

Siffrin

40+ years of Excellent Service Residential | Community Support | Community Integration | Employment | Financial Management | Transportation

MAKING LIFE ACCESSIBLE SINCE 1976

Register Your Foursome MONDAY JULY 23, 2018



SHADY HOLLOW
Country Club



WWW.SIFFRIN.ORG/GOLF

Siffrin Staff Awards

The following recipients were recognized for their outstanding contributions to those served by Siffrin.

"Employee of the Month"

- Jeremy Lyons - February
- Rachelle Penwell - March
- Sharon Maley - April
- Donald Beatty - May
- Malissa Blandford - June

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Mahoning County Office

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Ohio Shared Living (OSL) involves support services and personal care services provided to an adult by a caregiver living in the caregiver's home. OSL services are authorized by the respective county board of DD for people who live with a paid caregiver that delivers at least 20% of their personal care and support services.

Being a caregiver is a full-time commitment. Providers coordinate the support needs outlined in the person's plan and help facilitate activities chosen by the individual served. These are special relationships that make OSL unique and successful. Here is such a story...

Carla was working as staff at Whipple Dale Center in 2000. A call came in about a parent of one of the individuals working at the Whipple Dale Center. Ron's mother had taken ill and been hospitalized. Ron would not be going home as usual, but had nowhere to go. Carla contacted the SSA regarding his need for emergency respite and volunteered. She was willing and able to help.

Carla said that when Ron came to her house that day, all he had were the clothes on his back and his shoes which were too small. Her first stop was to get him clothes and shoes that fit. She purchased enough clothes for the weekend as that was his anticipated stay. That first night Carla remembers how fascinated and excited he was by the soap bubbles while she helped him bathe. Ron did not talk for a very long time while he stayed with her. He was uncertain of his surroundings, but he started speaking as he felt more comfortable and safe in Carla's home.

Close to 3 months went by when Ron's mother was well enough to return to her home. Carla explained to Ron that he would be able to finally go home. However, it was not what Ron wanted. He wanted to remain at his new home with Carla. As Ron is his own guardian, the SSA agreed that Ron could make his own decisions. He would stay.

Ron's mother's health worsened and soon needed a guardian of her own. Ron remained in respite for about a year with Carla due to the lack of waiver funding. The SSA decided Ron needed to find long-term placement.

Carla had been in contact with the rest of Ron's family, and both parties were trying to do what was best and what needed to be done to honor Ron's wishes. It was decided that Ron's cousin's wife Susan would apply for guardianship. Legal Rights came to meet with Carla and Ron. When they asked Ron what his wishes were, he said, "Go home with her" (Carla).

Ron has fallen in love with Carla and her family. They are out in the country a little and have several dogs and chickens that Ron helps to care for. They have gone on many vacations, Florida every year and Vegas on multiple occasions as Ron loves to play the penny slots. With Carla's help Ron has traveled to Michigan, South Carolina, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Cedar Point. They are planning a cruise to Jamaica this year.

Thanks to Carla and her care and compassion, Ron now lives in a stable environment, has his own space and belongings, and has control over his own life.

*The individual's name has been changed to protect his privacy.



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Covering Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana, and Portage Counties, the **Mahoning Regional Office** has expanded their transportation to include more area than ever before. The new routes have led to an increase of more than 28% in riders. With almost 50,000 trips, representing more than a 25% increase in the amount of trips from last year at this time, the Siffrin driving team are allowing more of the community to be accessed by all individuals. This success comes with a report of safety standards met by all of our drivers. All 22 drivers scored more than 90%, with 19 of those drivers scoring more than 95%. Fleetmatics is used for tracking each vehicle's location, fuel usage, speed, mileage and safety. This information is reviewed monthly to manage the safety of each transportation professional employed by Siffrin.



Our **Stark Transportation** department has recently expanded accessibility in Summit County increasing ridership by 100%. Congratulations to those driving from that office as the safety scores increased with an average of 97% with 5 drivers scoring 100%, and 2 others scoring 99%. Safety is a top priority at Siffrin.

Siffrin

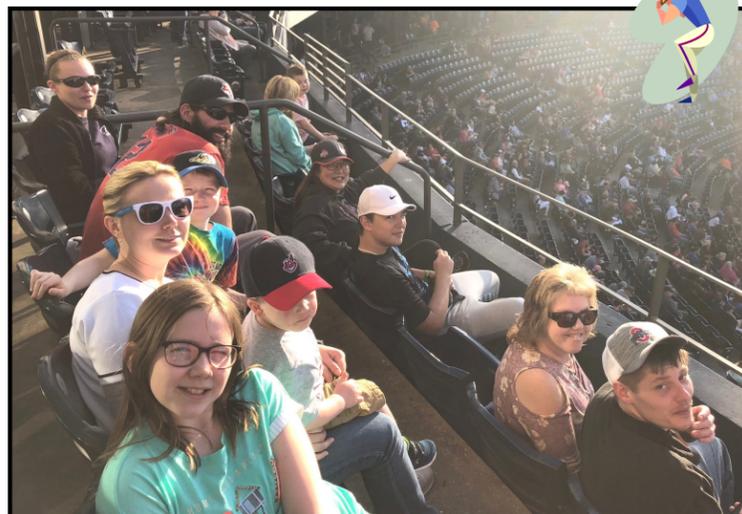
Board of Directors News

Siffrin welcomes **Kim Brown** as the newest member of our Board of Directors. Kim has a great deal of experience working with individuals with disabilities. She has held positions in many parts of Ohio working as a Case Manager, Compliance Specialist, and most recently a Licensure Specialist. Her career in the field of developmental disabilities will allow her to help Siffrin in the areas of compliance, policy development, and personnel with her knowledge of rules and regulations.

