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January 1, 2020:

Happy 3rd Birthday, Sky Point!



CHEERS TO A NEW YEAR



Come One, Come all for Holiday Fun!

Have you been to a Sky Point event lately? We have had such a fun year of bingo, movies, crafts, and other get togethers; but our Holiday Party was definitely the biggest and best social event of the year! This day is eagerly anticipated by clients and colleagues alike. The reason being, because this time of year is full of magic and quality time with loved ones. This season comes but once a year and it's the perfect chance to let your hair down, do the cupid shuffle, and say thank you to the wonderful staff for all your hard work this year. And thank you to our clients for trusting in our services and remaining loyal to us.



But it's more than ending the year with a big thank you to everyone that makes up the Sky Point family. Looking around the David Heffner Pavilion on December 13th one would realize that this gathering allows us to recognize how much our agency is living out its mission, to be an extended family to those that are a part of it. There were close groups of people that come from the same department getting to know other departments. There were people placing names with faces and being thrilled to finally meet each other. There were company owners dancing with the relatives of clients, and everyone was able to relax and mingle.



These shared experiences play an important part in shaping how we view Sky Point and if you haven't been to an event, we hope that you take time to do so in 2020! We have decided to cut back on how many events are scheduled to focus on the most popular of 2019 events and make them great for everyone. We hope that bettering our organized events will mean you have greater anticipation to attend. Please look at the "Upcoming Events" section and get the dates on your calendar now. We promise a good time!





WINTER 2020: Upcoming Events

Enjoy the winter weather with a skate at Headwaters Park! \$5 for children and adults over 14; \$3 for children under 13; \$3 skate rental

Join the fun and enter for a chance to win fun prizes! Create a bracket, track your teammates, and see who will come out victorious! Don't follow basketball? That's okay! Pick your favorite team by team colors or mascot! Stay tuned on Facebook to learn how to enter.



New Season, New Services

Now offering services to those involved in the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) and Juvenile Probation

Sky Point is proud to announce that in October of 2019, we were awarded a contract with the Indiana Department of Child Services. Through this contract we are able to expand our services to include home-based and traditional group and individual counseling to at-risk youth and their families that are involved with the Indiana Department of Child Services or Juvenile Probation. We began working with this population shortly after Sky Point was founded through a contract with Choices Care Coordination. Our relationship with Choices resulted in many successful stories that have enabled clients to remain in the community, advance to more independent living situations, find and maintain employment/relationships, stabilize in a foster care setting, reunify, or be adopted. By pursuing a direct contract with DCS we are able to reach many more families.



Through Home Based Services we will provide Behavior Management Therapy, which is a strategy that is used to change challenging behaviors within specific settings. Behavior Consultants can provide these services in multiple locations; including the individual's home, school, place of employment, or other location. Once the challenging behaviors have been identified, our consultants work with the individual and their caregivers to determine the triggers for those behaviors and what replacement (desired) behaviors the individual could use instead. Those replacement behaviors are taught, practiced, and rewarded until they become habit. We will continue to provide this amazing service to our Waiver population as well.

Our Counseling Services are offered at our office on Lima Road and focus on small group counseling for youth and adults struggling with a culmination of maladaptive behaviors such as anger, risk of substance abuse, criminal thinking/legal issues, and other destructive behaviors. While this is not a recovery group, we recognize the epidemic on drugs can be related to underlying issues that lead too many families toward substance use and feel that incorporating elements of recovery can be useful in working with cases. In addition to group counseling, family and individual counseling is available should it be determined as helpful to the individual. Counseling services will utilize multiple advanced assessments as part of the intake process to better understand an individual's needs. Group curriculum will include a

combination of various techniques of Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) curriculum that include: Coping with Anger, Thinking for Good, Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness, and if applicable Staying Quit. We anticipate a graduation of 3-9 months depending on the individuals needs and participation.

Sky Point Social Services feels so blessed to have an opportunity to have an even greater impact on our community and the lives of struggling families within it. These populations are very close to the hearts of many of our team members; including the Jomo Family, Director of Behavior Management, and many of our Behavior Consultants. We know that we will serve these families well with our combined passions. If you are interested in learning more about these services please contact Brittney Collins, Director of Behavior Management at (260) 492-9334.



