

Healthbeat

Welcome to the new MONTHLY newsletter from Aspire Indiana Health!

We've got so much going on, we decided to double our publishing schedule, so you will now receive news from Aspire every month. Enjoy!



THE STORY OF THE HIV WREATH



Christopher Lloyd, Senior Director of Branding and Communications
Cheryl Berry, Marketing Multimedia Artist
Ben Rose, Multimedia Content Producer
Brandi Caplinger, Digital Marketing Coordinator
Alyssa Seifert, Marketing Intern

ARTICLES

Feature Article

Alyssa Seifert, Marketing Intern

IN EVERY ISSUE

Aspire Events

Maggie Spitznogle, Special Events Associate

Recognition & Aspire News

Christopher Lloyd, Senior Director of Branding and Communications

Top 5 Hottest Jobs & Welcome New Employees

Hilary Davis-Reed, Team Lead, Talent Strategy
Brooke Elf, Recruiting Specialist

Way to Go!

Mary Sharpe, Project Associate

iStock by Getty Images: pages 10, 13, 14. All stock photography posed by models.

Aspire Indiana Health Magazine | July 2023, Issue 147

© Aspire Indiana Health 2023 | All rights reserved

Contents

4 Feature Article: The story of the Infectious Disease HIV wreath

6 Indy Pride

10 Recognition

12 Aspire News and Events

14 Top 5 Hottest Jobs

14 Way to Go!

17 Welcome New Employees



Indy Pride

See page 6 for details.



\$2 million grant for CSU's

See page 13 for details.



Connect to Cure

See page 5 for details.



The Story of the HIV Wreath

by Alyssa Seifert

Decorating one of the walls in the Hoak health center where Aspire Indiana Health's infectious disease team meets, there is a charming wreath that tells the stories of the people who have lost their lives to HIV.

The wreath made its first appearance in 2010 for the anniversary of the HIV Care Coordination program (now known as Infectious Disease Services) courtesy of director Julie Foltz. In a company that cares for people living with this infection, losing a life takes a toll on an individual and their work.

With this wreath, you can see all of the red ribbons tied around it with names written on them. Each of them represents a person that Aspire has served who has passed away. Memorializing these people gives a visual understanding of the devastating impact of this disease – not only on family and friends, but their caregivers as well.

To continue the legacy of the red ribbon wreath, there was an addition that started in 2021. There is a smaller wreath with yellow and purple ribbons tied to it to represent those that have died from Hepatitis C and overdose, respectively.

"Staff members, participants in the Madison County Harm Reduction (HARP) program and individuals we met at recovery events over the years contributed these names to the wreath," Foltz says. "The impact that others have on our lives is significant and stays with us through not only the wreath, but lasting memories and time spent with these individuals who have lost their lives."

With this addition to the original wreath, we can prolong its legacy and the many lives it represents for years to come. As science progresses and treatments expand, the hope is always to cure the infection known as HIV. Until we can find that cure, we look toward a future where there is finally an HIV free generation.

The need for these services in the Madison community and beyond is evident by an increased volume in HARP activity. Last month they experienced their busiest day ever with 46 participants, including six new people and five returning after an absence of more than a year. Eight HIV tests were completed and 83 Narcan doses handed out – all in one day.



L to R, front row holding wreaths: Sindi Ncube, Kerri Firestone, Michelle (Briles) Lamie, Jayne Weir, Savannah Tagua, Julie Foltz; back row: Keisha Noethlich, Brandy Baker, Bri Green

We thank those who have dedicated their lives to research and care, in addition to family and friends who stood with those who have lived with HIV. We commemorate them and will keep remembering those whose lives have been lost for many years to come, not just for the infection but also for the full lives they led and the individuals they were. ■



Aspire Indiana Health is a recipient of the "[Connect to Cure](#)" grant from the Indiana Department of Health aimed at helping prevent and cure Hepatitis-C.

Aspire will use the funding to add two HEP-C case managers at its satellite locations in Lafayette and Muncie/Richmond. It already has one case manager in Anderson who works closely with the Madison County Harm Reduction Program (HARP), which provides services, medical referrals and support to active drug users. Sterile syringe exchange programs are shown to reduce the transmission of diseases like HEP-C and HIV.

Hepatitis-C spreads through the blood and most who contract the virus will develop a chronic infection that damages the liver, potentially developing into life-threatening conditions like cirrhosis or liver cancer. While there isn't yet a vaccine for Hepatitis-C, medications can cure an infection in eight to 12 weeks. An estimated 69,000 adult Hoosiers currently live with the virus and many of them aren't even aware they have it, according to an IDOH news release.

Follow these links for job listings for these two new positions: [Muncie](#) and [Lafayette](#). ■



We showed our Pride!

photos by Ben Rose



Once again, Aspire Indiana Health was thrilled to participate in Indy Pride! We had more than 100 people marching in the parade, and our booth was one of the most popular!

At Aspire our motto is ALL:
We serve ALL. We hire ALL. We accept ALL.

