

THE PDI CHRONICLE

JAY HAS SOMETHING TO SAY...

Our Newsletter is Back!! I am so glad after these more than 15 months of uncertainty and lockdown we are moving back to normalcy. I want to take this time to thank all of you for your dedication, service, and sacrifice during this time. You played a vital part in holding the agency together through this pandemic. We have come a long way, but, we have just a bit more work to do. While many of you have been vaccinated or had contracted COVID and have immunity naturally, we still have a few precautions still in place because of the variants. For those who have had their vaccinations the agency has relaxed our policy for wearing masks in the office buildings. For those working directly with the individuals inside the houses we are still requiring masks to be worn for the time being. We are evaluating this on a weekly basis and will make updated decisions based on the numbers of cases and information from the state and CDC.



In other news I am excited to announce officially that the Governor and the Tennessee General Assembly included a significant rate increase for hourly DSP workers. This increase was advocated for heavily by TNCO (an association which PDI is a member), the provider community and families. So effectively July 1, 2021, hourly DSP wage will be \$12.50. That will represent a 25 percent increase in many of your wages. Remember, this increase was only approved for Direct Support Professionals through our adult waivers. For the other departments, the agency is always looking to improve the wages for staff and will adjust accordingly.

This year is going to be a great year for PDI, and I want each of you to be a big part of making it happen. Plans for this year are to move to computerized notes and more electronic note keeping, we have several new residential homes opening along with new referrals, and we are moving the agency toward being accredited by CQL. In the next couple of issues of the newsletter you will hear about these plans and how they are going to improve the lives of those we serve.

I would also like to welcome new members to the PDI Family. Priscilla Prater is our new Vice President of Human Resources, Jenna Summerhill, Vice President of Nursing/DON, and Julie Brown is heading up our Digital Media Department. We are very blessed to have each of these new team members and we look forward to their service.

Enjoy the rest of this newsletter and as always thank you for doing what you do for those we serve.

Jay

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JULY FUNTIVITIES!

Independence Day Celebration

Saturday, July 3 | Liberty Park | 5-9:30 pm | Free

Celebrate with great food, live music and family-friendly activities, followed by Clarksville's largest fireworks display at 9:15pm.

Independence Day Celebration

Sunday, July 4 | Ft Campbell viewing lots | 7:30-10:30 pm | Free

Go to Clarksville Now for full details

Downtown @ Sundown Concert Series

Downtown Commons | 7-9:30 pm | Free

Friday, July 2 | Nashvegas All Stars are performing.

Friday, July 16 | Hot Lanta performing

**Friday Night Live | Old Glory Distillery | 6-10 pm | \$5 each
(12 & under free)**

Friday, July 9 | Cindy McElroy performing

Friday, July 23 | Back Lot Pickers

Movie Night | Downtown Commons | 7:45 pm | July 10 | Free

Showing: The Parent Trap

Summer at Beachaven | Beachaven Vineyards and Winery | 2-5 pm | Free

Saturday, July 10 | Rob Harris performing. Zanders Pizza food truck on site.

Sunday, July 11 | Chris Carpenter performs. Tater Headz food truck

Saturday, July 17 | Chris Crow performs. Tennessee Tater Cakes food truck

Sunday, July 18 | Brittany Hadley performs. IDC Whatever food truck

Saturday, July 24 | Brittany Hadley performs. Zanders Pizza food truck

Sunday, July 25 | Rachel McCamy performs. Big Mike's Little Doughnuts food truck

Saturday, July 31 | Tiffany Turner performs. Tater Headz food truck

Movies in the Park | Heritage Park | Sunset | July 24 | Free

Showing: Frozen 2

Farmers Market | Saturdays | Downtown | 8am-1pm | Free

Artwalk | First Thursdays | Downtown | 5-8pm | Free

COME OUT & SUPPORT BUDDY BALL!



