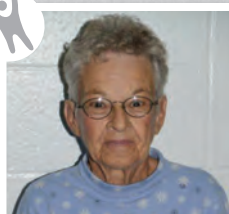
*Brad Armstrong*

**Hometown:** Greenfield  
**Occupation:** Owner, Armstrong Garage Doors, Hancock County Commissioner  
**Years on the Board:** 3  
**Board Committees:** Building & Grounds Committee Chairperson, Planning, Public Relations



*Darwin Brewer*

**Hometown:** Rushville  
**Occupation:** Owner, Sunrise Farm  
**Years on the Board:** 25  
**Board Committees:** Building & Grounds, Human Rights, Board President 2007-2010



*Phyllis Eberhart*

**Hometown:** Shelbyville  
**Occupation:** Retired, Farmers Home Administration  
**Years on the Board:** 33  
**Board Committees:** Personnel, Board Secretary since 1997



*Rex Edwards*

**Hometown:** Greenfield  
**Occupation:** Retired, Eli Lilly  
**Years on the Board:** 4  
**Board Committees:** Personnel, Nominating Committee Chairperson, Planning, Monitoring



*Ruth Baker*

**Hometown:** Shelbyville  
**Occupation:** Owner, Builder's Lumber  
**Years on the Board:** 15  
**Board Committees:** Finance Committee Chairperson, Nominating, Planning, Board Treasurer since 2007



## GREETINGS from Rushville



My name is Daniel Powell. I am the new Plant Manager at McGraw Industries in Rushville. I started in September 2012, and thus far have enjoyed my time in Rushville very much.

I am a graduate of Indiana University Purdue University of Indianapolis (IUPUI), and I have a Bachelor's Degree in History. After IUPUI I received my teaching license through Indiana Wesleyan University, and was employed by Warren Township Schools for 3 years.

During my time at Rushville Shares Inc. we have begun working with World Media Group (WGM) and the jobs entail packaging CD/DVD sets of all types. Our participants enjoy working on WGM jobs because they get to take part in an assembly line which really promotes teamwork.

My wish for this New Year is to bring new business to Shares Inc. that will keep all of us hard at work!

## Shares Shredding receives ELECTRONICS AWARD

The Association of Indiana Solid Waste Management Districts (AISWMD) recently recognized Shares Shredding and Recycling for their outstanding environmental stewardship in regard to their Electronics Waste program.

Each year the AISWMD recognizes organizations that have gone above and beyond in their development of solid waste and recycling related programming and projects and Shares Shredding & Recycling won the Non-profit /Contractor category.

In 2010, Shares Shredding & Recycling added the collection of electronic waste to our operations and we are a registered recycler through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Electronics program (IDEM).

Our workers disassemble, sort and sell the materials from electronics for recycling, and assist solid waste districts, business, schools and others in responsible management of electronics. We've collected 43 tons of electronics in 2011 and serve over 150 customers.



*Left to right: Aaron Murdoch, Gloria Griffith, Craig Franklin, Beverly Austin (AISWMD President), and Matt Lindsey*

We work closely with Rush County SWD (Carole Yeend), Brown County SWD (Bonnie Closey), and Decatur County SWD (Norma Bainbridge) and help them recycle over 17 tons of electronics each year. We'd like to thank these three people for their continued support and greatly appreciate them for nominating us for this prestigious award.



**"Recognition is the greatest motivator."**

*Gerard C. Eakedale*

# YOUR LIVING SKILLS

## SAYING THANKS to Our Friends

Greenfield celebrated with a sit down Thanksgiving feast on November 20. Cracker Barrel catered the lunch, and the staff helped provide desserts. The Masters classes made centerpieces for the tables using bowls, shredded fall colored paper, decorative pumpkins, and fake votive candles. The day program helped decorate the tables with artwork.

It was a great day to say thank you to our friends. Everyone participated in an activity as they turned to their neighbor sitting next to them and said "thank you for being my friend."

Earlier in the week, the participants took their picture with a large turkey cutout and wrote what they were thankful for this year. They displayed the artwork in the hallways of Shares.

Thanksgiving is an important time to reflect on our lives, what we each are thankful for, and for those we love who are with us and those who are not.

On a sad note, Shares lost two participants during this holiday season. Amy Britt passed away on November 30 and will be remembered by her smile and friendships.

Jennifer Reichardt who passed away January 1, 2013 will also be remembered for her ready smile and sweet disposition.

We will  
miss you  
both.



Amy Britt



Jennifer Reichardt



Hancock Co. celebrates Thanksgiving



Tony J. working on book shredding



Mike L. and Bryce S.  
Rush Co. Birthday Celebration



Rush Co. visits Mucie Mall



Doug B.  
50th Birthday



Therese S. having  
fun playing a  
game in class



Shawn C. operating  
the bag sealer



Lena V. and Diann M. trying  
on Halloween costumes



Tim F. at the Indianapolis  
Museum of Art





## OUR MISSION

*"Shares, Inc. provides service and support for people with disabilities to enhance their successful inclusion in the community."*

## YOUR CURRENT EVENTS

### **BOARD MEETING AT 7:30 PM**

March 11, 2013      Greenfield

### **AKTION CLUB MEETINGS**

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
Briley Family Center, 741 Fair Avenue, Shelbyville

### **DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH**

March, 2013

### **ANNUAL SHARES, INC. OPEN HOUSES**

#### **SHELBYVILLE**

Friday, March 1, 2013 1:30 - 3:30 PM

#### **RUSHVILLE**

Thursday, March 14, 2013 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### **GREENFIELD**

Wednesday, March 27, 2013 9 - 11 AM

### **BEEF AND BOARDS ONE DAY OUTING**

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

The agency will be closed Friday, March 29, 2013

**CONTACT US: SHELBY COUNTY** 1-877-398-8218 or 317-398-8218  
**HANCOCK COUNTY** 317-462-4824 **RUSH COUNTY** 765-938-5321

[www.sharesinc.org](http://www.sharesinc.org)