ANNUAL REPORT FY2024

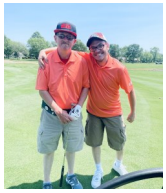
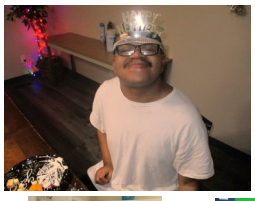
TradeWinds Services, 3198 East 83rd Place, Merrillville, IN 46410

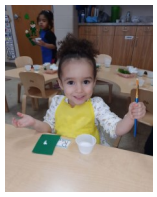
219-945-0100 www.tradewindsnwi.org

"Serving people with special needs by empowering them to realize their full potential."

TradeWinds has been serving the Northwest Indiana community for over 55 years.

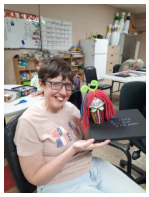
TradeWinds provided services for 2,454 individuals. Services are provided to children of all abilities - ages 6 weeks through 6 years. Adults 18 years to seniors with developmental and physical disabilities. Summer & Functional Skills Camps for school-age 6 through 17 years, many with developmental, behavioral, physical, and healthcare needs. Plus, TradeWinds Community Pantry served Lake & Porter residents each month who face food insecurity.






2,454 CHILDREN & ADULTS SERVED IN FY2024

Race/Ethnicity	
African American	48.7%
Caucasian	33.2%
Hispanic/Latino	8.2%
Multiracial, Asian/Pacific Islander, Other	2.2%
Unknown	7.7%

Gender	
Female	40.1%
Male	59.9%

Economic Status	
Income $0 - $20,000	32%
Income $20,000 - $30,000	35%
Income over $30,000	33%

Residence	
Gary	30.0%
Merrillville	12.3%
Crown Point	8.9%
Valparaiso / Portage / Other Porter Co	8.0%
Hobart / Lake Station	7.9%
Griffith / Munster / Highland	6.2%
Hammond/Whiting	5.2%
St. John / Schererville / Dyer	5.2%
East Chicago	5.1%
Out of State / Unknown	4.5%
Other Indiana Counties	2.7%
Cedar Lake / Lowell	2.2%
LaPorte County	1.8%

PIRATES4KIDS.org An elite fighting force for children with special needs

SourceAmerica

foodbank OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

AbilityOne PROGRAM

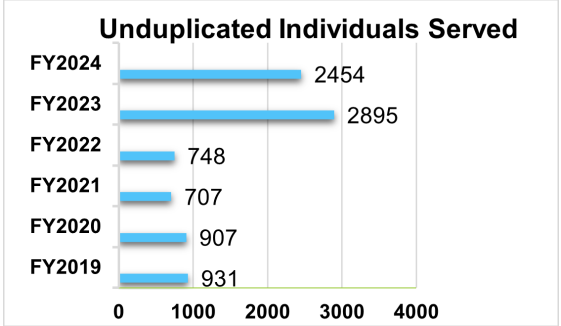
Paths to QUALITY™ Better Child Care. Brighter Futures.

ASPIRE to Excellence carf ACCREDITED

Silver Transparency 2023 Candid.

United Way United Way of Northwest Indiana

The Chicago Lighthouse



TRADEWINDS EXECUTIVE TEAM



Jon Gold, *CEO*



Lisa Tatina
Director of Development & Marketing & Employment Services



Jamie Peyton
Director of Fiscal Compliance & IT



Lynn Strohl
Director of Industries & General Manager Sign Shop



Lisa Previs
Director of Youth & Residential Programs



Vernita Johnson-Macklin
Director of Human Resources



Fallon Coleman
Director of Day Services

2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Troy Rose, *Centier Bank*
Vice President
Nicole Cimbaljevich, *HealthLinc*
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Steve Cox, *Hard Rock Casino Northern Indiana*
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Brian Lyter, *Gary SouthShore RailCats*