See you next year!





Recognition

We're proud of the people who work for Aspire. That's why we'd like to take a moment now and again to give recognition to them for their achievements — both inside and outside of the work they do with us serving Hoosiers.




 Residential Recovery Technician **Charmaine Haskins** is always willing to learn new processes and procedures at Mockingbird Hill Recovery Center. "She is great with our clients and helpful to the rest of the staff. You can tell she is really passionate about the work we do here and cares for the clients we serve. We are lucky to have her on our team!"

Robyn King, Employment Specialist, is recognized as an

 exceptional employee who has contributed positively to her team. "Her hard work, dedication and positive attitude have been an inspiration to all of us. She is always there to lend a helping hand, and her willingness to step up and take on new challenges has been instrumental in the success of our team."


 **Leah Fisher**, Supervisor of Home & Community Based Services, is praised by her colleagues for always showing great leadership in challenging situations.

 **Amy Corlew** recently returned to Mockingbird Hill Recovery Center, and her team is so happy to have her back! "She has stepped into the Admissions Technician role and has done a great job organizing the expectations and revamping the process. She brings great energy to our facility and we are lucky and grateful to have her!"

 **Donna Barker**, Manager of Comprehensive Outpatient Services, recently made a donation of three Pampered Chef Bundles for the Summer Dayz Live Action to benefit Turn Away No Longer, a charity that helps children in the foster care system. Way to give back!!


 Employment Specialist **Sara Grady** has been very intentional about increasing her service hours with her clients. "She has worked really hard to produce results and meet her goals by focusing on specific tasks and how it applies to the services she is providing. Sara has been a big-picture thinker, striving to reach new milestones regularly."


 Physician Assistant **Stephanie Murdock** is described by her colleagues as "fantastic as a partner with our crisis team. She is warm, compassionate and just a great advocate for her patients!"

 Over the past year **Katie Cutrell** has been the Clinical Manager for both the Boone County and Marion County Outpatient offices and in that time, "she has been able to push her staff to their best, but is also a huge advocate for them. I really appreciate her dedication and her willingness to always help those who need it!"




Thanks to everyone on the Pride Committee who worked so hard planning and executing Aspire's participation in the Indy Pride parade and festival in June. We showed our pride! **Savita Bokil, Cheryl Berry, Julie Foltz, Mary Giesel, Gina Forrest, dianna Huddleston** and **Christopher Lloyd**.


 Grant Writer **Zach Fredbloom** has shown great adaptability and pose with changes in his department and role. "He has had to adjust his work responsibilities and expectations and has shown understanding through the entire process."

 **Rachael Knopp** recently obtained her certification as a Community Work Incentive Coordinator, which is not an easy process! "She's been in training

for about six months now working hard at her certification, so we're all very proud of her!"

 Recovery Coaches **Bennie Williamson** and **Jimmy Tolgaroglou** are recognized for their outstanding performances during Spirit Week at Progress House. "Both recovery coaches led their teams in meaningful recovery work while demonstrating having fun while staying sober. Thank you, Judge Trulove and Judge JTG!"

 **Erick Chepkwony** with the housing assistance team has really stepped up in his new role as Supervisor, doing a great job during his transition. **Jeffrey Johnson**, Support Service Coordinator, has always gone above and beyond during his four decades with Aspire. "Thank you guys! You're one in a million!"

 **Joseph Dixon**, Residential Recovery Technician shift leader, is always going above and beyond for staff and clients at Mockingbird Hill Recovery Center. "Recently we had a talent show for our clients, and he took the time to bring in all of his stage equipment from his musical career and bring a great experience to the facility. The guys appreciated the hard

Recognition

work and so did the staff. Joseph is always a great help!"

 Medical Assistant **Sara Bales** is full of life and makes everybody laugh and smile all the time. "Sara is an awesome phlebotomist, and her love for animals is unmatched. Sara rescues cats and dogs, and is always on the hunt to find them homes!"



One day at the Aspire Indianapolis health center, therapist **Leesa McClelland**, CC/LSI **Heather Smith** and LSI **Kelly Lowe** from the Deaf Services team all showed up wearing the same "Mental Health Matters" shirt. Great minds and strong voices!

 **Ashley Risch**, Certified Medical Assistant, is recognized for all her hard work, "yes I can" attitude and willingness to help everyone. "The front desk staff really speak volumes on how much hard work and support you put in, and you are always the one to say something silly to give others a smile or a laugh. We just want you to know that your commitment

continued on page 13...



Aspire News & Events

by Christopher Lloyd



ASPIRE FEATURED ON OUTSIDE OF HR PODCAST

Dr. Gina Forrest, Chief Culture Officer at Aspire Indiana Health, and Marcos Navarro Garcia, Manager, Employee Engagement, were featured on the Outside of HR podcast hosted by Amy C. Waninger.

It was a great opportunity to talk about the cultural journey Aspire has been on as we seek to become a more inclusive organization that closes the gaps in health inequities.

