



THE LOTUS

DEC. 2021 EDITION

A NOTE FROM TASHA AND OUR ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Hello AID family and friends; and happy holidays. Thank you to everyone who participated in AID's annual turkey and pie giveaway to the homes. I am proud to say that all AID staff received Thanksgiving bonuses. I want to thank all of our staff for all the time and dedication they put into our individuals on a daily basis. AID will also be hosting our Christmas party at Franke Park this year. Please make sure to RSVP; as details are attached to this newsletter. We are also working hand in hand with staff to make sure we follow OSHA guidelines for the COVID mandate. I would also like to take this time to make sure the teams utilize the weekly emails to voice any concerns they may have. We do the emails to that we can stay in constant communication to make sure the individual(s) and team(s) needs are met. We also utilize these emails for staff education and training purposes and where we may be able to do better as a company. As always thank you for the continuous support and prayers for not only AID, but everyone involved.

"F.E.A.R. has two meanings: Forget Everything And Run or Face Everything And Rise the choice is yours."

Sincerely,

Latasha Lesure
Executive Director

WHAT'S NEW

- Come check out our Winter Wonderland Lobby!
- Our new location is underway! Stay tuned for more updates!
- Check us out on Instagram! @aidofindiana
- A.I.D. is just a few days away from launching the Community and Employee tab on our website! If you know of any volunteer opportunities please email matthew@aidofindiana.com
- Now Hiring smiling faces for the following positions; DSP, Community Engagement Nurse, House Managers



UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 1st: Festival of Trees
- December 10th: A.I.D. Christmas Party!
- December 21st: Winter Solstice
- December 24th: Christmas Eve (Office Closed)
- December 25th: Christmas Day (Office Closed)
- December 31st: New Years Eve (Office Closed)
- All month of December: Fantasy of Lights (Franke Park)

MOTTO

A.I.D. “Assistance, Independence, Dignity”

MISSION STATEMENT

We are founded on the principle that we are compassionate members of society committed to Assisting “Everyone”, the Individuals that we serve, and the Employees that we employ in obtaining Independence with Dignity.

CUSTOMER SERVICE PROMISE

We Assist People with ALL Abilities to Achieve Independence with Dignity

A.I.D. IS NOW A PART OF INARF!

INARF is the principal membership organization in Indiana representing providers of services to people with disabilities. Our members serve over 50,000 Indiana citizens annually and employ nearly 15,000 workers. For over 45 years, INARF has maintained positive work relationships with governmental agencies responsible for human service programs, promoted networking and professional development opportunities for members, and provided leadership and support in the promotion of quality programs for persons with disabilities. INARF is committed to strengthening the system of services and supports for Hoosiers with disabilities.

VISION: We envision a sustainable network of provider agencies delivering high quality services to support the aspirations of all people with disabilities.

MISSION: We work to influence the disabilities services industry by presenting a unified voice and by building the capabilities of member agencies to deliver quality services and supports.

VALUES:

- Individuals with disabilities must have timely access to a full range of services and supports.
- Individuals with disabilities must have a range of options from which to select services and supports.
- The selection of services and service providers by individuals with disabilities must be driven by consumer choice.

INARF offers membership for provider organizations (71 Organizational Members) and for companies (36 Associate Members), each offering different qualifications and benefits.

- The INARF Organizational membership consists of provider organizations (both for profit and not for profit) which provide a variety of services to persons with disabilities within Indiana.
- The INARF Associate membership is comprised of companies which provide goods and services for purchase by Organizational members.

DDRS NEW UPDATES

Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services IT Update:

The Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services has committed to modernizing IT systems to support its mission which is “To connect people with disabilities and their families to resources and supports to live their best life.” In February 2021, BDDS launched the BDDS Gateway which provides individuals with disabilities and their families a new avenue to apply for BDDS supports and services. As a result, BDDS continues to see a substantial increase in applications over previous years. The BDDS Gateway can be accessed at BDDSGateway.fssa.in.gov or by scanning the QR code below with your phone’s camera.