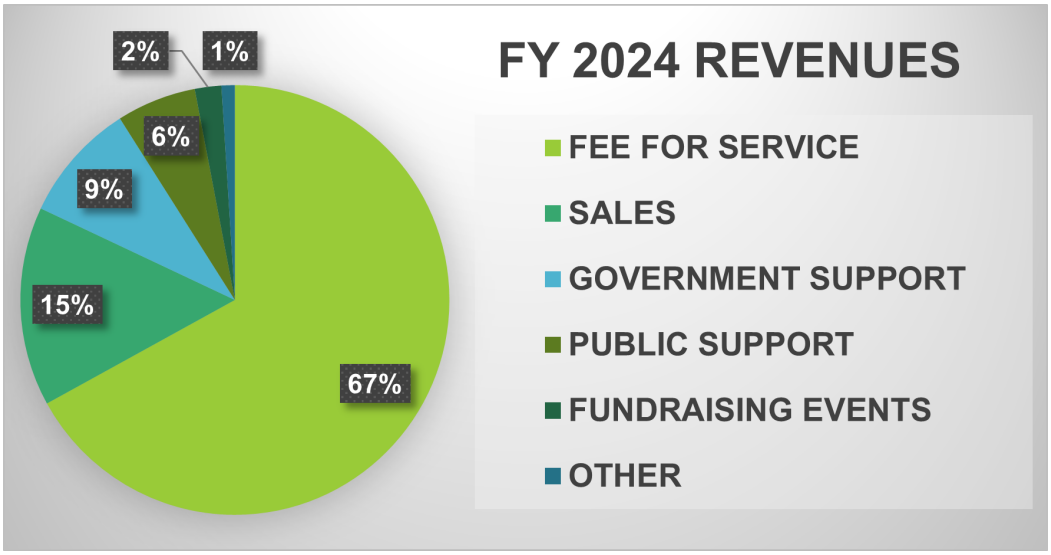
Board Members

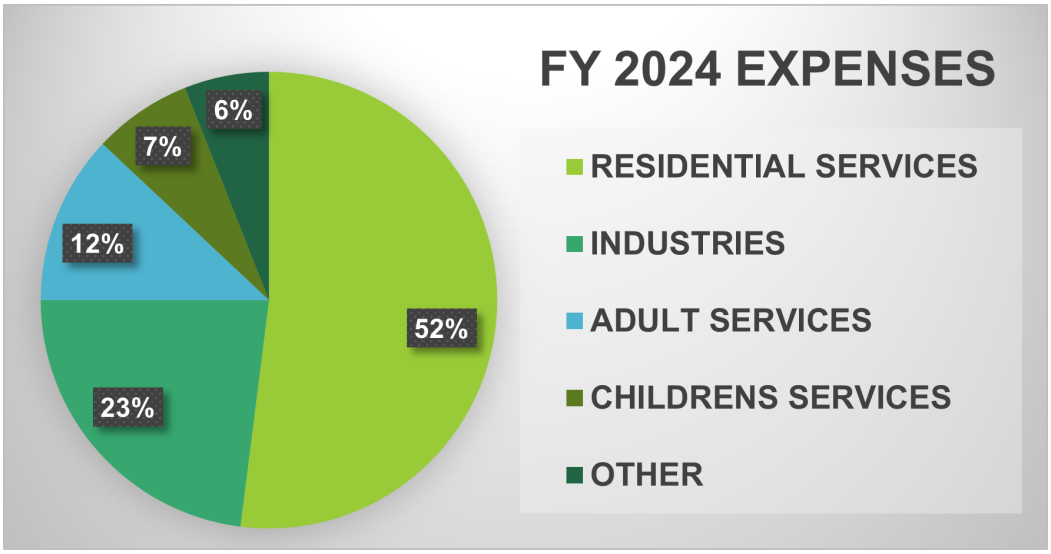
Larry Alt, Larry Alt & Associates
Kelly Blieden, First Merchants Bank
Dana Booth, Budd Mechanical Systems
Sam Boufis, Wintrust Commercial Banking
Greg Chona, Equitable Advisors
Eric Evans, First Financial Bank
Deanna Hardwick, Purdue University NW
Mark Heaney
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Christina Herrera, Ameristar Casino
Jason Hoffman, Horseshoe Casino
Jessica Hubbard, NW IN 24/7 ER & Hospital
Namrata Kanal, Old National Bank
Carla Meyer, Community Healthcare System
Kyle Rosenbaum, General Insurance Services
Julie Rosenwinkel, Krieg Devault
Art Russell, Parent
Tom Schager, The Times Media Company
Mike Schneider, Wintrust Commercial Banking
Natalie Shrader, Burke Costanza Carberry
Beth Sliwa, Hard Rock Casino Northern Indiana
Brian Snedecor, City of Hobart, Mayor
Dwayne Walker, Chicagoland Popcorn
Adra Young, Indiana University NW

