



# December. 2020

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The Holiday Party was a smashing success, thank you all for your patience through the tech issues:) It was really nice to "see" everyone, and it felt just a little bit like old times. The hoodies finally came in (they were supposed to be in the box for the party) and are here at the office with names on them, please don't forget to pick yours up. I remain incredibly grateful to have such a solid, dedicated team here at SES, and I am proud of the services we provide to our customers, Thanks to You All!! I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season. Here's to a New Year full of all the good things for us all, Cheers!!!

Kelly Graves- President

### THE EXTRA MILE! SES GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND



This month SES would like to highlight a few of our staff members for the exemplary work and support they provide in the field. Team member contributions such as these make all the difference in cultivating success in a supported position.

**Brandon Joyce-** Brandon recently began in his new role as the Employment Services Assistant! Brandon began working with SES in Aug. 2016. During this time, he has demonstrated his passion for supported employment and professionalism within the office and in the field. Congratulations, Brandon, on your new role with SES!

**Jayson Parmenter-** Jayson has done a wonderful job coaching the Sheppard Motors site. He is the primary Job Coach for this location. His dedication to his position and the exemplary supports he has provided to our customer has made this position and job site so successful!

### Happy Anniversary



- **Jillian Johnson-** is approaching her **two-year** mile mark. She began with SES on **Jan. 8th, 2018**
- **Joe Pittaluga-** began **7** years ago with SES on **Dec. 2nd, 2013**
- **Scott Edge-** began **14** years ago with SES on **Dec. 1st, 2006**

### BREAKING NEWS ELEVATED SELF-HARM & SUICIDE RISK IN THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE ASD:

As we move through this holiday season, it is important to keep in mind that many of the customers we serve are at an elevated risk for acts of self-harm and suicide. Studies conducted at the University of Turku in Turku, Finland found that "the risk of self-harm in autistic adolescents and young adults is approximately double compared to their peers."

"The challenge is that the core symptoms of autism... the difficulties of social intercourse and communication, can make it more difficult to search for help and thus it is difficult to identify the psychiatric disorders and provide efficient care," Jokiranta-Olkonieni says.

Given this information compound with the isolation imposed on many by social distancing mandates, it is important as DSPs to stay vigilant and check-in with our customers frequently.

Anticipate that customers may make more frequent and unsolicited attempts to reach out to you. If you hear something that makes you feel concerned, reach out, and ask for help.

Heather Newman- Job Developer: source: <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-12-comorbid-psychiatric-disorders-self-harm-autism.html>

### CUSTOMERS MILESTONES

- **Christina C.-** is celebrating **17** years at Ya Po Ah Terrace! She began in her position on 12/01/2003.
- **Devon G.-** reached his **2-year** mile marker of employment with Service Management Systems! He began in his position on 12/27/2018.
- **Greg J. (Albany)-** is celebrating his **2-year** work anniversary with Burger King! He began in his position on 12/06/2018.

### COME PREPARED TO TALK! TOPIC FOR OUR NEXT STAFF MEETING:

- How do **you** approach facilitating communication between an employer and their employee?

# NEW JOB STARTS

**Deployed Logix.-** New job starting Dec. 22nd! A new sanitation position is being implemented at Deployed Logix (DLX). This is an 8 hr./wk position, Tues/Thurs from 10 am to 2 pm. The employer will be making a hiring decision on 12/18/20. Good luck to our job candidates Justina F. and Trevor N!

**Jessica S. (UPDATE)-** Began in her position on Dec. 9th! Jessica interviewed for and was offered this position on Nov. 5th. She had to wait for her background check to come back before starting. This is a Wed/Thurs 16 hr./wk position. Although she recently started, she has taken to her job with Brandon's support. Congratulations, Jessica!

**Nick C. (UPDATE)-** Began in his position on Nov. 28th. Nick interviewed at two Speedway Expresses and impressed both managers. They each wanted to hire him and was brought on at the Thurston location. His is a Fri/Sat/Sun 15 hour per week position. Nick is doing a phenomenal job in his new role. Congratulations, Nick!

*"Employment Services for Business and for Workers with Disabilities"*

## GET TO KNOW SES IN ALBANY:

Tyler M- who is in the Discovery process with Craig- has decided to volunteer at Lebanon Habitat Restore. He has been able to try his hand at many things and to work on his confidence and social skills. We have provided services to Tyler for 5 years. And he comes from a static environment with no opportunity for growth. Now that he has had the opportunity to expand his horizons and have new experiences, it has been a gift to learn more about him!

I came across the quote and I think it is a grand description of the small part we play in our customer's lives, "Sharing experiences rather than prescriptive advice is like giving someone the tools they need to problem solve on their own and become successful."

(Brandon Webb, The Power of Thought) After reading it, I realized that our customers return this gift by choosing to share their experiences with us. For this, I am so truly amazed, humbled, and thankful. Best of Holidays to everyone at SES!

Deb Smith- Employment Services Coordinator

## JUST FOR LAUGHS:



## MEET OUR CUSTOMERS!

### WHO IS UP NEXT FOR EUGENE JOB DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- **Kye M.-** began in Job Development services in the spring of 2017 with a job goal of 6-8 hours per week. He is currently looking for work in production within a less distracting work environment. Kye benefits from 1:1 Job Coaching support.
- **Levi P.-** began in Job Development services in summer 2017 with a 10-20 hour per week job goal. His initial job placement goal was within the field of customer service. However, Job Developers are also looking for additional vocational opportunities.
- **Matt S.-** began in Job Development services in the fall of 2017. He is seeking a position that offers 20 hours per week in retail and customer service. He recently relocated to Eugene from the Junction City area.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS: COMMUNITY EVENTS AND RESOURCES FOR CUSTOMERS

#### Holiday Lights around Lane County:

<https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/2020/12/09/holiday-lights-list-map-lane-county-2020/3854272001/>

#### Holiday Lights around Linn/Benton County:

[https://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/holiday-happenings-dec-16/article\\_b1a3349a-ffec-514c-a024-6cc14e1b03ff.html](https://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/holiday-happenings-dec-16/article_b1a3349a-ffec-514c-a024-6cc14e1b03ff.html)

#### Event URL:

<https://www.eugencascadescoast.org/events/full-event-calendar/>

#### Events In Albany and surrounding areas go to:

<https://www.albany.com/events/>

