



# JOB AND FAMILY MATTERS

JULY \* AUGUST \* SEPTEMBER \* 2017

## CHILD SUPPORT

BY KRISTA HOVIS

**Welcome to Fall!** While the temperatures have not reflected it lately, the season has changed and it is in fact **Autumn**. As the leaves begin to fall, it's a good time to reflect upon CSEA's last big event of Summer—**Child Support Awareness Month**.

As many of you are aware, **August is Child Support Awareness Month** in the State of Ohio. Each county does different things to commemorate this. In Sandusky County we have a warrant amnesty and license suspension reinstatement program. These programs give obligors an opportunity to clear any warrants they may have through our agency and get licenses back due to relaxed reinstatement requirements. The programs are approved only for the month of August.

We let the public know about the programs through newspaper articles and when we speak with clients on the phone. Obligor are required to sign an agreement about actions they will take in the future in order to get their license back. They are also required to make a payment on their child support order. The amount they have to pay in August is less than they would normally have to pay. This year we took in a total of **\$6,522.68** between the two programs. That number far surpasses any other year in which we have had these programs.

The other big way we celebrated Child Support Awareness month was through the **family fun fair** held August 12<sup>th</sup>. We had inflatables, food, games, balloon animals, crafts, a photo booth and prizes—but most of all we had fun! It was also free to the public. Those of you who were there know it was a good time. Those of you who didn't make it missed out! No worries though. We are already making plans for the next fair to be held in 2019. It's a big undertaking so every other year is about all we can handle.

Just as we did for this year's fair, we will be having many fund raising events so we can pay for all this fun. (It's only free to the public, not to us!) The first event is coming soon. We will hold a **Soup Day** on November 9<sup>th</sup>, from 11 am to 1:15 p.m. in the break room. Keep an eye out for signs advertising this event and be prepared to buy some awesome homemade soup for lunch that day.

**In early December** we will be raffling off a **Christmas gift basket**. The details are still being worked out on this fund raiser so we'll be putting out more information as it gets closer to time. Many other events are being planned over the next year. We appreciate everyone's support and if you have any ideas for unique fund raisers please let us know.

While you're over here discussing fabulous fund raiser ideas, take a quick peek at our new front desk area. It's now bigger and better than ever! This should help ease the congestion up there and allow us to serve our clients in an even more efficient and friendly manner (as if that's possible!). Just please be sure to check out our new area quietly and quickly. We don't want to disturb the awesome work being done by Megan and Brittney.



## CHILDREN SERVICES

BY : JUDI SIMON

**October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.** It is a time to celebrate those who have survived, hope for those that are struggling, and remember those who have lost their lives to domestic violence. According to the National Coalition against Domestic Violence, an average of 20 people are physically abused by intimate partners every **minute** in the United States. This equates to more than **10 million** abuse victims annually. Furthermore, one in three women and one in four men have been physically abused by an intimate partner. On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines nationwide receive approximately **20,800 calls**. Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.

To bring awareness to the issue of domestic violence, the Sandusky County Domestic Violence Task Force held the fourth annual Silent Witness Event on **October 23, 2017** at 6 p.m. at Journey Church. Stories of victims from Northwest Ohio (including Sandusky County) who lost their lives to domestic violence were read during the ceremony. Survivor, Chrissy Castellucio, told her own personal story and provided information about Chrissy's Bringing Together Survivors Project. The public was encouraged to attend to pay respect to those who have lost their lives to domestic violence and to help support those who are still battling to survive.



## MIS Marti's Megabytes

By Marti Cummings

**SANS** security training is complete!!! All of our users were able to complete it on time. Great Job!

A couple of weeks ago I had to do a **PC inventory** for the State. I decided to go ahead and inventory our phones as well. It's a good thing because little did I know that it would be needed.

**Windows 10** operating system will be coming in the future. Currently any county with Northwoods products has to wait until Northwoods completes upgrades, so their programs will run correctly on **Windows 10**. For C8, Northwoods is in contact with the State to set up a test environment for them to do upgrade testing. C8 cannot process with Windows 10 until Compass Pilot is upgraded.

### SUID Password Change

When you receive an email from DASIdentity, they will tell you how to sign in to change your password. They provide a link to go to the site and expect you to sign in with your [SUID@id.ohio.gov](mailto:SUID@id.ohio.gov) account.

## **NEW FACES....**

### **Bob Anderson—Fiscal**

Hello. My name is Bob Anderson. I live in Clyde where I have been a lifelong resident. I graduated from Baldwin-Wallace University in Berea, Ohio with a bachelor degree in Business/Accounting. Prior to coming to Sandusky County JFS, I was the Fiscal Supervisor for Erie County JFS for the last 10 years. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends going to sporting events and golfing.

