

# **IFB Beat | February 21, 2022**

## **News to Know**

**Reminder:** IFB Solutions is closed Monday, February 21 in observance of President's Day.

### **Congratulations to our 2022 Employee Award Winners!**

**Luis Quiles (Winston-Salem) – Overall Employee of the Year**

**Jake Padalino – Asheville Facility Employee of the Year**

**Wesley Hillman – Little Rock Facility Employee of the Year**

**Carlos Alicea – Puerto Rico Operation Employee of the Year**

**Melissa Tuttle (Winston-Salem) – Career Achiever of the Year**

**Mary Hunter (Asheville) – Delmer Wall Outstanding Service Award**

**Look for a special feature in next week's IFB Beat that shares the stories of these incredible employees and the work they're doing to drive our mission forward.**

### **February is Low Vision Awareness Month**

**Did you know?**

- **There are 97,900 people with low vision in Arkansas and 285,500 in North Carolina. (Source: CDC)**
- **Visual impairment is unequally distributed across age groups. More than 82% of all people who are blind are 50 years of age and older.**

**Awareness tips:**

- **If you are sighted, please announce yourself when entering a room or even passing in the workplace. For example, "Hey Grant, it's Shonn". It helps those who are blind or have low vision feel comfortable.**

- When in a group setting make sure to be clear to whom you are speaking to by using names. Example “Mike, what do you think of this idea?”
- Do your best to keep all walk paths clear of obstructions in the workplace. This will help people who are blind or have low vision travel safely.

An ever-increasing amount of people are at risk of developing a visual impairment as populations grow and demographic shifts move towards the predominance of older age groups. Protect and maximize your vision by seeing a doctor regularly. Take advantage of the Community Low Vision Center associates and experts in Winston-Salem, Asheville, and Little Rock. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, contact the Community Low Vision Center. [www.communitylowvision.org](http://www.communitylowvision.org)

## **COVID-19 Information**

### **COVID-19 Booster reminder:**

If you received your primary series of the Pfizer or Moderna you are eligible to get a booster at least 5 months after your second dose and at least 2 months after the single shot J&J. If you are unsure when your booster is due, please consult your PCP, your local HR representative or medical team member (if available) or Angela Jordan, Director of Safety and Environmental Health. [ajordan@ifbsolutions.org](mailto:ajordan@ifbsolutions.org)

### **IFB Solutions Impact Newsletter**

Do you want to stay up to date on IFB Solutions events, stories, and programs? Sign up [here](#) for our newsletter designed for donors and our community!

### **Attention all Winston-Salem facility employees:**

The Administration Building, including the manufacturing floor, will be CLOSED on Friday, FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup> (this does NOT include Low Vision or the Optical Department). Duke Energy must replace a transformer and we will not have electricity in the admin building. We ask that all office staff make plans accordingly.

## **Programs and Services**

### **See What S.E.E. is Doing!**



**S.E.E. After School Winston had special treats for Valentine's Day sent to them by IFB employees.**

**S.E.E. kids received 16 Hershey candy bars each with a positive, inspirational, or motivational message in Braille and large print. They also took home a teddy bear holding a balloon, a box of chocolate candy, and a tub of cotton candy from Aida in PTU and Elizabeth in ACS. Thank you all for your generous thoughtfulness and encouragement letting these kids know how special they are.**



**S.E.E. students had a blast at the annual S.E.E. Asheville Bowling tournament!**

**It was a pin-clattering success! We hosted seven families of kids with visual impairments and provided blindfolds and low-vision simulators for any siblings that wanted to try bowling with less vision than they are used to. Check out all the fun!**

### **Adult Support Group Meetings: (Zoom info at end of newsletter)**

- Monday, February 21 AAA Committee meeting from 12:00-1:00 in TADS Room.
- Tuesday, February 22 Glaucoma support group meeting from 12:00-12:45 in TADS Room.
- Thursday, February 24 Blind Ambitions support group meeting from 12:00-12:45 in TADS Room.

## **Community Low Vision Center**

### **CLVC Item of the Week:**

**Reizen Folding Pocket Magnifier - 4x Plus 4x Plus 4 - 36mm - \$16.95.**

### **CLVC February item of the month:**

**Tactile Puzzle Cube- Modified for the Blind: The classic puzzle with a tactile twist! This blind-accessible version of the best-selling ultimate brain-teasing puzzle has been enhanced with tactile markings on all sides.**

**If you are interested in purchasing Low Vision Equipment through our Loan Program (3<sup>rd</sup> Party), please contact a Low Vision Coordinator for assistance.**

## **Insider Corner**

### **Tips for Instructing Virtual Meetings or Classes with Participants who are Low Vision or Blind:**

**If you are sharing your screen in a zoom or teams meeting and there's individuals who are visually impaired or blind on the call, here are some tips to include their complete understanding of the material presented.**

**Handouts: If your presentation is shareable, email the document to the participants who are visually impaired so they have an opportunity to review or follow along as your presenting the information.**

**Web page guidance:** If your showing how to navigate a webpage, provide verbal directions of where the mouse pointer is moving towards and interacting with. Example: On the top right corner of the page click on the link with all capped red letters named, "Home".

