

March 2020

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**See People,
Not Punchlines.**

IndianaDisabilityAwareness.org

The Disability Awareness Month edition of The Front Page is an annual publication.

If you would like to receive our regular e-newsletter, let us know by emailing to

contact@cardinalservices.org

Wish List:

- Sweatpants/shirts, kids 4-6
- Bubbles, sidewalk chalk, bug catcher kit
- Guests for a Cardinal Lunch & Tour (see page 2 for schedule)
- Art supplies / canvas
- Volunteers for 2020 Tootsie Roll Drive, May 1 & 2

The Front Page



A note from our CEO



Gov. Eric Holcomb made a brief but profound comment during his State of the State speech on Jan. 14:

"... we won't overlook anyone who is aspiring to be successful. That includes Hoosiers with disabilities who seek to live and work in a safe, affordable and accessible environment."

I thank the governor for these remarks.

Cardinal Services strives to make the governor's vision of success a reality. Last year, 700 children and adults with a disability or delay were supported in a program or service provided by Cardinal in Kosciusko, Marshall, Cass and Fulton counties.

Cardinal is there for parents struggling to cope with the reality of an infant or toddler with a disability. We offer hope. Imagine the relief when parents understand that they are not alone and that their child has a promising future and will be welcomed by their community.

Cardinal is there for people seeking a job, whether it's a first job for a young adult leaving high school or someone who can no longer work due to circumstances beyond their control, such as an accident or disease. We create a pathway to opportunity. Imagine the pride of working when one thought a job all but impossible.

Cardinal is there when a family wants or needs their loved one to take the next step in life and move into their own place. We offer peace of mind to those families. Imagine the dignity that a person feels living in a place he or she calls home.

Together, let us thank the governor for using his voice to remind us all that people of all abilities are part of the fabric of our state, towns and neighborhoods, and contribute to the quality of all of our lives. Cardinal will continue to do its part to make the governor's vision of success a reality. *I invite you to join us in this exciting journey!*

~ Randy Hall, CEO



Jackson likes spending time with his friends, is involved with his church, and works at Culver's. He's working hard to learn different tasks there, so he can take on more responsibility.

Night to Shine



It was a night to remember. 128 honored guests and 330 volunteers attended our area's 2020 Night to Shine dance on February 7. Dances were held all over the world, sponsored by local churches in partnership with the Tim Tebow Foundation. Worldwide, nearly 115,000

people with disabilities attended a prom and were crowned king and queen at the end of the evening.

We thought you would enjoy seeing a few of the photos from our local dance. Visit our Facebook page for more - and plan to join us next year on February 12 for Night to Shine 2021!



Learning Through Play at Head Start

Children in Miss Christi's Head Start class just finished learning about clothing and what goes into making what they wear.

Parents were invited to join their child for the final class where they "made" an outfit. Parents made outlines of their kids on paper and then together they designed, cut out and embellished shirts, pants, dresses and skirts. Children learn through play, and this was a wonderfully playful activity for everyone!

When they were finished, each child put on their new "clothes" and paraded through our Head Start building in a fabulous fashion show. You can see the video of the kids fashion parade on our Facebook page. Prepare to grin from ear to ear!



If you have included Cardinal Services in your estate plans, please let us know.

To learn how to include a gift to Cardinal ,

Call Vickie Lootens
(574) 371-1344

Follow us on

Facebook,
Twitter &
Instagram



You and a guest
are invited to a
free lunch & tour
of Cardinal.

Upcoming dates:

April 7, 14 & 30

May 12 & 27

June 9 & 24

Call Jama Brown:
(574) 371-1372

Help by Becoming an Advocate for People with Disabilities

Many of you have asked how *you* can help. Well, here's a way that quick and easy. You can join our growing team of advocates. If you are willing to call or email an elected official, your voice is needed

1) Sign up for our advocate emails - You won't receive an avalanche of messages! Emails only go out when we need your voice for a specific purpose

or upcoming vote in the legislature or Congress.

- email michelle.boxell@cardinalservices.org to be added to our list.

2) Sign up for our association's Voter Voice action tool:

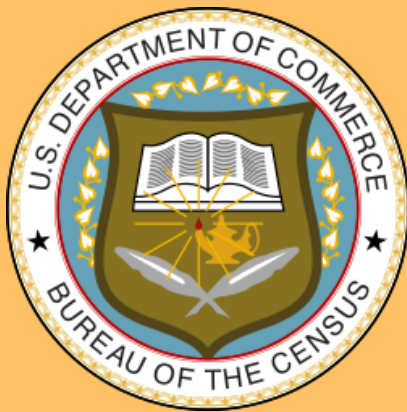
- Go to <https://www.votervoice.net/INARF/Register>.

