SKY POINT SOCIAL SERVICES



# THE SCOOP

ISSUE 20 · SPRING 2024



### **2024 GOALS**

This year, Sky Point Social Services have identified four key goals that will shape our focus and drive our efforts throughout the year. Our goals are centered around a renewed emphasis of personal growth and development, fostering a culture of collaboration where we are truly better together, embracing progress over perfection as we strive to innovate and improve, and elevating our programs to fuel sustainable growth. These goals include:

- A FOCUS ON YOU: Our intentions this year is to put a stronger emphasis on embracing, supporting, and advocating for our employees.
- BETTER TOGETHER: We are hoping to put a larger emphasis on relationships with other agencies in alignment with our mission.
- PROGRESS OVER PERFECTION: We will be intentional in making sure we are getting better every single day by improving personally, physically, relationally, and spiritually.
- ELEVATE OUR PROGRAMS: We are putting energy into growing our programs this coming year through empowering our employees and increasing our marketing strategies. Story by: Emily Kumfer

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### **UPCOMING EVENT**

Join us for a night out at the TinCaps on Saturday, May 18, 2024! This FREE event is open to Sky Point staff, clients, and their immediate families only. We have reserved The Huntington University Picnic Pavilion for the night which includes a buffet beginning at 5:35pm with a game-time start at 6:35pm. There will also be postgame fireworks.

Tickets are *limited* so please make sure to RSVP by April 30, 2024. Reach out to your Program Manager or the Sky Point Office to learn how to sign up for this fun event!



### **CELEBRATE THE WINS**

- Sky Point offers Employment Services!
- Huge success with the Christmas family!
- A lot of individuals received recognition for successes at school, work, or volunteering!
- Hired a new HSPP, Dr. Neuman!
- Building connections with the VR office!
- Sky Point celebrated 7 years in business!
- Received new Sky Point gear!
- Successful presentation at the VR office All About Sky Point!



PARTICIPATED IN THE DSANI BUDDY WALK FOR THE FIRST TIME!



FRANCIS JOMO SELECTED AS BUSINES Weekly's Forty Under 40 Honorees for the Class of 2024

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Sky Point is proud to offer Employment Services! After taking a short break Employment Services is back, increasing the support we can provide to our community. We have two employment specialists on our team, Kayla Pezley and Daniel Braden! Kayla and Daniel are passionate about helping our community and supporting individuals on their employment journeys. Our team is proud to assist individuals referred to us by Vocational Rehabilitation Services in discovering, gaining, and maintaining employment.

Story by: Megan Spice

#### CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Thank you for being a part of the Sky Point Family! In an effort to improve our services, we invite you to participate in this brief survey to tell us how our staff members are meeting your expectations. Your participation is voluntary and your answers can be anonymous. Please make sure to complete this survey by May 12, 2024. Please complete by scanning the QR code:



## **EMPLOYEE MILESTONES**

### **OUR GROWING COMPANY**



Join us in welcoming these new staff to our team!



Sarah Noll **DSP** 



Paula Neuman HSPP



Morgan Griffin **DSP** 



Kayla Pezley
Employment Specialist



Trisha Bell **DSP** 



Melinda Renfrow **DSP** 



Madie Hicks **DSP** 



Sayge Ryan **DSP** 



Marissa Cressley **DSP** 



Amber Oberlin DSP



Andrew Oberlin **DSP** 



Amy Osborn **DSP** 



Brittany Mount **DSP** 



Daniel Braden Employment Specialist



Holly Bynum **DSP** 



Maya Brookshire Behavior Consulatant



Ryan Baker **DSP** 



Tiffany Hass **DSP** 

### **5 YEAR MILESTONES**



Congratulations to these staff who have reached their 5 year work anniversary with Sky Point so far this year!





Yolanda Austin **DSP Mentor** 



Emma Adhiambo Behavior Consultant



Kathy McGinnis **DSP** 

### **EVENTS SPOTLIGHT**

### SKY POINT ANNUAL BANQUET

Annually, Sky Point Social Services host a Banquet dinner for our employees. This year, it was held at the Landmark Centre where we enjoyed a meal together, reviewed our year end review, celebrated the 2023 wins, and highlighted our 2024 goals. The were a few employees that were spotlighted for their success at Sky Point and were given awards. Congratulations, again, to our 2023 award winners!

