

Heads up!

REACH's Main Office and Shredding will be closed on December 25th and January 1st in observance of Christmas and New Years Day

From the Desk of the Executive Director:

Dear REACH Friends & Family,

October 30th marked my first month here in Juneau with REACH, and I want to take a moment to reflect on what a truly meaningful month it has been. From the warm welcome I've received from our incredible staff to the opportunity to connect with other organizations in our community, every day has reinforced just how special this place is.



Pictured: Naomi Studevan

Since my arrival, I've had the privilege of getting to know the dedicated individuals who make up our REACH family. We've also had the chance to meet with leaders from other organizations that share our mission, working together to explore new ways to best serve the individuals and families who depend on our support. One of the highlights of the month was attending the AADD conference, where I was inspired by so many passionate people who are doing important work in our field. I was also fortunate to connect with several of them, and I look forward to future collaborations.

When I first visited Juneau during my interview process, I knew this was a place where I could make a difference. I was struck by the eagerness of the staff to learn, grow, and continually improve in their work, all in service to those we support. The views of Juneau, even in the midst of a downpour, left a lasting impression on me—reminding me of the beauty that surrounds us and the resilience of this community.

On behalf of everyone here at REACH, I want to express how excited we are to continue building on our foundation in Juneau. We are eager to strengthen our relationships with fellow service providers, community organizations, and local businesses. Together, we can create a more inclusive and supportive environment for individuals with disabilities and their families.

Looking ahead to next month, we are especially excited for our annual Holiday Party—a time when we come together to show our gratitude to

the individuals we serve, as well as the dedicated staff who support them every day. It's a celebration of community, and we are so grateful for the generosity of local businesses who have already committed to supporting our raffle, which will benefit both individuals and their families, as well as our hardworking staff. We are deeply appreciative of this community's ongoing support, and we look forward to honoring these businesses during the event and in our December newsletter.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your continued support of the REACH family. It is because of this incredible community that we are able to do the work we do, and I am excited to continue getting to know all of you better in the months ahead.

With great gratitude,

Naomi Studevan
Executive Director

REACH Annual Holiday Party:

Save the date! On Friday, December 13, 2024, REACH will host its annual Holiday Party. We invite you to join us from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Juneau Arts & Culture Center for some merriment and fun. There will be catered food and drinks from V's Cellar Door, a REACH group home holiday choir, and free raffle drawings. We look forward to seeing all of the individuals we serve, their families, friends, and REACH staff members for some holiday fun!



December 13
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Juneau Arts & Culture Center
350 Whittier St.

**Bring your family, friends and individuals
you are serving for some food and fun!**



Supported Employment Travels to Haines:

On November 8, Supported Employment Director Laurel Stafford and Employment Specialist Ryan Hellman, traveled to Haines to meet an individual that receives Supported Employment services from REACH. They met with the Haines staff who work with him and the other individuals that live in Haines. They also explored the REACH Haines office and talked about what needs the individuals have for the space. We're so proud to be able to provide essential services across Southeast, and we thank the Haines individuals for the trust they place in REACH!



Pictured: Ryan Hellman

Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program:

Did you know your everyday purchases from Fred Meyer can help us? We're part of the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program. Link your Shopper's Card with our organization, **#GY388**, and a percentage of your spending will go toward our organization. For more information on how to set up your account visit:



www.fredmeyer.com/i/community/community-rewards

Infant Learning Program Parenting Support Class:

All new parents experience stress. Balanced Beginnings is a small group series aimed at increasing parental stress management skills. Join a free weekly group where you will meet new friends and explore the material together. The group meets every Tuesday 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Zoom. Scan the QR Code on the right or head to the website below to sign up!



<https://www.bartletthospital.org/calendar/events/balanced-beginnings-parental-stress-management-skill-building/>

Employee Spotlight:

During August one of our five Assisted Living Group Homes was sadly affected by the flooding that swept through our community. Throughout the post-flooding experience, we had wonderful support from our community - from our direct care staff, families of individuals, to the businesses who responded swiftly to our urgent requests. Despite the trials and tribulations we faced together, we're happy to announce that the Northland Group Home is back up and running again! Here is what Tamara Marshall had to say about the Northland Group Home and Team:

I'm Tamara Marshall, the Group Home manager at REACH's Northland Group Home. Our team has been through a lot in the past year, especially with the recent flood. I'm extremely proud of their resilience and perseverance in fulfilling REACH's mission to our individuals. No matter the location, my staff continued to provide incredible love and care to the individuals we support. Something that resonated with me throughout the flood restoration process was that staff and the individuals we support kept explaining that they were ready to be back "home." I'm extremely proud of my team and that we can continue to provide exactly that: someone's "home."

Direct Service Professionals on Tamara's Team:

**Colleen J.
Xinyi L.
Mellissa W.
David S.**



Welcome to the Team:

Please help us extend a warm welcome to our new employees who recently joined the REACH team! We are excited to have you join our awesome organization and bring your skills to the people and businesses we serve:

Gustavo M. - Direct Service Professional
Jesse M. - Facilities Coordinator
Benjamin F. - Shredder
Corey H. - Direct Service Professional

**Welcome
To The TEAM**



ing Out

Employee Anniversaries:

We're incredibly proud of the hardworking people who work at REACH, and their dedication does not go unnoticed! Please join us in celebrating the following employee anniversaries for the month of November:

William S. – 1 year
Taimane M. – 4 years
Shannon G. – 5 years
Paul S. – 10 years

George G. – 10 years
Diana SB. – 12 years
Carissa H. – 13 years
Cassandra B. – 17 years

Happy Anniversary

We're Hiring:

Help us spread the word that we are hiring! We have numerous positions open, so if you know of anyone that might be the right fit for REACH, please refer them to fill out an application online at www.reachak.org/careers. Full-time employees who work 30+ hours/week are eligible for REACH's full benefits package. Part-time employees are eligible to accrue PTO as well.

Current Job Openings:

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) OVERNIGHTS 9 p.m. to 7 a.m., full-time
Direct Service Professional (DSP) in Juneau, full-time
Direct Service Professional (DSP) in Haines & Petersburg, part-time
Custodian, part-time (4-19 hours)
Job Coach, full-time

Upcoming Events

December: Seasonal Affective Disorder Awareness Month
December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities
December 6: First Friday Artwalk/Gallery Walk
December 7: Juneau Bach Society Winter Concert
December 13: REACH Annual Holiday Party
December 16 & 17: Juneau Symphony Holiday Cheer Concert Series
December 18 - 26: Hanukkah
December 25: Christmas Day, REACH Main Office & Shredding Closed
December 31: New Years Eve
January 1: New Years Day, REACH Main Office & Shredding Closed



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