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Eleven students graduate from Vern Riffe School on May 19

Eleven students will graduate from the Vern Riffe School during its ceremony in the Vern Riffe School gymnasium on May 19, 2023, at 1 p.m.

“This graduating class has already started to step out and make positive changes in their lives. We have quite a few that have already started working. They currently work part-time jobs that will help them transition into adulthood,” said Vern Riffe School Principal Tammy Guthrie. “I have watched this group over the past eight years develop from upper-elementary age students to getting ready to graduate. I’ve seen them progress and take part in interviews and speak well about themselves and their experiences.”

This year’s graduates are: Jonathan Tyler Mitchell, from Franklin Furnace, enjoys listening to music, watching videos and shows about cars, buses, and

trucks. He likes to go out to eat, and spend time with family and friends. His future plans are to continue his job at Wheelersburg Dairy Queen, and to start the program at the STAR, Inc. to make new friends and learn new things. His guardians are Paula and Jeremy Rogers.

Christopher Gary Glispie, from Wheelersburg, enjoys playing on his iPad, drawing, watching VeggieTales, and a good nap. He also plays challenger baseball during the summer, and some Special Olympics events during the school year. His future plans are to attend the STAR, Inc. His parents are Gary and Kathryn Glispie.

Gabrielle Alee Marie Ray Collins, from Portsmouth, enjoys basketball, horse riding, makeup, art, and reading. She also takes an active role in her home church. Her future plans are to get married, get her own place to live, as well as

to continue working at Rural King, and to work at the school. Her guardians are Pamela and Jason Thompson.

James L. Cooper Jr., from Portsmouth, Ohio, enjoys hobbies including watching cars, and movies. He also enjoys making people happy and people watching. His future plans are to work and to continue to live with his family. His mother is Theresa Arthur.

Clayton Patrick, from Franklin Furnace, enjoys hobbies including watching the iPad, and cooking. He also enjoys watching Wheel of Fortune. His future plans include continued development of his cooking skills, and the exploration of part time programs to continue his development of daily living skills and socialization. His parents are Michelle and Jason Patrick. Brayden Michael Reyes, who was born in Texas, moved to

Ohio in 2017. His hobbies include watching videos on his tablet such as Paw Patrol, Thomas the Train, and Cars. He is a big eater and loves pizza rolls, as well as going on car trips and listening to music. After graduation he plans to attend a local day service program. His guardian is Mary Crabtree. Earl Fredrick Bender, from Portsmouth, loves car rides and traveling. He enjoys watching his tablet, looking through a magnifying glass and playing with mirrors. His future plans are to continue living with his mom and dad and to try out STAR, Inc. He lives with his parents Sheila Kay Allen and William David Allen. Jarrett Rylan Wallbrown, from Lucasville, enjoys hobbies including watching videos on the internet, such as Disney classics and new films alike, he also enjoys swinging on the swings and solitude. His future plans are to continue living with his parents and explore day programs to find what suits him best. He lives with his parents Monica and Paul Sigman. Olivia Grace Jacobs, from Minford, likes the outdoors, roasting marshmallows, making crafts. She also loves animals of all shapes and sizes, as well as dressing up in costumes, and for parties. She

loves spending time with her mom and dad and two big brothers, as well as her grandmas, and cousins. She likes watching her favorite shows, Winnie the Pooh, and Blues Clues as much as she does road trips. After graduation she wants to attend a day program, take swimming lessons and possibly work with animals part time. She lives with her parents Dianna and Jim Jacobs. Maxwell Edwards, from Portsmouth; his hobbies include singing and dancing. He also enjoys playing games on his iPad, and hanging out with his friends. He likes taking walks and working. He spent his senior year at the Scioto County Career Technical Center in the Project Life program, and also completed an internship at Hillview Retirement Center. After graduation he plans to find work in the community. His mother is Charlene Edwards and his father was Mark Underwood. His guardian is Melissa Gampp. Jonathon Lee Adkins, from Otway, enjoys hobbies including playing sports with his friends such as basketball, kickball, and volleyball. His plans for after graduation are to visit STAR, Inc. to continue socializing with his fellow classmates and friends, as well

