



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

What's New at UDS?

July 2024 | Issue 28

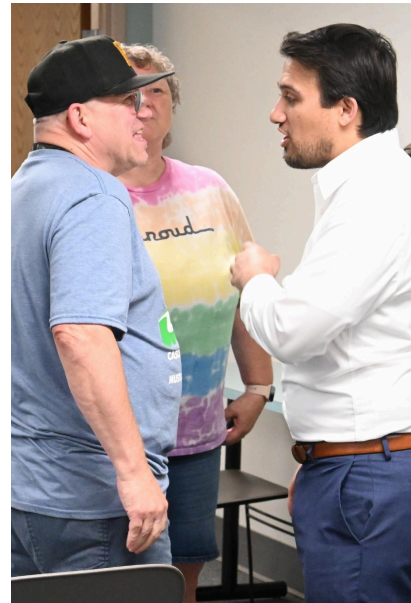
UDS Welcomes Akron Mayor Shammass Malik



Working diligently to make Akron a more inclusive city, Mayor Shammass Malik, with members of his staff, visited UDS on June 27 to learn more about UDS and the people we serve. The Mayor spent time talking with many of our participants including Jimmy (pictured right), also affectionately known as the Mayor of **CHAMPS**, the agency's program for adults 50 years and older focusing on social, recreational, education and health activities.

Along with visiting each of our programs, Mayor Malik also presented the agency with a proclamation celebrating our 75th anniversary where he declared June 27 UDS Day in Akron. The framed proclamation is proudly displayed in our lobby. UDS

is grateful for the continuing support of our mission by the Mayor and the City of Akron.



Strike Up the Fun at All-Stars at the Alley



This year's All-Stars at the Alley is taking place on **Saturday, July 20!** Last year was nothing short of cosmic and we can't wait for everyone to see our new location at **Clutch Lanes & Sports Center** in Cuyahoga Falls!

Registration is \$65 and bowlers can have up to four or five individuals per team (smaller groups will be combined).

Registration fee includes:

- 3 hours of bowling (including cosmic bowling)
- Shoe rental
- Pizza and wings
- Soft drinks
- Raffles (with additional ticket purchase)

Visit **UDSAIStars.org** and sign up today or for more information call (330) 762-9755, ext. 243. All proceeds benefit the All-Star Training Club. Last year was a huge success, so don't miss out on your chance to fill the alley and *strike* up support for inclusive sports!

It's not too late to become a sponsor of All-Stars at the Alley. For more information, contact **Evelyn Burkhart**, director of development, at **330-762-9755 ext. 222**.

Archbishop Hoban High School JAMs with UDS



In June, UDS hosted participants from the Hoban Justice Akron Ministries (JAM) summer service retreat program. Six students and two adult leaders volunteered with the agency over the course of three days. Working with CHAMPS, SociAbilities BraVo! and the Toy & Resource Center, students painted patio stones to decorate our gardens, played games with participants and helped to clean and organize toys.

If your school, company or social group/club is looking for a volunteer experience to promote teamwork or service, UDS can help. For more information, **contact Amy Tubergen**, Community Relations administrative assistant.

All-Star Training Club Brings Home the Gold

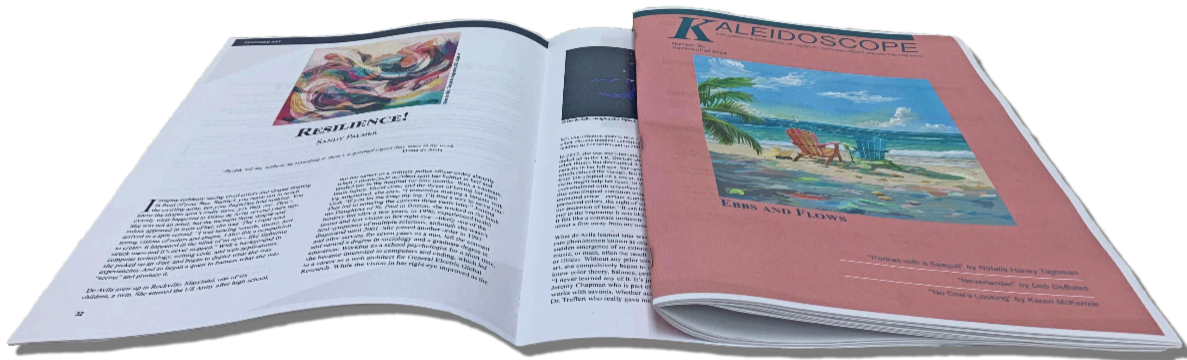


All-Star Training Club athletes recently traveled to Columbus to compete in the Special Olympics. UDS participants and staff members cheered them on and wished them luck as they headed to the event where our athletes performed at their very best.

