



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## KLEHA COMPLETES 12 YEAR TERM

Scioto County Board Member Jeffrey Khleha completed his final board meeting on December 16, 2021. pg. 3

## COMPTON CELEBRATES 30 YEARS AT SCDD

Margaret Compton passed an astonishing milestone on December 4, 2021 marking 30 years of employment with SCDD. pg. 2

## THE NEW OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

On December 1, 2021 a new department was formed to enhance our outreach efforts to those we serve, those we employee, families, stakeholders, and the public. pg. 4

Sandy Brisker receiving her years of Service Award from Matt Purcell, Superintendent.



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RAFFLE



Lynne Webb receiving her  
years of Service Award  
from Matt Purcell,  
Superintendent.

PAGE 2 | WEBB RETIRES

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*From all of us at*



PAGE 4 | SCDD CHRISTMAS!





Margaret Compton pictured with her daughter, Sarah, in 1992 - 1 year into her career at SCDD

## COMPTON CELEBRATES 30 YEARS AT SCDD

Margaret Compton is one of the first people you will meet when looking for a job at the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities. She works in the Fiscal/HR office and is always there to help staff and the program. She began working for the board on December 4, 1991 and has been a valuable asset since day one.

Superintendent, Matt Purcell, who has worked with Margaret in varying capacities over the past 20 years agrees stating, "Margaret has been and continues to be such an asset and a value added employee at the SCDD. The organization, people served and their families, as well as everyone we affiliate with SCDD have certainly been beneficiaries of her skills, knowledge, and abilities!"

In the 30 years that Margaret has worked for SCDD, she has encompassed various roles and seen many changes, but there are a few things that have been constant according to Compton.

"There have been so many changes in philosophy, in service models, and in the expectations of families and service recipients, it's probably impossible to encapsulate them in a short paragraph. So, I'd rather mention two things that have stayed the same. First, the agency's struggle continues every day to move forward, to keep improving, to keep educating, and to find new opportunities. The second thing that has not changed is that there are still people here who do their jobs for the right reasons, with conviction, with heart. I'm happy to say, these people are from every generation. After writing that, it seems wrong to confess that I didn't choose to work for the Board because of its mission. After spending a few years in a corporate setting, I knew I wanted to work for a non-profit when I returned home from California. I had the luxury of waiting until just the right job came along, and government was another form of non-profit to me. It was later that I found my 'why.' My first day on the job, the superintendent introduced me to EVERY person at the workshop all at once. (Dozens were so excited to see him!) I'd never been mobbed before. They were respectful, but their exuberance was still overwhelming. I think that's called an immersive experience nowadays. I wore many hats in those 20 plus years in Superintendent's Office, but my favorite gig was doing the agency's public relations. I got to meet and interact with so many of our folks. It was during that time...you know what I'm going to say; It was the people we served. They became my 'why.' I wanted the public to understand what we do here and to believe that it is valuable. I still believe that, even though I've taken on new challenges in the past six years. That belief is one more thing that hasn't changed."

"Margaret has been and continues to be such an asset and a value added employee at the SCDD. The organization, people served and their families, as well as everyone we affiliate with SCDD have certainly been beneficiaries of her skills, knowledge, and abilities!"



## WEBB RETIRES

Lynne Webb retired on December 31, 2021 after being employed 12 years full time with the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities. She worked those 12 years, plus an additional 4 years as a contracted employee with the board, in the Fiscal/Human Resources Office. Lynne brought her expertise to SCDD with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Ohio University along with working as an accountant for in the private sector more than 20 years before coming to SCDD. She ended her career at SCDD serving as the Director of Fiscal/Human Resources.

## DECEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Margaret Compton  
30 years on 12/4

Sandra Brisker  
22 years on 12/19

Chad Phipps  
20 years on 12/26

Melissa Gampp  
6 years on 12/8

Stephanie Moss  
3 years on 12/5





## BRISKER RETIRES

For over 22 years, Sandy Brisker has brought many positive attributes to the people who make up SCDD from helping providers figure out billing to offering a safe place for her coworkers to collaborate and sneak a piece of candy and cup of coffee. However, what had the greatest impact on Sandy was the people served by SCDD. Brisker reflected, "The consumers have impacted my life to its fullest. I have worked in many positions but my memories always go back to the people we serve. I can remember a little guy downstairs coming in off the bus and signing in at the door way every morning like he was a visitor. He went into the school office one day and ask the secretary to call me and wanted to know if anyone needed him. I have watched this little guy grow into a wonderful adult. He could always beat me in Tic Tac Toe. I had several girls that use to come and ask advice on boyfriends. Several talked to me about where to vacation at, some would want advice on buying gifts for people or what was good to eat, or what to put on a grocery list. Many many memories as I reflect back in my 22 years of service."

