

ANNUAL REPORT FY2022

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 50 years.

TradeWinds provided services for 911 individuals. Services are provided to children of all abilities - ages 6-weeks to 6 years, and Summer & Functional Skills Camps for school-age 6 to 18, many with developmental, behavioral, physical, and healthcare needs; and adults 18 years to seniors with developmental and physical disabilities.













911 CHILDREN & ADULTS SERVED IN FY2022

Race/Ethnicity		<u>Residence</u>	
African American	44%	Gary	27%
Caucasian	40.5%	Merrillville	12%
Hispanic/Latino	8.5%	Crown Point	11%
Multiracial, Asian/Pacific Islander, Other	1%	Hammond/Whiting	9%
Unknown	6%	Valparaiso / Portage / Other Porter Co	8%
<u>Gender</u>		Hobart / Lake Station	7%
Female	40.5%	St. John / Schererville / Dyer	6%
Male	59%	Griffith / Munster / Highland	6%
Unknown	0.4%	East Chicago	5%
		Other Indiana Counties	4%
Economic Status		Cedar Lake / Lowell	3%
Income \$0 - \$20,000	56%	LaPorte County	1%
Income \$20,000 - \$30,000	29%	Out of State / Unknown	1%
Income over \$30,000	15%		

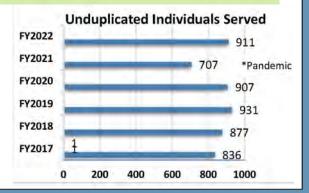


















TRADEWINDS EXECUTIVE TEAM

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 Programs

Vernita Johnson-Macklin Director of Human Resources

Fallon Coleman

Program Coordinator -ADAPT, Case Managers, Deaf Services, Pre-Vocational Services

2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ANNUAL CORPORATE SPONSORS FOR 2022

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NIPSCO

Gary SouthShore Railcats

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Dver Bank & Trust | Wintrust Commercial Banking



3198 East 83rd Place Merrillville, IN 46410

PROVIDING THE BEST LIFE POSSIBLE!

Another up and down year with COVID-19 continuing to challenge all of us.

Although some periods of quarantine and protocols for masking and social distancing were still part of our lives, activities remained a big focus at TradeWinds for all classrooms and residences. Many learned and enjoyed newly found talents with arts & crafts and gardening; participated in July 4th Parade, attended RailCats games and car shows, and enjoyed dancing, sports, holiday parties, and much more.























Child Care continued serving parents who support their families by working in the community. Parents know their children are in a safe, caring learning environment for early childhood development and school readiness. TradeWinds provides this essential service for children of all abilities.

















Children's Services - FY 2022



Childrens Services

Child Care for All Abilities

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



Our Child Care offers specialized care with an emphasis on those who have developmental, behavioral, physical, and healthcare needs, providing individualized plans, with specialized support & nursing staff on-premises.



A safe, caring learning environment, our facility remained open throughout the pandemic. There were continued protocols with limited access to our Child Care wing, daily temperature checks and masks required, social distancing in all classrooms, individualized learning materials, increased lunch/snack protocols, enhanced daily janitorial cleaning, and extra hand sanitizer in all classrooms.



TradeWinds has been a Geminus Early Head Start partner for over 8 years.



Summer & Functional Skills Camps for All Abilities

Summer & Functional Skills Camps for local children of differing abilities continued this year with social distancing activities and following CDC & State of Indiana recommended health & safety protocols.





The Summer campers (school-age 6-12) spent time outdoors and visited local community businesses. Fun activities included minigolf, go-carting, swimming, zoo, karate & dance classes, arts & crafts, and learning experiences such as strawberry picking, STEM learning with Bricks 4Kids, and the Challenger Center – an educational center in Hammond.







Our off-site garden with picnic shelter and huge yard is always a hit. The campers play outdoor games with water blasters & balloons, learn about gardening and healthy eating, and have brown bag lunch picnics and an occasional cookout.



The Functional Skills Camp for youth ages 13-18 - 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 lots of fun with experiences like greeting golfers at the annual TradeWinds Golf Scramble for Kids. Some life skills activities included fitness training & drum aerobics, arts & crafts & woodworking, shopping to learn money management, pet care, career exploration, healthy eating & cooking. Some of the career exploration experiences included visits to local businesses such as an automotive service shop, a garden store, Yogurt shop while learning about owning a business and running their weekly "Coffee Cart" and "Popcorn Cart" at TradeWinds 'Popcorn Cart" at TradeWinds.

Speech & Occupational Therapy

Our therapists provided both in-person diagnostic & therapeutic services in local classrooms, and through technology via zoom when necessary. They were able to perform evaluations to provide assessments of students to determine therapy needs. Also provided evaluations and adaptations for TradeWinds children and adult clients.



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Adult Services - FY 2022

Adult Services

ADAPT—Adult Day Activity Program & Training





Activities in the Adult Day Activity Program & Training increased this

past year with \overline ongoing arts & craft projects, trips to the movies, dancing &



karaoke in the classroom, an 80's dance party, sports & holiday parties, games, Friday movie days, visits to our off-site shelter & garden, sunshine & picnic lunch on the patio garden area, and much more.



The annual gardens on the Main center patios encouraged outdoor activity with an ongoing learning experience caring for the plants located just outside the classrooms. It was fun to help with the harvest and a special treat to eat the fresh vegetables for snacks.

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.





Respite Care

Respite services offer caregivers the opportunity for a short-term break of a minimum of 3 hours to overnight in their home, at the TradeWinds' respite apartment, or outings in the community. Our respite services continue to grow with more than 28 participants using the services.