as explore possible employment in the community. His parents are Pamela Nylund, Jody Miller, Keith and Stacy Nylund. "This is one of our largest graduating classes in a long time. One of our graduates finished out their senior year at the Scioto County Career Technical Center, where they did a whole program," said Tom Koch, an intervention specialist for the Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). The ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 19. Invocation will be delivered by Loretta Cooper, and Principal Tammy Guthrie will make some remarks. SCDD Board Member and Self-Advocate for developmental disabilities, Bill Adams, will give the keynote speech. A slideshow of graduations will be played, followed by the awarding of diplomas and then photos opportunities in the gymnasium. The event will be live-streamed on Facebook. For more information about the programs and services at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, call the number provided or visit online at www.sciotodd.org, and like and follow them on Facebook and TikTok.



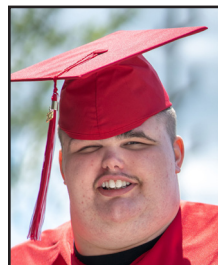
Brayden Reyes



Chris Glispie



Clayton Patrick



Earl Bender



Gabrielle Collins



James Cooper, Jr.



Jarrett Wellbrown



Jonathon Adkins



Jonathan Mitchell



Maxwell Edwards



Olivia Jacobs

SCDD celebrates 10 years of Hardwood Heroes



Scioto County Developmental Disabilities and Scioto County Special Olympics celebrated 10 fantastic years of Hardwood Heroes celebrity basketball games during this year's game on March 23. The game saw local celebrities tip off against a team of athletes from the Scioto County Special Olympics adult and student teams. "This fundraiser goes to support our local Special Olympians. It helps pay for the bus trips to away games and to feed our athletes. It is used to pay for their uniforms and their registration fees for regional and state events. It also helps pay for equipment that we need, as well as medals and trophies," said SCDD Outreach Coordinator Theresa Rowland. The Scioto County Special Olympics adult team, Shooting Stars, alternated quarters with the student team, the Vern Riffe Cardinals. The Shooting Stars are coached by Brandy Starrett, and the Cardinals are coached by Rita Arthur. The team of local celebrities was made up of Chuck Greenslate (WNXT), Attorney Adrienne Buckler

Callihan (SCDD Board Member), Gerald Cadogan (SSU), Ben Gill (SOMC), Dr. Jerod Bentley, Dr. Zack Woodrum, Brandi Dalton (Scioto Trails Advancing Abilities), Christy Montgomery (Goodwill), Tiffany Carter (Capabilities), Tyler Crisp (Bar Benders), Jeff Hale (Iron Body Fitness), Shaye Coburn (SOMC Life Center), Beckett Gue (Express Oil and Tires), Anthony Stidham (Professional Wrestler), Joe Hannah (Minford Basketball Player), and Mike Glockner (Glockner Family of Dealerships). The celebrity team was coached by Eric Bailey (Southern Ohio Correctional Facility), who played on the inaugural Hardwood Heroes celebrity team. "Our players are very excited. They are practicing extremely hard. We are having a pep rally on Wednesday, March 22, and we're going to have a mini-game with our Shooting Stars and Cardinals playing against our staff," Rowland added.

"Our Cardinals will also be playing an open-door game against the Lawrence County Open Door school on Thursday (March 16) so they'll be using that time to get some extra prep in as well." Other special guests included Scioto County Commissioner Bryan Davis, radio personality Keith "KC" Chatfield, and former SCDD Community Relations Coordinator, who started the Hardwood Heroes game tradition, Shawn Jordan as this year's emcees. Scioto County Sheriff David Thoroughman were volunteering at the raffle table. Scioto County Developmental Disabilities Director of Outreach Jessica Hoffer mentioned, "Several staff members from Scioto DD worked feverishly to make sure Hardwood Heroes was a success. We couldn't put on such a fantastic event without the generosity of SSU Athletic Director Jeff Hamilton and all the help from the Shawnee State Women's Basketball team. We extend our gratitude for their support of our Special Olympics program." For more information about the programs and services at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, call 740-353-0636 or visit online at www.sciotodd.org, and like and follow them on Facebook and TikTok.