FISCAL POSITION FY2024

Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024

CURRENT ASSETS $3,182,158	CURRENT LIABILITIES $913, 021
OTHER ASSETS $9,552,444	LONG TERM DEBT & OTHER LIABILITIES $1,121,554
RESTRICTED ASSETS $4,066,455	UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS $12,399,482
TOTAL ASSETS $16,801,057	TEMPORARILY AND PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS $2,367,000
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $16,801,057





3198 East 83rd Place
Merrillville, IN 46410
219-945-0100
www.tradewindsnwi.org



CHILDRENS SERVICES



Childcare for All Abilities

TradeWinds Child Care promotes early childhood development and school readiness for children of all abilities from infants through 6 years.





Offering specialized care with an emphasis on those who have developmental, behavioral, physical, and healthcare needs, providing individualized plans.

A safe, caring learning environment with age-based classrooms to learn and play with peers under the guidance of a dedicated curriculum coordinator. A full-time nurse is on premises and the licensed speech and occupational therapists are available supports (TradeWinds can provide Occupational and/or Speech evaluations if requested by a physician).



TradeWinds Childcare has been a Geminus Early Head Start partner for over 9 years and Pathways to QUALITY program.



Summer & Functional Skills Camps for All Abilities



Summer & Functional Skills Camps for children of differing abilities continued this year with more fun, hands-on learning experiences and activities.



The Summer campers (school-age 6-12) spent time outdoors and visiting local community businesses. Fun activities included going to Lake Co. Parks and Recreation Deep River Mill, Stardust Bowl, Zig E's Fun Land, a Bubble Trouble foam party, and parks. Arts & crafts, healthy food & cooking demonstrations, recreational activities and learning experiences such as tending gardens, STEM learning with Bricks 4Kids, and visiting the Merrillville Planetarium.



The Functional Skills Camp for youth ages 13-17 - many with mild/moderate intellectual disabilities - helps families bridge the gap during the two-month summer vacation break, providing consistent activities to build & retain skills. This group has fun learning and growing with experiences like greeting golfers at the annual TradeWinds Golf Scramble for Kids. They enjoyed swimming at the YMCA, and selling from their weekly "Coffee Cart" to TradeWinds staff.



Some life skills activities included improving functional skills with hands-on arts & craft projects, learning money management at a local bank computer lab, and shopping to learn money management, pet care, career exploration, healthy eating and cooking. A few career exploration experiences included visits to local businesses such as a local restaurant, a garden store, and a yogurt shop while learning about owning a business.



Speech & Occupational Therapy

Our therapists provided both in-person diagnostic & therapeutic services in local school classrooms, and through technology via zoom as necessary. They provided evaluations and adaptations need for TradeWinds children and adult clients to actively participate in activities of their choice.

ADULT SERVICES

ADAPT—Adult Day Activity Program & Training & T.V.T—Transitional Vocational Training

Activities in the Adult Day Activity Program & Training (ADAPT) increased this past year with daily activities—ongoing arts & craft projects, games, dancing and karaoke in the classroom, sunshine on the patio garden area, dance parties, sports & holiday parties with games, Friday movie days, visits to our off-site shelter & garden, and much more.