The Systems Consolidation Project is another means to support the BDDS mission. To ensure adequate user acceptance testing activities, as well as resource material development to support training efforts of providers and selected case management entities the BDDS Portal 2.0 go-live was moved to 2022. More information and details about the schedule, virtual demos and training will be coming over the next few months.

We appreciate the continued partnership on the important work of supporting individuals and families in living their

vision of a good life.

Questions or comments related to the SCP Project or BDDS Gateway may be submitted to BDDS.SCPHelp@fssa.in.gov.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM COVID-19

EVEN WITH CDC GUIDELINES, WE ASK THAT YOU STILL WEAR A MASK IN THE INDIVIDUALS HOUSES; VACCINATED OR NOT. Please, continue to disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as light switches, keyboards, phones, wheelchairs, walkers, etc. once every shift.

- Continue to perform good hand hygiene and assist all individuals to perform good hand hygiene, washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap. Please do this at the start and end of your shift as well as before and after direct care, donning PPE, using the restroom, etc.
- We are advising visitors to keep visits to a limit and encourage anyone who does enter the homes to wash their hands and disinfect their cellphones and other belongings before and after their visit.
- In order to lessen the chance of exposure and to keep from overwhelming the community hospitals and urgent cares, the nursing department is also advising against any unnecessary doctor's visits or transportation to urgent cares or hospitals unless in cases of true medical emergencies. We have partnered with Rose Wilcox, NP who has agreed to triage our individuals via telecommunication during this time.
- Because many of our individuals have conditions that make them more susceptible to complications if they were to be exposed, we are asking staff to take all our individuals' temperature once per shift and to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If any individual has a temperature of 100.4 degrees F, has a dry cough, or abnormal shortness of breath, please contact an AID nurse.
- Please be advised, if you are experiencing dry cough, temperature of 100.4 degrees F or higher, and shortness of breath to contact your supervisor and physician. If you are enrolled in the health insurance offered by AID, we recommend you use Teladoc services via the "Healthiest You" app that can be accessed on any smartphone. Thank you to all our staff for continuing to care for our individuals during this time and thank you for doing your part!

Vaccinations are available at any local pharmacy. Although it is not enforced, we strongly encourage you to get vaccinated. Thank you.

SO MANY GREAT THINGS IN OUR COMMUNITY!



A.I.D. RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

INVITES YOU TO

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

GET READY FOR A NIGHT FILLED WITH HOLIDAY CHEER!

PLEASE R.S.V.P. TO MATTHEW BY
DECEMBER 6TH
MATTHEW@AIDOFINDIANA.COM

CHRISTMAS ATTIRE IS
ENCOURAGED!

DECEMBER 10 | 5:30-9PM
SANTA & PRESENTS 6:30P-7:30PM
FRANK PARK, FRANKE #1
3411 SHERMAN BLVD.,
FORT WAYNE, IN, 46808

*Face Masks required while
walking around venue*



WHAT'S UP

- **Employee Engagement Contest:** First House to take a picture with their Christmas Tree AND a client must be in the picture will win! Please email Matthew Clinger the picture at matthew@aidofindiana.com.
- **Employee Referral Bonuses:** If you know someone that would be a great DSP and they are hired, You and Your referral both get 30-day, 60 day and 90-day bonuses: That's a \$360 Bonus! Ask HR about it! We still encourage you to have fun within the houses by having a movie night or craft day to keep staying active & entertained.

Please visit our website www.aidresidentialservices.com or www.aidofindiana.com Review us on Facebook and on our Indeed Page! The more visits we receive the easier we are to find for applicants, and clients! Thank you!

We are always looking for more participation! Please bring your talents and gifts to AID! If you are crafty, if you want to donate items for crafts, or if you would like to share a monthly event, we need you!!!