SCDD Sports Page

Check out these photos of our awesome athletes from Hardwood Heroes and the Scioto County Special Olympics!



Members of the celebrity basketball team



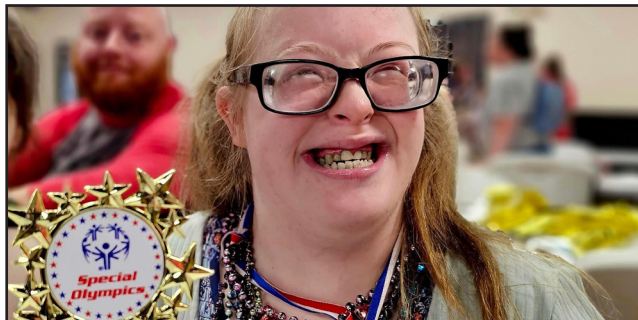
Jessica Riggs



Coach Brandy Starrett and Theresa Rowland



Jeremy Call



Brandi Stowe



Coach Rita Arthur and Theresa Rowland

Knights of Columbus host annual Free Throw Contest at Vern Riffe School



The Knights of Columbus held their annual free throw Contest at Vern Riffe School on March 31. Pictured right: VRS student Abi Strickland.



DD advocates participate in awareness training with PPD

Bill Adams and Chris Cooley, local advocates for individuals with disabilities, participated in local community awareness programs at the Portsmouth Library and Portsmouth Police Department. It began when Cooley was invited by the American Association of University Women to speak at the Portsmouth Library in March about technologies used by the deaf community.

Portsmouth Police Chief Debbi Brewer was at the library event and asked Cooley to share some of this information with the local police department during an upcoming training program. She was connected with Theresa Rowland from Scioto County DD, who helped coordinate Cooley and Adams to present at the police training in April.

"I thought it would be perfect for my guys here, because if we have to interact with someone that has a disability we need to know what little gadgets they have," Brewer said. "Theresa brought Chris and Bill down to our inservice to show them the things that they have, like the pen they use that touches paper and tells phrases. Bill's communication is completely different from Chris' and I just needed our guys to see that."

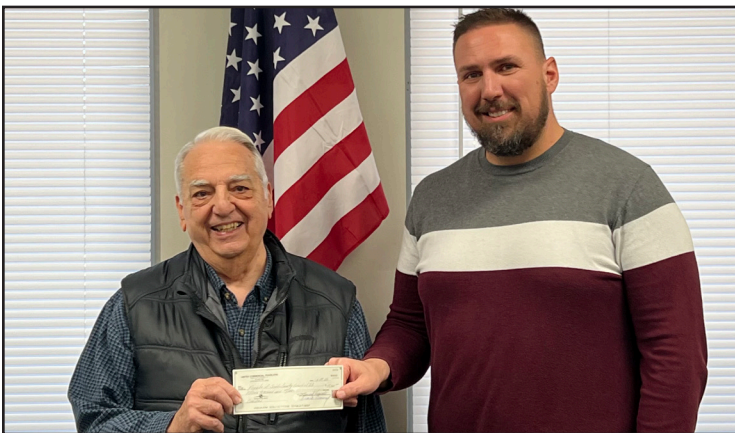
She said it gives the officers an opportunity to better understand that just because someone isn't listening to you, does not mean they are ignoring you. Cooley demonstrated technology that allows them to use an iPad to instantly communicate with a representative on video, and how that representative might sometimes be the one to contact police on behalf of the client.

"So we can know there may be an issue there, so we have to take a different approach with them," Brewer said. "You can't approach everybody the same way, and we know that, but this gave them more of an opportunity to interact with them."

Cooley and Adams said the experience was very positive for the DD community.



