

November 2023

Editor: Greg Peters  
Safety Mentor

## CAREGIVER SPOTLIGHT

Our Spotlight Employee this month will receive:

Tamaqua - Walmart Gift Card  
Lancaster - Penn Cinema Gift Card



**Lancaster Office**  
**Emma Valentin**

Emma a true advocate for a new consumer who was resistant to seek Medical Attention called 911. Consumer was Hospitalized for several weeks receiving the attention needed.



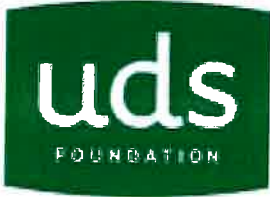
**Tamaqua Office**  
**Natasha Griffin**

Natasha worked with ILS off and on since 2016. She is very dedicated to her consumers and willing to fill in when needed. We are very lucky to have her a part of our team.

### Looking For Some Holiday Money?

- Fill in shifts available – Make extra cash for the holidays with no long term commitment
- We will work with you to find shifts in your area that don't conflict with your current schedule
  - Nice way to try out a new case... you never know, it might just be a perfect fit!
  - Spread holiday joy by helping others stay safe at home!

Contact your Supervisor for opportunities.



Attention all PCA's who were hired before March 31, 2023

We are pleased to announce you are eligible to receive a companywide year-end bonus of \$250!!!!!!!

See message from UDSF's CEO, Bill Kepner:  
UDSF Team;

It gives me great PLEASURE to thank each of you as part of the entire UDSF Team for helping us to achieve fantastic financial results for FY2023

This morning, the UDSF Board of Directors received and approved the official corporate financial audit for the fiscal year 2023 (July 2022 – June 2023).

We had a terrific year that surpassed the exceeds expectations net income goal of \$1,175,000 for the overall UDSF organization.

On behalf of the Senior Team and the UDSF Board of Directors we want to send our deepest heartfelt thank-you!!

Each employee who contributed to our success during fiscal 2023 will receive a monetary incentive check on Friday 11/3/23.

In order to qualify, an employee had to be hired no later than March 31st 2023 and is in good standing with the organization (meets expectation or better on their performance review).

Congratulations for this outstanding achievement.  
Thanks so much!  
Bill Kepner



Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

### Featured Training

Protecting Private Information and the Basics of HIPAA

Upon completion of this course, you will receive 1 hour paid training time.

### Happy Birthday

Sharon Flail 2nd, Lisa Searfoss 3rd, Tania Fell 5th, Jennifer Smell 5th, Moneta Finneran 10th, Rochelle Snyder 10th, Lakeria Johnson 10th, Courtney Smith 12th, Grace Lamont 24th, Carol Kunkel 30th,

### Happy Anniversary

Moneta Finneran 15yrs, Elaine Goho 15yrs, Madelon Grebloski 15yrs, Linda Hanerfeld 15yrs, Veronica Huegel 15yrs, Denise Jones 15yrs, Patricia Jones 15yrs, Bernadine Kunkel 15yrs, Gail Wehr 15yrs, Christine Homan 5yrs, Karen Longenecker 4yrs, Olga Betancourt 3yrs, Jennifer Stone 2 yrs, Paricia Elliott 2yrs, Carol Kissling 1yr, Kathryn McQueen 1yr, Lizvette Espada 1yr.





We are noticing a rise in COVID-19 cases. We are asking all our PCAs to utilize masks as recommended. If you or your Participant is having any signs of sickness you as the PCA should be utilizing your masks while providing care, this will help keep the COVID rise down. This is not a mandate but highly encouraged. If you have any questions or need masks please reach out to your Staffing Supervisor



## Fire Safety for Older Adults and Their Caregivers

People over the age of 65 face the greatest risk of dying in a fire – more than 2 ½ times that of the general population. The U.S. Fire Administration wants older adults, their caregivers and all Americans to know that there are special precautions you can take to protect yourself and your home from fire.

### Plan Your Escape

Developing a fire escape plan around one's capabilities is a key element to fire safety!

Have at least two exits from every room. If you use a walker or wheelchair, check all exits to be sure that you can go through the doorways. Unless instructed by the fire department, never use an elevator during a fire. If you live in a multi-story home, arrange to sleep on the ground floor near an exit. Speak to your family members, building manager or neighbors about your fire escape plan and practice it with them.

### Be Safe around Medical Oxygen

When using medical oxygen, the amount of oxygen in the air can increase. This means there is a higher risk of both fires and burns because it is easier for a fire to start and spread. Never smoke in a home where medical oxygen is used. Never use a candle, match, lighter or other open flame. Never use a fireplace, stove or other equipment fueled by gas, kerosene, wood or coal. Keep oil, grease and similar petroleum-based products away from oxygen valves. They can cause a spontaneous explosion.

### Be Fire-Safe around the Home

Careless smoking is a leading cause of home fire deaths among older adults. If you must smoke, never smoke in bed. Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. Use a timer to remind you that you're cooking. Don't overload electrical outlets or extension cords. Properly maintain chimneys and keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from space heaters. Take special precautions if you are on medication that makes you drowsy.

