



# Inside Mount Aloysius

## September 2021

Phone: (740) 342-3343

[www.mountaloysius.org](http://www.mountaloysius.org)

### Direct Support Professional Appreciation Week Celebrated

September 12-18, 2021 marked Direct Support Professional Appreciation week. At Mount Aloysius, we celebrated our DSPs in a variety of ways including gift card raffles and snacks. A Direct Support Professional (DSP) is someone who works directly with individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. A DSP provides support with everyday tasks such as cleaning, hygiene, toileting, dining, shopping, and attending appointments. Sometimes when people think of the services Mount Aloysius provides, they think of caregivers. While a caregiver may be incredible in the role, there is a difference between what a caregiver does and the work of a Direct Support Professional. A caregiver will do things for someone (e.g. pick out groceries). In contrast, a DSP will work with someone to enable them to do things independently (e.g. help them to pick out their own groceries). The next time you visit Mount Aloysius be sure to thank the DSP who is helping to care for your loved one. We could not operate without each and everyone of them! Thank you DSPs for everything you do for the men of Mount Aloysius. You not only provide quality care for the men but you also provide peace of mind for families who are unable to care for their loved one in their home.



Chip Tye & Candy Litton



Terry Householder, Hannah Hart, & Scott Berzon



Kyla Heston & Dan Williams



Donita Starrett, George Earley, & Harry Tye

#### Inside This Issue:

- Anniversaries
- Board of Directors & CEO Update
- Travel Reminders
- Options Unlimited Update
- Pictures
- Plus Much More!



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## Milestone Anniversary



Bridget Meikle, Direct Support Professional, will celebrate her 25<sup>th</sup> work anniversary at Mount Aloysius on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Over the years, Bridget has worked in laundry/housekeeping and as a DSP. She currently works at GLOW House on first shift.

Bill Shimp, Chairman of the Board, extends this heartfelt message to Bridget: On behalf of the Board of Directors and the families of Mount Aloysius, we thank you for your many years of service and dedication to the residents of Mount Aloysius. Our mission of enriching the lives of the developmentally and intellectually disabled community would not be achievable without you sharing your gift of compassion, patience, and respect to our residents for all these many years. We are so very grateful you have chosen to make Mount Aloysius a part of your life; it is your love and dedication to our residents that makes Mount Aloysius such a special family. Our best wishes for your continued fulfillment with your work in the years ahead.



Cynthia Taylor & Bill Kavanaugh



Jim Sheeter & Brandon Moore



Terry Hanan



Harry Tye & Melvin Hollenback recently attended a Columbus Clippers game with Derrick Rice, DSP, and Lilyanna Montell, DSP. A Special Thanks to Bill Shimp for donating the tickets.

## **Mount Aloysius Board of Director's & CEO Update** **Submitted by Justin Gall, CEO**

Fall has quickly descended upon us, and it is hard to believe we are already preparing for the holidays and the beginning of a new year. At Mount Aloysius, we embrace the change of seasons and get excited to reflect on all we have accomplished from one quarter to the next. The past three months have been busy with the implementation of our Strategic Plan placing emphasis on continuous quality improvement and taking steps towards service array expansion.

Although we hoped to be further along, the current state of the national pandemic has thrown some obstacles our way, slowing the process. Because we have not been able to move forward as quickly as we would like, we have taken this time to gain a richer understanding of and a deeper commitment to refining our core value of providing exceptional care to all individuals with developmental disabilities. We are working with our teams and learning how to navigate our new environment while doing more with less. We strive and take pride in providing exceptional care. For some, "good" may be good enough, but we want more, we want greatness all the time. We want Mount Aloysius to be remembered for what was accomplished and for our passion for excellence and exceptional care to all individuals.

Over the last several months, our primary focus has been on staff development. Mount Aloysius has been navigating the current statewide staffing shortage including shortages with Nurses and Direct Service Professionals. We have spent time with our staff providing training and have been creative on ways to retain our current staff and recruit new professionals to our field. Most recently, we provided staff with a 10% thank you increase in addition to an increase to the starting wage for all new employees. We find it important to take care of those who take care of your loved ones along with encouraging others to join our team. We continue to ask for your patience during this challenging time and be assured, the health and safety of our residents continues to be our top priority.

Finally, President Biden has announced a six-prong plan on COVID-19 entitled "Path Out of the Pandemic." The plan focuses on mandated vaccination to include health care facilities and employers with 100+ employees. This plan is an aggressive approach to vaccinate people, however there are many holes and questions that have not been answered within this order. The exact scope of the expanded health care vaccine mandate continues to be vague, and our status remains unclear. Once more information is available, we will provide you with an update.