We are appreciative of her commitment to Siffrin and those we serve.

"Employee of the Month" Day at the Akron Rubber Ducks Game

Karissa, Melarie, and Sharon were able to attend and celebrate with their guests. Thank you again for your extraordinary contributions. Great Weather, Great Baseball, and Great Fun!



Siffrin has been named a Gold Star Standard Provider

by the Stark County Board of DD. With the approval of The Ohio Dept. of Developmental Disabilities, Stark DD is able to designate providers who are going above and beyond the minimum standards as **Gold Star Providers**. This program was developed with Ohio DODD, Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA), and Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) as a statewide system to promote quality providers in the community. Criteria focuses on topics such as organizational structure, provider stability, health and safety, retention of quality trained employees, and ensuring a safe transition for people who choose alternative providers. The program is overseen by the Quality Initiative Committee comprised of directors, supervisors, guardians, family members, self-advocates, and current providers that have met the qualifications of Gold Star Standards. Meeting monthly, this committee may also deliver suggestions, network, and peer mentor with other providers to promote and enhance the quality of the services.

SIFFRIN SERVICE

- 20 years**
Barbara O'Quinn
- 15 years**
Debra Stacy
- 10 years**
Charlyn Dalton
Barbara Kelly
Debbie Roberson
- 5 years**
Kristine Thomas
DeAnne Wilson
- 3 years**
Stacia Loutzenheiser



“MAKING A DIFFERENCE”

Evita is a very special person. She is an artist, hard worker, and now a hero. Served by Siffrin from our Mahoning Regional Office, she faced a challenging situation when her staff person had a medical emergency. Evita stayed with and tended to her caregiver while the staff was not feeling well. As the staff's condition worsened, Evita call for help. She called the manager, and EMS was called. While everything was going on, Evita helped calm her fellow roommates showing courage during this very difficult situation. Her compassionate and caring nature took over, rather than fear. She is truly brave. Evita, thank you for being a HERO!



— PLEASE NOTE —

NEW OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY
7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

CLOSED DAILY
FOR LUNCH
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM



NEWS from HR

HR is excited to announce some nice changes in policy for PTO hours. As of July 1, 2018, staff employed for 3 years or more will accrue **PTO at the rate of .1480**. This is a welcome increase.

If you have any **PTO left** at the end of the fiscal year, you may now carry over up to 120 hours for full-time staff, and up to 80 hours if part-time.

Volunteering in your community for a non-profit? For every hour of volunteer work you can earn one hour of additional PTO, up to 40 hours per fiscal year. Please check with HR regarding the steps of verifying your volunteer hours.

If you have extra PTO, you may now **DONATE PTO** hours to someone in need. No employee can receive more than 40 hours per fiscal year, and the recipient of the donated PTO must have a zero balance upon approval. This is only to be used in hardship situations such as FMLA or during a family crisis. All donated PTO hours must be submitted on a form and approved by the CEO.

Please remember - Employees shall not smoke, vape or use other forms of tobacco inside/outside of any Siffrin properties, Siffrin vehicles, or any other site of anyone receiving services. This includes the home or job site of any person served, regardless of their smoking habits.



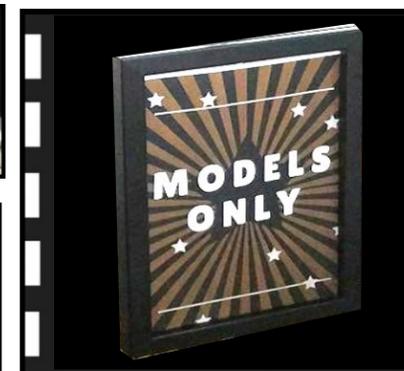
“Everyone knows Carl.”

Carl was recognized by Tuslaw High School for his support of the athletics program. He is a part of the inaugural class of **Distinguished Mustangs**. Carl attends every game he can and is always cheering on the football team. A plaque honoring Carl was presented to him by Principal Mr. McKenney and placed near the entrance to the high school gymnasium.

Carl is the Mustangs' biggest fan.



FASHION SHOW



The 4th Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser, sponsored by Dr. Patterson's Family Eye Care, Encore, and Sassy Sisters took place on April 21st at the Metroplex Expo Center in Girard. All proceeds went to 3 causes, one being The Siffrin HOPE Fund. More than 20 people served by Siffrin met with others from the community to model snappy fashion designs and even tuxedos. Ryan Cavanaugh and Lisa Robarge were the main coordinators and organized staff to make this event a huge success. Basket raffles were organized by many volunteers and just added to the excitement. Lights, music, and high fives for our runway models made for an uplifting unique event attended by more than 300 people. It was inspiring for those who walked the runway and to those whose teamwork made this possible.

