



Safety~Net

August 2010

Community Collaboration: A Need Being Met!

By Mark Kruzan, Mayor of Bloomington

Community Collaboration is one of the guiding principles of the City of Bloomington in serving the public. Joining forces with groups such as County government, local nonprofits, businesses and educational institutions allows the City and the partnering agencies to maximize their innovation, resources, talents and even dollars. We have found too that by developing and nurturing effective partnerships with local groups, we become a closer, more positive community.

While the need for collaboration has received more attention in response to the current economic circumstances, the focus on collaboration began several years ago with the erosion of the societal safety net, the dwindling of resources, and the shift of social services and programs away from government and private agencies to nonprofit entities. In some ways the current economic problems may provide the impetus of 'necessity being the mother of invention,' resulting in greater collaboration among nonprofit groups to bring about the desired result.

Examples of effective collaboration can be found in nearly every City department,

and I am pleased to highlight a few of these here. In some cases the City provides financial resources through Jack Hopkins or Community Development Block Grant funding. In other cases the expertise, resources or expertise of City staff is the needed catalyst to get projects off the ground or give existing projects some added momentum.

One example of an effective Community Collaboration comes from our work with agencies such as Abilities Unlimited and Shalom Community Center. By providing housing counseling or funding for home modifications, the City helps ensure that safe, secure, accessible housing options are available for as many residents as possible. Also to this end, the City of Bloomington partners with the Bloomington Housing Authority and Fifth Third Bank, to implement programs such as National Night Out and the Fifth Third Bank E Bus Homeownership Program. Through these efforts, Housing Authority residents are connected to resources in the community that help them with their journey toward self-sufficiency.

The most successful collaborations

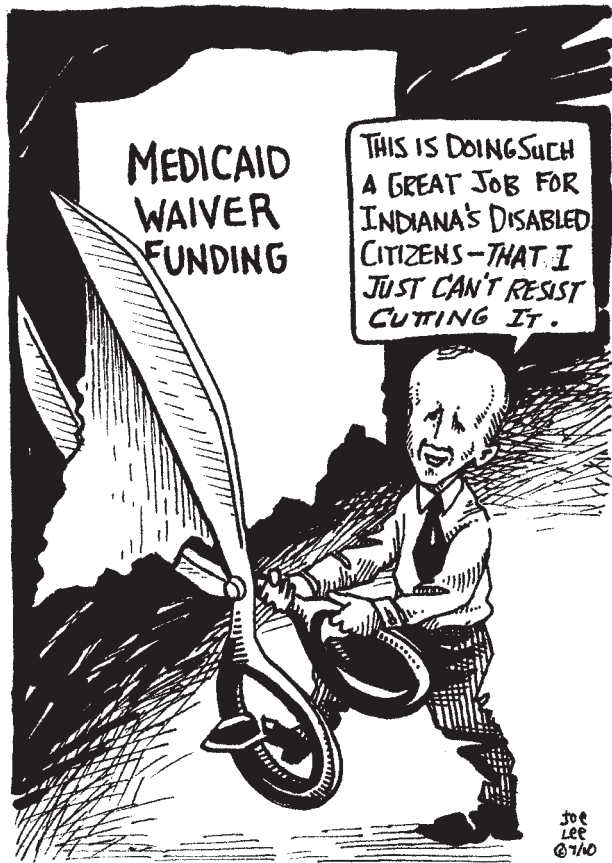
identify community needs and find ways to address them. One of the more recent success stories is the Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) clinic. Through VIM, healthcare professionals volunteer their time and skills to help the medically underserved in our community 52 weeks a year. The results of this collaboration have been tremendous. Many of the people who are now able to have their healthcare needs addressed at VIM would have gone untreated or used an already strained hospital emergency room as their primary care provider.