Buddy Ball

Schedule of Events:

Basketball:

Hilldale Family Life Center, Fridays at 4:30p, 5:30p, and 6:30p (no games on July 2)

Baseball:

Coming in September-October

Soccer:

Details to come



Employees of the Month

AMBER VASS
REGION 1



JESS HAMM
REGION 1

Amber spent a good portion of time during the pandemic assisting all house managers by doing grocery/household shopping so they would not have to do it after their shifts or on days off. She made numerous trips per day to various houses ensuring they had any and all supplies needed (paperwork, meds, gloves, etc.). She primarily handled all doctor appointments during this time, as well.

Both Amber and Jess went above and beyond, preparing for a new home for 2 individuals. They packed up the previous home and spent one of their few days off cleaning the new home top to bottom to ensure it met the standards we are accustomed to.

They also assisted on move day to make sure the home was in order to reduce any anxiety the ladies might feel in a new environment.

Amber and Jess also took the ladies to the new home on a couple of occasions prior to the move to familiarize them with the home. They reported any issues they felt could come up and assisted with solutions.

These two staff members are always willing and able to go above and beyond doing anything necessary for staff and the people we serve. They've spent Saturdays assisting with giveaways to allow all staff a chance to participate.

They always seem to have smiles on their faces, even working extended hours and performing extra duties.

I don't know what else to say except I don't know what I'd do without the great staff I have in Dover.

- Wanda Keaton

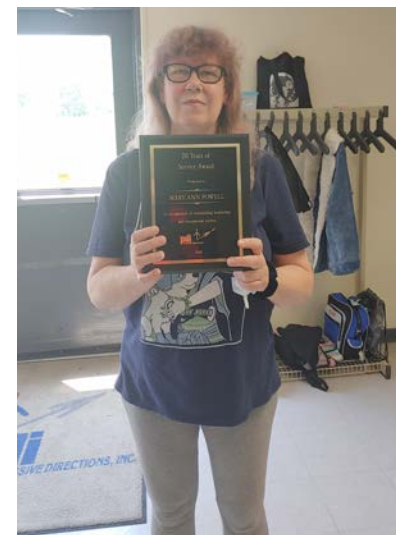
Service Awards



Tonya Jack, 10 Years



Chris Williams (center) has worked for PDI at Bridgestone Metalpha for 25 years. Pictured with Kim Ross, FP Production (left) and Vance Merritt, Plant Manager (right)



Mary Ann Powell, 20 Years



NEW HIRES

- VP of Human Resources at the main office in Clarksville.
- BS in Business Management and
- PHR certification.
- 13 plus years in Human Resources.



PRISCILLA PRATER
VP of Human Resources

One of the things I love about HR is the “x” factor of not knowing exactly what my day will bring. HR is constantly growing and changing. Being able to help others to better know themselves and to maximize their talents, all while helping to strengthen a team, organization or culture is rewarding!



DON'T EXPECT ME
TO BE SANE.
I WORK IN
HR

I'm originally from Monroe, Louisiana. My husband, Matt, was previously stationed at Fort Campbell, and when he retired, we knew that Clarksville was the place we wanted to call home. I am the mother of two amazing boys, Kannon & Kase.



JENNA SUMMERHILL
VP Nursing | DON

Nursing is my heart! Growing up I spent a lot of time with my mom while she was on duty, she has been a nurse for 40+ years and is still going strong. When I was in elementary school, I would pretend to be sick, so that I could go to work with her. I am the nurse I am today because she is an amazing role model.

My dad is a Fire Chief and Paramedic in my hometown going on 37 years of service. You could say that our mealtime conversations were not typical. We often discussed real life events that my parents had faced throughout the day, but this gave me a passion to follow in their footsteps. I have always had a special place in my heart for individuals with IDD.

When I was a child I had a friend, Greg, he was developmentally delayed and in a wheelchair. All though other kids didn't want to befriend Greg, I wanted to get to know him. Greg was funny, kind, smart, and an amazing friend. Even though he faced many challenges, he remained positive and lived life to the fullest. Greg passed away when we were in middle school, but I've never forgotten our friendship.

I accepted the DON position at PDI over several other opportunities because I believe in PDI's mission. I believe individuals with IDD are the closest to God we could ever be outside of heaven. I look forward to growing and working with all of you.

REGION II



Meet Michelle Saxarra, Residential Manager in Maury County.

