

# YOUR Shares

JANUARY 2016

Newsletter



## Ring in the New Year

The annual holiday party has become a much anticipated tradition at Shares, Inc.

This is a time to thank all the employees for their effort over the year. On December 9, 2015 the participants and staff of Shares, Inc. came together at Maxim Events in Shelbyville to celebrate and to bring 2015 to a close. A delicious buffet lunch was served, and the band Seldom Surreal provided the entertainment. As always, dancing and socializing with out-of-county friends were the highlights of the afternoon.



*Celebrating another year of hard work!*



*Dancing the Day Away!*

*Music Provided by Seldom Surreal*



*Connecting with friends!*

**We wish you good health, happiness, and success in the coming year!**

### TIPS TO START THE *New Year!*

- 1** Establish your priorities
- 2** Pick only a few goals
- 3** Work hard, but don't burn yourself out
- 4** Remember to enjoy your family and friends
- 5** Make time to exercise
- 6** Have fun!

## IN THIS ISSUE

Cliff's Notes.....pg 2

Your Community Employment...pg 3

Your Social Services.....pg 4

Your At A Glance.....pg 5

Your Living Skills.....pg 6

Your Industry.....pg 7

Your Upcoming Events.....pg 8

Published by Shares, Inc. Corporate Office  
(317) 398-8218 • (877) 398-8218 toll free • [www.sharesinc.org](http://www.sharesinc.org)  
Committee: Anna Buker, Varsha Mehta, Mike Eck, Nesetta Gellizeau & Joe Land

-----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



# CLIFF'S NOTES

## REPORT FROM *YOUR* EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**A**s 2016 begins, we reflect on our accomplishments this past year and look towards the New Year, for continuous growth and new achievements. Every time we rise to a new level of strength and expertise we approach new challenges. Our agency is blessed with over 300 participants in our programs, that continue to amass new skills and opportunities never dreamed of in the past. Our staff, of over 100 people, continue to grow. We have many people able to think in more diverse and innovative ways to bring new directions of growth possibilities that often become models for our field to follow.

### Reflecting on Our Growth and Opportunities

We will again go through a renewal of our CARF International accreditation (Commission on accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities Founded in 1966) in October. Since we have achieved renewal each time at the highest levels possible we only need to do this every three years.

During the past year we were able to expand our work program in new areas with the continued growth of packaging and kitting, sorting and inspection of materials, metal finishing for a large manufacturer of die cast aluminum parts, shredding and document destruction for many large corporations including all of the area IRS and Social Security Offices, United States Census Bureau and Crane Naval Base.

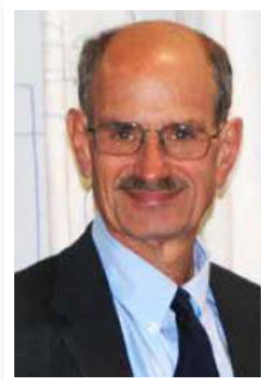
Our for profit wholly owned subsidiary WAP LLC continues to be the exclusive manufacturer of diesel glow plugs for all the United States Department of Defense that owns all of the military Humvees and we also supply many of the large automotive retail stores across the country for personal diesel automobiles. We continue to be the exclusive manufacturer of PureFlow AirDog high performance diesel fuel systems.

Both WAP LLC and Shares Finishing Services received renewed ISO certificate. Shares Shredding received renewed NAID certification. Shares, Inc. is now FDA approved which allows us to continue growing in more first kit packaging opportunities.