### **Emily Depinet—Children Services**

Hello, I'm Emily Depinet. I am from Sandusky but currently live in Monroeville, Ohio. I graduated in 2010 with my Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. I previously worked with North Point Educational Service Center as an ED teacher. I enjoy working with families and children and I am looking forward to the challenges this position will bring!

### **Tori Nicely—Children Services**

My name is Tori Nicely. I am a graduate from Otterbein University. I majored in Psychology. I was in a sorority and worked at a day care. All through growing up I was a competitive dancer. I love my family and kids. My family is extremely important to me. I am super excited about this job as an investigator and can't wait to see where this chapter of my life takes me.

### **Jolene Smith—Children Services**

My name is Jolene Smith. I live outside of Fremont in the country with my husband Mark and three sons Jacob, Jarett and Jordan. We also farm and raise livestock. I previously work for the school system for 16 years as a paraprofessional with multiple disability students and emotional disturbed. I worked for Sandco Industries in the summer as a job coach for special needs individuals and full time as an Employment Trainer/Job Developer. In my free time I like to go camping with my family and friends. I'm excited to begin a new journey helping others and working with everyone at the agency.

### **SAME FACES, NEW PLACES....**

Melanie Allen was promoted to Assistant Director on August 1, 2017.

Meagan Myers was promoted to Children Services supervisor on July 4, 2017.

### QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

Be happy with what  
you have  
while working for  
what you want.

Helen Keller

## 2017 3rd QUARTER ANNIVERSARIES

### JULY

JACKIE MOWRY	27 YEARS
RITA HOFFMAN	24 YEARS
MELANIE ALLEN	20 YEARS
ANGIE CONTRERAS ALONSO	18 YEARS
DEAN ROSS	10 YEARS
CASEY WILSON	1 YEAR
HALLE RICE	1 YEAR

### AUGUST

LINDA ACKERMAN	19 YEARS
DAWN OHMS	12 YEARS
SARAH MASON	10 YEARS
BETHANY WILBURN	8 YEARS

### SEPTEMBER

ELAINE FRANKS	27 YEARS
TAMI WARD	23 YEARS
RENEE LIVAS	19 YEARS
JESSICA MURPHY	16 YEARS
DORI OTTNEY	15 YEARS
CHARMIN HETRICK	6 YEARS
SUSIE CUEVAS	3 YEARS



## PERFECT ATTENDANCE

The following 10 employees  
used no sick leave during the  
Third Quarter of 2017

KELLY BEEKER	CHRISTIE HARPER
AMANDA BRANSTRATOR	LISA MULLHOLAND
MARTI CUMMINGS	JESSICA MURPHY
NANCY GROVE	JANET QUAINANCE
TJ HARKNESS	JUDI SIMON

## Workforce Development Division

By Janet Quaintance

*Skills gap*- perhaps you have heard that this is one of the **major barriers** for employers nowadays, that and employees being able to pass drug tests!

The skills gap exists for many local manufacturers due to youth being persuaded by school counselors and/or parents encouraging them to go to college and no one entering the manufacturing workforce.

In a recent article from *Industry Week*, the following stats were stated: “Lack of interest and negative perception of manufacturing—52% of all teenagers say they have no interest in a manufacturing career. Of those uninterested youth 61% cited wanting a “professional career,” no doubt maintaining the perception that a manufacturing career entailed a “dirty, dangerous place that requires little thinking or skill from its workers and offers minimal opportunity for personal growth or career advancement.”

Today the factory life isn’t what it was when your grandfather, or in some case your father, worked in a factory. There are standards of cleanliness now that many food manufacturers have to adhere to. Also, the dirty, gloomy, dust ridden factories of yesterday have been replaced by clean, brightly lit areas of mass production with elements of robotic equipment enhancing the work floors.

**However, attracting and retaining skilled workers** requires a new approach. Companies will need to create new talent development strategies to compete for top talent, as well as implement programs to cross-skill (or cross-train) workers who don’t have the right background to build and maintain a sustainable workforce. The baby boomer generation of skilled workers will retire in the next five to 15 years, creating the need for an estimated 10 million new workers by 2020. Therefore, employers are also offering tuition reimbursement and apprenticeships to many of its employees to keep the turnover rate low and to offer careers in manufacturing. Several of our local employers, such as Whirlpool, Freeman and Century Die, offer these career opportunities.

In speaking with local educators and students, schools are now offering career classes to students, and are required to make OhioMeansJobs.com and its resources part of the education curriculum. For example, the **THINK** Manufacturing event (coordinated by Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation) that is held every October, requires all 9<sup>th</sup> graders in Sandusky County to attend the event. The attendees are able to observe and even do hands-on activities that introduce them to careers in manufacturing.