NEW FACES: Welcome to the Family



SASHA EDWARDS

Sasha is a wonderful addition to our Sky Point family as our new Registered Nurse. Sasha has previous experience as an Emergency Room nurse as well as in Labor and Delivery. Sasha's role on the team is to provide guidance and assist us in helping provide better quality services for those we serve.



ERIC BROWN

Meet our new Administrative Assistant, Eric! Eric, a Fort Wayne native, has completed 3 internships with the Walt Disney World Company in Orlando, FL. Eric has an Associate's Degree in Business Administration with Certificates in Human Resource Management and Hospitality Management.



ROSE MARTIN

Rose was hired November of 2019 as an Employment Specialist. Rose has an Associates Degree in General Studies and Human Services, with hopes of obtaining her Bachelors Degree soon. She has previous experience as a job coach, helping clients on the job site and helping them obtain a job.



SUE MAHNKE

Sue is a new addition as a DSP. Sue has been working in social work for 20 years and is excited to bring her knowledge and experience to our family. She has implemented services such as RHS, Respite, and Employment Services, amongst others while working with her clients.

MEET THE TEAM: Promotion Spotlight



MARK CHURCH

Just a few months ago, Mark joined our team as a DSP and was recently promoted to Program Manager. Mark has a Bachelors of Science degree in General Studies and has ample experience in the field. In the short time Mark has been here, he has been very eager to learn the ins and outs of Sky Point and has shown that he personifies our mission and vision statements.

Program Manager



CATHY ROBERTS

Cathy has been with the team since March 2019 and was recently promoted to Manager. Cathy has a passion for helping those with disabilities find meaningful employment in their community. She is a great asset to the team and has several years of experience in serving others.

**Employment Services
Manager**



CRYSTAL HAVINS

Crystal has been on the Sky Point team since June 2017 as a Behavioral Consultant, and is now a Licensed Therapist. Crystal will be serving children, teens, and adults involved in the Indiana Department of Child Services and Juvenile Probation. Crystal is known as the "Barefoot Therapist" and has a dog, Mojave, who she is training to become a therapy dog.

Licensed Therapist



SKY POINT SOCIAL SERVICES

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OUR FOCUS:

Sky Point Social Services aims to provide services to clients with developmental, intellectual, and emotional health needs. Sky Point serves children, teens, and adults.

OUR MISSION:

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.

OUR BELIEFS:

- We believe in empowering our employees and the clients we serve.
- We believe in treating everyone with respect and dignity.
- We believe in continuous improvement.
- We believe in people and their dreams.
- We believe in reaching for the sky!

OUR PROGRAMS:

- Supported Living
- Employment Services
- Behavior Management
- Community Mental Health Wraparound Services (CMHW)
- Individual, Group, and Home-Based Therapy (DCS and Juvenile Probation)



CLIENTS CORNER

Meet Georgia: Animal Extraordinaire



Georgia is one of our Wraparound Department clients. She is currently 15 years old and lives with her brothers and adoptive parents, Bill and Mischelle. While she has faced many tough challenges and obstacles, she is currently exceeding all expectations through Wraparound Services. She has proven that she is independent in several decisions and is working towards being successful with her goals.

She enjoys the power of knowledge so she is able to talk to many different people about various

subjects. She also enjoys being able to have conversations and feel like she knows something about what is being talked about. In the past, she has wanted to become a Veterinarian or a Vet Tech because of her love for animals. Georgia is very knowledgeable about all animals and likes being able to care for them. In fact, Georgia has many animals in her home, which makes her team mission so accurate: It's a zoo around here! Georgia and her family have several animals including cats: "Hersha", "Reff", "Luna", and "Catnipp". She also has a Curly Toed tarantula named "Big Macc", a Ball Python snake named "Sam", and a Mini Lionhead rabbit named "Alba".



In the future, Georgia hopes to become an Animal Rescuer or Game Warden. She loves spending time with animals, even though they have not always been her main focus in life. She enjoys participating in Wraparound Services with her Habilitation Facilitator, Jena Rejak. Georgia states, "I look forward to spending time with Jena each week, because I know she cares about me and help me to be my best."