

# The Many Hands of our Mission

*The Many Hands of our Mission* provides information on Diakon staff members celebrating anniversaries in October, November and December. A list of all staff members celebrating work milestones is shown at the end of this online publication.

Everyone celebrating an anniversary is asked to provide additional information by answering a brief survey, along with submitting a photograph.

Those who responded are listed below. Please congratulate everyone celebrating work anniversaries. Thank you for your continuing service and commitment to our ministries and to those we serve!

## **RICH WOODFORD**

Meals on Wheels -  
Schuylkill County  
Meals on Wheels Driver  
Years celebrated: 5

### **FAVORITE WORK MEMORY...**

Working with a company where everyone comes together to make sure our consumers are made to feel special.

**LIKES OUTSIDE OF WORK...**I have a gym membership and work out regularly. I also enjoy reading.

### **MOTIVATION TO FULFILL**

**DIAKON'S MISSION...**Seeing people with smiles on their faces and knowing I helped make their day a little better.

**DEFINITION OF SUCCESS...**Success is enjoying what you are doing and being proud of your job.

### **FAVORITE HOLIDAY MEMORY...**

Any Christmas morning when I was a child. There was no feeling in the world better than coming downstairs and seeing all the presents.



## **DONNA MASSER**

Diakon Family Life Services -  
Lewisburg  
Behavioral Health Office Assistant  
Years celebrated: 5

### **FAVORITE WORK MEMORY...**

When I met my husband. The office was being remodeled and he was on the construction crew!

### **LIKES OUTSIDE OF WORK...**

I love taking my daughter to the playground and hanging out with family and friends.

### **MOTIVATION TO FULFILL**

**DIAKON'S MISSION...**My motivation comes from seeing

clients be successful. Whether it is mental health or drug and alcohol treatment, witnessing someone achieve peace and stability in their lives when they have not had that before is precious.

### **DEFINITION OF SUCCESS...**

Positive results, because when you work hard and treat others with respect and compassion, you will receive positive results.

### **FAVORITE HOLIDAY**

**MEMORY...**Watching my daughter at Christmas. The absolute joy and energy that she has is infectious and she passes it to everyone around her.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION...**

Working for Diakon has been a learning and rewarding experience. I have never worked with such a wonderful group of people, so focused on the healing of the soul and mind of their clients.



### DAVID CROWTHER

Diakon Youth Services  
@ The Diakon Wilderness Center  
Director of Nutrition Services  
Years celebrated: 5

#### FAVORITE DIAKON MEMORY...

I love providing meals for the young people and staff at the Wilderness Center.

#### LIKES OUTSIDE OF WORK...

I recently started sketching portraits. I didn't realize that was something you could learn to do.

#### MOTIVATION TO FULFILL

**DIAKON'S MISSION...** Many of our students do not have a lot of people in their lives pulling for them. It's a great privilege to be one of those people.

#### FAVORITE HOLIDAY

**MEMORY...** It's always a treat when Santa comes to the Wilderness Center to hand out presents after a festive holiday meal!

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION...

To me, Diakon means great people... great people giving selflessly day in and day out. I can't think of a better place to work.

### JUDITH REESE

Cumberland Crossings  
Medical Technician  
Years celebrated: 15

#### FAVORITE ASPECT OF YOUR ROLE... AND WHY...

Part of my position is direct care with the residents, and my favorite part is the rewarding interaction. To see them smile and know I'm the reason why is great.

**FUN FACT...** I totally love to dance in the rain!!

#### ADVICE FOR NEW

**COWORKERS...** Treat the residents as you would want to be treated yourself or a loved one to be treated.

**FAVORITE QUOTE...** Would you want to be treated the same way?

#### FAVORITE HOLIDAY ACTIVITY...

Being around the people I love.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION...

I love what I do. I find it rewarding and an honor to care for others.

### JENNIFER WILLIAMS

Cumberland Crossings  
LPN  
Years celebrated: 5

**FAVORITE ASPECT OF YOUR ROLE... AND WHY...** Caring for my residents.

**FUN FACT...** I love dancing.

#### ADVICE FOR NEW

**COWORKERS...** To stay strong.

**FAVORITE QUOTE...** We got this.

### FAVORITE HOLIDAY

**ACTIVITY...** Eating at the dinner table with family.



### LETICIA VALENTINE

Diakon Youth Services PREP -  
Chester County  
Program Manager  
Years celebrated: 10

#### FAVORITE ASPECT OF YOUR ROLE... AND WHY...

When I witness a student being exposed to new activities and see the joy. Equally favorite, when a student accomplishes their established goals.

