

YOUR Shares

newsletter

MAY 2014



BE PART OF
DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEN SIGHT IS MEASURED BY ONE'S VISION OF THE FUTURE WHEN MOBILITY IS DEFINED AS PUTTING WORDS INTO ACTION

NOTHING SPECIAL MEET SPECIAL NEEDS

the COMMUNITY of our DREAMS

IndianaDisabilityAwareness.org

Be a force for change in your community! Join your neighbors – with and without disabilities – and help each other rethink and revitalize our communities.

Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities

“DREAM it, BELIEVE it, ACHIEVE it”

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” — Eleanor Roosevelt

What are your dreams? What have you done today to achieve your dreams? What if no one took a chance to make their dreams come true?

Most people have dreams. Dreams are our wishes, hopes, and desires for our future. Is your dream to live more independently, go on a vacation, or to learn a new job?

Each year during the month of March, Shares, Inc. holds an Open House in each of the three counties and invites the community in order to highlight the accomplishments of persons with disabilities. We also recognize those agencies and individuals that have contributed to the awareness and inclusion of people with disabilities.

The 2014 Disabilities Awareness Campaign theme was “Dream to Dare”. It inspired and encouraged all of us to challenge each other to be a force for change in our communities. The theme invited everyone, with and without disabilities, to join their neighbors and help each other rethink and revitalize our communities.

Don't ever forget about your dreams. Our dreams inspire us to achieve the impossible. Without dreams, what would our world look like today?

Caption: L to R - Shelby County Open House Greeters; Dick Fero, MC for Shelby County; Jerry Bell, MC for Hancock County; Brian Sheehan, MC for Rush County; Shelby County Open House

My dream is....
Six steps to achieving your dreams

1. Really want it; be passionate about it
2. Picture yourself achieving your dream
3. Make a plan and timeline
4. Do research and talk to others
5. Get support from your family and friends
6. Don't give up

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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

Each March, Disability Awareness Month is celebrated throughout Indiana. And, given that adults and children with disabilities represent slightly more than 19 percent of Indiana's population, disability awareness is important for all of us.

Led by the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, the goal of Disability Awareness Month is to increase awareness and promote independence, integration and inclusion of all people with disabilities. The Council develops a unique theme for this annual event and produces campaign materials that are available free of charge to Hoosiers who want to help make a difference.

The 2014 campaign theme is "Dream to Dare." The poster art features a simple, meaningful poem to frame our attitudes toward what we all want to achieve—communities that are sustainable, accessible, and economically viable and encourage civic and social engagement for all. The text at the bottom of the poster challenges us to "be a force in our community" by learning more about smart growth as we rethink and revitalize our communities.

This year Shares, Inc. had open houses in all three counties of our agency and celebrated the successes and goals achieved and exceeded by our participants. We challenged our participants to dream big and take new challenges.

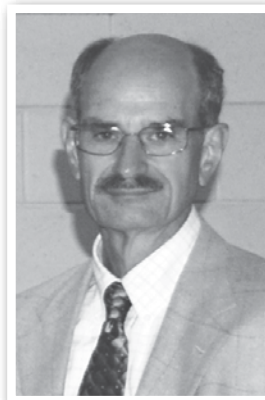
In March we recognized their achievements. We awarded many partners from our community who have helped us and our participants succeed. Some of these awards were given for hiring our participants as their employees, some for giving our work centers jobs we could perform for them, some for community people who helped train our staff and employees in better practices, and lastly some for the partnerships developed to help us all succeed at a higher level.

I am particularly proud of the following accomplishments that took place in the past year. The excellence that is shown by these statistics proves that many dreams can come true when we take and accept challenges:

- 78 placements were made in the community by Employment Services in the last fiscal year
- Large advances in Shares Finishing which is now employing former participants in full time jobs at double the parts volume from a year ago
- Innovative class ideas in living skills including themed events
- Disaster and emergency training with the help of the Rush County Health Department
- Continued growth of our new Life Transition Training for participants who need specialized programming

Thanks to you all for recognizing that Shares, Inc. is a community that strives for growth and excellence. We appreciate your support.