### A Look at the 2016 Shares, Inc. Educational Trip

People are already signing up for the Educational Trip to New Orleans in August. We will start our first evening, with entertainment by a jazz band, dancing, and dinner on the Natchez Paddle Riverboat as we cruise the Mississippi River. The next day we will

embark on a 3 hour bus tour of the French Quarter and surrounding area with trained step-on guides on our buses, who will give us some history of the area. We will stop at historic sites for an up-close look at the historic Esplanade Avenue past Creole mansions, where we'll stop for a short cemetery tour at St. Louis #3, home of some of New Orleans most elaborate tombs. The second stop about half-way through the tour in City Park (nearly twice as big as New York's Central Park) that holds the largest stand of live oak trees in the world! As we wind our way through the historic Garden District we will pass through the streets of the French Quarter and Ninth



### OUR WORK MATTERS!



Many of our participants find one of their most enjoyable opportunities of the year to take part in our annual educational trip. This past year 170 of us spent 9 days in Chicago and had many learning experiences. It was exciting to see the museum staff wearing badge holders we had produced and gift items we assembled being sold in their gift shop. Our work touches many people around the world that we never meet.

Ward—the area most affected by Hurricane Katrina. During the week some other highlights will include a lunch and visit to Mardi Gras World where we will tour the warehouse museum to see the floats from the Mardi Gras Parades followed by an arts and craft project where each person will make their own mask. Our trip includes a visit to the Audubon Zoo, the Aquarium, the Insectarium, a dinner dance with entertainment provided by a Cajun band, a tour of Houmas House Plantation and Gardens and the grand antebellum estate to experience the southern splendor of its 16 rooms filled with period antiques and Louisiana artwork followed by gourmet luncheon. Going through the Swamps we will see natural wildlife aboard swamp boats, experience local creole food at Malate's Restaurant, and shopping in the French Quarter.

### In Closing

Our agency's programs have continued to expand in the placement of people in community, both in employment and in experiences through outings and volunteer work—promoting integration into mainstream society. We continue to expand our industrial contracts and provide leadership through membership in local organizations to educate the community and provide the support necessary for all of us to work and live together.

We wish all of you a Happy and Healthy New Year and hope it brings joy to your lives.

Clifford Strachman



# YOUR COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

## Words of Wisdom from Your Community Employment Staff



*Angie Boring  
Job Coach Shelby County*

"Be open to new places and ideas."



*Elisa Bowen Bell  
Job Coach Hancock County*

"Honesty and positive attitude will be greatly appreciated in any work environment."



*Linda Gibson  
Job Coach Shelby County*

"Develop a firm handshake and eye contact with people as you talk to them."



*Joe Land  
Employment Specialist  
Shelby County*

"Be confident, be yourself; listen to your employment specialist."



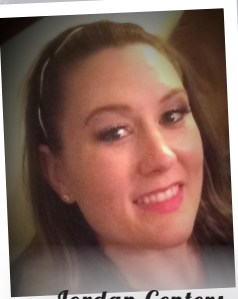
*Julie Sewell  
Employment Specialist  
Shelby County*

"Have a positive attitude... smile and be friendly!! "



*Ashley Norman  
Employment Specialist  
Hancock County*

"The first impression is the one employer will remember the most so make it count."



*Jordan Centers  
Employment Specialist  
Hancock County*

"You should always dress to impress the employer."



*Shanrika Davis  
Job Coach  
Hancock County*

"In order to succeed, you must first believe that you can!! Have an updated resume ready to pass out."



*Jenni Gilbert  
Employment Specialist  
Rush County*

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a BIG difference."

## Employee of the Quarter

James Baumgardner works as a corded electric tool assembler at Stanley Black and Decker of Greenfield. He was hired on July 27, 2015 and works a minimum of forty hours per week, but sometimes more if the staff has not met their production rate for the week. His job consists of assembling Stanley Black and Decker power tools and drills on an assembly line. His employer consistently has good things to say about his work performance and often comments that he is one of their hardest working employees and is always willing to lend a helping hand to his co-workers. In November, Stanley Black and Decker was in the process of promoting James to the position of material handler where he would restock supplies for the assembly line due to his admirable work performance.

**Please join us in commending James' fantastic work ethic and dedication to his job!**





## Shares, Inc. Launches The Health and Wellness Program

The Health and Wellness committee recently met to determine the first areas of focus for 2016.

