March 2025

Deepwood Industries—Community Employment Services

CES Point of View

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Staff emails: firstname.lastname@lakebdd.org



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From The Director

Welcome Spring and with Spring comes new beginnings!

CES has been busy welcoming new employees onto our team as well as expanding job sites to provide better training and job opportunities for our CES team as well as our friends at Willoughby Works (formerly Willoughby Branch) and the JCR Imagine Program!

Two of our existing businesses have or are in

the process of expanding our onsite workforce and two have the confidence in our staff to employ independent workers to get the job done! Some of you may have had changes in your work schedule recently. We hope that you are proud of the part you play in





making Deepwood Industries and Community Employment Services (CES) a trusted service for many businesses in Lake County! Read below for more details!

WINTER PARTY-Round 1

What do you do when a party is a "hit"? You do it again! CES hosted a winter party at Round 1 in Mentor again this year. Last year we had such a fun time, the employees asked for a repeat!

The evening was filled with friends, pizza, soda pop, cupcakes, and endless video games! The competition was nonstop and many earned enough tickets to spend time shopping for prizes!

Thank you to all of you who came out to spend quality time with us. We look forward to these events! We hope you do too.









CES Point of View



Deepwood Industries and Laketran...a great match!!







Deepwood Industries staff actively networks throughout Lake County on behalf of our employees!

TRANSPORTATION

This TRANSPORTATION column is meant to keep you up to date on transportation news and to provide seasonal reminders.

Laketran has been making exciting changes to improve their transportation system, and now they need YOUR input! As they work to enhance services and meet the needs of our community, they're exploring the possibility of adding Sundays to their schedule. This could mean even more accessibility and

convenience for all riders! Take a moment to share your thoughts by completing a brief survey. Your feedback will play a key role in shaping the future of Laketran and ensuring the system continues to improve for everyone. Thank you for your continued support and input!

Click the link below to participate:

SURVEY LINK HERE

If you have any questions or would like paper copies of the survey, please contact:

Julia Schick Director of Communications Direct (440) 350-1012 Cell (440) 283-9888 555 Lakeshore Blvd. Painesville Twp., OH 44077

Can't make it to work?? Call CES Call Off line at (440) 918-1050 ext. 3115. If last minute also call Laketran cancelation line at (440) 350-1099.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

CES's 2025 is starting off with a bang! Our crew at Silco Inc. did so well this past year that they asked for another crew to work in another building.

Silco makes silicone caulking for retail and wholesale suppliers. We now have another three individuals now working at Silco for a total of six employees.

The other great news which just dropped is a new training program at Stakes Mfg. Starting in May, Deepwood Industries will partner with Stakes to run two eight week training programs per year with the goal of helping them find solid, skilled and hard working employees. They will take up to four trainees during each cycle. The trainees will be supervised and trained by our job coach Deb Zelenak and also mentors and staff from Stakes . This is the first of its kind for CES.

Our relationship with Stakes Mfg. goes back about four years and has strengthened every year.

Do you have or know of a business that has a gap in their labor force? CES group or independent employment may be the solution! Reach out to us to learn more about how we may be able to fill that opening.

JOB COACH RECOGNITION

We sometimes forget the unsung heroes behind the scenes who help supervise our individuals and train them to be great employees. CES has six job coaches and two job support specialists as well as three substitutes who oversee 12 group employment sites. We will highlight two of them each quarter here. This quarter is Robin McCann and April Bolster.

Robin McCann runs the Laketran Fleet site that cleans all of Laketran's busses. Robin has been with CES for two years and has been an outstanding addition to the team. She has a background in special education which has been a tremendous help in working with this adult DD population. Robin has a great rapport with her crew and gets high marks from Laketran for their productivity.

April Bolster has worked with the Lake County Board of DD in several areas over the years. She started with CES as a substitute Job Coach and transition to working in the residence and is now back at CES as a Job Support Specialist running the Silco group site. In the first couple months at Silco, her crew increased productivity in the assigned area by 25%. Her efforts and that of her team are the reason why Silco requested a second team in another building. April has been a great addition to the CES team.

Thanks to both of you for all you do for our individuals to make them successful!

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