

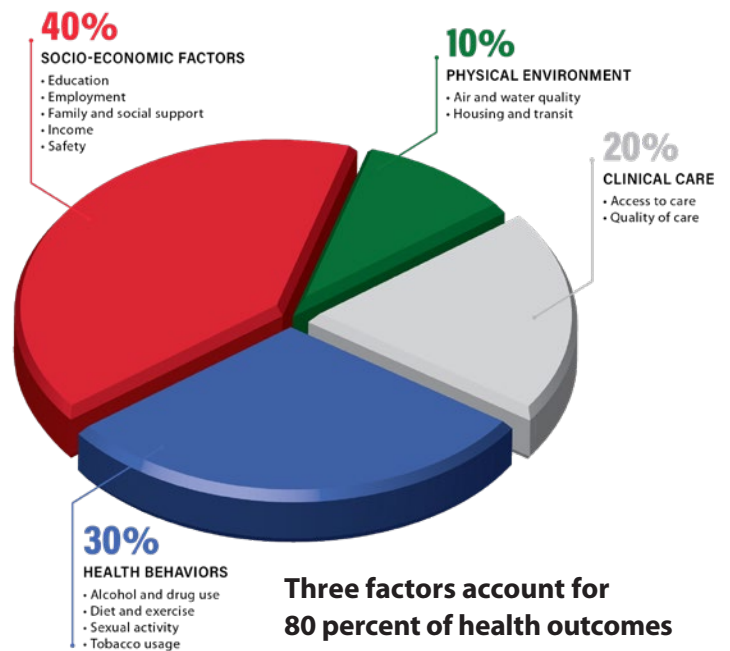
Early Progress for the Office of Social Determinants of Health—Healthy Opportunities

Earlier this year, Dr. Walthall announced the formation of a new division to focus on health equity. One of the key areas this team would focus on is addressing social determinants of health. This initiative, called “Healthy Opportunities,” is dedicated to ensuring Hoosiers have equitable access to social and physical supports needed to promote health from birth through end-of-life. Moreover, reducing any barriers that get in the way of our members being as healthy as they can be.

To achieve these goals, FSSA began partnering with state agencies that provide services impacting one or more of the socio-economic or environmental factors impacting our members. This included Indiana State Department of Health, Department of Transportation, Housing and Community Development Authority and Workforce Development. In addition, the team partners with Indiana University and members of the Indiana Health Information Exchanges, as well as several providers, managed care entities and a multitude of community-based organizations. The goal is to better understand and identify opportunities to proactively address several factors, including conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

Since kick-off, several teams have been formed and are making notable progress. Each team is focused on a core workstream and will serve as the foundation needed to build the remaining components of the program.

The first team consists of 16 volunteers from across FSSA and ISDH. These individuals are focused on helping us learn what our associates currently know about the social determinants of health and how best to create awareness and understanding going forward. The second team has



already developed and deployed an assessment tool. This tool, consists of a set of 10 optional questions that will collect information about socio-economic and environmental factors as well as health behaviors. Earlier this month, it was added to all new Medicaid, SNAP and TANF applications. These questions will also be used with our Gateway to Work participants to ensure we understand their current barriers. The third work stream underway is the development of a state-wide community-based services network. This will help us understand what services exist, determine where we have gaps, and ultimately enable us to make referrals. Examples of these services include food pantries, transportation and access to safe and affordable housing. We are well on our way to building this important capability within the agency and the team is prepped and positioning itself for long-term success.

Dr. Walthall's mid-year all-staff update

On Friday, August 10, and Monday, August 13, 2018, FSSA Secretary Walthall will host two mid-year updates to review the progress made on agency goals, as well as to share insights from the recent employee engagement survey. The August 10 update will be held in the Indiana Government Center South Auditorium and will also be live-streamed. The August 13 presentation will be a live stream only. Times and links for the two presentations are available below:

Friday, August 10, 2018, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Indiana Government Center South Auditorium and [live stream](#)

Monday, August 13, 2018, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

[Live stream only](#)



Natural Born Pilots: The new class

The second Natural Born Pilots class kicked off on July 18, 2018. Natural Born Pilots, inspired by the Chuck Yeager quote, "There's no such thing as a natural-born pilot," is FSSA's leadership development program designed to strengthen relationships, enhance communication, develop leadership and networking skills, create an internal pipeline of leaders, build morale, and inspire our agency's top talent. The new class includes the following pilots:



