



October 20, 2021

As Pleasant View winds down its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and navigates organizational and program realignment, we humbly pause to share the pending retirement of a cornerstone of our programs. The Director of Day and Employment Services Peggy Secrist, a pioneer and leader within Pleasant View for over 42 years will be retiring the end of this month. Her tireless dedication, faithfulness, and commitment to the best of all things Pleasant View has not just helped us pioneer programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, it has left a lasting foundation and legacy to forge forward in the years to come.

Some of her professional highlights include:

- Provided oversight to program supporting hundreds of individuals over the course of her career
- Served as a mentor, leader, and role model for hundreds of staff
- Joined the Pleasant View Family in 1979
- Established herself as a Team Leader at the Broadway Day Program in 1985
- In 1988, helped facilitate the introduction and trial of supported employment curriculum
- Within 10 years of service to Pleasant View became a Program Manager
- Helped develop Pleasant View's Community Connections program in 1994
- Became Director of Day and Employment Services in 1997
- In 1999, helped establish Pleasant View as a DARS vendor for employment services
- Led Pleasant View to CARF accreditation in 2002 and has led the continued accreditation for nearly 20 years
- In 2006, aided in leading the transition to current facility in Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg Day Program)
- Helped develop Community Engagement and Community Coaching services
- Provided oversight of modified services and virtual supports in the midst of the pandemic

Please extend your heart felt appreciation, respect, and admiration to Peggy as she transitions into retirement. Her work, legacy, and spirit of dedication to those we serve is worthy of honor!

With appreciation and admiration,

Kevin Paluszak, MA  
Executive Director  
Pleasant View, Inc.