

**Heads up!**

REACH's Main Office and Shredding will be closed on November 11th and 28th, in observance of Veterans Day and Thanksgiving.

## Introducing Our New Executive Director:

### A Message from Naomi Studevan

Hello REACH Community,

I am thrilled to step into the role of Executive Director and join this amazing team and community. I recently moved from Pennsylvania and can't wait to get to know Juneau firsthand. For me, this is not just an opportunity—it's an adventure. I understand that change can sometimes be challenging, but I believe that together, we can embark on this journey with open hearts and minds, united by our commitment to serve the Juneau community.



My visit to meet the Board and the team in person made this decision easy. REACH stands out as an organization that provides services for individuals at every stage of life—from infancy through adulthood. This comprehensive approach is rare, and I was immediately inspired by the programs already in place. The possibilities for growth and innovation within this organization excite me, and I'm eager to be a part of it.

One of my favorite quotes is, "There are those who see things the way they are and ask why; I dream of things that never were and ask why not." While I love this sentiment, I see myself as someone who both asks and dreams. I want to understand why things are the way they are so I can help find solutions. At the same time, I dream of new possibilities and want to be a catalyst for positive change. REACH is the perfect place for this.

Together, we will continue to lead with the same care and dedication that REACH has been known for over the past half-century. However, I am also committed to expanding our advocacy efforts and introducing innovative services that empower the disabled community and support their caregivers.

I look forward to learning from each of you as we move forward together. Thank you for welcoming me into this vibrant community—I'm excited for the journey ahead.

Warm regards,

Naomi Studevan  
Executive Director

## Employee Spotlight

For nearly 30 years, REACH has provided custodial services to federal, state and private businesses and facilities. This month, we're putting a spotlight on our hardworking custodians who continue to keep Juneau clean. Check out what Custodial Site Supervisor Sylvia Johnson has to say about her team!

**Hello, my name is Sylvia Johnson. I am the Custodial Site Supervisor for the State of Alaska and various private sites. I'd like to give a big thank you and a heartfelt gratitude to all our dedicated custodians for their exceptional efforts in maintaining the cleanliness of our sites.**

### Custodians on Sylvia's Team

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Brandon A.  | James P.    |
| Robin B.    | Joanne S.   |
| Michelle B. | William S.  |
| Michael H.  | William SG. |
| Jimmie H.   | Carol S.    |
| Larry J.    | Andrea S.   |
| Katelyn K.  | Charles M.  |
| Bertha L.   | Cameron M.  |
| Mitchell M. | Jimmy M.    |
| Sara M.     |             |



# REACHing Out

INCORPORATED

## New Board Member:

Kristen Spencer is a brand new member of the REACH Board of Directors as of September 2024. Kristen was a former Infant Learning Program Director (ILP) for about 6 years, and we're very excited to have her back!



## 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.

Anthony KB. - Shredder  
Brooke M. - Human Resource Generalist  
James P. - Custodian  
Mellissa W. - Lead Direct Service Professional  
Ryan H. - Supported Employment Specialist



## New Staff/Individual Scheduling System:

The REACH administration team continuously strives to streamline the workplace experience for our employees and the individuals we serve. One new initiative the leadership team is working on is we are in the beginning stages of a partnership with Punctual Pug, Inc., who has built a new scheduling system specifically for the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) sector. We're excited to see how Punctual Pug can improve scheduling and communication at REACH, and we look forward to sharing more with DSPs and Job Coaches soon! You can learn more about Punctual Pug, Inc. at [www.punctualpug.com](http://www.punctualpug.com).



## 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 October:

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Arlene A. - 1 year     | Joshua A. - 4 years  |
| Kylee F. - 1 year      | Anna M. - 6 years    |
| Jeana V. - 2 years     | Katelyn K. - 7 years |
| Melissa G. - 2 years   | Niamh D. - 13 years  |
| Felizardo F. - 4 years | Merry B. - 15 years  |
| Morris C. - 4 years    | Jay P. - 22 years    |



## Upcoming Events:

November: National Diabetes, COPD and Antibiotic Awareness Month  
November 1: First Friday Artwalk & Bug Rave Costume Contest @ The Alaskan  
November 8 & 22: Family Fun Night @ The Dimond Park Field House  
November 11: Veterans Day - REACH Main Office and Shredding Closed  
November 12: Open Block Printing Studio Night  
November 24: Christmas Tree Lighting in Douglas & Free Open Skate with Santa @ the Douglas Community UMC Courtyard & Treadwell Arena  
November 28: Thanksgiving Day - REACH Main Office and Shredding Closed  
Tuesdays in November: Pickleball @ The JACC  
Mondays & Wednesdays: Open Turf @ The Dimond Park Field House

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