

YOUR Shares

newsletter

ISSUE 92 • VOLUME 31 NO 3 • JULY 2012



MYTHS & FACTS

Let's Set the Record Straight!

MYTH: If I go to work and make money, I will lose my healthcare benefits.

FACT: If you have a disability and begin working, you may be able to keep your Medicare or Medicaid. If you receive SSDI or SSI and have either Medicaid or Medicare coverage, you may be eligible for continued coverage or you may qualify for Indiana's MED Works program.

MYTH: I am my adult child's guardian because I am their parent.

FACT: Your child will become an emancipated adult once they reach 18. To appoint a guardian, a petition needs to be filed, court hearing held, and court determination of guardianship.

MYTH: I will lose my Social Security benefits if I go to work.

FACT: Not necessarily. There are different rules for SSDI and SSI. If you receive SSI, you will see a gradual reduction in your check. If you receive SSDI, you can work and not lose your check depending on how much you earn (up to \$1010 per month in 2012). There are work incentives to help you keep your benefits as long as possible.

YOUR SOCIAL SERVICES

WHO ARE WE?

- **Varsha Mehta**, Director of Support Services for Shelby, Hancock, and Rush Counties
- **Anna Buker**, Social Worker in Shelby County
- **Grace Coulston**, Service Coordinator in Rush County
- **Jodi Hill**, Service Coordinator in Hancock County



WHAT DO WE DO?

- Assist new people entering the program
- Participate in team meetings
- Facilitate the self-advocacy groups
- Ensure the satisfaction of services
- Train staff (Incident Reporting Policy, Abuse and Neglect, Rights and Responsibilities, HIPAA/Confidentiality Policy, and Medication Administration Policy)
- Implement state policies
- Provide individual and group counseling
- Network with other agencies
- Benefit counseling
- Oversee transportation program
- Investigate incident reports

- Represent Shares, Inc. in the community
- Organize annual Open Houses

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

- Educate you on how your work affects your benefits
- Help you understand your Rights and Responsibilities
- Help you get the services you want
- Refer you to other agencies
- Help you become a self-advocate
- Locate resources (housing, assistive technology, financial assistance, additional education or training, transportation, medical and mental health providers...)
- Facilitate communication with your Supervisors, Co-workers, Case Manager, VR Counselor...
- Help with transitioning from school to work or work to retirement
- Listen

DID YOU KNOW?

The Social Service Department:

- Has 76 years of combined experience
- Has a total of 105 years of experience in the field of Social Services
- Comprises 4 out of the 32 certified Tier II Benefits Information Liaisons available in Indiana

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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

We hope you enjoyed the new and fresh look to our most recent newsletter. We are also continuing to update our brochures and web pages to keep all of you aware of the many exciting indicatives taking place at Shares, Inc. and our subsidiary WAP LLC.

As we continue to grow our training and educational services, along with our employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, we remain appreciative of the network of support from our local communities who make this all possible.

As summer is now here, many of our program participants are starting to get very excited about our upcoming educational trip to Virginia. As we leave on three chartered buses, August 23, 2012, we will cover over 1,600 miles and pass through Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky. We will have 166 participants and staff anticipating eight days of education, history, and fun.

Our first visit is to Monticello, the home of President Thomas Jefferson. Then it is off to Colonial Williamsburg where we will explore some very historic buildings and replicas of the governor's house, the gardens, see craftsmen at work, and become a part of the two-day saga depicting the days, months, and years leading up to and during the Revolutionary War.

As the week moves on we will spend a day in Virginia Beach, visiting the aquarium and boardwalk with a seafood buffet dinner near the Atlantic Ocean. We will go to Busch Gardens and see animals and go on some rides.

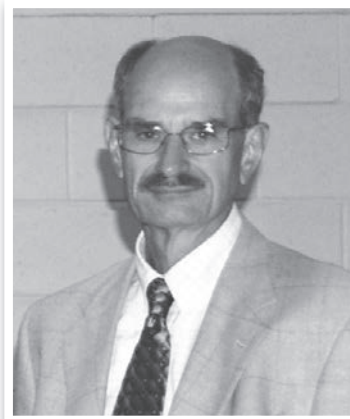
We will visit historic Jamestown, where replicas of some of the original ships that brought colonists to this country are housed.

On our trip home we will stop overnight in Lexington, Kentucky and visit the Kentucky Horse Park. The last day will include a stop at the Hofbrauhaus in Newport, Kentucky for a German style lunch in a replica of a large German castle.

I am sure this trip will provide many memories, souvenirs, photographs, and stories. And of course, questions about where are we going next year.

Our participants work very hard to save up the money for their trips and Shares, Inc. continues to subsidize the cost to make this all possible.

Clifford Strachman



**Day 1 in Williamsburg:
The Old Order Collapses, 1775-1776**

Feel the mounting tension as some residents of Williamsburg have a change of heart about their relationship with Great Britain. The struggle of whether to remain true to the Crown or undermine the King's authority for a chance at liberty and equality plagues the people.



