RNI Chatter

RICHLAND NEWHOPE INDUSTRIES, INC.

Volume 4 Issue 7

Krista Grove receives CARE Award from RCBDD

Krista Grove received the Direct Support CARE Award for her outstanding service to the people that she serves. Krista was nominated by Sharon Murray, Krista was presented her award on April 12th by Richland County Board of DD Superintendent, Michele Giess. I wanted to share the remarks from Sharon's nomination form. Krista has been a Job Coach with RNI since 2015. Krista started off working as a summer Job Coach helping with the Summer Youth Work Experiences and transitioned to a full time Job Coach in 2018. Krista is a highly capable Job Coach that has worked to train individuals in community jobs in a wide variety of industries including food service, custodial, hair salon, social services, manufacturing, agricultural, body shop, retail, and childcare. In April of 2020 with the outbreak of COVID-19, Krista readily switched her daily focus from community employment to assisting to serving individuals within their home at Raintree. Krista worked at Raintree providing ADS services to the residents for the next 6 months. Upon returning to RNI's Community Employment department, Krista quickly jumped back into assisting individuals with learning their new job and job tasks. Krista has worked throughout the pandemic training individuals in "essential" jobs throughout the community in setting such as food service, agricultural, cleaning, and nursing homes. Krista is truly invested in the success of everyone that she trains at a new job or in assisting to maintain their employment through follow up visits and supports. Krista's goal for each individual she works with is for them to independently lead they life they choose and to be an active member of their community. Krista constantly demonstrates an excellent example of what a job coach should be. She recently spent several months at a new job site in Bucyrus at a pig farm. She was required to shower prior to entering and exiting the farm's pig barn she was training at. Because this training was in Bucyrus, she had to leave her home at 5:15 AM to be on time. Once in the barn she trained her individual n how to assist pigs with the birth of their piglets as well how to dispose of the piglets that did

not survive. They gave the pigs shots and cut the pigs tails. This was a very long and intense training that most people would have had a hard time with but not Krista she went in everyday with a smile and positive thoughts. The individual struggled to stay on task and focus but Krista was instrumental in keeping communications open with the Employment Specialist and OOD counselor as well as playing a key role in helping the individual to keep her job by talking with the manager of the barn on a daily basis. Krista is a role model to her fellow job coaches and often goes above and beyond. She recently asked if she could go to the home of one of the people on her caseload who is still laid off due to COVID so she could drop off his Christmas present from RNI, saying she did not want him to feel left out. She is always willing to help no matter what is asked of her. Krista Grove is not only an asset to our department and our company but to our entire community as well.



MAY 2021

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RNI Board Member Merris Welge receives Ambassador of the Year Award

RNI Board Treasurer/Secretary Merris Welge received the 4th Annual Ambassador of the Year award from Richland Area Chamber of Commerce President, Jodie Perry. Mr. Welge received his award at the 2021 Annual Meeting and Economic Excellence Awards. Mr. Welge is a longtime volunteer of SCORE and Ms. Perry stated that he is a familiar face around the Chamber; he is the "Unofficial" 10th member of her staff. Mr. Welge can be found helping at many Chamber events throughout the year, as a celebrity bartender at the Business After Hours events or visiting new members of the Chamber. Merris also volunteers at SCORE to help budding entrepreneurs get their businesses off the ground. Mr. Welge cares about his community, so please help me congratulate and thank him for his many years of service to our area and for his years of service on the RNI, Inc, Board.



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RNI locations support Child Abuse Prevention Month

Everyone at RNI was encouraged to wear BLUE on Wednesday, April 14th to support Child Abuse Prevention Month. Here are a few photos of the staff and people we serve at various locations. The Chatter would like to thank Support Specialist Heather Gibson and Department Supervisor Candice Gerhart for submitting these photos to us. #ChildAbusePreventionMonth



SIS Department take trips to Lamson Mansion and Majestic Meadows

This picture is of Wendi Miller making her vision board at the 2021 Glow Up event at the Well House in the Lamson Mansion. The charity event was held in Cleveland and Wendi was able to get a manicure, massage, snacks and all the materials to create a vision board to represent what she was striving for in the next year. Wendi had a great time mingling with fellow young women and made a beautiful vision board. In the other photos, Ethan Mollett and Cody Oswalt are shown interacting with the animals at Majestic Meadows Alpaca Farm located in Medina. A shout out to Integration Coordinator Carolina Walker for submitting photos!



