

As we find ourselves amid the pandemic, the safety and health of everyone served by Siffrin is our top priority. Some programs have been reduced in size due to the risk of large groups of people, others adjusted to bring day services activities such as virtual bingo into homes. Our individuals are staying connected with video calls and chatting with the friends they don't get to see right now. Our Financial Management services are on schedule with all checks going out as planned. Siffrin's different departments are accessing online meetings to ensure seamless functionality with services as well as helping all staff get what they need during this uncertain time. Since the closing of our offices, we are working from remote locations, taking forms and other processes online such as virtual orientations for newly-hired staff. With all of these adjustments, we appreciate your patience and your sacrifices as we get through this together. I can assure everyone that the people we serve are getting the services they need, and we are practicing the necessary precautions to help them remain safe and healthy.

We are grateful to have such a terrific team. Our staff who are there every day and every hour for those we serve are dedicated and have gone above and beyond their job descriptions to see that everyone is safe. Our managers and administrative staff have made sure that everyone has the necessary resources needed to continue our services. We have become inventive, imaginative and resourceful going down paths never before traveled. #SiffrinStrong always finds a way.



L-R back row: David Howe, Mahoning Regional Director, Madalen Muntean, Asst. Mgr and Suzanne Dugan, Siffrin Academy Manager

Siffrin Academy would like to express their appreciation to Crum and Forster Pet Insurance Group for their generous donation to Siffrin Academy at KSU Stark Campus. Senior Vice-President, Bob Capobianco (left) presented the gift to Brad Vincent, Siffrin CEO. The ceremony was attended by Denise Seachrist, Dean KSU Stark and Amanda Piccari (right), AVP at Crum & Forster and President of the Siffrin Board of Directors. Thank you, Crum & Forster Pet Insurance Group!

BRIDGING

As many others work from home and think of new ways to connect, Siffrin has made great strides. The stay-athome order has shaped the way we interact with everyone. Trainers are utilizing internet tools for virtual classes to keep staff certifications updated. Our Day Services teams have been thinking of new ways to be entertaining while still meeting the needs of those we serve. Siffrin Staff have helped our individuals use available technology so they can join conversations with friends they cannot visit. The Bridge has even coordinated birthday celebrations with drive-by parades and balloon deliveries all while social distancing.



We are pleased to announce that Siffrin has been issued a three-year accreditation from CARF International. The survey which took place in January applies to our services in Employment Support, Job Development, and Community Housing. This marks the 10th consecutive 3-year accreditation from CARF which is the highest award. We continue our dedication and commitment to improving the lives of those we serve since our first survey in 1993. This accreditation will extend until March 31, 2023. The letter of accreditation and the full report are available to read on our website. https://www.siffrin.org/accreditations-certifications





Internships at Aultman Hospital Help People with Disabilities

As part of Ohio Governor Mike DeWine's Cabinet Day in the Mahoning Valley on December 18, 2019, Aultman Hospital in Canton provided a presentation about its Project SEARCH program for young adults with disabilities. In collaboration with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) and Siffrin, the program helps young adults secure permanent employment at the hospital and within the community.

Back row, left to right: Nicolas, intern; Sarah Deckman, Manager of Project SEARCH; Julie Digilio, Job Coach with Siffrin; Elizabeth, intern; and Charles, intern. Front row, left to right: Sarah Chill, Director of Employment Support Services with Siffrin; Heather, intern; and Tori Durm, presenter and former intern. Photo by ODD.

SIFFRIN SERVICE MAY 2020 - AUGUST 2020

25 years Jon Hegal

15 years

Christina Marraccini

<u>10 years</u> Robert Allen Ken Long

5 years Alysa Gouchenour Stacia Loutzenheiser Emily Sauerbrey Sherrie Young **3 years** Jayvon Blasingame Albert Bricker Melody Bricker Marlisa McMullen Chris Simon Erwin Simms Breanna Wallace





A SPECIAL THANK YOU In November 2019, Siffrin received a charitable grant from the Stark Community Foundation of \$35,000 at the start of Siffrin Academy at Kent State University Stark Campus. This program, for young adults 18-32, is ideal for those transitioning from high school or on a path to employment. The campus-based program is a combination of classwork and discovery.

During the COVID-19 crisis, the Stark Community Foundation has helped Siffrin again. Another \$35,000 grant has enabled Siffrin to maintain the leases on our facilities and secure them for the time when this crisis has passed. Thank you for partnering with Siffrin to address the needs of persons with disabilities in our area.