- The Health and Wellness Policy was initiated and will be distributed to all employees.
- All staff and participants will be provided opportunities of physical activity throughout the day.
- Education during ADLS classes and outings will be provided on health and wellness topics.
- Educational bulletin boards will be available year round in all three counties focusing on health and wellness topics.
- Healthy options will be provided in all cooking classes and special events.
- Health and Wellness Special Events will occur at least quarterly in all counties. (Mark your calendars for National Walking Day on April 6th)

*Stay tuned for updates and newsletter articles on the Health and Wellness Program.*

**If you have any questions or suggestions for the committee, please contact Laura Ritter or Allison Hackman.**

## Special Olympics

If you are interested in volunteering for Special Olympics, Please contact:

- **Ashley Hankins** for Shelby and Rush County at [ahankins@sharesinc.org](mailto:ahankins@sharesinc.org) or 317-364-0534.
- **Letitia Koch** for Hancock County at [hc\\_specialolympics@yahoo.com](mailto:hc_specialolympics@yahoo.com)

## Free Tax Help

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a free, IRS-sponsored program to help low and middle-income workers have their federal and State personal income taxes prepared and filed electronically at no cost. VITA also ensures that workers receive all the tax credits to which they are entitled.

Every county in the State has at least one VITA site. **Call 1-800-906-9887 to find the nearest VITA site to you.**

## Shelby County ARC News

Thanks to a grant for \$8,500 from the Blue River Community Foundation, The Arc is creating a new and innovative program called "SENSES" which is expected to open early next year in Shelbyville.

SENSES is an exciting, safe alternative to typical playgrounds. It is designed especially for sensory recreation. It is great for kids who have Autism, are on the Autism Spectrum, have Sensory Processing Disorders, ADHD, Down's syndrome, and all children who need and can benefit from sensory recreation. The Arc is launching a "child find" program, seeking families who have a child aged 1-6 years who can benefit from this new program. The program will also be open to some non-disabled children who may also benefit from this type of experience.

**Referrals may be made directly to Don Collins (398-6708) or Holly Forville (370-8238) for enrollment consideration.**

## Aktion Club

For the sixth consecutive year, the Aktion Club has been recognized as "outstanding" by Kiwanis International. The club succeeded in accomplishing 16 of 17 requirements in order to be so recognized. President Calvin Hanna and Treasurer Shane Roell recently attended The Arc of Indiana annual business meeting and received a 2015 top achiever award for outstanding membership growth for The Arc of Shelby County. Shane is a Director and serves on the Arc Board.

## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBER

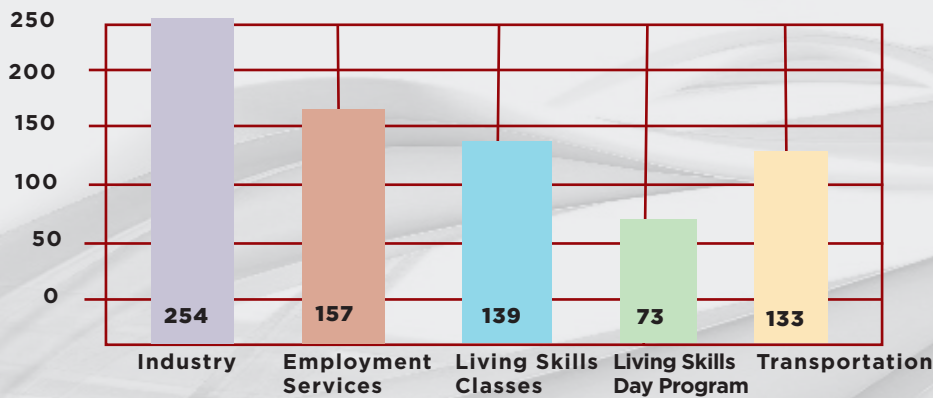
My name is Greg Shelton; I have been a Shares board member for a little over a year. I'm married to Julie Shelton and we have 2 sons, Bryce and Brandon, who are both participants at the Rushville Shares. We have both been involved in the past with the Rush County ARC. I've lived in Rushville my entire life. I graduated from Rushville Consolidated High School in 1980. Worked on a farm for many years, and became a farm tech for a short period. For the last 19 years I have been working as an Industrial, Commercial Electrician for a local Rushville Contractor. I hope to find the time this year to visit all the facilities to meet everyone who makes Shares work and to get a better understanding of the scope of our company.



