

# The Many Hands of our Mission

*The Many Hands of our Mission* provides information on Diakon staff members celebrating anniversaries in July through 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!



## AMANDA HENN

Diakon Adoption & Foster Care - Topton

Permanency Case Manager III

Years celebrated: 5

### Looking back on your time at Diakon, what are you most proud of?..

I am proud to be a part of the growth and development of Diakon's Permanency department. I have had the pleasure of watching this department grow, collaboratively for the last ten years. Within that time, our department has doubled in size. With that size, we can impact and serve more children and families while maintaining the same level of

heartfelt service that Diakon's reputation upholds.

### Tell us about what you like to do when you're not at work...

Outside of work, I have many hobbies ranging from DIY projects at home to the great outdoors. While at home, my husband and I are constantly working on our historic home that was built in the 1750s. My husband and I are both passionate about hunting and fishing. Our vacations consist of traveling based on hunting/fishing adventures. We were just on Lake Ontario salmon fishing and are currently working on a bear hunt next spring in Canada. When it's not hunting season, we enjoy shed hunting, which is basically a scavenger hunt in the woods for deer antlers.

### What is something that motivates you to fulfill the mission at Diakon?..

I am most motivated when I think about all the children and families that I have had the pleasure of assisting through their foster care and/or

adoption journeys. Each one has had a lasting impression that I find myself reflecting on from time to time while working with new children and families.

### What's something you've learned from working here that you didn't expect?..

Through the years, I've learned that you should always expect the unexpected. That is also what I enjoy about this career. It is never the same day twice. There is always a new case, situation, or barrier to overcome. It keeps us on our toes!

### What is your favorite thing about working at Diakon?..

My favorite thing about working at Diakon is the positive relationships that I have built with my co-workers. Teamwork makes the dream work, and I can say that having positive working relationships makes what can be a difficult job at times more enjoyable when you can share smiles and laughs throughout the day.



### CYNTHIA MCCUTCHEON

Frostburg Heights Apartments  
Support Coordinator  
Years celebrated: 20

**Looking back on your time at Diakon, what are you most proud of?...**Creating a nurturing environment for our residents. I love that I have been able to enhance and add to the richness of their lives.

**Tell us about what you like to do when you're not at work...**When I am not at work, I enjoy visiting the beach, reading, and working on my novel.

**What is something that motivates you to fulfill the mission at Diakon?...**I am always happy when I have a resident thank me for a simple kindness because then I know I have fulfilled my own goal of making a difference. That is what Diakon's mission is about.

**What's something you've learned from working here that you didn't expect?...**The knowledge I have gained from simply talking to the residents. People tend to forget that they had a whole life before they moved here. I'm grateful I get to be a part of that.

**What is your favorite thing about working at Diakon?...**After 20 years, it's hard to put into words what my favorite thing is. Of course, our residents, my co-workers, and the atmosphere of the Heights are all my favorites. Diakon has been a great company to work for and with.

**Additional comments...**It seems like 20 years have flown by. I am so lucky to have been able to work my dream job all these years! And I look forward to more years to come.



### SYLVIA BEILER

Diakon Family Life Services-  
Lewisburg  
Outpatient Mental Health Therapist  
Years celebrated: 10

**Looking back on your time at Diakon, what are you most proud of? .**Seeing a client's face light up with hope for the future and how their wounds became their strengths.

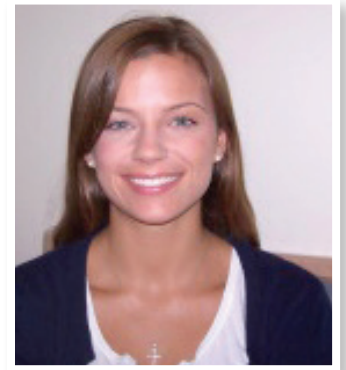
**Tell us about what you like to do when you're not at work...**Enjoy spending time with my grown children. Putting puzzles together, reading and traveling.

**What is something that motivates you to fulfill the mission at Diakon?...**We are an organization that provides meaningful care and support to those in need of mental health services.

**What's something you've learned from working here that you didn't expect?...**That doing therapy via telehealth is effective for many people.

**What is your favorite thing about working at Diakon?...**Working from home and providing therapy services via telehealth.

**Additional comments...**"I have learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou



### KRISTINA KULP

Topton  
Child prep/profile specialist  
Years celebrated: 10

**Looking back on your time at Diakon, what are you most proud of?...**Overall, I have been proud to be a part of and play a role in various family journeys throughout the years. Whether it has been assisting in minimizing disruptions, being an advocate to increase supportive services, or being able to process with children their permanency journey in a supportive and comfortable environment, each encounter has provided something different and memorable.

**Tell us about what you like to do when you're not at work...** I enjoy spending time with my daughter, husband, and German short haired pointer, playing and coaching field hockey, and spending time with friends/family.