I would like to end by thanking all of you again for your continued support, understanding and trust. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself, Shannon or Kim with any questions, suggestions, or comments. We welcome your input.

The lobby restrooms of the Main Building received a much needed face lift this summer.  
Be sure to check them out the next time you are at the facility.



## Summertime Fun!



Austin Denver



Harry Tye, David Estep,  
Dakota Leffman, George  
Earley, & Shawn Lutz



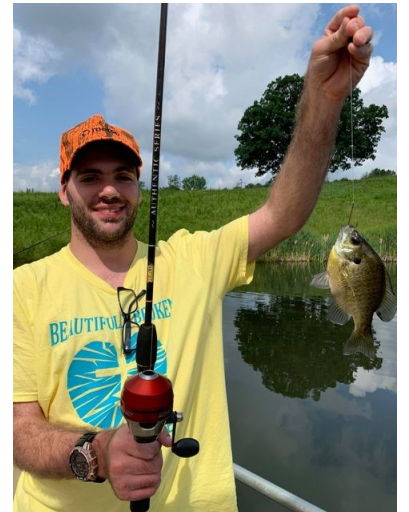
Daniel Fuller



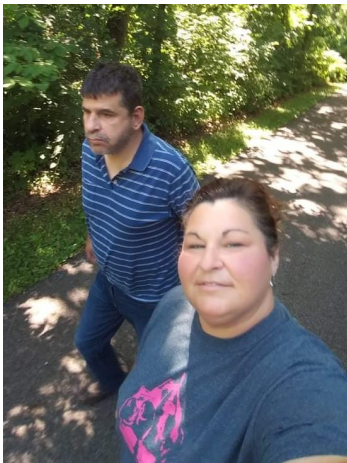
Mike Tafoya & John Purcell



Matt Capps



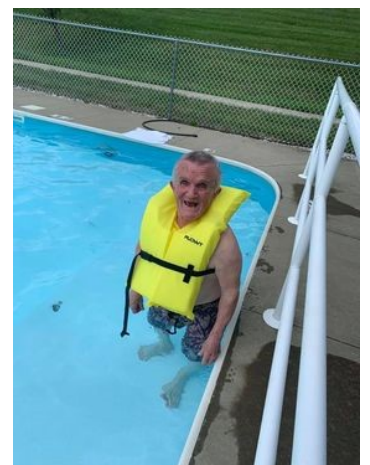
Melvin Hollenback



John Frease & Stacey Bell



Mike Chapman, John Purcell,  
Scott Davies, Jeff Penson, &  
Penny Norris



Richie Goheen

## Travel Reminders



With the approach of the holiday season and any time throughout the year, please remember to communicate travel plans to Ben Brannon, Social Services Coordinator, or Kasey Penrod, Social Services Assistant, at least one week in advance, if we will need to transport a resident in any way, i.e. airport, bus station, meeting place, etc. This will enable us to arrange staffing, prepare doctor letters, medication, and any other items needed. We need at least a 3 to 5 day notice in order for Nursing to make sure they have enough medication on hand.

We also ask that you provide at least one business day notice if you plan to visit your loved one at the facility so necessary arrangements can be made.

All travel arrangements and visits to GLOW House should also be arranged with Ben or Kasey. It is important to remember that there are only two staff working at GLOW House. We will need to have advance notice if we will need to transport the resident in any way.

The following are planned airport/travel dates for Thanksgiving: November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>. Airport/Travel Days for the Christmas holiday include: December 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

If there is inclement weather, Mount Aloysius will not transport residents. We cannot endanger the lives of residents and staff by driving during inclement weather. Please keep in mind that if there is inclement weather, travel arrangements may need delayed until the roads are cleared or until another day.

We are asking that any families who are planning to have their family members travel by airplane this holiday season, to make arrangements on the airport travel days. This way a whole group can travel to the airport, and we will not have to make various trips throughout the month.

## Options Unlimited Update Submitted by Stacey Bell

Greetings to all from the Options Staff!

Summer came and went so quickly. It is sad to see the warm weather leaving us so soon, however a lot has happened that I am excited to tell you about. We had a fabulous fun filled MAAD Day, where the men enjoyed lots of water games, a dunk tank that our CEO, administrator, and supervisors willingly volunteered to be dunked in (the men really enjoyed that); can ball toss, life sized Jenga, connect four, football toss and lastly a huge whip cream pie toss where residents and staff were able to put whip cream filled plates in the faces of administrative staff, supervisors, and department heads. Our men and staff enjoyed and had a fantastic, much needed day. Lots of smiles and laughter.