**Day 2 in Williamsburg:
Building a New Nation, 1779-1781**

Join the community of Williamsburg as the initial sense of optimism, innovation, and infinite possibility evaporates amid the harsh realities of war. See how Virginians shape a fundamental belief in the rights and responsibilities of citizens into a republican government.

YOUR COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Ben Boggs began his community job as a dishwasher at Cracker Barrel in May of 2011. Despite a difficult start learning his new job duties, Ben has improved significantly over the past year in every area of his job. He has become a dependable and positive worker who brings a smile to work every day according to the General Manager.

Ben has been complimented by his supervisors for his willingness to "step up" and come into work early or stay late to help out on busy days. No matter how busy the dining room is or how backed up the dish room gets, he never complains and continues to work hard.

Ben also maintains an excellent relationship with his coworkers and with the Community Employment Services staff. General Manager, Kevin Stein, states that "Ben is a great team player who is willing to do anything asked of him. Over the past year, he has learned what it takes to be a reliable and positive employee." When Ben was asked to describe his job he stated, "I like working at Cracker Barrel because of the people there. They are all very nice and supportive. I never have to be afraid to ask questions."

Because of his positive, friendly attitude and hard work to meet and surpass his employment goals



and perform his job duties at Cracker Barrel, Ben was nominated by his Employment Specialist, Brittany Alton. He has been selected to receive the Employee of the Quarter Award for Community Employment Services.

We are very proud of Ben and his growth since he started at Cracker Barrel and would like to congratulate him on this award!

Over the past fiscal year the Community Employment Services team has placed 68 individuals in the Shelby, Hancock and Rush communities. If you have any questions or needed further information about our program and services, please contact the Director of Employment Services at our corporate office.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS COUNT...

Here's some good advice on going to a job interview.

- 1 Wear clothing that is professional and clean
- 2 Never wear jeans or a t-shirt to an interview
- 3 Check your grooming and hygiene before you arrive
- 4 Avoid heavy perfumes and colognes
- 5 Do not wear excessive jewelry
- 6 Remove all noticeable piercings and cover up any visible tattoos
- 7 Do not chew gum
- 8 Look the interviewer in the eye and shake their hand when you first meet
- 9 Smile



Good Luck!
Brian Montgomery
Director Employment Services

"Find something you love to do and you'll never have to work a day in your life."

Harvey MacKay

YOUR LIVING SKILLS

SUMMER FUN AT SHARES



Left Page

A DAY AT CAMP ATTERBURY: **Tim Fisher, Tony Jeffries, Millie Martin, Missy Bishop, Michael Griffin, Joe Land, Susie Hewitt, Tammy Ruhlman, and Bobby McLane** honoring our soldiers at the Camp Atterbury Memorial.

Right Page

A. Michelle Bohannon, in the Day Program Classroom, enjoying some time in the swing

B. Bobby Zingale at Indiana State Police Museum

C. Chris Waldsmith expressing his creativity during craft class.

D. Pottery Day

E. "I thought you said we were going to ride a pony!"

Cassidy Ewick with Living Skills Instructor, **Joe Land** at the Steel Ponies Exhibit, Eiteljorg Museum.

F. Alphabet Quilt

G. Indianapolis Zoo Visit, a beautiful day!!

H. Firemen-our friends!



What's cookin' From the kitchen of Shares

SIMPLE 1, 2, 3 CAKE RECIPE



Ingredients:

1 box of Angel Food Cake Mix
1 box of Cake Mix - Any Flavor
2 tablespoons of water

Directions: Combine the two cake mixes and shake in an air tight plastic bag.

For one serving, combine 3 Tbls of the mix with 2 Tbls of water in a small microwave-safe bowl.

Microwave on High for 1 minute.

Helpful Tips: Keep the remaining dry cake mixture stored in an air tight plastic bag.

Top each cake with a dollop of fat free whipped topping and/or fresh fruit. The flavors are endless!



YOUR INDUSTRY

GREETINGS FROM PLANT 1 in Shelbyville!

We have a lot of exciting things going on in Shelbyville, including new employees.

Jennifer Bass is our newest Production Supervisor at Plant 1. She brings with her a wide array of experience ranging from management to warehouse inventory and processing.

Plant 1 continues to stay busy fulfilling NEXT Promotional items, Autolite & Diesel Rx glow plugs, Spiderguard athletic wear, and medical kits/cabinets for ZEE Medical, all of which play an intricate part in our day-to-day operations.



Jennifer has extensive experience working with individuals with disabilities and truly excels as a problem solver and colleague to our Shares program participants.

Alex Bashenow brings a dynamic and energetic personality to Plant 1. He is a hard-working employee who is always willing to help out his peers. Alex is currently holding three part-time jobs and always looking for more work.

Please give a warm welcome to these folks when you see them around! We are excited to have them on-board.