**Description:** The more descriptive you are while navigating shared screen material the easier it is for everyone on the call to follow along. Identify any colors, icons, or page layouts to ensure even someone with vision who looked away for a minute is able to catch up successfully.

**Magnification and Inverted Colors:** If a participant utilizes these features remember when you share your screen, their personalized settings do not transfer to your shared screen. For example: if they use black and white inverted colors with some large print, when your screen appears on theirs it will not change to fit their settings, but will look like your screen instead. This creates an unusable display.

**Asking Questions:** The only way you will know how to help is to ask. Don't be afraid or feel as if you'll offend the person if you ask what type of assistance they need. Not only will this make your work easier in the long run, but it will gratefully improve their understanding of the material.

### **Why Participate in Sight Adjustment Support Group?**

Sight Adjustment Support Group is designed to assist people dealing with vision loss. It doesn't matter if you lost your vision last week or years ago, your sight is classified low vision or totally blind, you utilize a cane or guide dog, or you read large print or braille, Sight Adjustment covers a variety of relatable topics helping you adjust to this new phase in your life. We want you to thrive in your life no matter what your vision is. Bryant Ballard and Angela Haynes are leaders of this group.

"By sharing our personal experiences, we learn from each other as sight adjustment differs from person to person. When you join this group, you have firsthand access to the information we put out monthly. Whether through our various speakers or our personal experiences, The plan is to have participants we think will benefit from this gathering," - Angela Haynes

Join us the first Thursday of every month in Tad's room from 12:00 to 1:00pm.

Have some interesting information to share or topic you would like to see in the Insider Corner? Whether it's your favorite podcast, website, or article that caught your attention, send to Faith Harding at [fharding@ifbsolutions.org](mailto:fharding@ifbsolutions.org) and we'll post it!

## **Community Connections**

**The Winston Salem Recreation and Parks has an inclusive birding program.**

Come out and participate. We will meet the first Saturday of March, April, and May at 10am in the parking lot of Family Services, located at 1200 S Broad Street. There will be leaders from Gateway Nature Preserve in attendance. For more information email: [katiea@cityofws.org](mailto:katiea@cityofws.org).

## **Opportunities**

**We are HeRe for you!**

According to statistics, only 37% of renters in the U.S. have renters insurance. This is significantly low considering the number of renters in the U.S. If you are a renter, in the event of an emergency, it's important you know the apartment/house you are renting from are not required to cover loss of your personal belongings or ANY loss you may suffer during an emergency. For more information you can go to: <https://www.trustedchoice.com/renters-insurance/coverage-faq/> or set up an appointment to speak with Haleigh Yarboro, our Certified HR Transition Representative to assist.

**[Click here to go directly to the page](#)**

## **Job Announcements**

For more information please contact Brent Burkholder at X5611.

### **Sighted Driver**

Share your experience with children, youth, and adults as a part time driver for the programs department. Feel like a chauffeur taking adults to social events. Show you care by picking up S.E.E. kids for after school. Help promote Sensitivity to Blindness as you drive the team to training events in outreach locations. Many opportunities wait for the person willing to drive part time because programs make a difference in people's lives. Job candidate must already be an IFB employee. If you are interested, please contact Chris Flynt at 336-245-5620 or [cflynt@ifbsolutions.org](mailto:cflynt@ifbsolutions.org).

### **BSC Stock Clerk - MacDill AFB**

Education and work experience: High School graduate or equivalent GED.

Internal candidates may apply at <https://bit.ly/3oXHcnA>

External candidates may apply at <https://bit.ly/36drk9l>

### **Mattress Closer - Winston Salem**

Education and work experience: Must have high school diploma or GED equivalent. 1-3 years mattress sewing experience desired

Internal candidates may apply at <https://bit.ly/36sWhHn>

External candidates may apply at <https://bit.ly/3oZocVt>

## **Adult Support Groups – Zoom Info**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://ifbsolutions.zoom.us/j/99498078576?pwd=ODJzK0sxcXZrME9yN25YRTdiNXBSQT09>**

**Meeting ID: 994 9807 8576**

**PASSWORD: 92638**

**One tap mobile**

**+13017158592,99498078576# US (Germantown)**

**13126266799,99498078576# US+(Chicago)**

**Dial by your location.**

**877-853-5257 US Toll-free**

**888-475-4499 US Toll-free**

**Meeting ID: 994 9807 8576**