



Read updates on LSC Alumni and the current Leadership class.

## Shoshanna Everhart Indiana Department of Child Services

Recently Shoshanna Everhart was selected by the Governor as the Ombudsman of the Indiana Department of Child Services. Shoshanna says that Ombudsmen are not new, but the state of Indiana has only had an Ombudsman for DCS for about 10 years. An Ombudsman oversees a government or public service and verifies that constituents' rights are being represented by law, regulation or policy. In this new position, Shoshanna receives and investigates complaints about the Department of Child Services. She determines if law, regulation and policy are being followed completely. As an Ombudsman, Shoshanna is not able to reverse decisions made by DCS, but she does have the ability to speak to DCS and lawmakers about application of policy or changes if indicated by the information received from complaints in one area.



Shoshanna says she is "very excited about the position." Adding, "This is a really nice way to end my career because it is the work I love, and I can work toward ensuring best practices are being followed."

Shoshanna has lived in Shelby County most of her life. She graduated from Waldron High School

and earned her undergraduate degree in Human Relations (social work) at Indiana Central University. After graduation, Shoshanna took a position with the Shelby County Welfare Department working on food stamp certification in the morning and investigating child abuse reports in the afternoon.

In 1993, Shoshanna became the Director of the Department of Child Services in Rush County. During this time, she returned to school. In 1995, with Masters of Social Work in hand, Shoshanna continued her career working mostly with children and families. She was a partner in Blue River Counseling for 15 years and then taught graduate school at IUPUI for 12 years.

While Shoshanna was teaching at IUPUI, Shelbyville Central Schools added social workers to their staff, and Shoshanna was asked to apply. She was the social worker at Loper Elementary for 10 years.

Most recently, Shoshanna was employed at MHP Psychology and provided outpatient psychotherapy. Last fall she was asked to take the Ombudsman position with the state.

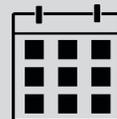


Shoshanna Everhart teaches meditation techniques to LSC participants.

LSC participants have benefited from Shoshanna's skills the last few years when she has presented meditation techniques at the Health and Wellness program day. A 1989 LSC graduate herself, Shoshanna participated in LSC when she was a supervisor at DCS. She said, "The program opened up so many opportunities that I would not have known existed. I loved getting to know people in health care and industry. There was a great mix of people. I loved making connections. Whatever job you are doing, LSC gives you a bigger field to pull from." She also said that she had so much fun and got really close to the people in the class, especially her project team. Shoshanna said, "LSC made a huge difference in my career and in my personal life."

Shoshanna loves living in Shelby County. She is grateful that she has been able to have a fulfilling career in social work and raise her family in the county. She and her husband, Bruce, raise Polled Herefords. She calls it a hobby that has been a fun thing for their family. Their two children and now their 6 grandchildren show cattle in 4-H.

We wish Shoshanna the best in her new position as Ombudsman of Indiana's Department of Child Services.



LSC 2020-2021 next class:  
April 13  
Graduation/Debrief

**SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS**

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## Volunteer Opportunities

Two of this year's project teams are hosting volunteer days for their community project. LSC Alumni volunteers will receive a LSC Alumni t-shirt. We hope you will come out and support our 2021 LSC participants.

### The Animal Shelter: Saturday, March 20

- Clean-up at the Shelbyville/Shelby County Animal Shelter on Saturday March 20th from 8 a.m. to noon.
- Jobs include: installing benches, clearing brush and fallen trees, painting and staining.
- Volunteers are encouraged to bring rakes and hedge clippers.
- Check the Shelbyville/Shelby County Animal Shelters Facebook page for sign-up information or contact Sarah Walton at sarah.walton@ryobi.com.

### Friends of the Fair: Saturday, April 10

## Save the Date

LSC Graduation: Live Facebook broadcast April 13, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

## LSC Alumni Professional Development

**VisionCasting: Creating Your Vision and Making it Reality - Facilitated by Bea Northcott**

Thursday, April 22, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
via Zoom

This workshop will help you create a vision for yourself or your organization and take the steps to create the future you see.

- Understand the difference between Vision, Mission and Values and the role and importance of each.
- Learn the tools and techniques to create a vision statement.
- Learn how to identify your strategic position.
- Learn the steps in creating a strategic plan with specific actions.

## Accepting Application for 2021-2022 Leadership Shelby County

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LSC Participants tour Ryobi Die Casting (USA), Inc.



During the February program day, participants Shannon Hackworth, Omy Torres, and Molly Hart participate in a team-building activity with the group.