



ANNUAL REPORT FY2023

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 2,895 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 17, many with developmental, behavioral, physical, and healthcare needs; and adults 18 years to seniors with developmental and physical disabilities. Plus, TradeWinds Community Pantry served Lake & Porter residents each month who deal with food insecurity.



2,895 CHILDREN & ADULTS SERVED IN FY2023

Race/Ethnicity

African American	44%
Caucasian	40.5%
Hispanic/Latino	8.5%
Multiracial, Asian/Pacific Islander, Other	1%
Unknown	6%

Gender

Female	40.5%
Male	59%
Unknown	0.4%

Economic Status

Income \$0 - \$20,000	38%
Income \$20,000 - \$30,000	33%
Income over \$30,000	29%

Residence

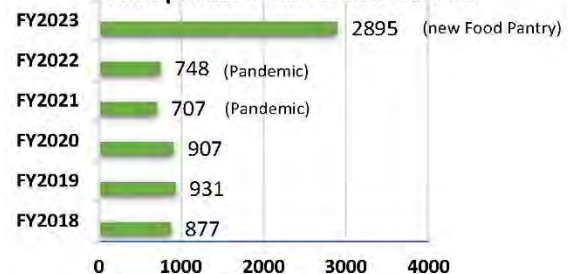
Gary	27%
Merrillville	12%
Crown Point	11%
Hammond/Whiting	9%
Valparaiso / Portage / Other Porter Co	8%
Hobart / Lake Station	7%
St. John / Schererville / Dyer	6%
Griffith / Munster / Highland	6%
East Chicago	5%
Other Indiana Counties	4%
Cedar Lake / Lowell	3%
LaPorte County	1%
Out of State / Unknown	1%



SourceAmerica



Unduplicated Individuals Served



TRADEWINDS EXECUTIVE TEAM



Jon Gold, *CEO*



Lisa Tatina
*Director of Development
& Marketing
& Employment Services*



Jamie Peyton
Director of Fiscal Compliance & IT



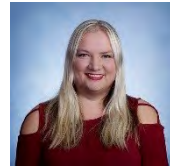
Lynn Strohl
*Director of Industries &
General Manager Sign Shop*



Lisa Previs
*Director of Youth &
Residential Programs*



Vernita Johnson-Macklin
Director of Human Resources



Fallon Coleman
Director of Day Services

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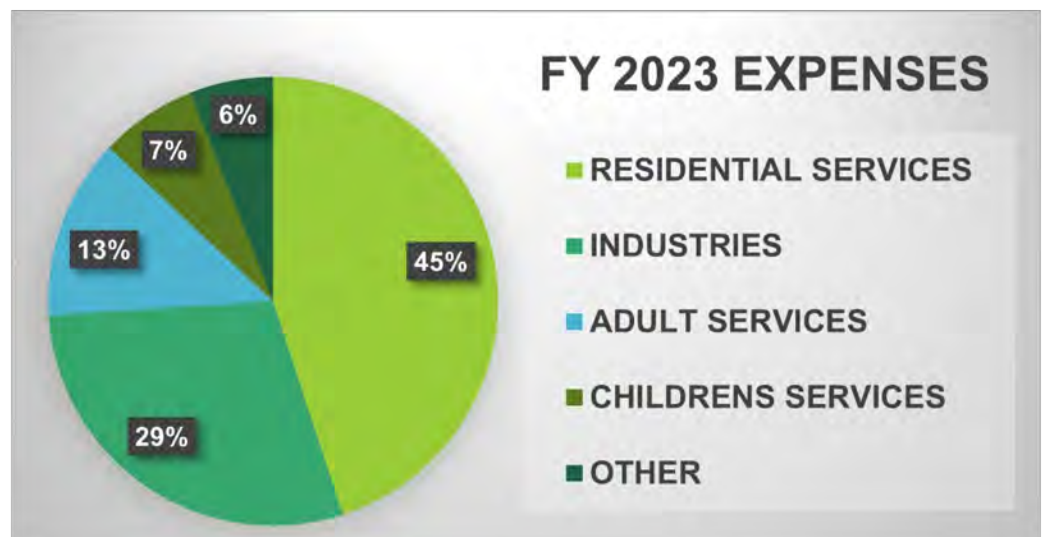
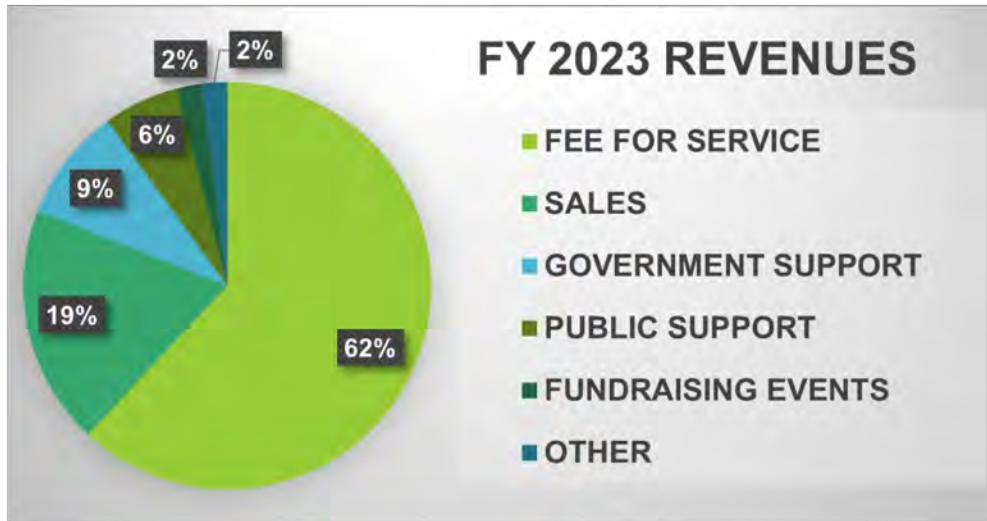
Africa Tarver, City of Hammond

