

Congratulations, Phil!



After 22 years of service, **Phil Harrison** retired from Pathway Services on March 18. He was honored with a reception that afternoon.

During his time at Pathway, Harrison's contributions to the organization were numerous and significant. His accomplishments included:

- Helping build, purchase and remodel 13 homes for Pathway individuals.
- Managing over \$11 million in assets
- Coordinating the construction and renovation of the Pathway Plaza
- Researching and supervising the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Plaza.
- Maintaining a fleet of 35 vehicles to transport our individuals.

Thanks for your service to Pathway, Phil! Enjoy your retirement. You have earned it!

Ryan Dowd Selected as New Executive Director



Ryan Dowd is the new executive director of Pathway Services Unlimited, Inc.

Dowd most recently served as the chief operating officer at Sparc in Springfield. He was also a residential director at Sparc from 2009 to 2015 and a residential services director at Brother James Court in Springfield from 2005 to 2009. He is a graduate of Quincy University.

"With over 16 years of agency experience in leadership, financial management, training, development and fundraising, the board is excited to have Ryan as our new leader," said Kevin Eckhoff, Pathway Board president "In his previous roles, he demonstrated strong relationships with his agency's individuals, their family members, co-workers and community leaders."

Dowd is a native of St. Louis, MO. He and his wife, Jennifer, share a blended family with son, Connor, and daughters, Quinn and Charlie.

"I am incredibly excited to get to know our Pathway family in the days and weeks to come," said Dowd. "I am quite optimistic of great things to come for those we support, our hard-working staff and the families and friends who charge us with their care. My family and I look forward to becoming part of the Jacksonville community and building long-lasting relationships."

Best Wishes, Maryjane!



Congratulations to **Maryjane Million** on her retirement as executive director.

Thank you for your service and commitment to Pathway and the individuals we serve! The past two years have been a challenge due to staffing and COVID, but you always kept the needs of our individuals first.

*Jacksonville Area
Chamber of Commerce*

**Business After Hours
at Pathway**

**Thursday, June 2
4:30-6:30 p.m.**

More details coming.

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Farmers Market Coming to Pathway

The Jacksonville Farmers Market is coming to the Pathway Plaza for the 2022 season.

The market, which features a large variety of locally-grown fruits, vegetables, meats and flowers (plus some delicious baked goods!) will be open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 7 a.m. to noon (or until sold out) May 7 through October 29. The market will be set up on the north portion of the plaza to avoid any conflicts with the other tenants in the plaza.

We are excited to serve as hosts and are exploring ways that our individuals might assist with the market.

Thank You to the Tracy Family Foundation

Many thanks to the Tracy Family Foundation for awarding Pathway Services a Capacity Building grant allowing us to thank our wonderful employees for their dedication, and to share the Pathway story.



The grant will be used to create a video highlighting Pathway and the Pathway team, as well as social media posts about staff and posts promoting The Attic.

Welcome New Board Members

Jim Harper and **Vicki Mullis** have joined the Pathway Services board of directors. Both will be filling open vacancies on the board.

Harper is an associate chaplain at Jacksonville Memorial Hospital. Mullis and her husband, Jim, are the owners/operators of Obadiah's Bakery in South Jacksonville.

Other board members include, **Koert Brown** (vice president), **Kevin Eckhoff** (president), **Lisa Farmer**, **Lisa Galloway**, **LaChelle Griffin**, **Joey Henry** (treasurer), **John McCorkle**, **Jason McDowell**, **Norma Moreland**, **Tim Olson**, **Jeff Soltermann**, **Phyllis Wallbaum** and **Karen Werries** (secretary).

The board meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.



New Gazebo for Sandusky Home

The gentlemen residing at the Sandusky home have a new gazebo to enjoy this summer.

The 12 x 24 Victorian-style gazebo is fully-screened with a 36-inch door for accessibility. It is constructed with composite flooring, white vinyl trim and a metal roof for low maintenance and long-term durability.