Clifford Strachman
Executive Director



A SPECIAL THANK YOU MICHAEL MURNAN

FOR YOUR 48 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE
IN THE MANUFACTURING OF PRODUCTS FOR
GENERAL ELECTRIC, WELLMAN THERMAL SYSTEMS,
AND SHARES FINISHING SERVICES
SEPTEMBER 2, 1965 - FEBRUARY 28, 2014

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR BOARD V.P.



As you read this issue of Your Shares you will see a new face from your Board of Directors. My name is Peg Dovidas and I am the Vice-President. David Oakes, the President, has asked that I contribute an article to the newsletter while he is enjoying a much deserved vacation in sunny Florida.

The month of March, Disability Awareness Month, was celebrated in fine style by the participants of Shares. It is always a pleasure to see how excited and proud they are at the open houses, especially when they are the recipients of one of the annual awards! Our Board continues to work on your behalf throughout

the year. Did you know that our Monitoring Committee visits each facility on a regular basis? They make a point to talk to employees and participants alike and report back to the Board. Our other committees continue to do their duties as well, always keeping the well being of Shares at heart. With the excellent management we have in place, the future of our organization is very bright.

I am especially proud to be able to serve Shares in this way. It is a quality organization, an outstanding example to similar organizations nationwide. Every time I enter the building, I am greeted with hellos and hugs - who wouldn't love that?! Hopefully when you read this newsletter, this difficult winter will just be a memory. Here's to warm weather and continued success for the Shares family!

Thank you,
Peg Dovidas

THANK YOU FOR DONATING YOUR TIME

A. Angel Yager is helping the participants in living skills classes learn the beat of the drums. There are many great benefits of drumming such as reducing tension and anxiety, creating a sense of connectedness with self and others, encouraging self-expression,

and releasing negative feelings. The participants have enjoyed the drum classes and always look forward to Angel's next visit.



A.

B. Dr. Talessa Powell teaches a jewelry class to the Hancock County living skills participants. The participants enjoyed creating bracelets with their choice of beads. Dr. Powell, a local Greenfield doctor and jewelry creator, taught the class and instructed

how to place the beads on the wire. This class was the perfect opportunity for these participants to explore their talents.



B.

Congratulations to YOUR 2014 SPIRIT AWARD Winners



SHELBY COUNTY SPIRIT AWARD WINNER

ELAINE HANSEN
Elaine, who has worked at Shares for 18 years, always goes out of her way to greet people and to compliment others.

She does her work enthusiastically and is extremely compassionate and empathetic to others. Elaine always stands up for what is right and fair.



HANCOCK COUNTY REACH FOR THE STARS WINNER

MIKE GRAY
He has come a long way since beginning work at Shares in 1993. In his teens he lived in a foster home, lost his brother, and lived

in a nursing home. And this year he moved into a waiver home. Mike enjoys working, especially payday, and taking the annual Shares trip.



RUSH COUNTY SPIRIT AWARD WINNER

GREG GRIFFIN
Greg Griffin represents the true spirit of the McGraw Industries Spirit award. He is a diligent worker, an amiable

co-worker and pleasantly interactive in any activity whether at work or in our community. He is friendly and a great advocate for himself and his surroundings.

YOUR 2014 AWARD WINNERS

SHELBY CO.

A. Tom DeBaun - Mayor of the City of Shelbyville, reading the Mayoral Proclamation

B. Larry Hansen - Increase in Independence Award winner

C. Lacy Carlton - Living Skills Participant of the Year

D. G&H Orthodontics accepting the New Customer of the Year for Shares Shredding Services

E. Kristy Anderson - 25 Years of Employment

F. Shelby County participants and Morgan Gibson performing "Life's a Happy Song"

G. Rochelle McKay and JoLynn Pendleton accepting the Customer of the Year Award for Zee Medical

H. Kimberly Hankins - Top Gun Award for her quality on the job

I. Jeff Crouch - Employee of the Year for Shares Finishing Services Trane received the Industry Partnership Award

J. Billy Mark accepting the Employee of the Year Award for Shelby County

K. Vickie Roberts and Sherry Spires from Indiana Grand Casino receiving the Community Employment Services Employer of the Year Award

L. Brian Carrico receiving the Community Employment Services Employee of the Year Award for his work at Pizza Hut



RUSH CO.