Michelle has one daughter in Ohio and a special beagle named Mollie. Michelle has twenty plus years experience in the Human Services field. She enjoys going to the dog park, walking, and rollerblading.



Say hello to Travis Wilson, Program Coordinator in Maury County to the PDI team.

Travis has a lovely wife, two children and two wonderful grandchildren. Travis has a BS in Organizational Management from Bethel University. He has been in the Human Services field for 20 plus years. Travis likes to spend his off time watching sports, and all things outdoors.



Welcome Douglas Cobern to our PDI team as a new Program Coordinator in Maury County.

Douglas has his BS in Human Environmental Services from the University of Alabama and his MA in in Christian Ministry from Southeastern Baptist Theological Sanctuary and an MDIV and MA from Liberty University. Douglas enjoys spending his off time doing Civil War reenacting and umpiring for youth softball teams.



HUMAN RESOURCES

CURRENT OPENINGS:

- Nurses LPNs & RNs
- Direct Support Professionals
- Job Coach
- House Managers
- Personal Assistant
- Teachers
- Custodial Childcare Worker
- Janitorial Crew
- Maintenance Tech

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- At least 18 years of age
- Valid TN or KY driver's license
- Proof of education
- Clear background check
- Drug test

CONTACT:

For more information,
Please email [Priscilla Prater](mailto:Priscilla.Prater@pdi.com),
VP of Human Resources
Department.

REFERRAL BONUS

If you refer someone who is hired by PDI and you and that person remain employed in good standing for 6 months, you will receive \$100 referral bonus. The employee MUST put your name on the application when they complete it in order for you to qualify for this bonus.

We believe good people help attract good people.
And we've got some of the best people working at PDI.

If you know anyone who is qualified,
please pass along our list of open positions.

Also, we'll be posting about open jobs on social media.
When you see those posts, feel free to share.

And don't forget about the Referral Bonus!!



low patient ratios / flexible hours / competitive pay + benefits

NURSES WANTED

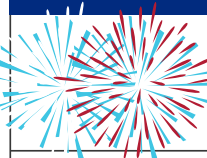
931. 647. 6333

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July classes

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|------------------------|--|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|
|  | 28 MEDICATION CLASS | 29 MEDICATION CLASS | 30 | 1 CPR/ FIRST AID | 2 MEDICATION CLASS | 3 |
| 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY | 5 | 6 CPR/ FIRST AID | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 CPR REFRESHER | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 CPR/ FIRST AID | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 MEDICATION CLASS | 27 CPR/ FIRST AID MEDICATION CLASS | 28 | 29 CPR REFRESHER | 30 MEDICATION CLASS | 31 |

Happy Birthdays!!!

Candy Davis 7/1
 Christina Cole 7/2
 Lavonda Crutcher 7/3
 Jerremy Stubblefield 7/3
 Mandy Stilts 7/3
 Lavidia Smith 7/3
 Lori Greis 7/3
 Summer Brown 7/4
 Jessica Crider 7/4
 Barbara Baggett 7/5
 Lindsey Porter 7/6
 Mardell Rose 7/9
 Deanna Wallace 7/9
 Nida Bishop 7/10

Shaquaila Cenance 7/10
 Judith Cannady 7/12
 Shatoria Malone 7/14
 Brenda Morford 7/16
 Iyeshia Dixon 7/16
 Dottie Parker 7/17
 Laura Jarrett 7/17
 Melanie Cook 7/17
 Ana Noriega 7/19
 Traci Aduato 7/19
 Patience Buck 7/19
 Debbie Rhodes 7/20
 Rita Stacey 7/22
 Patricia Clark 7/23

Pamela Sims 7/24
 Randall Schmidt 7/24
 Suleatha Brooks 7/24
 Jasmine Cooper 7/24
 Jenetta Pulse 7/25
 Amanda Correll 7/25
 Michelle Messer 7/26
 Larry Cannon 7/26
 Lee Brown III 7/26
 Carol Young 7/27
 Crystal Davidson 7/27
 Creneshia Bryant 7/29
 Quineisha Pittman 7/30
 Bryan Hester 7/31





HICKMAN COUNTY PICNIC JUNE 22, 2021