The **OhioMeansJobs** center is here to help with the skills gap! Our Center offers many job opportunities to job seekers thru the **OhioMeansJobs.com** website. The website also offers employers the opportunity to post job opportunities free of charge! The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) offers training opportunities to job seekers, thru On-the-Job training or tuition assistance and Incumbent Worker Training (a reimbursement of training costs to employers) to employers who are up-skilling employees.

Hopefully, with the efforts of economic development, the education system, employers and the workforce system, we will be able to meet the needs of our Sandusky County employers now and in the years to come!



ALL STAR  
2nd QUARTER 2017



*Tami Ward*

**From the nomination form....**"Between turn-over and the heroin epidemic, things have been particularly tough in Children Services the last several years. We have dwindling resources and face clients with very high needs. Tami has shown a consistent willingness to help other staff members during this very stressful time by pitching in wherever and whenever needed. She has voluntarily taken on extra duties so others have more time to focus on things like training new staff. Tami has also done an amazing job at maintaining a calm atmosphere for the workers which has helped to reduce their stress levels. She has provided guidance, support, and understanding to all Children Services staff. Tami has also been working with local law enforcement, churches and service clubs to help secure extra funding to assist the clients we serve. Tami has always been an exceptional employee, but she has been truly impressive during this very difficult time."

Tami graduated from Tiffin University with a degree in Criminal Justice. In her spare time she likes to hang out with her family and travel .

*"The things I like most about my job are the people I work with and the new challenges every day. Just when I think I have seen and heard it all, another interesting and off the wall situation is presented to me. "*

## FALL CHANGES

By Christie Harper

With the **changing** of the seasons, there are several **changes** on the horizon for Family and Individual Services as well. The first being, we have decided to **change** our name. After discussion about the programs which are administered and the population served, the new name of the division will be **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**. There are other agencies throughout the state which use this term, and the FIS name had been unique to our county, so relatively misunderstood. Over the next few weeks, the name change will be made on locations as identified, like the agency web-site and any signs, etc.

It won't be long until we **change** to a **new computer system**. The conversion of SNAP/TANF benefits from the CRISE system to the **Ohio Benefits** system appears to be right around the corner. The plan, as of today, is for five pilot counties to begin processing new applications for SNAP/TANF in OB effective October 31. In preparation for this conversion, the OB system will be brought down statewide after the close of business on Thursday, October 26 and will remain down through Monday, October 30. CRISE processing will not be effected at this time. The plan is for the five pilot counties (Sandusky is not a pilot, nor are any of the Col-labor8 counties) to fully convert ongoing cases in late January. If all is successful with the pilot, statewide conversion will take place in late May 2018. As of this date, approval has not yet been received from USDA-Food and Nutrition Service, for this project to proceed, but it is anticipated that certification will be received soon. The CRISE system has been the computer system used to process public assistance benefits since 1990, so in terms of life of a computer system, it is considered old.

We recently accepted the **resignation** of Millie Woodruff. Millie has been employed here since 2003, so we will miss her experience. There will be a big **change** coming for Millie and Tom, as they are moving to Arizona. We wish them the best with their big move. Millie will still be with us through the month of November, so when you pass her in the hall, you still have time to say good bye and good luck.

Baby Jaxon Wagner made his appearance on October 17. Gloria Graham will be supervising Jill's unit while she is on leave and is at home **changing** diapers.

The more things **change**, the more they remain the same. No matter what our name or what computer system issues the benefits, no matter which worker is doing the processing, we all try to do our best to serve the citizens of Sandusky County and administer the benefits they are entitled to receive, to improve their living situation and provide stability in their homes and families.

**BY THE NUMBERS.....**

**76**

The number of Child Support Administrative hearings that have been held so far in 2017.

**10,000**

The number of calls Child Support has received through the call center as of 9/30/17.

**\$285,963.10**

The amount that Child Support has collected at the front desk so far in 2017.

**1,600**

The number of intake calls received by Children Services through 9/2017.

**29**

The number of APS (Adult Protective Services) investigations opened through 9/2017.

**50**

The number of children in the agency custody as of 9/30/17 .

**640**

The number of kids on Child Care as of 9/30/17.

**131**

The number of employer contacts as of 9/30/17.

**1738**

The number of customers in the OMJ center as of 9/30/17.

**3090**

The number of cases for SNAP/TANF in the CRISE system.

**378**

The number of applications received for benefits in September 2017.

**97%**

The timeliness rate for September SNAP applications.