# YOUR AT A GLANCE

## Measuring the Success of Our Mission 2015 Statistics

### Number of Participants Served



### Employment Services

**57**

57 individuals found employment, with the help of our dedicated Community Employment Staff, in 2015.

The average starting wage for these individuals was \$8.40 per hour.

**\$8.40**

### Student Transition Programs

Shares, Inc. is partnering with the high schools in Shelby, Hancock, Rush and surrounding counties to offer students with special needs the opportunity to prepare for life after high school.

**7** Students participated in the transition program

"Helping People Help Themselves"

**47**

### Referrals In 2015

Total Referrals Received to the Agency = 120

**98**



VR

**15**



Medicaid Waiver

**5**



Group Home

**2**

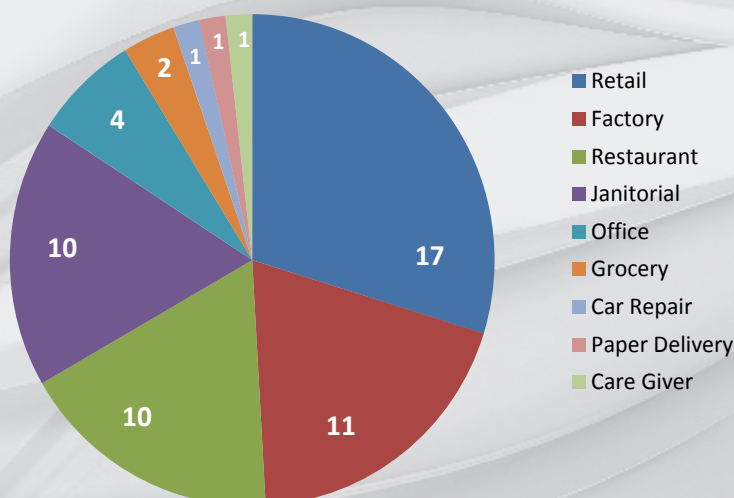


Nursing Home

### Number of Self Advocates

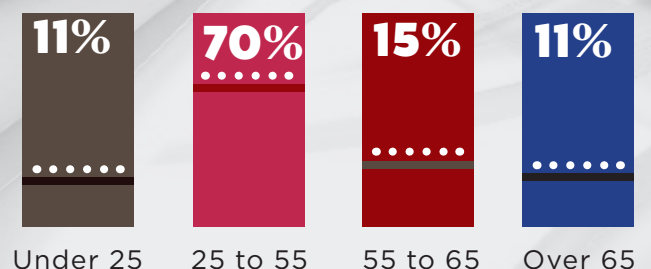
### Categories of Jobs

57 Placements Total



### Shares, Inc. Participants by Age

Facility Based Services: Total Served = 254



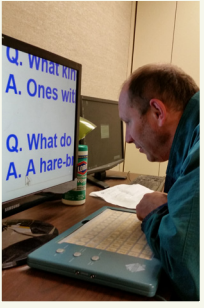
Does not include VR



# YOUR LIVING SKILLS

**Shares, Inc. Participants get ready for the holidays with a mix of holiday cheer, adventures, and learning new skills**

## SHELBY COUNTY



To overcome visual challenges Ted Kukulka works with zoom text while in computer class