- Enter the requested information.

3) Check the "Keep me subscribed to email alerts" and "Remember me" boxes, and then press "Save." That's it!



You will receive *Call to Action* emails from Cardinal and INARF. Emails will explain the issue and if it is important to you, we ask that you click on the link that will be provided to your elected official's email. Thank you for joining our team of advocates!



DO YOU KNOW...

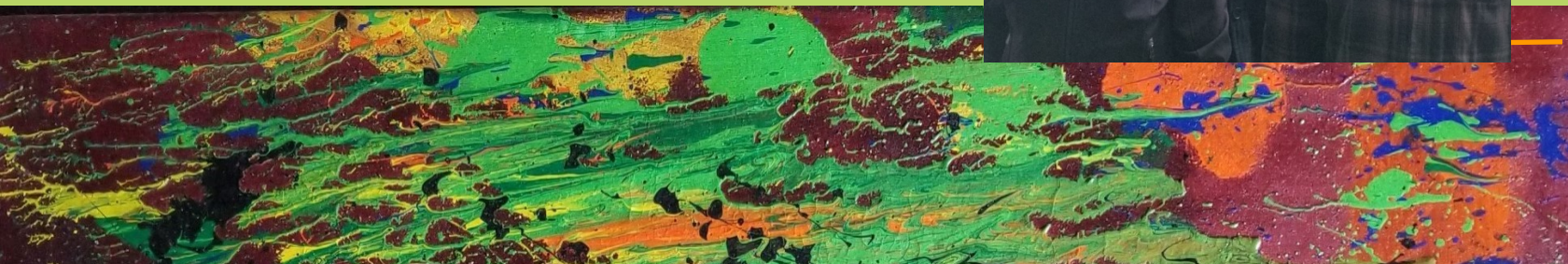
Indiana's total population is 6.7 million, and according to the Census Brief on Disability, 19% of Hoosiers experience some level of disability. ***Funding for services is based on this number.*** That is why it's crucial for everyone - especially those with a disability - is counted.

Cardinal is doing our part to assure that each person living in our residential programs is counted in the 2020 Census. If you have a friend or family member with a disability living with you, or living independently outside of services, ***please make sure they are counted in the census!***

Self Advocates Visit Statehouse

On Feb. 13, self advocates Bobby Plummer and Jenny Jay traveled with Cardinal CEO, Randy Hall to the Indiana Statehouse. The trio met with elected officials, including Sen. Ryan Mishler, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. The annual trip is an important one for self advocates all over the state as they gather to meet legislators, thank them for their service and ask them to think of people with disabilities as they consider laws and budgets.

The Cardinal Services Chapter of Self Advocates meets
first Thursday of every month, from 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.
in the Cardinal Services Training Lab.



The Front Page

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Cardinal Services, Inc. is a non-profit social service agency that provides rehabilitation programs and services for people with disabilities or other needs. The people we serve are considered for services without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, or the presence of non-service related medical condition or disability. Cardinal Services is partially funded through SSBG/Title XX through the Social Services Fiscal Office of the State of Indiana.

REDBIRD NEWS



For this piece, I chose the colors I enjoy most: greens, yellows, oranges and blues. All these go to create my painting, "Shiney Star." To me, it's like when we are given a chance . . . and we glow like the light of a star.
~ Nina

We are thrilled to announce that RedBird artist, Nina Unternahrer, has been selected as a winner of the 2020 Hoosier Women Artists competition!

Nina's work was one of a few dozen chosen from hundreds of submissions. Her painting, *Shiney Star*, now joins other winners in an exhibit at the Indiana Statehouse for the remainder of 2020. Congratulations, Nina!

RedBird Exhibits

- ⇒ Wagon Wheel Theatre (March to April 27)
- ⇒ Ivy Tech (ongoing)
- ⇒ Kosciusko Chamber of Commerce (ongoing)
- ⇒ Art Alley Exhibit (through arch)
- ⇒ Oakwood Resort (ongoing)
- ⇒ YMCA (ongoing)

Look for
RedBird art
in your
favorite shops!