Providing staff to organizations such as the Monroe County Domestic Violence Task Force and Monroe County Suicide Prevention Coalition provides a space and opportunity for service providers to share information and resources to address critical issues facing the community. The City also has formed effective partnerships with many other organizations including United Way, the Community Foundation and Ivy Tech Community College collaborating on efforts such as the Be More Volunteer Awards, the Martin Luther King service day

See "Mayor", page two

SAFETY-NET Bridges To Somewhere: People Helping People

Safety-Net is a free, volunteer driven community newspaper sponsored by the South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) that is published once every 3 months. A big "thank you" to all of you who contribute articles and make Safety-Net possible. Safety-Net features articles from the many agencies and City departments that provide much needed supportive services and programs to our community members, as well as comments and articles from individuals who have benefitted from these programs. In addition to the feature articles, there are Special Sections, as well as an extensive Directory of Agencies and Services that provide important information about available services and programs. Comments from readers are most welcome. Please address them to the editor, white@indiana.edu, and copy them to the assistant editor doug@insccap.org. State whether you would like your comments to be published in the next issue. Past issues of Safety-Net are available at the Safety-Net website, <http://safety-net-newspaper.com/>.



Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

Colaboración de la Comunidad: Necesidad que se Concreta!

Por Mark Kruzan, Alcalde de Bloomington

Colaboración con la Comunidad es uno de los principales recursos de la Ciudad de Bloomington con el servicio al público. Unir fuerzas con grupos tales como el gobierno del Condado, organizaciones locales y sin fines de lucro, empresas e instituciones de educación permite a la Ciudad y los organismos en esta asociación maximizar su innovación, recursos, talentos y dólares, incluso. Hemos encontrado también que mediante el desarrollo y consolidación de asociaciones eficaces con los grupos locales,

Ver "Alcalde," pg. two

Unprecedented State Cuts to Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

By Cheryl Paul, Communications Manager, Stone Belt

The boards of three local non-profits that support individuals with developmental disabilities recently met with local legislators and public officials, in order to share their deep concerns regarding an unprecedented 7% state-wide Medicaid Waiver cut set to go into effect almost immediately. Stone Belt Arc, Options, Inc, and Christole all face drastic changes to their programs beginning June 1 of this year,

See "Unprecedented State Cuts," page four

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ALCALDE

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nos convertimos en uno más, una comunidad muy positiva.

Si bien la necesidad de colaboración ha recibido más atención en respuesta a las circunstancias económicas actuales, el enfoque en la colaboración iniciada hace varios años con la erosión de la red de seguridad social, la reducción de los recursos y el cambio de los servicios sociales y programas de distancia del gobierno y las agencias privadas a las entidades sin fines de lucro. De alguna manera los problemas económicos actuales pueden proporcionar el impulso de «la necesidad es la madre de los inventos», que resulta en una mayor colaboración entre los grupos sin fines de lucro para lograr el resultado deseado.

Estos ejemplos de colaboración eficaz se pueden encontrar en casi todos los departamentos de la ciudad, y me complace poner en relieve algunos de estos aquí. En algunos casos la Ciudad proporciona recursos financieros a través de las becas de Jack Hopkins o de la Comunidad de Desarrollo de Subsidios Globales para la financiación. En otros casos, la experiencia, los recursos o los conocimientos del personal de la ciudad es el catalizador necesario para conseguir dar a estos

proyectos el impulso necesario, agregó.

Un ejemplo de colaboración de la Comunidad procede desde nuestro trabajo con organismos tales como Habilidades Sin Limites y el Centro de la Comunidad Shalom. Al proporcionar asesoría de vivienda o la financiación de modificaciones en el hogar, la ciudad ayuda a garantizar esta seguridad, Asegurando que opciones de vivienda accesible están disponibles para los residentes cuando sea posible. También con este fin, la ciudad de Bloomington se asocia con la Autoridad de Vivienda de Bloomington y Fifth Third Bank, para ejecutar programas como el “Día de Recuperar la Noche a nivel Nacional” y el Fifth Third Bank E Bus “Programa de Ser Dueño de su Casa”. A través de estos esfuerzos, Vivienda y Autoridad residentes están conectados a recursos en la comunidad que les ayude con su camino hacia la autosuficiencia.

