

" Good character is more to be praised than outstanding talent. Most talents are, to some extent, a gift. Good character, by contrast, is not given to us. We have to build it piece by piece -- by thought, choice, courage and determination." ~ John Luther ~

SIRS

Southern Indiana Resource Solutions



SIRS Welcomes Two New Board Members

Jeff Hagedorn

Jeff Hagedorn has accepted a position on the Board of Directors for Southern Indiana Resource



Solutions, Inc. As a member of the Board, he hopes to "help SIRS do the good things they are already doing and work towards and be part of the continuing evolution." He wants to help SIRS in every way as they navigate through tough economic times and transition through new ways in which services can and will be provided. He was familiar with SIRS and their position in the community because of being involved personally with JOBS+, a division of SIRS that provides employment supports for persons with disabilities who want to work in their communities.

Hagedorn is a native of Perry County, graduating from Tell City High School in 1989. He completed his undergrad work at Western Kentucky in 1993 and received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University in 1996. He worked as Deputy Attorney General in the Indiana Attorney General's Office from 1996 to 2002. He moved back to southern Indiana in 2002 and joined the law firm

of Zoercher, Huber, and Goffinet in Tell City. He became partner in June of 2008. He lives with his wife Anna and their two daughters in Spencer County. SIRS welcomes Hagedorn to the Board and looks forward to a rewarding partnership.

Larry May

Larry May, Spencer County native and lifelong resident, has also accepted a position on the Board of Directors for Southern Indiana Resource Solutions, Inc. "I truly believe in the mission of SIRS. I think it is a great company and I share in their ideals. I am very humbled to be able to serve on the Board of Directors," says May. "I have just begun and have been impressed with the level of caring and compassion evident in those leading the company. This is truly a passion for them." May hopes to understand more about the services offered by SIRS as well as the needs of the disability community. He wants to be "that outreach" for people in the community in which he lives and works. He said there are so many struggling with disabilities – young children, adults, families—and he hopes that by serving on the Board, he will learn more about what is available



and all the new things that may be able to help these families. He feels SIRS has always been proactive in working towards change and sees the tremendous progress made over the years. He wants to be part of what he calls "the best of the best."

May is the Restaurant and Catering Manager for Santa's Lodge in Santa Claus, Indiana. He is Chair of the Spencer County Chamber of Commerce Ambassador program and a member of the Board for Spencer County Tourism and Spencer County Chamber as well as a member of the Spencer County Optimist Club. SIRS welcomes May to the Board and looks forward to the partnership.

SIRS Board of Directors

Dubois County

- Brenda Stoffel, Vice-Chair
- Don Critchlow, Secretary
- Dean Bromm
- Steve Uebelhor, Ex-officio

Perry County

- Pam Franzman
- Larry Oathout

Spencer County

- Donald 'Ike' Schorr
- Jeffrey Hagedorn
- Larry May
- Bob Seger, Ex-officio

Warrick County

- Marla Hendrickson

Schulte's creative solution... Helping make hard choices easier.

Trying to do what is best for your child. If you are a parent, you understand this. You understand making sacrifices for your children because you want a better life for them. You want them to grow up to be successful and independent as well as kind and generous people. You understand sometimes hard choices are made because you want to do what is best for your child.

Peg and Herb Schulte's son, Aaron, has profound disabilities. They were concerned about what would happen to their son after they were gone. They did not want him to be institutionalized or spend his life in a long-term care facility designed for people who are elderly. They wanted him to live in his own home with care-givers who genuinely loved him and would provide for his needs.

Peg is the first to admit that she has trust issues. As a mom, she admits too that she worries that others may not have her

son's best interest at heart. She knows there are good people in the world but she genuinely worries if they will they look after her son as she and Herb do. This concern is part of what prompted them to look into finding options for their son to have his own home, not only now, but as a stable part of his future, long after they are gone.

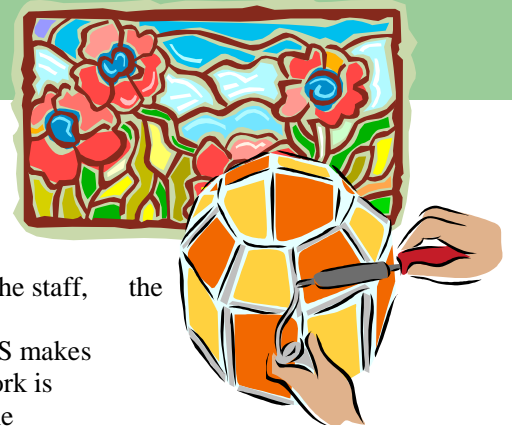
Aaron has lived in his own home since he was twenty-seven years old. He is now thirty-four. The Schultes truly enjoyed having Aaron living with them but they knew independence would be best for Aaron in the long run. They carefully considered each step as they worked toward the goal of independence for Aaron. Herb and Peg have formed a corporation responsible for the care and well-being of Aaron. This arrangement makes the most sense for them. Herb says, "This may not be the best thing for everyone but for us it works. It gives us so much more flexibility."

SIRS is the provider of record and the corporation called, ALS Home Care, handles staff hiring, schedules, duties of the staff, as well as household responsibilities. SIRS makes sure that the paperwork is correct and that all the quality checks are in place. Heather Byers of SIRS does a quality review at least every 90 days. According to Patty Oser, Vice-President of Direct Services, "It is consumer-directed services set within standards." This type of set-up allows for the Schultes to choose the staff they have working with their son as well as what the staff does in the time they spend at Aaron's home. Aaron has 24/7 care. Herb has two lists. One is for Aaron and includes things like exercise, community activities, and daily care. The other is for the house and includes things like laundry, vacuuming, cleaning, shopping, etc. Currently the staff works 24 hour shifts but that will soon change as regulations change.

This is part of what SIRS does... make sure Herb and Peg, as the corporation, are aware of the changes in regulations. SIRS and the case manager assist the corporation in remaining compliant. Changes are the only thing you can count on according to Herb. "There are always going to be changes."

The corporation hires staff and Peg says that helps with the "trust issue". They have hired Katherine, Peg's sister, as one of the care-givers. Peg feels having a member of the family in the house as one of

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"People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."

~ Elizabeth Kubler-Ross ~

employees makes her more comfortable. Herb makes lists and the staff checks off the activities as they are completed. The staff also have responsibility for the house. That too makes Peg more comfortable. She wanted her son to live in a clean house and by having their own staff with specific duties to do each day, they can always be assured that the house their son is living in is clean and well maintained. They also stop in at least once a day. And Aaron continues to visit them.

The Schultes have five other children, one of whom will take over as guardian and oversee the corporation in the event of anything happening to Herb and Peg. Herb stresses that this may not be the best solution for everyone. But it has given them peace of mind knowing that Aaron is well taken care of.



It is Frog Follies time again. SIRS has been invited back to help with the festivities. We will be working at the Dinner & Dance on Saturday, August 29, 2009 from 4 PM to Midnight. The first shift is from 4:00 to 7:00 PM (CST). The 2nd shift starts at 5:00 PM and ends at 9:00 PM and the 3rd shift runs from 8:30 PM to around Midnight. *SIRS needs your help filling these shifts!* This is not only a great cause but it is a lot of fun. If you haven't had the chance to help before, take the time this year. Invite your friends and family to help fill a shift. Each shift needs only 6 people. Call Mary James at 812-547-2389 or email her at mjames@sirs.org.