Joshua Bougie, Senior Manager of Program Development (OMPP)

Vanessa Convard, PASRR Manager (DA)

Paul Fruits, Senior IT Project Manager (DTS)

Jasmine Holliday, Central Office SEM (DFR)

Linda Kolbus, Director of Operations (OECOSL)

Leslie Lugo, Chief Pharmacist (DMHA-LCH)

Sarah Merritt, Quality Support Director (DDB)

Cathy Robinson, Director, Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDRS)

Michael Ross, Bureau Chief for Mental Health and Emergency Preparedness (DMHA)

Jeff Russell, Director of Operations for Vocational Rehabilitation (DDRS)

Beth Sanders, Regional Manager (DFR)

Lindsay Smith, Operations Director (DDB)

Ryan Torres, Staff Attorney (OGC)

Sunny Walton, Clinical Partner Education Director (DMHA-LCH)

Kelly Welker, Assistant Deputy Director Addiction Services (DMHA)

Danielle Zavala, Provider Relations Manager (OMPP)



What's Happening around FSSA



FSSA at Summer Celebration
 The 48th Annual Indiana Black Expo Summer Celebration was from July 13 to July 22, 2018, and FSSA staff were active volunteers during the health fair and on state row at the exhibit center.
 On July 19, the Division of Aging sponsored and coordinated free transportation to the health fair for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Their efforts and dedication allowed over 550 individuals to gain access to more than \$2,000 in screenings and examinations at no cost.

Logansport State Hospital celebrates 130 years

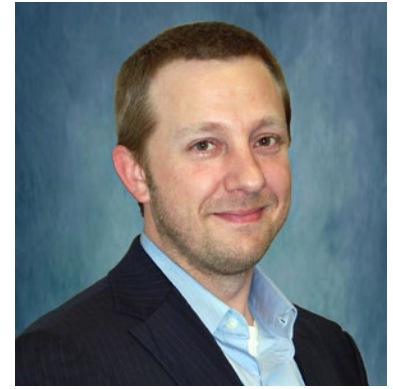
Logansport State Hospital celebrated 130 years since opening its doors in July 1888. To celebrate the occasion staff were treated to an ice cream social.



Jared Linder selected as *IBJ* and Techpoint Chief Technology Officer of the year honoree

Jared Linder, FSSA's chief information officer, has been named an honoree of the *Indiana Business Journal* and Techpoint Chief Technology Officer of the year.

The CTO Awards honor chief technology officers or, more broadly, those in the top information technology positions within their organizations (CIO, VP, director, etc.). These valued individuals play vital roles in making Indianapolis-area businesses, institutions and not-for-profit groups successful. Together with their CEOs, their decisions impact all aspects of the business including their company's growth, profitability, functionality and competitiveness in the marketplace.

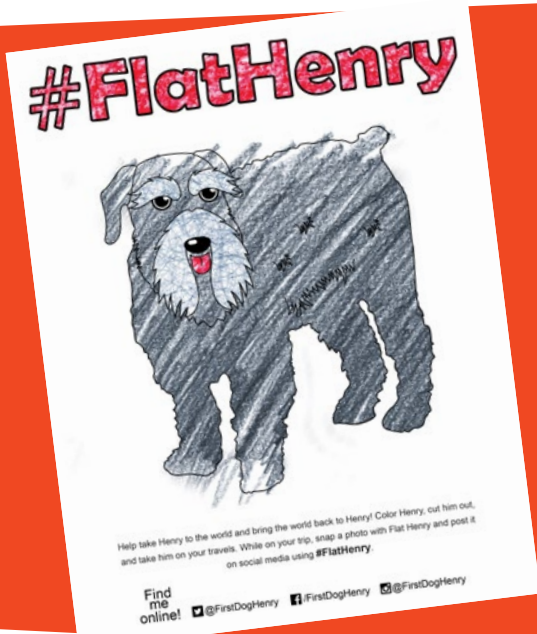


Flat Henry Fridays at FSSA

Indiana's First Dog is Henry Holcomb, the Governor and First Lady Holcomb's miniature schnauzer. He loves to explore new areas of the state and meet new people! So let's make Fridays Flat Henry Fridays at the FSSA offices! Print out the Flat Henry, available at the end of the *FSSA Update*, color him in if you would like, and take photos of Henry with staff around your office and email them to Office.Communications@fssa.IN.gov and each Friday we will share your photos on FSSA Twitter.