A. Chris Gilpin, Tammy Commer, Annie Cossins, Andy Coblentz, Larry Jones, and Ryan Haas were recognized for their Volunteer Work.

B. Tommy Brindle received the Longevity Award for 25 years of service.

C. Tammy Commer receives the Quality Award

D. Mary Beth Hughes is awarded the Quality Award

E. Larry Jones receives the Quality Award

F. Jeff Goodin, Harold Renollet, Joe Carman receive the "I Dream" Award

G. Flat Rock River Lodge accepting the Community Employment Services Employer of the Year award

H. Jamie Chell is awarded the Quality Award

I. Kelli Leising accepting the Community Employment Services Employee of the Year award

J. Mike Pavey - Mayor of Rushville presenting the Mayoral Proclamation



HANCOCK CO.

A. Chuck Fewell - Mayor of the City of Greenfield presenting the Mayoral Proclamation

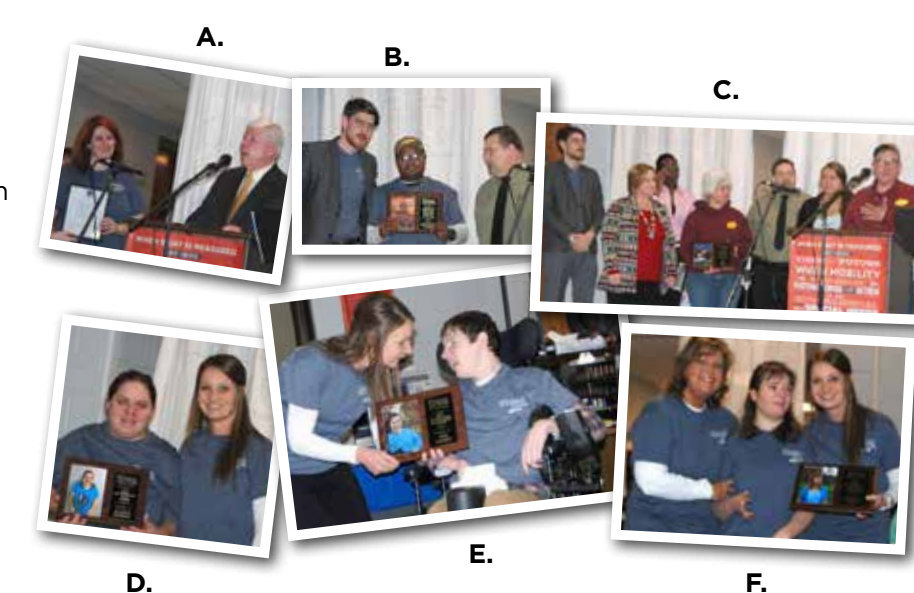
B. Brandon Lynem - Community Employment Services Employee of the Year

C. Florida Cracker - Community Employment Services Employer of the Year

D. Allison Murphy - Most Outstanding ADLS Award winner

E. Jeff Carter - Most Outstanding Day Program Award winner

F. Veronica Vail - Most Outstanding Overall Living Skills Award winner



G. Chuck Ward - Most Outstanding Masters Award winner

H. Laura Dean - 25 Years of Employment

I. Terry Tappy - 25 Years of Employment

J. Shay Beatson - 25 Years of Employment

K. Freudenburg - Customer of the Year

L. Patty Richardson - Employee of the Year winner

YOUR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARDS

Each year Shares, Inc. recognizes community partners who are making a difference in the lives of our participants. These companies - large and small - have provided training, special services and continued support. Their interest and enthusiasm mean the world to us!



SHELBY COUNTY

A. Kyle Pruitt - Kyle is a fire fighter and EMT for Greensburg and he volunteers for Waldron Fire Dept. Kyle volunteered his time and equipment as he provided fire extinguisher training for Shares for all three counties last August.

