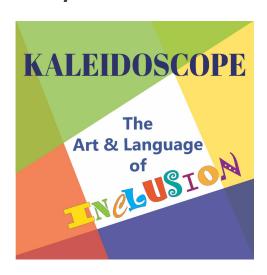


"We provide and support inclusive, life-enriching options through person-centered programs and advocacy."

What's Fresh with UDS?

September 2022 | Issue 12

The *Kaleidoscope* Podcast is Coming Soon!



We are excited to announce that we are releasing episode 2 of *Kaleidoscope: The Art &* Language of Inclusion soon. In this second episode, we showcase a sampling of works from recent issues of Kaleidoscope, discuss the work of a unique art gallery, and update you on all things UDS!

This podcast is sponsored by PNC: supporting early education, racial and social justice, and economic development through programming within the communities we serve.

Follow us on social media so you don't miss episode 2!

















National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week was celebrated this month from September 12-16! Each day we recognized our DSPs in different ways because, without them, we wouldn't be able to do the work we do. Thank you DSPs for the difference that you make in the lives of others every day.

International Visitors at UDS



Recently, we welcomed a delegation from Kyrgyzstan to tour UDS and learn more about the services we offer. The group was here to learn about the topic of disability rights through the

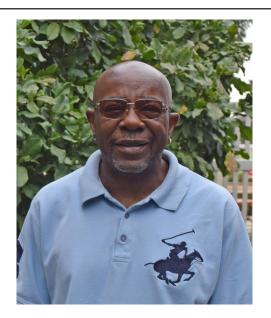
Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program. **Global Ties Akron** coordinated the group tour with UDS.

This one-of-a-kind professional exchange program allows emerging foreign leaders to spend time in the United States, cultivating lasting relationships with their American counterparts and we are grateful to have been part of their journey here!

New Hire Spotlight



LaToya Flint
Community Living Services
Consumer Outreach Specialist



Walter Green Jr.
Transportation Services
On-call Driver

Thank You Volunteers!

This month here at UDS, we had the pleasure of hosting volunteers from two wonderful organizations. First, five representatives from Philadelphia Insurance Group assisted with gardening at our Firestone Park location. They also went on a tour of the facility and finished the day by playing games and getting to know participants in our CHAMPS program.









Volunteers throughout the community came together at the end of September to participate in the second annual Vincent William Baran Day of Service and UDS was one of several organizations hosting volunteers to honor the life and legacy of seven-year-old Vincent Baran. Volunteers spent time getting the accessible patio garden ready for winter, cleaning and organizing in the Toy & Resource Center and spending time with the individuals we serve. To learn more about the day of service or to get involved, visit www.mightyvincent.org.



In 1997 Jennifer began an internship as a respite provider for UDS. Three years later, with a bachelor's degree in social work,



Learn about our current job openings to make an impact like Jennifer!

she joined Vocational Services and last year transferred to CHAMPS (Community Health and Meaningful Programming for Seniors) where she says, "There really is no typical day...but I am always up for a challenge." She is responsible for individual service plan meeting preparation paperwork, unloading/loading buses, personal care, assisting with lunches and anything else that is needed. She says the camaraderie among coworkers, who also help wherever there is a need, is one of the best things about UDS. Thank you, Jennifer, for all you do! The CHAMPS program is lucky to have you as part of the team.

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