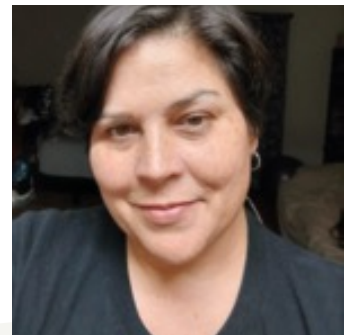
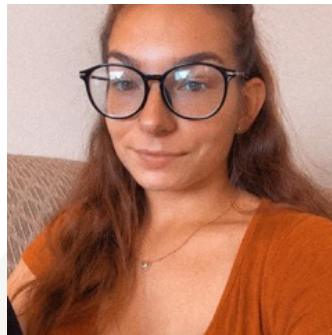
(For any other exciting news you would love to share in next month's newsletter please submit it to me. Email me at matthew@aidofindiana.com)

KUDOS KORNER

- Thank you to everyone who helped pass out Turkeys and Pies to our residential homes! It meant the world to our clients and I'm sure seeing them excited brought a smile to your face too! Also HUGE, HUGE, HUGE, thank you to Kerri Davis and Deborah Ross who are our FSW employees. They have been doing an amazing job at gathering referrals! Keep doing what you are doing! Your hard-work does not go unnoticed! .

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Savannah Coonrad (Left photo)
Jennifer Stroupe (FSW) (Right photo)



(We appreciate your hard work and dedication)

HOUSE OF THE MONTH: RIVULET 2

(We appreciate your hard work and dedication)

This recognition recognizes the exceptional employees that work in the house and all the hard work and dedication that they have committed to making their house exceptional! They have accomplished all their monthly compliance tracking, and have had little to no compliance issues. All environmental and safety checks are completed ensuring a safe, clean, and welcoming environment. Not only for the Individuals that live there, but also to the employees and team members for stepping up and going that extra mile! AID appreciates all that you do! Keep up the GREAT WORK! Everyone that is permanent staff in this house will receive a BONUS in their checks, a Certificate of Recognition, and a Cake or Pizza! Thank You!



Thank you Susann Gottfried for decorating your window with clients!

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT CONTEST OCTOBER WINNER: MAYSVILLE

RECIPES OF THE MONTH: *HERSHEY KISS COOKIES*

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon coarse sea salt
- 1 cup unsalted butter room temperature
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- ⅔ cup dark brown sugar
- ⅔ cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon milk (only if batter is too stiff)
- 2 pounds Hershey's Kisses (Wrappers removed)



DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oven to 375 Degrees F and line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper
2. Whisk flour, baking soda, baking powder, kosher salt, and sea salt in a medium-size mixing bowl, on medium-high speed. Set aside
3. In a bowl of a stand mixer, cream together the butter and peanut butter 2 minutes until smooth
4. Add brown sugar and granulated sugar and beat 2-3 minutes or until lighter in color and smooth
5. Add eggs and vanilla and beat 1 minute or until all ingredients are incorporated and smooth
6. Turn off mixer and add the flour mixture. Turn the mixer to the lowest speed and beat just until the flour is incorporated
7. If mixture seems too stiff, add 1-tablespoon milk, mixing just until incorporated
8. Cover the dough and refrigerate 30 minutes or until firm enough to roll into balls
9. Shape the dough into ¾ inch balls and place them about 1 ½ inches apart on the prepared baking sheets. 20 balls work perfectly on a half-sheet baking pan
10. Bake at 375 F, 8 minutes then remove from oven. Press candy kiss in the middle of each cookie. Press down just enough to set the kiss being sure not to press the candy clear to the pan
11. Place the cookies back in the oven and bake an additional 2 minutes
12. Transfer the cookies to a cooling rack - remove the cookies from the baking sheet after 2 minutes
13. Keep in an airtight container
14. Enjoy!