United Commercial Travelers donates to Scioto County DD



The Friends of Scioto DD received a donation of \$15,000 from the United Commercial Travelers, Secretary Treasurer of Council #11, in Portsmouth, Ohio. The donation was made to the Friends of Scioto DD program, which is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, created by Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, that works to fill the gaps where urgent monetary intervention is necessary for people served by Scioto County DD to remain independent and active in their community.

If anyone would like to make a donation to the Friends of Scioto DD program, please contact Carla Selby at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities by calling 740-353-0636.

Scioto County celebrated DD Awareness and Advocacy Month



March was Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, and students from the Vern Riffe School in Portsmouth were joined by local DD advocates at the Carousel Center to participate virtually in a special kick-off event held at the Ohio Statehouse on March 1.

The DD Awareness and Advocacy Day event at the statehouse included special guest speakers sharing their stories about the care and services they have received and talking about the importance of advocating for DD accessibility and rights. The event also spotlighted the important work performed every day by support staff throughout the state, such as Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) and Service and Support Administrators (SSAs).

“We are blessed to have a quality team of SSAs. The services they are able to provide are very important, and the more individuals we serve the more we can build up their knowledge and give them tools to be successful,” said Scioto County Developmental Disabilities SSA Director Chad Phipps. While in-person participation at the statehouse was limited, a group of local students and advocates were able to participate virtually by

watching the livestream event from the Carousel Center in Portsmouth. Advocates such as Bill and Sherri Adams are helping guide a young couple with developmental disabilities as they prepare to get married, and understanding the changes to their benefits.

“In the past it’s always been a live event, but since the pandemic they’ve added a virtual option; which is great for us because we are 2 hours away. The virtual option also allows us to invite more advocates to join us,” said Theresa Rowland.

During their regular meeting on March 2, the Scioto County Commissioners recognized March as DD Awareness Month in the county. The commissioners were

joined at the meeting by local advocates and students from the Vern Riffe School.

Events were planned throughout the month to celebrate DD Awareness and Advocacy, such as the 10th Annual Hardwood Heroes fundraiser basketball game on March 23 at Shawnee State University.

For more information about the programs and services at the Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, call 740-353-0636 or visit online at www.sciotodd.org, and like and follow them on Facebook. The SCDD has also launched a new TikTok channel (@sciotocountydd) called “Just Like You.”



DD Awareness Spotlight: Meet Cohhen Grate!



When doctors told the parents of Cohhen Grate that he would be born with Down Syndrome and a heart disorder, they braced themselves for the challenges that they would face. Thanks to help from Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, Cohhen is now three years old and doing great!

“When I was pregnant they sent me to Columbus for additional scans because they said they needed to get new measurements on the baby. My husband, my mom and dad, and all of us went, and we were just thinking it was a typical appointment. So we get a scan of the baby, and about five or six doctors walked in after the scan and told us that he had Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS),” said Cohhen’s mother Tedra Grate. HLHS is a birth defect that affects normal blood flow through the heart. As the baby develops during pregnancy, the left side of the heart does not form correctly.

“They also said they wanted to do an amniocentesis because they thought some characteristics showed signs of Down Syndrome. We were all kind of shocked because we’ve never had a child in our family with Down Syndrome and it took us off-guard. We did the amniocentesis that day, and a few weeks later we got a call telling

us he would, in fact, have Down Syndrome,” Tedra said.

Within an hour after birth, Cohen was life-flighted to a Columbus hospital and had his first open-heart surgery when he was only four days old. The doctors told her that the outlook was not good and her family should make as many memories with Cohhen as possible because they were unsure what his future would hold.

“There was a three-stage surgery they wanted him to have,” Tedra explained. “But he had pulmonary hypertension with his lungs, and they were afraid to do the next two surgeries because they were afraid he would have a stroke.”

When Cohhen was six months old, doctors told his parents they were going to try to help him get to age two, and then his parents would have to make some hard decisions. He was strong enough for doctors to put him on the heart transplant list, and in January 2021 he was admitted to the hospital to be monitored while waiting for a donor. It took five and a half months but Cohhen got his transplant and was able to leave the hospital in July 2021.

