## WVMAW introduces new Director in Training

As the season begins to really roll in 2023, WVMAW wants to share with you some exciting news. Introducing Peyton Ballard, the Director in Training who will become the next Executive Director of WV Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps. Executive Director Joan Stewart says, "For all of you with whom I have worked for these 18 years, I will be working with Peyton through September."

Peyton has forged a career in entrepreneurship, business consulting, and capital acquisition. He's a double graduate of Marshall University and currently owns and operates his own consulting company, Ballard Consulting Group.

"When the opportunity to serve WVMAW came to my attention, I knew it was God calling me to use some of the grit and experience he'd given me through my career to participate in this work," Peyton said. "This ministry aims to



bring those who come from different cities, states, or even countries to live into Jesus' example of serving the less fortunate in their time of need. While backgrounds and experience vary from work camp to work camp, the crews that come to West Virginia are the hands and feet of the gospel."

Though a certified workaholic, Peyton enjoys his time away from work by spending time with his growing number of nieces and nephews, his church, and his friends. An avid hiker, you'll often find him somewhere lost in West Virginia's mountains - no matter the weather. Still a twenty-something, he is lovingly referred to as "Pawpaw Peyton" by those who know him best. He loves to get to know people on a "soul-level" and values his relationships above all else.

"I really believe that God's plan for our lives often plays out right in front of our faces. Sometimes we don't see that all the struggles, the joys, and the uncertainties are all brought together to stir us into loving God deeper than we ever thought we could."

Peyton was baptized at First Presbyterian, St. Albans, and is an elder at Summersville Presbyterian. He is currently on the board of a new community church plant in Summersville.

We continue to seek your prayers, hands, feet, and support as the ministry continues in Peyton's capable hands.

Reach WVMAW Executive Director Joan Stewart at 304-651-2871. Reach Director in Training Peyton Ballard at 304-619-9734 or <u>peyton@ballardconsultinggroup.com</u>. You can find WVMAW online at <u>www.wvministry.org</u>.