Brisker added that her work brought challenges, but she used those challenges to grow herself as a person, "My greatest challenge at work was trying to figure out a providers billing when at the time I started this no one had ever done this in their position before. I talked with several providers and the state constantly until I was able to help and even bill for a few of them that were confused with the process. I feel this helped me grow as an individual due to the fact I had to reach out to a lot of people and work with several different personalities."

While being honored at her retirement reception on December 16, 2021 Superintendent Matt Purcell stated, "Sandy has filled so many roles and has acted in so many capacities for this organization and has been so versatile in doing so, In organizations like ours that rely heavily on public dollars, we need people like Sandy. He ended saying, " We are going to surely miss her and she's leaving very large shoes to fill."

Sandy leaves her coworkers with the following advice and sentiments, "You never fail until you try!" she continued, "I love each and everyone of you. I will miss you but it was time to exit. I hope your lives are full with joy and happiness as you all have made mine. I would tell anyone to work in the field of developmental disabilities, it will touch your heart like you would never believe."



## KLEHA COMPLETES 12 YEAR TERM

Jeffrey A. Kleha, participated in his final board meeting as a board member on Thursday, December 16, 2021. Kleha is an attorney in Scioto County Ohio who has spent the past 12 years supporting and volunteering his time to help people with disabilities and the staff who support them. The staff and leadership team of Scioto County DD is grateful for Jeff and his years of service.

## PHIPPS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AT SCDD

FOR ME  
THE "WHY  
SCDD" IS  
EASY...  
IT'S THE  
PEOPLE!



I have been blessed with the opportunity to work with great co-workers, individuals and their families. It's awesome that I get to help to impact their lives daily in a positive manner. That's not saying it's not challenging. Each day in the SSA office typically presents a "unique challenge or three" but that is also what keeps things interesting for me. I love to problem solve and no two days are alike!

CHAD PHIPPS, SSA DIRECTOR





## CHRISTMAS AT SCDD



Photo Credit: VRS One-Ten Media

### A VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The students and staff of Vern Riffe School put on an extraordinary Christmas program every year! This year brought some new challenges with Covid precautions making outside spectators unable to attend in person. The main staff behind VRS One-Ten Media, Jeffery Horner and Melissa Gampp, made sure that everyone was included in a wonderfully produced and recorded rendition that all could view! If you didn't catch the program, you can check it out here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/.../2021-vrs-christmasprogram.mp4...>

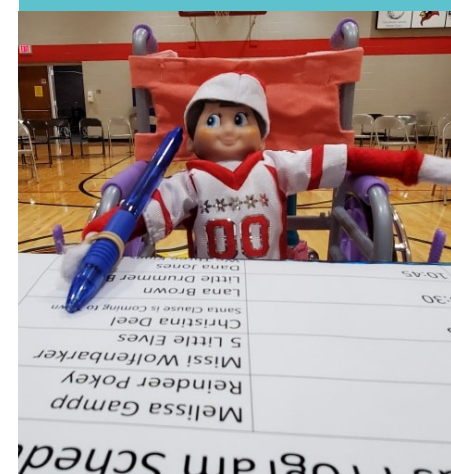


### VRS PTO BASKET RAFFLE

The PTO of VRS ensures that each student receives Christmas presents through their annual fundraiser. Each classroom creates a nice basket to raffle. This year each student had a budget of \$60 worth of gifts from ticket profits!

SCDD thanks everyone who purchased tickets, spread the word, and helped the VRS students have a Merry Christmas.

### VERNY MCJINGLES



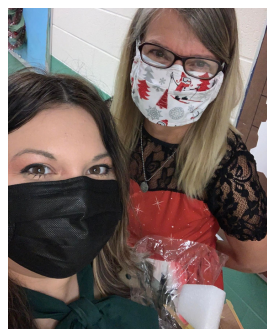
Did you know?

VRS Teacher Tom Koch makes sure VERNY, the VRS Elf, keeps his Christmas Magic and spreads cheer to the students throughout the season!