NEW PRACTITIONERS IN INDIANAPOLIS

Aspire Indiana Health has welcomed two new family medicine practitioners at their Indianapolis health center.



Courtney Boswell is a Family Nurse Practitioner with a background in pediatrics and NICU, receiving

her nursing degree from Purdue University and her master's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University. Her nursing background was in pediatrics and NICU.



Adam Ison is a Family Nurse Practitioner, receiving both his bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from

IUPUI. He prides himself on establishing an early rapport with patients. "At the end of each appointment, I'd like patients to

feel respected and that their voice has been heard," he says.

Both Boswell and Ison are now available to see patients by appointment, and walk-ins are also welcome! (877) 574-1254.

JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS!

[Reserve a spot](#) in your calendars for a fun Friday night out at the polo field this summer! Progress House is hosting their annual



Polo at Sunset event again on Friday, August 4th, 2023 at Hickory Hall Polo Club. This year we have been paired with Indiana Rugby to create the best experience possible for all of our guests. Come enjoy a great polo match, games, raffle, silent auction, and more! This event is great for kids and people of all ages! More information and pre-admission will be available at a later date. We hope to see you there!



\$2 MILLION GRANT FOR HAMILTON CRISIS CENTER

Aspire Indiana Health will begin planning a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) for Hamilton County thanks to a \$2 million grant from the Indiana Family and Social Service Administration's Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA).



CSUs, also known as crisis centers or drop-off centers, are community-based, short-term facilities that provide stabilization services for people in need of urgent care related to mental illness, substance use disorder or both. They are designed

to help some of the most vulnerable Hoosiers and relieve overburdened emergency response infrastructure including hospital ERs.

Aspire will use the funding to plan the creation of a Hamilton County CSU including examining existing models, meeting with community partners to identify needs, gathering data including identifying the best possible location and partnerships, and researching screening tools.


"There are many different models of CSU, so we will be doing our due diligence by meeting with different agencies across the nation who are already providing this service to find the approach that will best meet the needs of Hamilton County," said Beth Eiler, Aspire Vice President of Behavioral Health Services. ■



continued...

to this team and your willingness to step up and do what needs to be done doesn't go unnoticed!"

Certified Medical Assistant Team

 Lead **Stacy Gardner** has stepped up to take a pivotal role in the new Coleman Process. "Stacy is one of the internal coaches. She is leading her team to do their very best in implementing this important process with grace."

During his personal recovery journey, Progress House Front

 Desk Associate **Anthony Meineke** struggled finding employment and got a little discouraged prior to coming to Aspire - but didn't give up. "He's maintained such a positive attitude and been making a difference in the recovery community in the short time he's been here! We're glad he's part of the team!" ■

The Top **Hottest** Jobs

ALL.

We serve all. We hire all. We accept all.



Care Coordinator/Life Skills Instructor

Infectious Disease Prevention Case Manager

Clinical Training Specialist

Life Skills Coach

Patient Access Specialist



- Lillian Anderson
- Kara Bogue
- Paul Brown
- Donna Carrico
- Logan McDaniel
- Yvette Moran
- Ryan Nennemann
- Clayton Waterman
- Shelia Wright

Welcome New Employees!

Brandy Baker

Infectious Disease Case Manager
Hoak

Cindy Baldwin

Recovery Coach-OP
DeHaven

Alicia Johnson-Bryant

Licensed Clinical Therapist,
Assessment
Willowbrook

Elijah Burnett

Harm Reduction Specialist
Hoak

Jacqueline Cook

Addictions Therapist
Carmel

Chance Culp-Rigg

Supportive Services for Veterans
Families, SSVF Case Manager
Carmel

Christian Dupree

Certified Medical Assistant
Noblesville

Victoria Felts

Staff Nurse
Mockingbird Hill

Kama Grund

Community Engagement
Coordinator
Noblesville

Kia Hampton

Patient Access
Specialist
Noblesville

Emma Howe

Harm Reduction Specialist
Hoak

Samantha Huff

Residential Addictions Counselor
Mockingbird Hill

Julie Kirkhoff

Masters Level Therapist
Residential Addictions
Mockingbird Hill

Eunice Konde

Harm Reduction Specialist
Hoak

Abigail Lee

Masters Level Therapist Adult
Home & Community
Carmel

Jessica Martin

Bachelor's Level Clinical Intern
Hartung

Ashley Merrell

Master's Level Therapist
Outpatient
Elwood

Lorraine Richardson

Housing Coordinator
Ward

Jessica Rose

Residential Recovery Technician
Mockingbird Hill

David Smith

Employment Specialist
Willowbrook

Sammy Snyder

Care Coordinator/Life Skills
Instructor
Noblesville

Pamela Walker

Payroll & Benefits Coordinator
Administration

Haylee Washington

Licensed Clinical Therapist
Noblesville

Jeanetta Weir

Infectious Disease Prevention
Case Manager
Muncie