Spirit Award: Sherrie May, DSP

Outstanding Service: Allen Copsey, Program Manager Outstanding Service: Christabel "Emma" Adhiambo, BC

Transcendent Award: Mackenzie Dane, Program Manager

Resilience Award: Bonnie Monhollen, DSP

Big Heart Award: Paul Williams Hall of Fame: Dr. Kay Roy, HSPP











Story by: Emily Kumfer

### VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT EVENT

One of our favorite events to host is our Valentine's Craft Event in February! This is a fun opportunity that allows our individuals to work on social skills and take some time to tap into their creative minds. We love seeing the amazing cards and pictures that get created during this time as well as seeing our individuals thrive in a social setting! Story by: Mackenzie Dane







### **FALL FESTIVAL FUN**

In October 2023, we hosted our first ever Fall Festival! This event was open to all staff, staff families, clients and client families. We had a great time having a caramel apple station with fun toppings like mini m&m's and chocolate chips, an apple cider bar, and putting our own twist on decorating pumpkins. We are looking forward to adding the Fall Festival to our annual Sky Point family events!

Story by: Mackenzie Dane



### **DSANI BUDDY WALK**

Last September 2023, Sky Point Social Services participated in the annual DSANI Buddy Walk at Parkview Field. This event is hosted by the Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Indiana and their mission is "to enhance the lives of people living with down syndrome, advocate on their behalf, provide information and support to families and professionals and promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down Syndrome in Northeast Indiana". Participants of the Buddy Walk not only raise awareness, they raise funds to help the DSANI organization continue its good work. Sky Point had a booth at the downtown event and staff was on hand to educate the public about our services. We also had a table full of Sky Point-branded swag, which proved to be a big hit. There were quite a few walkers sporting Sky Point orange sunglasses by the end of the day. Several of our individuals, their family and even some staff took part in the walk. Feedback from the day was overwhelmingly positive, with everyone enjoying the relaxed, inviting atmosphere. People were able to mingle and catch up with old friends and those who visited the Sky Point booth were able to have lengthy conversations with the team, while being educated about what services we provide as a company. Many also took part in entering a raffle where we gave away a backpack full of Sky Point goodies. Plans are already under way to have a Sky Point presence at the walk again this year! If you are interested in learning more about DSANI or the Buddy Walk, visit dsani.org/budd-walk for more info. Story by: Allen Copsey







### **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: MEET JEREMY**

Jeremy has been with Sky Point Social Services since April 2023 serving as a Skills Services Provider within our Therapeutic department. He delivers home-base services to child welfare families and teaches basic skills to individuals in need of behavioral treatment. Jeremy got into the social services field when he was first majoring in elementary education. Then while he was taking the special education block, he developed his passion in wanting to dig deeper into the problems the students were having and help them through them. What Jeremy enjoys the most about working at Sky Point is his ability to be creative with clients and teaching them social skills.

Jeremy grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is energetic, free spirited, and loves being around people! In his free time, he enjoys listening to music, traveling, socializing and relaxing. Jeremy has been to fourteen different countries! China was his favorite place he has traveled to because "it was different, and the culture is refined". In the past year, Jeremy's biggest achievement was earning a twenty thousand dollar scholarship that he can put towards his continuous eduction. His dream vacation is "to stay in a house on a exotic beach with crystal clear blue water and white sand, staring off into the ocean doing nothing!" If you see Jeremy in the community, ask him about the other countries he has visited. We are lucky to have Jeremy in our Sky Point Family!

Story by: Chukila Williams





### CLIENT CORNER: MEET ALISE

Alise began services with Sky Point Social Services last year. Alise expressed that she "loves to stay busy." Alise is the Special Olympics Allen County Leadership Council Chair and lends a hand with its many functions. When she isn't organizing meetings, she sings the National Anthem and participates in basketball, golf, bowling, and track. As an athlete, she has played games in New Jersey, Seattle, Orlando, and even the World Games in Los Angels! Through Special Olympics, she has been able to make lots of great friends and even meet some famous people like Olympic swimmer, Michael Phelps, Special Olympics International Chairman, Tim Shriver, and Former First Lady, Michelle Obama.

Alise works at Vera Bradley on the pick line - a job she has held for 18 years. When an order comes in, she will go to the shelves and find all the items needed to fulfill the order before it gets shipped out. She still enjoys it after all these years and has no intention of leaving anytime soon. This summer, she is looking forward to participating in her cousin's wedding and volunteering at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. She loves working with the animals and has been volunteering there for 16 years. Alise shared some fun facts about herself, which includes: great sense of humor, loves to shop, collects books, favorite food is mac and cheese, would watch the NASA channel all day long and favorite movie is Superstar!









www.skypointindiana.com

Sky Point Social Services is committed to support individuals with ALL abilities in reaching their fullest potential by providing the care and services that will enable them to live enriching lives in the communities where they are valued and respected for their abilities and contributions.

#### Connect with us!