“When I was pregnant, my friend (SCDD Outreach Coordinator Theresa Rowland) told me, ‘when he’s born you get a hold of me’. I

had never heard of early childhood intervention or anything. Theresa got me in contact with the people I needed at Scioto County DD.”

Cohen worked with specialists in the SCDD Early Childhood program, which typically ends at age 3. Sometimes, however – and such was Cohhen’s case – a child can remain in the program a little longer to work with them a little longer and bridge the transition to work with a Service and Support Administrator (SSA).

“They have been great. They would come to the house and work with me while they helped him with different therapies. Cohen didn’t walk until after his second birthday, so we worked on trying to get him to stand and walk, and we’ve always had issues with eating,” Tedra said.

“They have been such an asset to the whole family. I can’t tell you how many times we’ve just sat and talked about things. It’s secluding; having a child that has special needs, and then on top of that having medical issues.”

Cohhen is continuing his outpatient therapy with specialists from SCDD, and Tedra said he absolutely loves the program and all of the people.

“It makes me extremely grateful. At first, you see a diagnosis for your child and you get upset or sad. Now he has a great future ahead of him. He has people that truly care for him and that love him. I know that with their help we will make the best decisions for him,” she said.

For more information about the programs and services at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, call 740-353-0636 or visit online at www.sciotodd.org, and like and follow them on Facebook and TikTok.

DD Awareness Spotlight: Meet Brody Wyatt!



Brody Wyatt was struggling in his previous school district, but when he transferred to Vern Riffe School in Portsmouth, things turned around. Now Brody is a senior preparing to graduate, he has many friends, and he's involved in many school activities.

"In his senior year (at his previous school) they noticed he was really struggling and it was suggested that we bring him here. So he was brought here and it has been amazing. He's a whole different kid," said mother Lucinda Wyatt. "He was withdrawn and didn't talk about anything, and he's very outgoing now. He's very talkative now. He fits in here and he has friends."

Brody likes to participate in school activities, including Special Olympics, the Scioto County Fair and marching in parades with Scioto County Developmental Disabilities. He's become an advocate for the school, talking on local radio and meeting with the Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Kimberly Hauck. He works with the janitorial staff through STAR Inc., and he operates a popular coffee bar inside the school with his friend Jon Mitchell.

"That started in Brenda McDonald's class, and Brody and Jon run it every morning. They take care of the orders, the cleaning, the money, and everything for it,"

said SCDD Outreach Coordinator Theresa Rowland.

Brody also plays on the Vern Riffe School Cardinals Special Olympics teams and the Challenger Basketball League. He was on the team playing in the 10th celebratory Hardwood Heroes celebrity fundraiser game at Shawnee State University on March 23, 2023.

"I like the school, and I have made a lot of friends here. Plus, I get to work here too," Brody said. "In class, I like to do my work first, and then see what else I have to do. My most favorite thing to do at school is talk to my friends and do projects."

This was not the first experience for the Wyatt family. Brody's older brother Bret also attended Vern Riffe School and graduated in 2020. So when they suggested transferring Brody to Vern Riffe School she was eager to make the change.

"I knew that Brody would get what he needed here," Lucinda said. "You know that feeling of the big rock ... and then it's lifted and over? That's how it was. They both excelled. They both got a chance to be who they were and got to grow into who they wanted to be."

Welcome the newest faces around SCDD!

LANIE DAWES

Service & Support Administrator (SSA)



Lanie is married to her husband, Andy, and has one daughter, Layla, and three cats. She enjoys cooking, music, arts, and history. Formerly working in housing she chose to work in

DD so that she could serve and make a meaningful impact on peoples' lives.

CHLOE FULTZ

Service & Support Administrator (SSA)



Chloe is a graduate of Shawnee State University. She enjoys watching movies and helping others. She was a student teacher when she first started working with individuals with

disabilities, and she said she wants to help make a difference however she can.

TRENT FIFE

Human Resources Clerk



Trent is from West Portsmouth and he has a daughter, Addie. He enjoys electronics, computers, and sci-fi movies, TV shows, and conventions. He said he chose to work in DD as

a way of giving something back to the community.