**FUN FACT...** hmmm, not sure. I hate walking barefoot except on sand at the beach.

#### ADVICE FOR NEW

**COWORKERS...** Every student is different. You have to be flexible with your approach depending on the student. There is never a "one size fits all" approach when building rapport with each student.

**FAVORITE QUOTE...** "This too shall pass." We all weather storms. It's important that, in time, it will pass.

### FAVORITE HOLIDAY

**ACTIVITY...**My children and I wear matching PJs and meet my sister and her family, plus my mother, in our matching PJs to eat and celebrate the holiday together while comfy.



### SANDY ROSTKOWSKI

HUD Senior Housing  
Director of Housing  
Years celebrated: 10

### FAVORITE ASPECT OF YOUR

**ROLE... AND WHY...**I like that no two work days are the same... something new always pops up!

**FUN FACT...**I raise Guide Dog puppies for the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind. I have raised eight puppies in 10 years. Also, as a huge Penn State fan, I attend Women's Football Camp every year for the past six years and look forward to that day all year long!! Talk to me about 4-3 defenses!

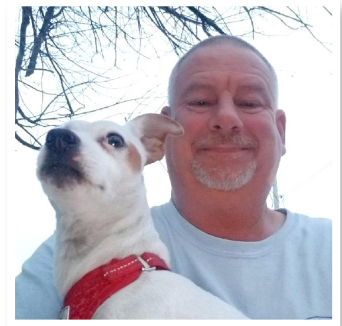
### ADVICE FOR NEW

**COWORKERS...**It takes a while to get settled in a new position, so hang in there!

**FAVORITE QUOTE...**There is nothing so bad that it couldn't be worse! -an Irish Proverb

### FAVORITE HOLIDAY ACTIVITY...

Spending time with family... especially the lights of my life, my two grandbabies-Cameron (three years old) and Rozzie (seven months old).



### WILLIAM WEIBLEY

Cumberland Crossings  
Maintenance Technician  
Years celebrated: 20

### FAVORITE ASPECT OF YOUR ROLE

**... AND WHY...**Interacting with our residents.

**FUN FACT...**I spend a lot of time kayak bass fishing.

### ADVICE FOR NEW COWORKERS...

Treat everyone with respect.

**FAVORITE QUOTE...**I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples.

### FAVORITE HOLIDAY ACTIVITY...

Time with family.

## OCTOBER 2022 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Dawn Barnett	5	Buffalo Valley	Skilled Nursing	Nursing Assistant
Evalinette Colon-Ocasio	5	Permanency Services	Foster Care	Recruitment & Family Dev. Specialist II
Kimmy Smith	5	Buffalo Valley	Residential / IL Care	Medication Technician
Thomas Taylor	5	Buffalo Valley	Plant Operations	Maintenance Worker
Richard Woodford	5	Community Services	Schuylkill Meals on Wheels	MOW Driver II
Liliya Borisov	10	Buffalo Valley	Skilled Nursing	LPN (NCC)
Carie Keister	10	Buffalo Valley	Skilled Nursing	Nursing Assistant
Martha Slezak	20	The Lutheran Home at Topton	Skilled Nursing	Nursing Assistant
Anita McCarter	30	Ministry Support	Human Resources	Regional Employee Relations Manager

## NOVEMBER 2022 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
David Crowther	5	YouthServices	Center Point Day Program	Director of Nutritional Services
Eileen Hutton	5	Buffalo Valley	Skilled Nursing	LPN (NCC)
Donna Masser	5	Family Life Services	Program Administration	Behavioral Health Office Assistant (FLS)
Jennifer Williams	5	Cumberland Crossings	Skilled Nursing	LPN (NCC)
Colleenia King	10	The Lutheran Home at Topton	Skilled Nursing	Nursing Assistant
Leticia Valentine	10	YouthServices	Bridge Program	Asst. Director Day & Evening Program
William Weibley	20	Cumberland Crossings	Plant Operations	Maintenance Technician
Laura Wolfley	20	Buffalo Valley	Skilled Nursing	Nursing Assistant
Mark Henneforth	25	Lutherwood	HUD Operating	Maintenance Technician (HUD)
Donna Rothermel	35	The Lutheran Home at Topton	Skilled Nursing	Nursing Assistant

## DECEMBER 2022 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
April Bartholomew	5	Permanency Services	Foster Care	Permanency Case Manager II
Jessica Derk	5	Ministry Support	Finance	Corporate Accountant
Kathleen Mitchell	5	Community Services	RSVP Berks Pike Wayne	Program Manager (RSVP)
Heather Wilson	5	Ministry Support	Marketing & Census Devlpmt	Director of Care Transition
Sandra Rostkowski	10	Lutherwood	HUD Operating	Director of Housing Management
Judith Reese	15	Cumberland Crossings	Residential / IL Care	Medication Technician