Out of 65 potential events to earn gold, silver or bronze, our athletes took home 58 medals. This included 27 gold, 16 silver and 15 bronze. Our six gymnasts dominated the field in both individual and overall performance, and our bocce team also took home the gold. We are so proud of our athletes!

Visit our website to learn more about the **All-Star Training Club** inclusive sports program. Anyone can participate regardless of skill level. Whether you are looking to learn new skills or improve existing ones, All-Star Training Club has a sport for you!

Issue 89 of *Kaleidoscope* Available Now



Issue 89 of ***Kaleidoscope: Exploring the Experience of Disability through Literature and the Fine Arts*** is available online. For this issue, the theme is the **Ebbs and Flows** of life. Just as the ocean breathes in and out upon sandy beaches, we experience ebbs and flows in our lives. Within the pages of the latest issue of ***Kaleidoscope***, explore the perspectives of authors, poets and artists as they share how they perceive the ebbs and flows of life through art, essays and poetry.

This issue also includes contributions from Emma Baker, Jax Bidmead, Marjorie E. Brody, Emma Burnett, Douglas G. Campbell, Deb DeBates, Alexander Etheridge, Joanne Feenstra, Janet Engle Frase, Ben Gooley, Lori Hahnel, Mattie-Bretton Hughes, Shelly Jones, Suzanne Kamata, Grace Kully, Karen McKenzie, Betsy Miller, PMF, Trystan Popish, Ivy Raff, Tara K. Ross, Sheersty Stanton, M.S., Cynthia Stock, Natalie Haney Tilghman and Angela Townsend.

This issue also features artwork from Diana de Avila. An artist hailing from Sarasota, Florida, de Avila started her creative career in 2017 which was initiated by challenges from relapsing multiple sclerosis and a traumatic brain injury. Her acquired savant syndrome and synesthesia are what fuel her creative works, and she focuses on digital art pieces inspired by fractal geometry, quantum physics, chaos theory and divine order.

Issue 89 of ***Kaleidoscope*** is available at no cost on our website. A screen reader version is also available. Additionally, episode eight of the ***Kaleidoscope*** podcast is also available. In this episode, we interviewed former educator, author and mother Catherine Shields. Her book ***The Shape of Normal, a Memoir of Motherhood, Disability and Embracing a Different Kind of Perfect*** is now available through Vine Leaves Press.

You can listen to episode eight **on our website** or your favorite streaming service.

Welcome to the Team!

Join us in welcoming **Barbara Lane** as the newest direct support professional in our Prevocational Services. Barbara grew up in California and has traveled between it and Ohio her entire life. Formerly a program supervisor for Sevita, she loves caring for people.

Barbara has been married to her high school sweetheart for nearly 17 years and they live in Akron with their three children, four dogs, three cats and a pet snake. In her free time, she enjoys fishing, hunting, video games and spending time with her family.

If you or someone you know is interested in working for UDS, visit our **Current Openings** on our website to learn more.



Summer Issue of *Aspire!* Now Available

Catch up on the latest happenings at UDS, learn more about our services and take a look behind the scenes at the work we do every day.

Aspire! is a publication for consumers, caregivers or anyone who serves individuals with disabilities. If you would like to receive a hard copy of this publication, **contact us today** to be added to our mailing list.



Still Shining Bright: UDS Celebrates 75 Years

Join UDS as we celebrate our 75th anniversary! Continue to follow us for all the ways you can help us celebrate this milestone year.



Check us out on social media!



[Our Company](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Work With Us](#)

United Disability Services | 701 South Main Street | Akron, OH 44311 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!