The gazebo will accommodate all the residents, plus their support staff. There are no benches inside enabling those in wheelchairs to get close to look out. Ambulatory residents will use lawn chairs.

The gentlemen at Sandusky contributed half the cost of the gazebo. **Jeff Sipes**, guardian of two of the gentlemen in the home and a long-time Pathway supporter, made a significant contribution to cover the remaining cost.

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Maggie Buhl** who passed away on March 25.

She was the second born of fraternal twins and the seventh child of her parents, Frank and Ella Mae Buhl. Maggie was admitted to a state facility at age 7, transferred to the Jacksonville Developmental Center at age 18 and eventually transitioned to a Pathway CILA home at age 52. Her other housemates and residential team at Drake were a second family to her. She will be remembered for her desire to keep the door open to look outside and for her occasional giggle and nonverbal expressions.

Order Terri Lynn Nuts and Candy Anytime

Terri Lynn nut and candy sales support the unmet financial needs of our individuals through Pathway Partners. Terri Lynn offers more than 40 delicious products. Visit **PathwayServices.org** and click on the "Support Us" link to access the Terry Lynn online store. Take advantage of free shipping on orders of \$30 or more.

Pathway Employee Spotlight



Janelle Coons

Janelle Coons is the residential supervisor for five ladies in the James Creek home. In addition, she oversees the operations of the home.

Coons started at Pathway in 2012, though her career assisting individuals with developmental disabilities began in 2003. She often goes above and beyond her normal duties, such as assisting with applications and interviews for potential new employees and helping with scheduling and staffing shortages. Coon also helps train new supervisors.

We are glad that she is part of the Pathway team! We always love to see her excellent attitude no matter what task she is handling.



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the purchase of a turtle top van for our individuals! We have received \$41,400 in donations!

Special thanks to **Centenary United Methodist Church** for an extremely generous donation through their Fox trust fund!

The vans really help our aging individuals who may have lost a bit of mobility. They are great for individuals who need smaller steps and handrails when they get on and off the van. Plus, our individuals in wheelchairs require this specialized van design with a raised roof, wheelchair lift and extra space inside. This all results in safer transportation for the residents and reduces staff injuries.

If you want to help support this effort, a donation form is on the back of this newsletter. You may also donate online at **PathwayServices.org** and click on the Support Us link. Thank you!



Vincent glues together a puzzle he recently assembled that will become a wall hanging.

MEET OUR INDIVIDUALS

Say Hello to Vincent

Vincent has grown vastly in his independence since moving into the Pathway home. He has learned to cook many dishes independently, including grilling items, which is a favorite. He even grilled food (with some assistance from two directors) for the annual general membership banquet and for pork chop fund raisers.

During COVID-19, Vincent really had time to delve into his love of painting and to work on his painting skills. He actively enjoys painting and loves to share his paintings with his friends and loved ones, often gifting them to others.

Since moving into the Pathway home Vincent has also gained community survival skills to the level that he can now independently access the community for short periods of time. He is extremely proud of that accomplishment.

Vincent loves his independence in going where he wants when he wants.

Look for another Meet Our Individuals profile in the next newsletter.

Vincent is especially excited that one of his paintings of a semi-truck was entered in the 21st Annual Art Exhibit and Contest hosted by the Arc of Illinois. His painting will be on display at Arc's annual convention with awards voted on by conference attendees. The theme for the exhibit is, "When You Express Yourself in a Focused, Meaningful Way, That Becomes Your Art."

Good luck, Vincent! Check our next newsletter to see if Vincent is a winner.



Yes, I want to support Pathway Services!

☐ \$1,000 Benefactor

Name _____

☐ \$ 500 Gold

Address _____

☐ \$ 250 Silver

☐ \$ 100 Bronze

☐ \$ 50 Partner

Email _____

☐ \$ _____ Other amount

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Please clip and return this form, along with your contribution, to:
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