Is he helping make copies? Having coffee with staff? Did he get into a file cabinet, listen in on a webinar or go on a lunch run? Let us know what this very good boy is up to at your office.

You can learn more about Henry by [clicking here](#) and watch a [short video](#) by the *Indianapolis Star*, who spent a day with him.



FSSA's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-school Learning partners with Early Learning Indiana on Child Care Consumer information hub

Through a public-private partnership, Early Learning Indiana and FSSA's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning unveiled BrighterFuturesIndiana.org, a new, interactive family resource website.

This online hub provides families with guidance in finding high-quality child care, information on child development, ideas for supporting learning at home, and information about statewide services for Indiana families. The resource is rooted in evidence-based practice and presents useful tips for putting research into practice as children grow.

OECOSL Director Nicole Norvell and her team partnered with the team at Early Learning Indiana to develop this empathetic, evidence-based and plain-language resource to help provide



consumer focused information for Hoosier families raising young children.

"The site has so many tools that can come in handy for families! They can celebrate milestones from babbles to somersaults," said Kirsten Eamon-Shine, ELI's director of statewide communications and engagement.

"They can learn how to find a great early childhood program. They can explore how children learn math, science, emotional skills and more, beginning from birth!"

The site provides information on everything from helping a toddler manage tantrums, finding great care for a newborn or figuring out potty training. To answer families' questions, it shares fact-based information about child development and learning.

Five Questions



Name: Aaron Burgess

Title: Data Scientist

Education: M.S. in Geographic Information Systems, BA in Geography

Career Highlights: Begay Team Lead for Pitney Bowes Location Intelligence Data Engineering; part of the team that designed and developed avoidable cost model for accountable care organizations and managed care organizations at Milliman; held research fellowship with IUPUI Center for Urban Health.

1 What attracted you to a career here at FSSA?

The solutions I was tasked with creating in the private market always gravitated around marketing, advertising or enhancements to products that were convenient but of no real value to humanity. I decided I'd look around for something altruistic or at least more fulfilling. Turns out, I worked with this cheery doctor named Jen Walthall years back when I was a graduate research assistant to Dr. Sarah Wiehe. In the midst of my search, word got back to said cheery doctor who sent me a (at the time) random text with a picture of Dr. Wiehe and herself and the message, "Come work for me!" Turns out cheery Jen was your very own FSSA secretary. Given some coaxing and ego fluffing from Jen and her entourage, I was convinced that I could make a meaningful impact in the grand scheme of things by saying yes to her original text.

2 What gives you a sense of accomplishment professionally?

The creation of knowledge. In the midst of hyperbolic drivel like, "Data is the new oil!" or "We have big data," it's important to note that data is often not information in its raw form. Creating real knowledge, in the sense of robustly tested answers to well-scoped questions, is incredibly hard. If my team is able to create those answers, then that is a very good day.

3 What do you want FSSA workers to know about the work you're doing?

My focus at present is in two directions. Analytics are my primary focus (descriptive, predictive and prescriptive). When I'm not here, this is what I'm thinking about. I'm a voracious reader and get cross-eyed looks from my wife for the amount journal articles I read for fun. My second focus is technical operations, which is a specialty I developed over my career. The goal here is to implement workflow cadence oriented around modern version control systems (specifically Git). Beyond that, I'm here to learn from others.