Vocational Training (TVT) focuses on adults who are not yet ready for prevocational skills but are interested in job exploration.



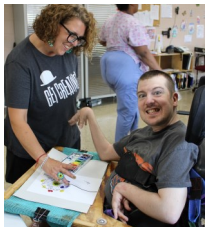
The TVT class visits local community businesses to learn about job opportunities including hands-on work experience, and they have their own traveling popcorn stand selling snacks to TradeWinds staff once a week.

A wide range of activities offered in the ADAPT classrooms are in a safe, caring environment. Onsite nursing staff, case managers, and adaptive therapy are available.

PAC



Participant Assistance and Care (PAC) services are provided to allow individuals to remain and live successfully in their own homes, function and participate in their communities, and avoid institutionalization. PAC services support and enable the individual in activities of daily living, self-care and mobility with hands-on assistance, prompting, reminders, support and monitoring needed to ensure the health and safety of the individual.



Respite Care

Respite services offer caregivers the opportunity for a short-term break of a minimum of 3 hours to overnight in their home or outings in the community. Our respite services continue to grow with 21 participants using the services.



Residential Services

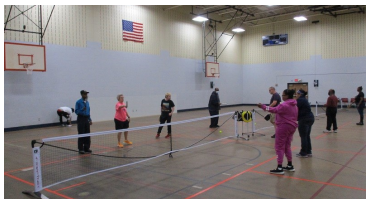
There are 6 residential homes and 32 supported living sites throughout Lake County and our newest in Valparaiso.

Each of our residential homes features common living areas, single or shared bedrooms (options vary depending on location), a full eat-in kitchen, bath facilities, and laundry room. Common areas both indoors & out for relaxing and socializing with family and friends.

Residents participate in essential daily living tasks based on ability and individual learning skills needed to do laundry, cooking, cleaning, and generally helping maintain the home.

Trained staff members are always on-site to help residents develop independent living skills. Comprehensive medical care is available around the clock with TradeWinds' dedicated Residential Nursing program.