DD Awareness Spotlight: Meet Sherri Adams!



Sherri Adams is an advocate for Scioto County Developmental Disabilities and a teacher with the Project STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility) program where she helps others use their own abilities to advocate for their own rights and needs. “We want to teach people with disabilities how to advocate for themselves. We want them to be individuals and not have to be dependent on other people, but be responsible for themselves. I know some of the students depend on families, guardians, or providers, but we want them to be individuals for themselves,” Adams said. Adams is an expert on advocating for disability rights. She is a former president of the Southern Ohio Advocacy Group and a paid advocate for Scioto County DD. “Sherri and her husband, Bill,

represent the community as advocates in a variety of ways. They work as advocates for developmental disabilities at Scioto County DD, and they are awesome at their jobs. They attend a lot of the events the county has for the community. They are at those events to educate people and to let people know that you don’t have to hide your light if you have a disability,” said Theresa Rowland, outreach coordinator with Scioto County Developmental Disabilities. Sherri met her would-be husband in 2011 through a mutual friend at Scioto County DD. Bill proposed to Sherri during a conference in March of 2014, but soon after they were devastated when they were told that if they got married, Sherri would lose her income benefits because they were on the same benefit program. Sherri wrote

letters to the president, senators, and congressmen, but they all told her it was not under their authority to change that rule. The couple continued dating while they fought for disabled rights, until March of 2019 when they discovered they were on separate benefit programs. That meant they could get married, after all, without losing any of their income. They were finally married in January of 2020. While the issue was resolved for Sherri and Bill, they both continue to fight for disability marriage rights for the many people who are still threatened with income reduction if they choose to get married. “There’s a young girl that comes for our meetings and she wants to get married. But her and her fiancé are on SSI and they can’t do it. We want to help them, but unless they change the law they can’t do it without losing one of their incomes,” Adams said. To learn more about the issue of Disability Marriage Equality, visit the Center for Disability Rights at <https://cdnys.org>. For more information about the programs and services at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities, call the number provided or visit online at www.sciotodd.org, and like and follow them on Facebook and TikTok.



Adams advocates for DSPs at Ohio Statehouse

Our very own Bill Adams, Scioto County Board of DD Board Member and Advocate spoke with Ohio legislators before the Finance HHS Subcommittee on March 14, 2023 to plead the case of higher wages for DSPs. Thank you Bill for all the work you are doing to help combat the DD crisis in Ohio!! Your voice will help so many!!

DD Awareness Spotlight: Meet Maxwell Edwards!



Thanks to programs at Scioto County Developmental Disabilities and Project Life at the Scioto County Career Technical Center, Maxwell Edwards is learning about life skills, helping others, and advocating for himself. Maxwell's guardian Melissa Gampg is also an intervention specialist at the Vern Riffe School. "My parents both retired from the Career Technical Center, and I had done some long-term subbing out there years ago. During the Scioto County Fair my mother ran into some of the folks who work out there and learned about the Project Life program. So we talked with Maxwell about it and thought it might be something that he would enjoy and excel at," Gampg said. Through the Project Life program, Maxwell is able to work at the Scioto County Career Technical Center, where he washes dishes and cleans floors and windows. He

also completed CPR training and works an internship in the laundry room at Hillview Retirement Center. Gampg said the purpose of the Project Life program is to provide individuals with skills that they can apply in outside work environments. "He did a lot of those types of vocational skills at the Vern Riffe School before he went out there, so he came in with a base level of skill sets. They have really done a great job with him, and I have no doubt that the work we did with him at our school helped prepare him for that program," Gampg said. One of Maxwell's favorite jobs is cooking, and he works with a crew at the Career Technical Center that makes dog treats to sell at the Portsmouth Farmers Market. "I like to feed the dogs and give them treats," Maxwell said. "I like helping people. I like to go and give my friends a big hug when

