



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

What's New at UDS?

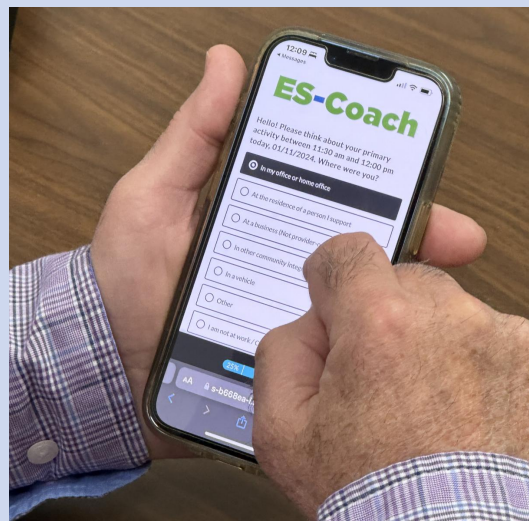
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ES-Coach Builds a Stronger Bridge for Job Seekers



Our community employment specialists work hard and thanks to a program from ThinkWork, they can further enrich the lives of job seekers and those within pre-employment transition services.

ES-Coach is a project through ThinkWork at the Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts, Boston, which is in partnership with the University of Minnesota, Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE), Wraparound with Intensive Services (WiSe) and the State



Employment Leadership Network (SELN).

This program's primary focus is a smartphone-based tool that helps employment specialists develop more concentrated employment support practices, set goals, reflect and take action for continuous improvement.

This program helps support employment services staff through daily and monthly tasks and micro-learning prompts. Through these tasks and prompts, ES-Coach helps our community employment team manage their time and resources while helping job seekers. Our specialists receive a message each day that asks them to fill out a questionnaire. The goal is to help improve both time management for staff and better employment outcomes for individuals served.

Dan DePasqual, one of our employment specialists pictured above, says "ES-Coach allows us to determine the best ways we can help our community." Currently, ES-Coach helps 20 programs around the country and is looking to expand to 28 more programs.

Thanks to support from **the Kessler Foundation**, ES-Coach is currently free until seats are filled. Thank you to ThinkWork for this opportunity to expand our reach within the community. Find more information about our [Community Employment Services here](#).

Issue 88 of Kaleidoscope Now Available



Issue 88 of *Kaleidoscope: Exploring the Experience of Disability through Literature and the Fine Arts* is [now available online](#). For this issue, the theme is **The Art of Living**. As we enter the new year, it's important to remember that this is a time of reflection and renewal. Within the pages of the latest issue of *Kaleidoscope*, explore the perspective's of authors, poets and artists as they share how they've mastered the art of living with a disability through art, essays and poetry.

In this issue, we have stories, essays and poetry from Kelsie Bennett, Rhonda Zimlich, Connie Harold, William Cass, Waylon Henggeler, Claire Ibarra, Danielle Krikorian, Aisha Ashraf, Carrie Hinton, Nancy J. Fagan, Tim Campbell, Emmy D. Wells, Amy DeBellis, Ellen Zhang, Cynthia Bernard, Hareendran Kallinkeel, Stacie Eirich, Jordan Wilson-Dalzell and Geri Lipschultz.

The latest issue also features artwork from Dave Wisnewski. A painter who lost his vision in his thirties due to diabetic retinopathy, Wisnewski enrolled in college to

pursue an art degree. His colorfully-detailed works adorn the pages of this issue, and our very own Sandy Palmer provides a write up concerning his life and work.

Issue 88 of [Kaleidoscope magazine is available at not cost on our website](#). A [screen reader version](#) is also available. Additionally, don't forget that [episodes of the Kaleidoscope podcast are available on our website](#), Spotify, Apple Music and more.



Welcome to Team UDS

We'd like welcome Gary Dungan as our newest full-time driver. Gary has worked at Giant Eagle for more than 30 years and is looking forward to further helping his community here at UDS. He enjoys golf, spending time with his family and being outdoors. Welcome to the team, Gary!

If you know of someone who would be interested in joining our team, UDS has several available positions. Visit our [current open positions](#) page for more information or to apply.

RePlay *for Kids* Donation Expands TRC Toy Collection

We'd like to take a special moment to thank [RePlay for Kids](#) for their annual holiday donation to the Toy & Resource Center. Every year, RePlay *for Kids* sends us a collection of toys, with many of them already adapted with switches for better accessibility.

RePlay *for Kids* also takes back any toy they have given us that breaks. This ensures the toy gets fixed or that its parts are used for other toys. Thank you so much for the donations you provide the Toy & Resource Center.

If you would like to make a donation to TRC or volunteer your time, [you can access TRC information here](#).



UDS Receives a Visit from Santa

We're not trying to brag, but Santa took some time from his busy schedule



during the holidays to visit his friends at UDS. Making sure to stop by BraVo!, CHAMPS, SociAbilities and our Prevocational Services, everyone was happy to meet and chat with Santa. We'd also like to thank Lee Harget in SociAbilities for setting up this meeting. Thanks, Lee!

Check us out on social media!



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