**“All our dreams
come true - if we
have the courage
to pursue them.”**

Walt Disney

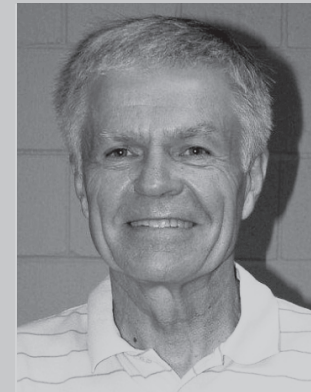
Spotlight On ZEE Medical

This month I would like to spotlight ZEE Medical. We have seen a steady increase in our major medical cabinet orders from ZEE. These cabinets encompass close to 50 medical components.

ZEE Medical projects keep our participants engaged and learning and also allows us to turn around these enormous units in world-class time. Our representatives from ZEE Medical have been a great support to Shares Incorporated. As ZEE continues to grow Shares does as well; it is a great partnership that we are grateful to have.

For those of you who have not been to Plant 1 or those who have not visited in a while, please feel free to contact me and come by.

**TOM BINGHAM
Plant 1 Manager**



LETTER FROM YOUR BOARD PRESIDENT

I remember as a child our family would make trips to Southern Indiana to visit my mother's parents. Back then, It was a long trip, probably over four hours from our home. I was very young and of course the trip seemed to me to be

forever. I would periodically ask Dad or Mom, "Are we there yet?" To vary that same question I might say, "How much longer?" Their response would be, "Almost." Or, "Just a little longer."

In my time spent on the Board of Directors at Shares, I have asked myself those same questions. "Are we there yet and how much longer before we get there?" Those types of questions presuppose that we know and recognize our destination when we get there.

In a company such as Shares, one of our goals is to provide a "quality of life" to those who otherwise would be left out of society, especially in the work place. Their journey at Shares would provide an alternative work environment that is safe, enjoyable and satisfying. There is rarely a final destination because it is a work in progress that continues until the time of retirement.

As I walk the hallways of Shares and listen to the sounds of laughter and see the smiles of those who partake of the work opportunities, I am glad for those who are making the trip possible. Our management and staff work very hard to make everyone's trip seem like "time flies."

Thank You,
David

NEWS FROM Rushville Shares

First of all we would like for all of you to welcome back Beth Duvall as a Supervisor at the Rushville Shares. We have a total of 50-53 participants working at our facility and currently four others with part-time jobs at Wal-Mart, Pizza Hut, Pizza King and Millers Merry Manor.

Daily, we strive to work on pre-vocational skills with each and every participant hoping that one day they might want to enter into the work force outside of Shares or learn to be more independent.

We have several jobs that we have worked with here in the Rushville factory. One is Copeland skids, in which we have a participant drill (12) 1/2 in holes into a hard plastic skid and then add hardware to complete the job.

We have packing jobs where each participant makes her or his boxes, wraps the parts in Styrofoam and boxes the parts and several other kinds of jobs. So far this month, we have not had any accidents or injuries to report, which is great!

The point of our Industry Program is making each and every participant as independent as possible. We are rewarded every time we see a participant complete a job on their own or make an effort to try to overcome and achieve what other people would consider a weakness.

NEW JOB: NEW SKILLS in Hancock Co

Earlier this year Shares Brandywine began assembling wire harness kits for Pure Flow Air Dog. The wire harness kits are being assembled to go with the fuel pumps that they manufacture. A total of five different wire harness kits are being put together at our facility.

Our participants cut all the wire to the specific length that is required for each wire kit. In addition, the different connectors and hand crimps that are specified for each type of kit are joined. Participants are learning new skills like wire measurement, splicing and increased precision.



WELCOME NEW STAFF

Please welcome two new Production Supervisors who have been recently hired in Greenfield. Morgan Eads and Daniel Powell both graduated from IUPUI and come to Shares with teaching backgrounds and experience working with adults with developmental disabilities.

 **OUR MISSION**

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

SELF ADVOCATE PICNIC

Friday, July 20
Eagle Crest Picnic Area,
Eagle Creek Park
7201 Fishback Road, Indianapolis

10:00 A.M. Registration/Check In Opens

10:30 A.M. Music & Dancing

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Picnic Lunch

1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Games, Bingo, Photos,
Cookie Decorating & More

STAFF TRAININGS

- Incident Reporting
- Abuse and Neglect
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Confidentiality/HIPPA policies

Shelbyville Tuesday, July 24

Greenfield Friday, July 27

Rushville Tuesday, July 31

AKTION CLUB MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 24

Tuesday, August 28

6:30 p.m.

*Meet at the Shelter House at
Kennedy Park, Shelbyville*

Beginning in September
Meetings will be the 2nd and 4th
Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
Trinity United Methodist Church,
Briley Family Center
741 Fair Avenue, Shelbyville

2012 EDUCATIONAL TRIP

August 23 - August 31

SHARES, INC. BOARD MEETING

Monday, September, 10

7:30 p.m.

645 S. State Street, Greenfield

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