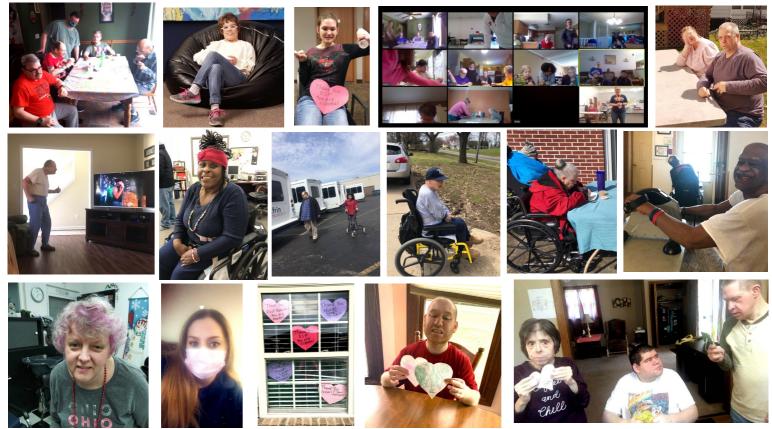
Lisa Johnson



Kristine Filhour

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Siffrin welcomes new members to the Board of Directors, Lisa Johnson and Kristine Filhour. Each brings their years of expertise to guide Siffrin into the future serving those with disabilities. Lisa Johnson is currently employed by the Aultman Health Foundation, and Kristine Filhour is with The Early Childhood Resource Center. We are grateful for their service to help the Siffrin community.



While we can't get out and visit, we are keeping busy at home, getting our exercise, enjoying the fresh air, playing virtual bingo, and making video calls to our friends and others staying-at-home. We'd like to thank everyone for being there for us from our DSPs and nurses to grocery-store workers, delivery drivers and all others who are **essential to us!**

CHUCK HELPS IN A BIG WAY

Pictured is Chuck C making a generous \$1,500 donation to the Stark County Hunger Task Force!!! That is more than 6500 meals! Art, Chuck's Home Manager, made sure that Chuck knew how much this money was needed and that he is helping numerous families who rely on this agency for food!!





Siffrin is proud to announce another location for Siffrin Academy on the Kent State University Trumbull Campus. When ready, the Academy will meet the needs of those 18-32 years old transitioning from high school or those on a path to employment. The reinforcement of skills previously learned is the cornerstone of the curriculum also incorporating discovery and selfadvocacy. Siffrin is thrilled to be partnering with the community and KSU in Trumbull County.

Over the Holidays Siffrin

participated in a Food Drive for Zion Lutheran Church's food pantry sharing more than 350 pounds of non -perishable items. Siffrin delivered 21 coats and 162 toys to a Canton local elementary school. The coordination and generosity of our staff and leadership were appreciated by so many.



Don't Miss Tammy's Interview with WKBN News. She



with WKBN News. She donated her stimulus check to 2 local charities to help others. The video is available on the Siffrin website homepage. www.siffrin.org

What a generous gift!





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

"Employee of the Month"

Wilbur McCartney - December Kristine Thomas - January Jennifer Holderbaum - February Rachelle Penwell - March

The past months have been filled with selfless acts from staff who are part of a great team. We could not be as strong in these dire circumstances without this kind of dedication.

All of you are beyond valuable.

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Mahoning County Office 132 Westchester Drive Austintown, OH 44515 T- 330-799-8932 F- 330-799-8936

Please visit www.SIFFRIN.ORG

Follow us on Facebook Facebook.com/SiffrinInc Facebook.com/SiffrinYoungstownWarren

NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

Open Enrollment with insurance elections is now closed. You are still able to change your beneficiary for your life insurance. If you have any other changes, you will have to contact HR at 330-478-0263.

Training classes have been on hold since the pandemic has closed our office, but that doesn't mean your certifications have to expire. Trainers have switched to a virtual classroom for Mandt and PDT, and accommodations have been made for other classes such as Medication Administration and CPR/FA. Human Resources would like you to stay as current as possible. Please contact HR via the Virtual Training Request through the employee page of the website and let them know what classes you need.

Please take the time to answer the quick survey "Siffrin Cares" on the employee page of the website. Let us know if we can help you with your responsibilities as you care for those Siffrin serves. You can also let us know how our individuals are feeling during this time. Your feedback is very important.





Many Thanks for Keeping #SiffrinStrong!

Manager of Supervised Living, Jennifer Kennedy, has been quite busy sewing fabric masks that are distributed to keep individuals and staff safe and healthy. When protective masks were in short supply at the outbreak of the pandemic, Jen sewed and sewed and sewed until everyone was protected.

She's made more than 1600! Jen first started sewing in high school, and when a family member became seriously ill. She and her mother started a non-profit and donated all proceeds to colon cancer research. While the organization is no longer in business, they still participate in craft shows selling handmade stuffed animals, activity bags, and pillows. Jen is SEW amazing, these are just beautiful. Siffrin is very grateful for her generosity and time.

Welcome to the Siffrin Team!



Taylor Nottingham has joined the Summit County team as a Manager of Supervised Living. She is training and looking forward to overseeing the Nottingham home.

We'd like to welcome Kaylee Castellaneta as she joins the CSS team. While currently training, she will be out helping Siffrin Community Support Services soon.

