

PROMOTING WOMEN

Dorian Maples is proud of the women she employs and empowers.

article submitted by Margeaux Corrao • photography by David Kirk

Since starting their family of health care companies almost 20 years ago, Dorian and Rick Maples have employed over 1,500 women. Most have worked part time, providing in-home care to older and disabled persons. As the Maples' businesses have grown, the need for supervisors and administrative staff has developed. Rather than search for outside experience, the Maples focused on promoting from within. These are the stories of just seven of the women from the Maples family of businesses whose dedication led them to full-time careers within the organization.

Robin Norman was working part time as an on-call client services coordinator soon after Angel Corps was founded in 2001. In 2002, Dorian offered Robin the opportunity to come on board full-time to manage client services for the new business. "It was a big decision," says Robin. "I had a full-time job that I enjoyed. But Dorian offered me an exciting opportunity

and I knew she would develop a highquality business, so I took a leap of faith and quit my old job. I've never looked back. I love my job!" Norman has been Angel Corps' client services director for 12 years and counting.

Ruth Force was employed as a social worker with a nursing home in Auburn. In 2004-2005, she served with Dorian on the board of directors of the Alzheimer's Association. As Angel Corps' business in the northern Indiana counties continued to develop, the company needed someone to do supervisory visits in the area. Dorian offered Force a part-time position. Force started working out of her home part time, then full time, then opened Angel Corps' first branch office. In addition to managing the Auburn office, Force is now a geriatric care manager with Dorian Maples & Associates. "I was mentored by the best - Dorian Maples and Marcia Steigerwald," says Force. "I love my job."

LaTonya Woolsey's opportunity arose out of a mishap. "I was working as a home health aide for Home Nursing Services when I slipped on the ice on a client's driveway and broke my ankle," says Woolsey. "During my recovery, I was asked to come into the office to help out. I hobbled around the office filing paperwork. Angel Corps needed an administrative assistant so I applied and got the job." That was 2005. Two years later, she was promoted to client services coordinator.

Jeri Westmoreland followed her clients to Home Nursing Services (HNS) in 2003 when the home health agency she was working for ceased providing home care. Today she is HNS's human resources coordinator, the result of a promotion in 2007. "I was a home health aide, doing direct client care for almost 10 years. I loved taking care of each client," says Westmoreland. "When the opportunity for an office position arose, I applied



and got the job. It has been a wonderful experience and I am looking forward to many more years at HNS."

Amy Ryan joined Home Nursing Services as a home health aide in 2009. She earned some extra income by working as an on-call coordinator after hours. When the client services coordinator position became available in 2011, she applied and got the job. "I knew what I was getting into when I applied," says Ryan. The client services coordinator is the hub of an in-home care business. Ryan is responsible for scheduling over 150 clients from a pool of 150 nurses and caregivers. "I love the challenge of matching the clients and caregivers. It's like solving a puzzle. When it all comes together, it is such a rush."

Lisa Boller had been an Angel Corps personal care attendant when the Auburn office client services coordinator position was posted in 2012. She had worked as a caregiver for Angel Corps and Home Nursing services for about six years. "I wasn't getting any younger and direct caregiving can be physically exhausting," says Boller. She applied and got the job. "I realized that I can affect more people from a desk than I ever could giving one-on-one care. I can help both clients and caregivers. I am so grateful for the opportunity."

Sherry Bise joined Angel Corps and Home Nursing Services in 2010 as a home health aide caring for clients in Wells County. A year later, she was asked to help out in the Bluffton office filing and answering phones. That eventually led to a part-time position as the human resources coordinator in the Bluffton office. Her caregiving experience is invaluable in interviewing and hiring other caregivers. "I look for people who think of this work as more than just a job; they need to have a caregiver's heart," says Bise. "I love working for a company that takes clients' needs seriously."

Dorian Maples says there are hidden benefits to hiring from

ANGEL CORPS

(260) 426-4357 CorpsOfAngels.com Years in Business: 13 Number of Employees: 150 Services: Non-medical home care

HOME NURSING SERVICES

(260) 424-1237 InHomeNursingServices.com Years in Business: 19 Number of Employees: 200 Services: Medical home health care

DORIAN MAPLES & ASSOCIATES

(260) 918-1141 IndianaGeriatrics.com Years in Business: 11 Number of Employees: 4

Services: Geriatric care management