B. RTAP—Rural Transit Assistance Program - Megan Lawson, Assistant Coordinator, Barb Zimmer, Assistant Coordinator, and Vicky Warner, Manager This group provides training to our drivers in all three counties on Passenger Assistance and Wheelchair Securement twice a year and are available by phone or email at all times to answer our safety questions.

C. Reflections - Kelly Balting, Brenda Covington, Lisa Kitchen and Ashley Connors Last August, shortly before our Shares Trip, Reflections Salon offered a "Pre-Trip Beauty Day". The afternoon consisted of manicures and haircuts for any participant that was interested. Everyone had a fantastic time and are looking forward to the possibility of repeating the event this year.



HANCOCK COUNTY

Noelle Steele, Tom Russo, and Jim Mayfield of the Greenfield Daily Reporter were chosen as our Outstanding Community Members for the excellent coverage that our local newspaper has provided on activities at Shares and the successes of our participants both in the workshop and in the community.

Hancock County Animal Management has partnered with Shares by accepting several participants into their volunteer program. Volunteers go to the animal shelter twice a month and assist with various activities including cleaning cages, feeding and socializing animals, and any other work that is needed.



RUSH COUNTY

A. BMO and B. Wells Fargo deservedly received this year's Community Connection award. These businesses represent our community putting into action Rush County's desire to be an inclusive community by their example of going the extra mile for all people.

C. Canary Creek Cinema was chosen for this year's Community Connection award for their great kindness and respect that is shown to us as individuals in the community.

"If you can dream it, you can do it." - Walt Disney

SWEET DREAMS...

The Ojibwe people believe that a dreamcatcher changes a person's dreams. According to legend, only good dreams would be allowed to filter through the dreamcatcher. The good dreams would pass through and slide down the feathers to the sleeper while bad dreams would become trapped in the net, and disappear with the light of day.

The dreamcatcher hangs above the bed and is used as a charm to protect sleeping people, usually children from nightmares.

To read the enchanting legend of the dreamcatcher, go to www.dream-catcher.org.

My dream is
a world without socks.
-Kristy Anderson, Shelby County

My dream fulfilled...
To take self-defense classes.
-Brandy McConnell, Purple Belt Karate, Hancock County

My dream fulfilled...
To be part of a stock car race team.
-Joel Carpenter, Pit Crew Member, Hancock County

My dream is
to become an artist or actress.
-Kalaya Paraskevas, Shelby County

My dream is
to be a cook.
-Mary Koch, Rush County

My dream is
to meet Andrew Luck. I am a big fan and I would like to give him a few pointers.
-Steve Riley, Hancock County

My dream is
to make friends and dance.
-Evie Smith, Rush County

My dream is
I would like to train kids to ride horses for Special Olympics competitions.
-Heather Simon, Hancock County

My dream fulfilled...
To be a firefighter.
-Trent Sitton, Wilkinson Volunteer Fireman, Hancock County

My dream is
To be a teacher or a nurse.
-Melissa Vanarsdall, Shelby County

My dream fulfilled...
Get married and have a family.
-Linda Hosler, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Hancock County

My dream is
to be a train conductor and a farmer.
-Bryce Shelton, Rush County

My dream is
to be an Elvis impersonator in Vegas and drive a pink Cadillac.
-Mike Tracy, Hancock County

My dream fulfilled...
Sky diving.
-Paul Smith, 2-time jumper, Hancock County



1611 S. Miller Street
Shelbyville, IN 46176
www.sharesinc.org

OUR MISSION

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

YOUR CURRENT EVENTS

Shares, Inc.

Board Meeting at 7:30 PM

July 14, 2014 Shelbyville

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

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26, 2014
Agency Closed

Father's Day

Sunday, June 15, 2014

Summer Begins

Saturday, June 21, 2014

4th of July

Agency Closed

Self-Advocate Picnic

Friday, July 18, 2014
Eagle Creek Park, Indianapolis

2014 Educational Trip

Branson, Missouri
August 21 - 29, 2014

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

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