Let us know if you make any of the recipes featured. Send a picture to matthew@aidofindiana.com

BIRTHDAYS

Chasity Bland
CJ Booth
Lukesha Bradford
April Bradford
Tonya Bryson
Curt Butler
Alexis Carter
Jasmine Carter
Brenda Chaney
Rachel Conley

Noah Cox
Nijae Gaston
Dacey Gibson
Sheryl Horne
Breasia James
Adam Jump
Destiny Kirkwood
Cathy Malcolm
Stacey Manley
Dyiamond McCain

Kindra Miller
Andrea Miracle
Patty Nichols
Arthur Perdue
Kate Raber
Amber Rudd
Ava Smith
Shanetta Stewart
Tanner Curtis
Nancy Vanhoosier

Storm Washington
Kimberly Weaver
Katrece Wells
Jasmine White
Cheannie Williams
Peggy Willmann
Anthony Zimmerman

ANNIVERSARIES

Isabel Baker
Chelsea Brown
Wallace Collier
Wendy Cruse
Donald Dickison
Mary Dickison
Drake Hall
Adam Jump
Kelly Jump

Melvin Lesure
Joan Maloney
Olivia McCreery
Patty Nichols
Quintin Robinson
Robert Scott
Hailey Shockome
Ava Smith
Sarah Stewart

Stephanie Werkheiser
Aaron Williams
Karmen Williams
Ryan Williams



Who Are the Administrators:

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Cynequa Relue (Finance)
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Heather Avery (Privet)
heather@aidofindiana.com

(Normingdale)

(Rivulet)

(Fiesta Way)

RESOURCES

League of the Blind and Disabled

5821 S Anthony Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46816 (260) 441-0551

- Home care - Respite(relief or assistance for caregiver)
- Attendant(assist with personal care),
- Homemaker (help with household chores)

Community Harvest

999 E Tillman Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46816 (260) 447-3696

- Food pantry
- Volunteer work

Turnstone

3320 N Clinton St, Fort Wayne, IN 46805 (260) 483-2100

- Social services-Social workers and case managers will assess client and family needs, coordinate and monitor services, help develop care plans, identify funding options, and assist in application processes if needed.
- Equipment loans- Turnstone lends gently-used adaptive equipment and other items at no charge on a first-come, first-served basis to individuals with disabilities
- Turnstone's Adult Day Services (ADS) program is designed for persons age 18 and over with a physical disability (neurological or orthopedic impairment) requiring assistance in one or more areas of daily living.
- Adult therapy-Therapists are dedicated to maximizing the independence of every client by creating individualized treatment plans.
- Childcare- Turnstone's Kimbrough Early Learning Center is for children of all abilities, ages 2 to 12. The licensed program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm and offers both full- and part-time care.
- Health and wellness center- Turnstone's Health & Wellness Center is the only exercise facility in northeast Indiana designed for people with physical disabilities.
- Intellectual disabilities- Sports and Recreation Programs for People with Intellectual Disabilities
- Memory care- Memory Care program offers day services to clients with dementia diagnoses.
- Pediatric care- pediatric therapeutic services include physical, occupational, speech, and aquatic therapy. Therapy is designed to help each child reach his or her maximum potential.
- Sports and recreation- Recreational, competitive, and Paralympic-level adaptive sports programs.
- Specialty Program- specialty programs are designed to meet the unique needs of people with physical disabilities.

