



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

## What's New at UDS?

November 2023 | Issue 21

### Thank You for Saying YES to Issue 17!



*(Photo credit: Courtesy of Support Summit DD)*

Thank you to everyone who voted YES for Issue 17! The Summit DD levy is a critical source of funding for UDS and will help us continue to provide high-quality day programs and transportation to more than 200 adults, and competitive sports for over 400 athletes who participate in our All-Star Training Club inclusive sports program. Our Toy & Resource Center will also continue to help more than 3,000 children develop and grow while learning through play. On behalf of the UDS Board of Directors, employees and, most importantly, the individuals we serve, thank you!

## Prevocational Services Celebrates Fall!



Our Prevocational team held their annual fall party at Guy's Party Center near the end of October. Featuring dancing, music and costumes, everyone had a great time! Both the participants in the Prevocational program and DSPs work hard each and every day, so this was a great opportunity for everyone to take a moment to unwind. Looking forward to next year!

## UDS Talks Employment

Members of UDS Community Employment Services recently participated in the Summit County Employment Collaborative's 5th Annual Symposium on October 31, which took place at Ohio Means Jobs.

UDS Employment Specialist **Julie Dentler** participated in a panel discussion to talk about the important role a job coach plays when helping support individuals with employment. **Jenn Gorski**, assessment specialist, worked the exhibit booth. Great job, team!





# BraVo! Stays Busy Throughout the Season!

It's been a busy month for our BraVo! team! Members of BraVo! completed projects for Embracing Futures, a charity that helps with children's orthodontic care, as well as Summa Hospice. They've also been hard at work painting bags for Compassion Delivered, Inc., which helps provide meals to those coping with a life-threatening illness.

Along with helping around Akron, BraVo! also took quite a few trips in October. The team got to visit the City of Stow's Halloween Decoration Tour, Heritage Farms, Happy Tails, Beckwith Orchards and Wingfoot Lake. At Wingfoot Lake, they watched the Goodyear blimp be returned to its hangar, how cool is that?



## St. Vincent-St. Mary Students Stop By to Help and Say Hello!

At the end of October, twenty students from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School volunteered their time with BraVo!, CHAMPS and the SociAbilities programs.



Thank you to all of the students who donated their time to making a difference in the lives of the people we serve at UDS. We love having groups stop by to help, so take a look at [our volunteer page](#) to see how you can help make someone's day brighter!

## Episode 4 of the *Kaleidoscope* Podcast is Now Available!

Episode four of the *Kaleidoscope* podcast is now available. This episode features readings from issue 86 of our magazine. Discover untold truths and open the door to new perspectives in our latest episode!

You can find the [current episode](#)

# KALEIDOSCOPE

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Art & Language  
of

INCLUSION

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