Travis Tucker takes a break from Christmas Shopping



Marissa Hoopengartner having lunch before Christmas Shopping



Sudi Weaver participating in a Prevocational Training activity



A Living Skills group trying Indian cuisine at Delhi Palace

## HANCOCK COUNTY



Michael Richwine sings a classic Christmas song during drum circle



Jennifer Toler making a mkeka—a decorative mat used during Kwanzaa celebrations



Living Skills Groups visited the decorated trees at the Indiana Historical Society museum



Marie Page received gifts from Santa at the Sertoma holiday party

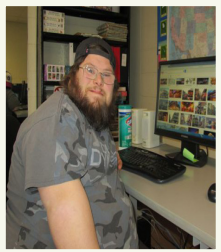


Jackie Moon looks at a real menorah while learning about Hanukkah

## RUSH COUNTY



Mike Linville at Christmas lunch, opening his Christmas gift



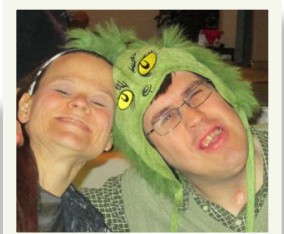
Ryan Haas in computer class



The living skills class decorating a Christmas tree donated by Freudenberg Nok



Doug Brewer at Christmas lunch



Rhonda Monzingo and Ross Sickbert at Christmas dance

## SHARES, INC. RECEIVES FDA REGISTRATION

**Medical Original Equipment Manufacturer's (OEM's)  
Have a New Option for Contract Manufacturing**

Shares, Inc. has received registration from the US Food and Drug Administration as of December, 2015. This allows Shares, Inc. to conduct contract manufacturing for medical devices as regulated by the FDA.

"By acquiring FDA registration, Shares, Inc. is able to provide another valuable service to our customers and the community." Said Ryan Bethel, General Manager. "It also allows us to expand the variety of vocational skills for our Industry employees."

Shares, Inc. has developed a Quality Management System in accordance with FDA Current Good Manufacturing Processes. This system allows Shares, Inc. to ensure that our products consistently meet applicable requirements and specifications for FDA-regulated products. The Shares, Inc. Quality Management System has been validated as compliant with Title 21 CFR part 820 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides customers with the proof of quality assurance and traceability that are critical to successful contract medical device manufacturing.



Shares, Inc. Participants thrive with the new opportunity of medical device manufacturing



Tim Hawk is assembling first aid kits that will be distributed throughout the country



A completed medical kit

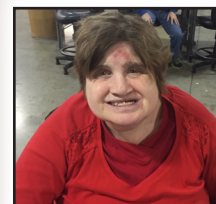
### WE WILL MISS YOU



**Jeff Ferguson**  
Hancock County  
Longtime Industry Participant



**Penny Roome**  
Shelby County  
Living Skills Participant



**Laura Dean**  
Hancock County  
Longtime Industry Participant





## OUR MISSION

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

# YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Happy New Year!

January 1, 2016

### Board Meeting at 7:30

March 14, 2016

### Aktion Club

6:30 p.m, 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month Trinity United Methodist Church Briley Family Center. 741 Fair Avenue, Shelbyville

### Disability Awareness Month

March 2016

### First Day of Spring

March 19, 2016

### Annual Shares, Inc. Open Houses Shelbyville

Friday, March 11th 1:30p.m-3:30p.m

### Greenfield

Tuesday, March 15th, 9:30a.m-11:30a.m

### Rushville

Thursday March 10th 10a.m-12p.m

### Good Friday

The agency will be closed Friday, April 25, 2016

### 2016 Shares Inc. Educational Trip

New Orleans, LA  
August 18 - 26, 2016

### Upcoming home basketball tournaments for Shelby and Rush Counties:

2/6/16- Arnie Petre Tradition at Shelbyville High School, games begin at 9am

3/19/16- Shelby County Sectional at Triton Central, games begin at 9am

Both tournaments are open to the public and free to attend. Concessions provided at both and t-shirts available on 2/6/16

**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)