Residential Services



There are 6 residential homes and 35 supported living apartments throughout Lake County. Each of our six residential homes features common living areas, single or shared bedrooms (options vary depending on location), a full eat-in kitchen, bath

facilities, & 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.



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

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

Our Supported Living apartments provide semi-independent residential living for adults 18 & over, fostering selfsufficiency. 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 issues related to health and safety. Staff aid with finances & 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 activities at home such as watching TV, reading, listening to music, video games, crafts, play-

cards. board games, gardening, & sports activities.

Volunteer opportunities are available to help maintain and beautify the homes and apartments.



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Business Services — 2022

Sign Shop



With over 30 years of experience producing high-quality work, 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, vehicle graphics, decals, lettering & door magnets; indoor/outdoor signage for realtors, construction, golf, trade & community events; business signages, window graphics, lettering & decals; and customized printed clothing for teams & businesses.

TradeWinds Sign Shop has an experienced team to design products to fit any budget & provides free estimates.



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





TradeWinds Deaf Services provides support, education, advocacy & access to technology for individuals & families faced with issues related to hearing loss.

The pandemic was especially difficult for our Deaf Services clients, PPE masks makes communica-tion more difficult as facial expressions are a large part of communication.

Sign Language classes began virtually & will be in-person as we move forward. Our staff continued to provide interpreting services & case management throughout the year.

Employment Services



Committed to increasing the employment rate of people with disabilities by focusing on abilities - our community outreach with businesses continued one-to-one with our Community Liaison educating local businesses & nonprofit organizations on the benefits of employing people with disabilities & about our ser-

The Employment Services team has regular professional training that focuses on state standards to serve clients designated as Most Significant Disabled (MSD) with new opportunities & challenges for referrals & job placements. Longlasting partnerships established to provide situational assessments, trial work experiences, & job placements.

Our new program, Pathways to Employment, serves youth ages 16-24, preparing for job readiness with education in financial literacy, career awareness, paid work experience, & job placement with follow-up services. This All-Inclusive WIOA program is funded by Center of Work-



force Innovations & the NW Indiana Workforce Board.

The Chicago Lighthouse Low Vision Clinic

The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind provides monthly low vision clinic services to NW Indiana residents by appointment at TradeWinds' building in Merrillville. A Low Vision Products Road Show, hosted annually, 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!

194,674 garments were produced & shipped for the **Dept of Defense** and other local commercial companies.



Cutting, sewing, folding, packing & shipping garments that include coveralls, Chef coats, smocks, canvas bags & pouches. Our Sewing Manufacturing team continued to help fight COVID-19 producing PPE for local hospitals, medical offices, and First Responders.

Packaging & Assembly



1,222,745 units were packaged & assembled

in 2022 fulfilling needs of 9 different customers.

New and continuing jobs included assembling hydraulic repair kits, Loopy cases, packaging BBQ seasonings, sorting candy by flavor, packaging Guitar/Uke picks, trimming & packaging Croakies, and 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.



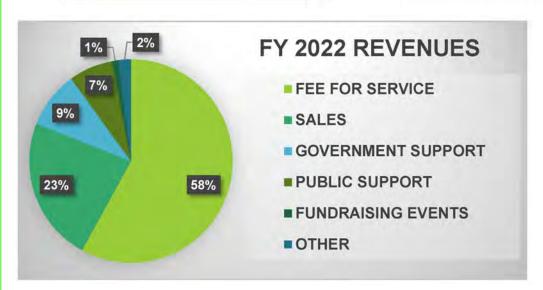
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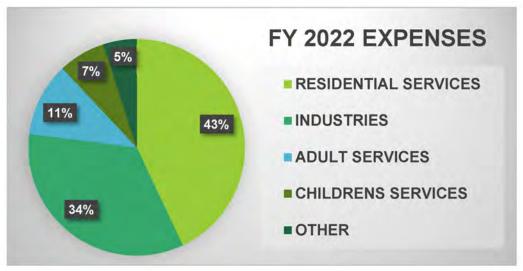


Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022

CURRENT ASSETS \$3,334,101 OTHER ASSETS \$8,256,400 RESTRICTED ASSETS \$4,414,596 **TOTAL ASSETS** \$16,005,097

CURRENT LIABILITIES \$1.210.295 **LONG TERM DEBT & OTHER LIABILITIES** \$1.151.420 **UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS** \$11.281.462 TEMPORARILY AND PERMANENTLY **RESTRICTED NET ASSETS** \$2,361,290 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$16,005,097







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Community and TradeWinds—2022

NEW AT TRADEWINDS





Proud to be selected by the Indiana Arts Commissions' Arts Trust License Plate designee for Lake County.

TradeWinds was recognized for exemplary commitment in the areas of community, education, economy, and health. Because of this, TradeWinds received funding from the Arts Trust, supported by donations from the sale of "Celebrate the Arts" license plates.

Thank you to "Celebrate the Arts" license plate holders for supporting creativity in Lake County, and to the Indiana Arts Commission, Governor Eric Holcomb, Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch, & South Shore Arts for your support of our mission.





Youth - age 16 to 24

Job Readiness training:

- Financial Literacy
- Career Awareness
 Work Experience
 Exploration
- Everyone is unique.

Different people have different abilities.

We understand.

The program is funded by Center of Workforce Innovations & the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board.







Expanding our service to Lake & Porter Counties, our new Community Pantry opened June, 2022.

Open the last Thursday of the month to help with food insecurity.

Partner of Food Bank of NW 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 & talents, food, meals & treats, gifts & gift cards, cleaning supplies, masks, generous monetary donations, and so much more.





































"The meaning of life is to find your gift.

The purpose of life is to give it away." William Shakespeare