## THE NEW OUTREACH DEPARTMENT



The Outreach Department provides a global philosophical approach to positive culture throughout the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Services include:

- Advocacy training and opportunities.
- Coaching and facilitation of the application of positive supports with people served and their caregivers/staff.
- Path to Employment liaison for people served.
- Oversight of the Human Rights Committee's compliance with the DODD Behavioral Support Rule.
- Community Outreach, Public Relations, Communications, & Event Coordination.
- On-going training opportunities for people served, families/caregivers, service providers, and community members.
- SCDD Awareness and Event Planning.

The Outreach Department is made up of a Director, a Coordinator, and 2 Positive Support Facilitators (in the process of being hired!)



### GREEN HAT AWARD

Each month, at least one staff will be honored with the Green Hat Award. A green hat staff is someone who shows a lot of positivity in their work. Green hat professionals are seen as helpful, optimistic, supportive, and focuses on strengths, abilities, possibilities, solutions, and success.

"Eddie and I have worked on several cases together over the past 2 years, In that time he always has something positive to say, a new idea to try, and never gives up on the people he serves. He deserves to be honored as a green hat employee" - Jessica Hoffer, Good Life Facilitator and Director of Outreach

### DECEMBER STAFF BIRTHDAYS

Tammy Bolton 12/5

Lori Snyder 12/15

Trisha Schmidt 12/16

Steve Sowkulech 12/21

Nicholas Jenkins 12/23

Travis Turner 12/30





# WELCOME NEW STAFF



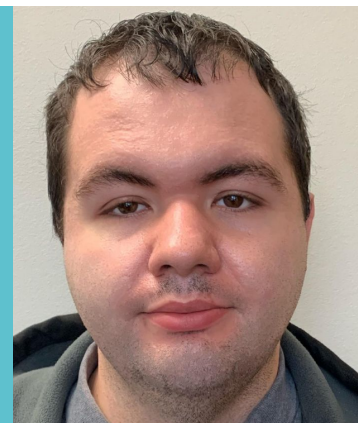
**JUSTIN ISSAC**  
SSA

"I chose this field because helping people is an important part of who I am and this is a way for me to serve my community and have a positive impact. Outside of work I'm really into comic books, horror movies, and video games. I'm a classic geek." Justin has previous experience working for Children's Services and is also a father to his son, Grayson.



**TRAVIS TURNER**  
SSA

"I am excited to work here with a job that can fill my soul and my desire to help others." Travis is a Graduate of Shawnee State University, an eagle scout, and for the past 21 years has also served on Valley Fire and Rescue as a firefighter and EMS. "I love the outdoors, art, and my family. I have a son, Zed who is 8 and a daughter, Zoey who is 5. I am also joined in life with my amazing wife Ashley."



**AUSTIN HOOPLE**  
RECORDS CLERK  
ASSISTANT

"I wanted to work for Scioto DD because I wanted a place where I could put the talents and abilities that I have acquired over the years to good use - somewhere I could do my part to help people in any capacity - and I felt that Scioto DD was just the place I was looking for."

Austin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STAFF ON THEIR NEW ROLES AT SCDD



**JESSICA HOFFER**  
DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH

Jessica was promoted as Director to the newly formed Outreach Department on December 1, 2021. Jessica has been employed with SCDD for over 13 years.

"I am excited to utilize my training and experience in a role that will have a more expansive impact on the people we serve. The potential of this department is one that will make a difference in the quality of services delivered at SCDD by uplifting those who provide those services and spreading the word about all of the accomplishments of people with disabilities."



**THERESA ROWLAND**  
OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Theresa has worked with SCDD for nearly eight years as both an SSA and the Community Opportunities Navigator. "I am so excited to take on this newly created role with SCDD where I can use my experience to promote advocacy, community employment, and to expand the knowledge base of what SCDD is all about; how we support the individuals we serve along with their families, and to work alongside other agencies, schools, employers, and the county as a whole in order to enrich the lives of our entire community. I want the residents of our region to feel free to reach out to our department with ideas and suggestions to help build and foster positive community relations."



**LORI MORTON**  
VRS SECRETARY

On December 1, 2021 Lori went from being a Teacher's Assistant to the VRS Secretary. When asked why she loves working at SCDD she noted it is because of the individuals we serve, being blessed to be part of their daily lives and witness their accomplishments, and cheering them on along the way. Outside of work, Lori likes to hike with her son and kayak with her friends. Lori brings experience as a parent of an autistic child and a compassionate heart. She is sure to make everyone around her smile.