



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

What's New at UDS?

August 2023 | Issue 18

All-Stars at the Alley 2023 Brought Cosmic Fun!

ALL-STARS AT THE ALLEY 2023



JULY 29, 2023

UDSAKRON.ORG

Thank you to everyone who came to this year's All-Stars at the Alley bowling fundraiser benefiting the **UDS All-Star Training Club** inclusive sports program. It was so much fun and everyone had a great time! The event raised nearly \$42,000

for the All-Star Training Club to help keep our athletes in the game! [Visit our photo gallery to see all the photos from the event.](#)

UDS All-Star Training Club is a unified sports program where children and adults of all abilities are invited to participate in competitive sports that help build self-esteem, promote sportsmanship, encourage healthy living/physical fitness and develop long-lasting friendships. For more information, contact **Jeff Campano** at **330-762-9755** or at jcampano@udsakron.org.

Thank You All-Stars at the Alley Sponsors

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**Akron Children's Hospital, Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority,
Janco Service Industries, METRO RTA, Miller's Rental and Sales,
The Geopfert Company**

UDS ALL STARS ALLIY

Thank you again to all of this year's generous sponsors who made this event possible. It's not too late. If you would still like to support the UDS All-Star Training Club, please [contact Evelyn Burkhart](#), UDS director of development, or [visit us online](#) for more information on how you can help ensure everyone has the chance to participate.

Toy & Resource Center Back to School Special!



The UDS Toy & Resource Center is having a back-to-school special **now through September 30**. New members can sign up for an **annual family membership** for only \$45--that is 25% off the regular membership fee! Membership to the Toy & Resource Center opens children up to a world of discovery with more than 4,200 toys that help promote a love of learning through play!

The Toy & Resource Center carries a large assortment of toys including games, STEM items, fidget and sensory toys, and more! Remember, this offer is only good through **September 30** so don't delay, stop by the Center and sign up today! More information and the hours we are open are available by visiting our [website](http://www.udsakron.org).

The Toy & Resource Center is grateful for the generosity of Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board, GOJO Industries, Inc., GPD Group Employees' Foundation, Millennium Fund for Children of Akron Community Foundation, RePlay for Kids, The Mary and George L. Demetros Charitable Trust, and R.C. Musson and Katherine M. Musson Charitable Foundation.

Transportation Services Keeps Us Rolling!



In July, Summit County Job & Family Services donated ten child safety seats and ten child booster seats, which will help transport children eligible for the Summit County Non-emergency Transportation (NET) program. All vehicles that transport children will now have a child safety seat and a child booster seat. UDS drivers have also completed annual training in the proper use of child safety seats.

Additionally, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) recently awarded UDS a \$98,716 discretionary grant, which will be applied to the purchase of a new vehicle. UDS will also receive five new buses and four new transit vans thanks to grant funding from the Federal Transit Administration, administered by ODOT.

UDS Welcomes New Employees



ELEK KITCHEN

DIRECT SUPPORT
PROFESSIONAL (PT)



DONTE ALLEN

DRIVER

Join UDS in welcoming Elek Kitchen, a new part-time direct support professional (DSP) with our SociAbilities program, and Donte Allen, a new driver with Transportation Services. Elek is currently attending The University of Akron where he majors in communication and psychology. Donte has prior experience as a DSP and as a driver for another area service provider. Welcome to the team!

If you or anyone you know is interested in working for UDS, visit the [Current Openings](#) page on our website for more information.



Dancing Wheels Keeps Our Team Moving!

The [Dancing Wheels Company](#) recently stopped by UDS to get participants from SociAbilities and BraVo! dancing and moving. Located in Cleveland, Ohio, Dancing Wheels is the first physically integrated dance company in the country. How cool is that? Thanks again for stopping by!

Check us out on social media!



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