BBDS office

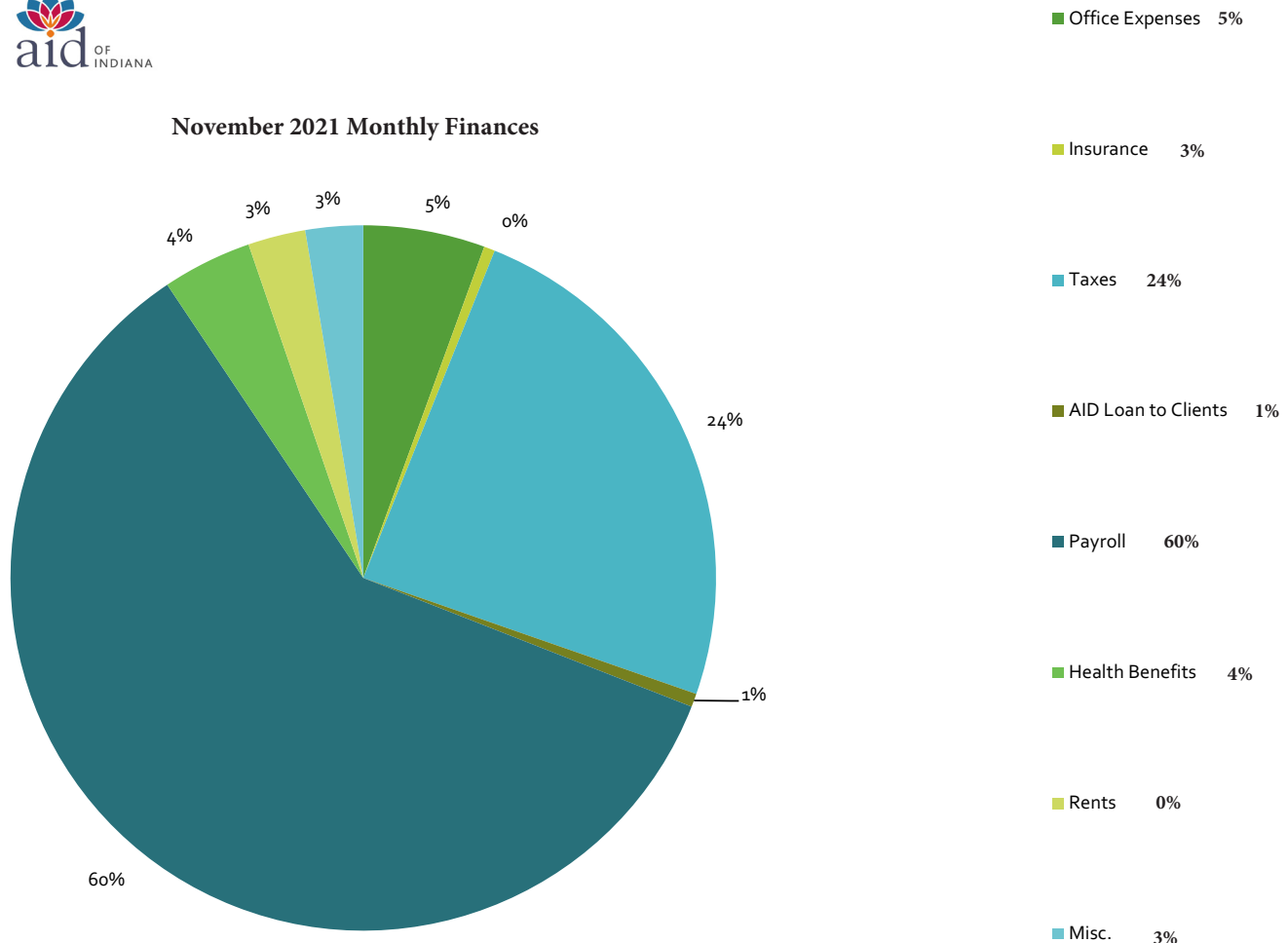
201 E Rudisill Blvd Suite 300, Fort Wayne, IN 46806 (260) 423-2571

- Developmental disability services- Home and community waiver services
- First steps home- Ages birth-3yrs. Family centered, Strengths-based, Relationship-based, Holistic, Culturally competent, Routines-based, Individualized, Rehabilitation/Employment, and Quality improvement
- Vocational rehabilitation- Helps individuals with disabilities in employment
- Deaf and hard of hearing- Services provide assistance to identify and find resources to meet the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals and their families, throughout the state of Indiana.
- Blind and visually impaired- provides services to eligible Hoosiers that are blind or visually impaired.

STATE OF THE BUSINESS & FINANCE DEPARTMENT



November 2021 Monthly Finances



OTHER INFORMATION

For any questions, concerns, contributions, advice, stories, kudos, and anything else you would like to share on the next Newsletter please submit to matthew@aidofindiana.com. Thank you and May God Bless You!

What does it mean to be accredited by CARF?

CARF accreditation represents the highest level of accreditation that an organization can receive. Its standards ensure accredited organizations provide the best possible care, so people like you can trust that an organization has been reviewed with high standards in mind.