**What is something that motivates you to fulfill the mission at Diakon?...** Every child deserves an opportunity to use their voice, while being able to discuss their journey in a sensitive, factual manner.

**What is your favorite thing about working at Diakon?...** The flexibility and support provided by colleagues and supervisors.



### **SCOTT HABECKER**

*President & Chief Executive Officer*  
Years celebrated: 15

**Looking back on your time at Diakon, what are you most proud of?...** I am proud to have helped successfully manage the delicate balance between mission activities, helping people, and financial sustainability.

**Tell us about what you like to do when you're not at work...** Saltwater fishing, running, and time at the beach with friends and family.

**What is something that motivates you to fulfill the mission at Diakon?...** My father was a foster child who never made it past seventh grade, and he was never adopted. I love the work we do to help match children in need with awaiting adoptive parents, just as I appreciate every way in which we help people in need.

**What's something you've learned from working here that you didn't expect?...** Diakon is much more complex than I expected, with so many different and specific programs. I learn something new every day, and I've been here 15 years!

**What is your favorite thing about working at Diakon?...** Even when it has been a really bad day at work (yes, we have all had them), I can still walk to my car at the end of the day, knowing we have helped hundreds of people during the course of the day.

**Additional comments...** This is the best group of people with whom I have had the pleasure of working. I'm so proud to be a part of the organization, and I thank all of my teammates for their collective work in improving people's lives in so many ways.



### **MARIAN KOLCUN**

Topton  
*Older Child Matching Initiative*  
*(OCMI) Recruiter*  
Years celebrated: 10

**Looking back on your time at Diakon, what are you most proud of?...** My relationships with the youth with whom I work

**Tell us about what you like to do when you're not at work...** I enjoy working on projects of all kinds, home improvement, artistic creations, and supporting feral cats.

**What is something that motivates you to fulfill the mission at Diakon?...** The kiddos with whom I work motivate me.

**What's something you've learned from working here that you didn't expect?...** Some of the youth with whom I work have a strong desire to improve their lives and work hard to do so.

**What is your favorite thing about working at Diakon?...** I love the flexibility my job offers.

## JULY 2024 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Billie Jo Schuettler	5	CS-Community Services	Schuylkill Sr Comm. Cntr.	Center Mgr CS Senior Comm Centers
Stephanie Jennings	5	FL-Family Life Services	Family Based MH Prvdr Type 11	Case Mgr 2 (FBS) FL Cap Family Based
Kristina Kulp	10	PS-Permanency Services	Adoptions	Prep & Profile Spec 2 PS Adoption Lehigh
Kimberly Mills	10	SW-SWAN	SWAN	Data Analyst 1 Child Family SW SWAN
Kevin Fatherree	10	YS-YouthServices	Misc Contracts	Group Svs Inst YS Wild Misc Contracts PD
Scott Habecker	15	MS-Ministry Support	Executive Administration	President/CEO MS Exec Admin

## AUGUST 2024 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Amanda Hassler	5	FL-Family Life Services	School Based Counseling	FLS Ther Sch Based FL US Sch Base CounSB
Erin Zinsmeister	10	FL-Family Life Services	Family Based MH Prvdr Type 11	Counselor 1 (FBS) FL Cap Family Based MH
Marian Kolcun	10	PS-Permanency Services	SWAN OCMI Grant	Child Spec Recruit Spec PS AdptLehghSWAN
Kimberly Patten	10	YS-YouthServices	Greenhouse Horticultural Pgm	Greenhouse Gardener YS Greenhouse

## SEPTEMBER 2024 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Christine Manenkoff	5	FL-Family Life Services	SPIN	Case Mgr 2 (SPIN) FL US SPIN
Amanda Henn	5	PS-Permanency Services	Foster Care	Case Mgr 3 (Perm) PS Foster Lehigh
Cynthia McCutcheon	20	FH-Frostburg Heights	HUD Operating	Support Coord HUD Frostburg Heights

## OCTOBER 2024 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Sheena Stoner	5	FL-Family Life Services	SPIN	Counselor 1 (SPIN) FL Cap SPIN

## NOVEMBER 2024 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Penny Davis	5	CS-Community Services	RSVP Columbia Montour	Program Mgr (RSVP) CSVSS RSVP Colum Mon
Sylvia Beiler	10	FL-Family Life Services	Lewisburg Counseling	FLS Therapist FL US Lewisburg

## DECEMBER 2024 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	YOS	Program/Community Office	Department	Position
Dana Oravitz	5	CS-Community Services	Schuylkill PA MEDI	Prgm Crd (PA MEDI) CS PA MEDI Schuylkill
Kristian Kent	10	PS-Permanency Services	Foster Care	Case Mgr 2 (Perm) PS Fost Care Capital