Dwayne Walker, Chicagoland Popcorn

Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023

CURRENT ASSETS \$2,827,147
OTHER ASSETS \$8,317,622
RESTRICTED ASSETS \$4,579,720
TOTAL ASSETS \$15,724,489

CURRENT LIABILITIES \$659,675
LONG TERM DEBT & OTHER LIABILITIES \$846,037
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS \$11,853,272
TEMPORARILY AND PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS \$2,365,505
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$15,724,489



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.

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 Child Care 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 local 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 mini-golf, go-carting, swim classes, going to parks, the Dunes & the zoo, arts & crafts, healthy food & cooking demonstrations, recreational activities & learning experiences such as picking strawberry, 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 & cooking. A few career exploration experiences included visits to local businesses such as an automotive service shop, 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 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.

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 & 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.

New this year is an expansion of the ADAPT program - **Transitional Vocational Training (TVT)** focuses on adults who are not yet ready for prevocational skills but are interested in job exploration.



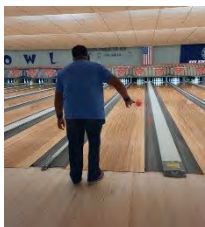
The TVT class visits local community businesses to learn about job opportunities including hands-on work experience, and they have their own traveling popcorn stand selling snacks to TradeWinds staff once a week.



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.

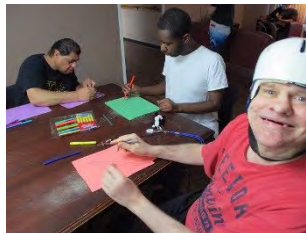


Respite Care



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 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, & 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, and comprehensive medical care is available around the clock with TradeWinds' dedicated Residential Nursing program.



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 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 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.



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 & door magnet; indoor/outdoor signage for realtors, construction, golf, trade & community events; business signage, window graphics, lettering, & decals; & custom printed clothing for teams & businesses. Designs to fit any budget & 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, & access to technology for individuals & 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 & 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 & 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 state standards to serve clients designated as Most Significant Disabled (MSD) with new opportunities & challenges for referrals & job placements. Long-lasting partnerships were created to provide situational assessments, trial work experiences, & job placements.

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



An All-Inclusive WIOA program funded by Center for Workforce Innovations & the NW Indiana Workforce Board.

TradeWinds Industries & Pre-Vocational Services



Sewing Manufacturing

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS EVERY DAY!

Over 146,000 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. 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.

1,601,049 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, & 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.



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, & hand out food to over 100-120 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.



thank
you!
VOLUNTEERS
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.

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 for clean-up, moving items, refurbishing, updating residences, gardens & landscaping, arts & crafts, games, food, meals & 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

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

for supporting TradeWinds Services Mission:

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

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