they get sad. Project Life is fun, and I hope people will come and tell us they like Project Life." Maxwell is doing so well that he has received a Citizenship Award in recognition of his work to help cheer up others when they are sad. Gampg said the program at the Career Technical Center has been good in helping Maxwell learn how to interact with his peers and how to advocate for himself. "For Maxwell and his classmates, it's important for them to make a contribution to society and be a good citizen. Maxwell and his classmates are showing that through the work that they are doing. We all have our own abilities and he's doing very well," Gampg said. "For as long as I've known Maxwell, he has been very eager to please and a very hard worker. Any challenge put in front of him he has overcome, and he has not ever been down." Maxwell also plays basketball for the Vern Riffe School Cardinals, and he enjoys singing, dancing, and watching YouTube videos. Coming up, Maxwell said he's looking forward to attending both proms this year – one at the Career Technical Center and one at Vern Riffe School. After graduation, Maxwell said he would like to work with the Scioto County Developmental Disabilities office as a Service and Support Administrator (SSA) to help others learn valuable life skills.

Upcoming SCDD Events:

- Thursday, May 25, 2023: VRS Students last day of school
- Friday, May 26, 2023: Last Day for full time VRS Staff
- Monday, May 29, 2023: Memorial Day, All SCDD Programs Closed
- Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 6 through June 29, 2023: VRS Summer School
- Wednesday, June 21, 2023: Second Annual Summer Cookout

SSA Tom Sherman promoted to Team Lead



After more than a decade of service as a Service and Support Administrator (SSA), Tom Sherman accepted a well-earned promotion in April to the SSA Team Lead position.

Sherman was first hired as an SSA in October 2011 and worked until 2019 when he temporarily

left the job to explore other career options. It wasn't long until Sherman realized he missed his job as an SSA, and after about 18 months he decided to rejoin SCDD in 2021.

"We have a lot of really great people. It's always been a really pleasant place to work," he said. SSA Director Chad Phipps said Sherman did a great job as SSA for many years, which is what made him the perfect choice to offer the promotion of SSA Team Lead.

The new job carries a smaller case load, with greater focus on mentorship. There are two SSA Team Leads, and each of them are assigned a team of SSAs that they will help by debriefing complex situations, and how to navigate resources such as waivers, Medicaid and administrative responsibilities.

"I'm very much looking forward to doing this," Sherman said. "Part

of this new role is mentoring, which I'm really looking forward to doing. I'd like to help people learn things. We didn't have that sort of thing when I started and there's a lot to know in this job. This is an opportunity to help people who are starting out and give them better access to resources that will help get them through all that."

Phipps agreed that Sherman's experience and mentorship would be a great asset to new SSAs. "His experience is invaluable; his demeanor and just how he carries himself. He's always been great to work with residential providers in the county. He's seen a lot and done a lot, and this will be a new experience for him, but I fully expect him to excel," Phipps said. Sherman is still maintaining his SSA case load for the time being while he fully transitions to his new job, but he said he's excited to begin this new challenge.

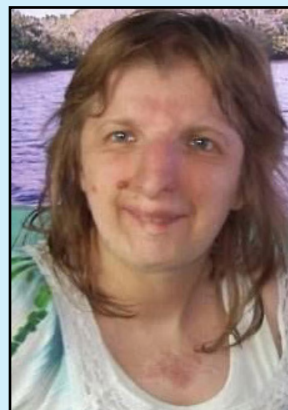
In Loving Memory

Steven "Buddy" Scalf Jr.: 1982-2023



Steven Mark "Buddy" Scalf Jr., of West Portsmouth, died Thursday April 27, 2023 at SOMC Hospice. He loved to tell jokes and make people laugh. He created and drew his own Comics. He loved movies -- especially the Transformer movies. Buddy was just a good hearted person and he will be missed.

Christy Kessler: 1973-2023



We are saddened to lose Christy Kessler, of Wheelersburg, on April 10, 2023, at the age of 49. She was an outstanding advocate for herself and for the DD community, and she loved laughter, Spongbob and The Fonz. She joined SRS in 2002 and she was a member of the "Green Street Ladies". She will be missed by all.

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You can also find us on Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok, and online at www.sciotodd.org.