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Our Supported Living sites provide semi-independent residential living for adults 18 & over, fostering self-sufficiency. TradeWinds provides the support needed to thrive in the community. Trained staff assist with a wide range of services based on individualized plans to address specific needs related to health and safety. Staff aid with finances and maintenance of records, scheduling appointments, providing/arranging transportation, and other daily living skills.

~~~~~~~



When it's time to relax, Group Home & Supported Living residents enjoy many home activities such as watching TV, reading, listening to music, video games, crafts, playing cards, board games, gardening, sports activities, and celebrations.

Each home has dedicated transportation used for community outings and errands to the bank or post office, medical appointments, & recreational activities in the community.



Volunteer opportunities are available to help maintain and beautify the homes for our residents.

BUSINESS SERVICES FY2024

Sign Shop



Producing high-quality work for over 30 years, TradeWinds Sign Shop provides training and job opportunities for people with disabilities.

Business branding with a wide range of products: including full or partial vehicle wraps, graphics, decals, lettering and door magnet; indoor/outdoor signage for realtors, construction, golf, trade and community events; business signage, window graphics, lettering, and decals; and custom printed clothing for teams and businesses. Designs to fit any budget and free estimates.

The profits from our Sign Shop go back into support & services for individuals with varied abilities providing skills training, employment, and family supports.

TradeWinds is a proud member of the Allied Printing Trades Council Local #67.

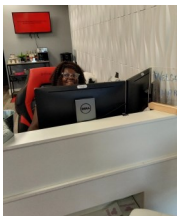
Deaf Services



TradeWinds Deaf Services provides interpreting services, case management, education, advocacy, and access to technology for individuals and families faced with issues related to hearing loss.

Sign Language classes are available throughout the year at our building or can be personalized for businesses and groups.

Employment Services



Committed to increasing the employment rate of people with varied abilities by focusing on abilities—our community outreach with businesses continued one-to-one with our Community Liaison educating local businesses and non-profit organizations on the benefits of employing people with disabilities, and the services we provide.

The Employment Services team has regular professional training that focuses on strategies to increase quality skills to serve clients in the program with new opportunities and job placements. Long-lasting partnerships were created to provide situational assessments, work based learning experiences, & job placements.

Pathways to Employment serves out of schools youth ages 16-24 to prepare for job readiness with education in financial literacy, career awareness, paid work based learning experience, and job placement with follow-up services.

The Chicago Lighthouse Low Vision Clinic

Since 2015, The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind has provided low vision services (by appointment) to NW Indiana residents at TradeWinds building in Merrillville. A Low Vision Products Road Show is hosted annually at TradeWinds facility. The Road Show is free to the public, displaying state-of- the-art technology and new products. Residents can receive training from experts who can advise on the right tools to improve daily life.

TradeWinds Industries & Pre-Vocational Services



Sewing Manufacturing

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS EVERY DAY!

87,450 garments were produced & shipped for the **Dept of Defense** and other **local commercial companies.**



Cutting, sewing, folding, packing and shipping garments that include coveralls, Chef coats, smocks, canvas bags & pouches. TradeWinds' workers with disabilities play an integral part in supporting our military.

Packaging & Assembly



TradeWinds employed 100 hardworking individuals with disabilities in our General Production department last year.

2,599,157 units were packaged & assembled

serving **14** different customers.

The jobs varied from packaging thousands of units of hygiene, skin care, & cosmetic products for two nationwide companies, to assembling hydraulic repair kits, welding hoses, sorting candy by flavor, packaging cabinet parts, stuffing envelopes for multiple customers, and much more.



Pre-Vocational Training

The Pre-Vocational curriculum covers training in many areas including communication development, social skills, transferable job skills, etc.

Our volunteer group has been working in the community at a variety of local businesses applying their job skills in a business setting. This group has been well received and are becoming ambassadors for TradeWinds.

3198 East 83rd Place
Merrillville, IN 46410

219-945-0100 www.tradewindsnwi.org



TradeWinds Community Pantry

TradeWinds began a new community service in June 2022 with a Community Pantry for Lake & Porter Co. residents. Open the last Thursday of each month from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm (with adjustments for holidays).

TradeWinds' participants are provided skills training & work experiences helping sort, package, and hand out food to 168 local families each month. We also began a partnership with Humane Indiana for distribution of pet food & supplies to families in need. Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals and groups.

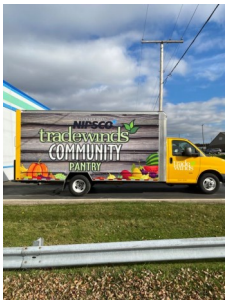
Partner of Food Bank of NW Indiana and Humane Indiana.

foodbank OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

Humane Indiana









THE NORTHWEST INDIANA COMMUNITY SUPPORTS TRADEWINDS IN MANY WAYS...

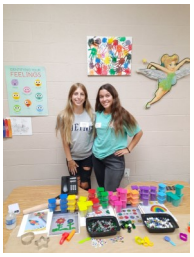
Thank you to so many for your generosity this past year.

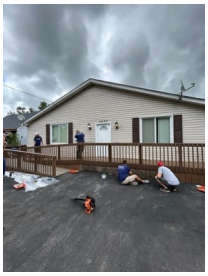
Those who donated their time and talents for clean-up, moving items, refurbishing, updating residences, gardens and landscaping, arts & crafts, games, food, meals and treats, gifts & gift cards, activity items, generous monetary donations, and so much more.

Here are only a few pictures of the so many who helped support TradeWinds





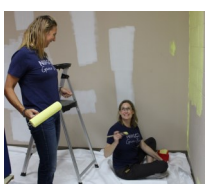













"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."
William Shakespeare

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for supporting TradeWinds Services Mission:

Serving people with special needs by empowering them to realize their full potential.

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