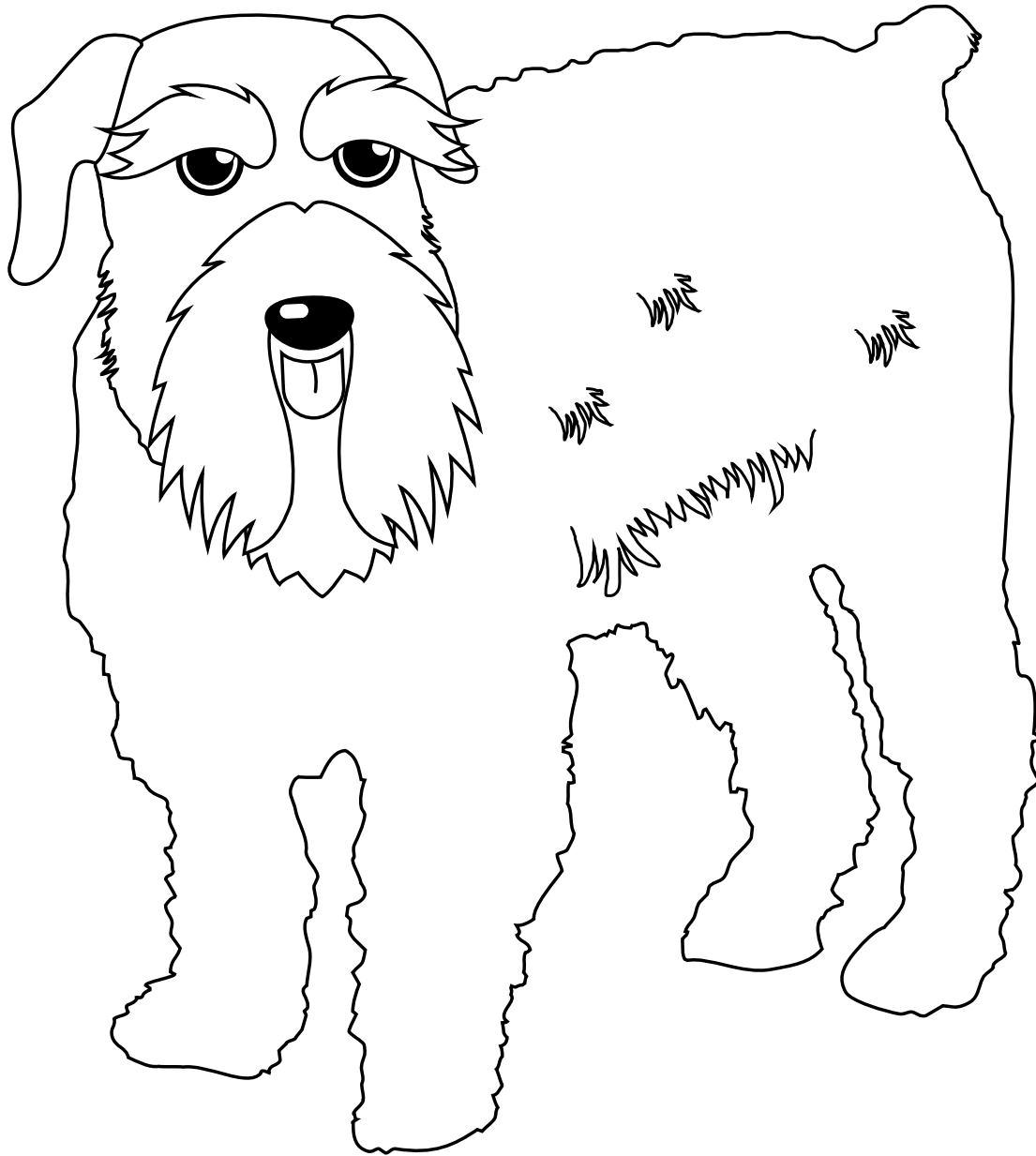
4 What is the best advice you can offer, based on your years of experience?

Operations or *how* you and your team handle tasks are as important, if not more important, than having the technical know-how to solve said tasks. And don't eat yellow snow.

5 What about your background might your coworkers find surprising?

I partied my way right out of college when I first went off back in 1998. I didn't start up my undergrad again until I was about 25. I bottomed out during that time, hit almost 300 lbs. and found that my arrogant late teen/early twenties self was a bit lost. In the interim, I worked a series of jobs that ranged from mundane (retail) to "What am I doing?" (saw blade operator). I value that time immensely, as it was humbling and helped me figure out who I was and what I wanted.

#FlatHenry



Help take Henry to the world and bring the world back to Henry! Color Henry, cut him out, and take him on your travels. While on your trip, snap a photo with Flat Henry and post it on social media using **#FlatHenry**.

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