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May Employee Anniversaries							
Dawn Weaver	05/12/19 95	26 Years Ka	ylee Bashline	05/20/2019	2 Years		
Sheri Bailey	05/07/1997	24 Years Jea	anetta Porter	0 <mark>5/20/2</mark> 019	2 Years		
Robert Guegold	05/23/2013	8 Years Nat	thanial Dehring	g 05/29/2019	2 Years		
Christina Jones	05/03/2016	5 Years Joy	ce Garberick	05/29/2019	2 Years		
Sandy Patton	05/03/2017	4 Years Ca	rla Miller	05/29/2019	2 Years		
Jeff Hall	05/25/2017	4 Years Joc	ly Wertz	05/29/2019	2 Years		
Scott Love	0 <mark>5/31/</mark> 2017	4 Years					
Timothy Payton	05/15/2018	3 Years	Con	gratulatio	ns		
Troy Gilliland	05/29/2018	3 Years					
Shannon Ruhl	05/29/2018	3 Years	ТНАГ	NK YOU all	tor		
Tamara Metzger	05/13/2019	2 Years	your ye	ears of serv	vice!		
Element of Art	Flomon	t of Art St	udio/Callo	w Undator	3		

The Element of Art Studio/Gallery will begin classes with contracted artists this month on Monday, March 8th. We are still not open to the public, but we updated our website for you to be able to shop online. Check out our great selections under the Shop tab, call the gallery or email kmorehead@rniinc.com or sstickney@rniinc.com to purchase and to arrange curbside delivery. It is that easy and we have some great gift ideas for family & friends.

Mascazzini receives certification



On April 20th, Tony Mascazzini, Administrative Support Associate passed the Security+ Certification exam. This is a highly sought after certification that he studied the last 6 months to pass. Tony is now a certified Cyber Security Professional! The Security+ exam certifies that I have the knowledge and skills required to assess the security posture of an enterprise environment, recommend and implement appropriate security solutions, monitor and secure hybrid environments, operate with an awareness of applicable laws and policies, identify & analyze and respond to security events & incidents.

🔁 Earth Week Event was a Success

The Earth Week Community Collection Event was held at our 971 Longview Avenue location. The event was held from April 19th -April 23rd. According to RNI, Inc. Manager of Production Services, Abbie Bays, they collected over 1,800 pounds of various electronics during the week. If you have any of the accepted material from the list on the right, please stop by our 971 Longview location Monday-Friday from 9am-3pm and you too can "Turn your Old Technology into New Possibilities." Thank you to the community that supported our successful event!



Mitch Berger receives Self– Advocate CARE Award

Mitch Berger received the Self-Advocate CARE Award. Mitch was nominated by Monica Bailey. Mitch is a self-advocate who is dedicated to teaching self-advocacy to as many people as possible. He is a statewide Project STIR trainer and trains self-advocates statewide as well as locally. Before the COVID pandemic, Mitch started teaching Project STIR to transition youth students in local high schools. He was teaching three times a week. He was recently able to start teaching again in the high schools to students at two local schools. Mitch does a wonderful job teaching and is very passionate while he is doing what he loves. He would teach every day if he was able to. Mitch is also the President of the People First chapter and helped schedule speakers for the group meetings when we were meeting in person. He is currently serving on the Council of Ohio Leaders board (COOL) where they help make planning decisions for statewide Project STIR trainings as well as other important board decisions.



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RNI, Inc. Team: Let's increase our presence on social media and increase our LIKES on Facebook. LIKE and SHARE us on Facebook to invite your friends to LIKE us too. UPDATED 04/28/21; we are at:

City Garden Café is at 378 LIKES, can we get to 500 LIKES, 122 LIKES to go ??

Element of Art Studio/Gallery is at 1,735 LIKES, can we get 2000 LIKES, 265 LIKES to go ??

Richland Newhope Industries is at 1,798 LIKES, can we get to 2000 LIKES, 202 LIKES to go ??

Trillium Event Center is at 634 FOLLOWS, can we get to 1000 FOLLOWS, 366 FOLLOWS to go ??



Visit us on the Web at rniinc.com

Help us increase our social media exposure by liking and sharing our four (4) Facebook pages. City Garden Café, Element of Art Studio/Gallery, Trillium Event Center and Richland Newhope Industries, Inc!



Social Integration had some great outings in the month of April

Integration Coordinator Sarah Cayten submitted these wonderful photos from their outings in April. In the photos shown here, David Meadows was happy to get out with friends today. He loved going to the Holmes County Flea Market and getting to pet the puppies at the pet store. David is shown here with his favorite, the fluffy white Pomeranian. In the bottom right photo, Ethan Mollett who has a couple of pit bulls at home, really enjoyed getting the chance to hold and pet the puppies. In the bottom row left, Ethan Mollett shows off his great swing at Top Golf in Columbus. He consistently hit over 100 yards and was helpful in instructing the rest of us on our form. He had a great time being out with friends and practicing his swing. In the bottom row middle photo, Chris Coy was competing with the guys to see how far he could hit his ball! He used to play golf with Special Olympics and really loved getting out to play again today.