Residents also visited the Perry County Fair, some watched the demolition derby and tractor pulls. We worked and grew vegetables and fruit in our community garden. Our residents also enjoyed picnics by Lake Logan and Buckeye Lake.

We also had the opportunity to enjoy camp days this summer at Camp Echoing Hills. Many of our residents enjoyed swimming, fishing, arts and crafts, and cooking hot dogs and smores over an open fire, ending their day with a wagon hayride.

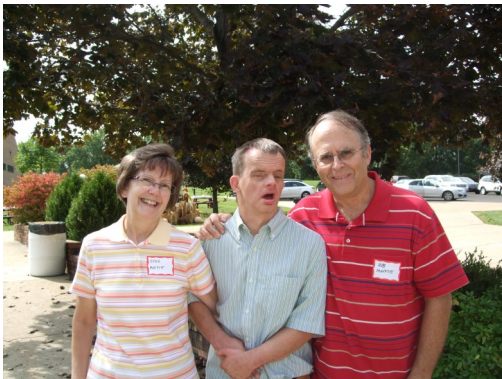
As summer comes to an end, we are preparing for our Last Blast of Summer, where again, residents will enjoy water games, lots of outdoor activities, tie-dying t-shirts, a cook-out, and root beer floats.

Last but not least, I want to thank all our staff for all they do for our residents. Without you all, we could not make this happen. You all are our "Front Liners" and make all we do possible!! Thank you for your dedicated efforts.



## A Look Back at Family Day

Unfortunately, we had to make a tough decision this year to cancel Family Day. We appreciate everyone's understanding. We thought we would share some pictures from previous Family Day celebrations that were held to help spread some cheer.



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Congratulations to the following employees who recently celebrated employment anniversaries:

### 25 Years

Bridget Meikle, DSP

### 15 Years

Margaret Garlinger, Cook

### 5 Years

Ashley Holsinger, Cook

### 1 Year

James Enderle  
Brandon Moore, DSP  
Gage Tussey, DSP  
Kaylee Vanoster, DSP

## Happy Birthday to our Residents!

### September

5 - Mitchell Paul  
6 - Jim Sheeter  
9 - Steve VerHulst  
11 - Dale Stover  
16 - David Sears  
19 - Brian Dougherty  
28 - Glenn Belluscio

### November

1 - John Guira  
Rory Thomas  
12 - Terry Householder  
15 - Todd Williams  
28 - Scott Davies  
30 - Jim Anderson

### October

3 - Bradley Tindall  
4 - John Leckrone  
10 - T.J. Funk  
Tim Raymond  
31 - Mike Chapman  
Greg Stuhldreher



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We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new staff:

Jolinda Azbell, Shift Supervisor  
Colleen Benson, Options  
Heather Boring, Certified Medical Assistant  
Karlee Crotzer, DSP  
Cora Ellis, DSP  
Doris Hartshorn, DSP  
Vilas Keith, DSP  
Jennifer Knapp, DSP  
Brett Phillips, DSP  
Jacob Poling, DSP  
Irene Pugh, DSP  
Promise Ross, DSP  
Zalee Ross, DSP  
Kerri Woodgeard, LPN

We are glad to have you with us!

## UPCOMING Events

### October

29 - Fall Fest  
31 - Halloween

### November

2 - Election Day  
7 - Daylight Savings Time Ends  
23 - Airport/Travel Day  
24 - Airport/Travel Day  
25 - Thanksgiving  
No Options or PerCo  
26 - Airport/Travel Day  
No Options  
29 - Airport/Travel Day  
30 - Hanging of the Greens

### December

10 - Christmas Dance  
21 - First Day of Winter; Airport/Travel Day  
22 - Airport/Travel Day  
23 - Airport/Travel Day; No PerCo  
24 - Christmas Eve; No Options or PerCo  
25 - Christmas Day  
27 - Airport/Travel Day  
28 - Airport/Travel Day  
31 - New Year's Eve; No Options or PerCo

*The dates are subject to change and events may be canceled as a result of the pandemic or current orders by the Governor. If we decide it is safe to hold an event, please know that we will do so in the safest manner possible.*

**Mount Aloysius Corp.**  
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## **INSIDE MOUNT ALOYSIUS NEWSLETTER**



We hope you enjoyed this edition of *Inside Mount Aloysius*. Please direct any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter to Mount Aloysius, c/o Kim Flood, P.O. Box 598, New Lexington, Ohio 43764. Telephone #: (740) 342-3343. E-mail: [kim.flood@mountalloysius.org](mailto:kim.flood@mountalloysius.org)

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***“Mount Aloysius is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”***