Las colaboraciones más exitosas son identificar las necesidades de la comunidad y encontrar la manera de afrontarlas. Uno de los éxitos más recientes es el de Voluntarios en Medicina (VIM) de la clínica. A través de VIM, profesionales de la salud ofrecen voluntariamente su

tiempo y conocimientos para ayudar a las necesidades médicas y atenderlas en nuestra comunidad las 52 semanas del año. Los resultados de esta colaboración han sido enormes. Muchas de las personas que son capaces de recibir atención médica a través de VIM habrían pasado sin tratamiento o en una sala de emergencia de los ya congestionados hospitales y como su proveedor de atención primaria.

Proporcionar al personal y a organizaciones como la Violencia Doméstica del Condado de Monroe Comité de Estudio y el condado de Monroe Coalición de Prevención del Suicidio a la cual se le prevé un espacio y oportunidad para que los proveedores de servicio puedan compartir información y recursos para abordar los problemas críticos que enfrenta a la Comunidad. La Ciudad también ha formado alianzas eficaces con muchas otras organizaciones incluyendo United Way, la Fundación de la Comunidad, además de Ivy Tech Community College colaborando en esfuerzos tales como el de dar Premios del mejor Voluntario, el día de Martin Luther King proyectos de días de servicio, y las alianzas sin fines de lucro.

Ninguna de las celebraciones de los

maravillosos meses de patrimonio que se celebran o que son patrocinados por la Ciudad podrían tener lugar sin la participación de socios de la comunidad. La Universidad de Indiana, Ivy Tech Community College, La Biblioteca Pública del Condado de Monroe y una gran cantidad de empresas locales que ayudan a hacer que estos eventos ocurran anualmente. La Celebración del día Feriado de Martin Luther King, Jr., el Mes de la Hispanidad, El Festival Asiático AsianFest, el Mes de la Historia de la Población Negra y el Mes de la Herencia Indígena damos a todos una manera de aprender sobre las diferentes culturas que han dado forma a nuestra comunidad y nuestro país, y ayudar a demostrar cómo todas las gentes estamos interconectadas a través de nuestras historias comunes.

Estas y muchas otras colaboraciones proporcionar a nuestros residentes con los programas de mayor alcance y más eficaz que cualquiera de estos grupos podría haber proporcionado de forma individual. La comunidad se ve reforzada por estas colaboraciones, y esperamos más asociaciones en los próximos años.

ciones en los próximos años.

Alcohólicos Anónimos Una Luz en Bloomington

Si tienes problemas con tu manera de beber, nosotros podemos ayudarte. Queremos compartir contigo la alegría de vivir sin alcohol.

Sesiones todos los Martes de 7-9 PM

Para mas informacion llama al 812-327-3275-Ricardo/812-355-7513-El Centro Comunal Reuniones: 215 N. Rogers, Bloomington, IN el sotano de Amethyst House shelter.

Alcohólicos Anónimos® es una comunidad de hombres y mujeres que comparten su mutua experiencia, fortaleza y esperanza para resolver su problema común y ayudar a otros a recuperarse del alcoholismo. El único requisito para ser miembro de A.A. es el deseo de dejar la bebida. Para ser miembro de A.A. no se pagan honorarios ni cuotas; nos mantenemos con nuestras propias contribuciones. A.A. no está afiliada a ninguna secta, religión,



partido político, organización o institución alguna; no desea intervenir en controversias; no respalda ni se opone a ninguna causa. Nuestro objetivo primordial es mantenernos sobrios y ayudar a otros alcohólicos a alcanzar el estado de sobriedad

<http://www.aa.org/lang/sp/subpage.cfm>

Si los Martes no son posible, comuníquese con nosotros para tratar de reunirnos otro día de la semana

MAYOR

Continued from page one

projects and the Nonprofit Alliance.

None of the wonderful heritage month celebrations that are hosted or sponsored by the City could take place without input from community partners. Indiana University, Ivy Tech Community College, Monroe County Public Library and a host of local businesses help make these events happen on an annual basis. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration, Hispanic

Heritage Month, AsianFest, Black History Month and Native American Heritage Month give all of us a way to learn about the various cultures that have shaped our community and our country, and help demonstrate how all people are interconnected through their common histories.

These and many other collaborations provide our residents with more far-reaching and effective programs than any of these groups could have provided individually. The community is strengthened by these collaborations, and we look forward to more partnerships in the years to come.

About Safety~Net

David White
Editor-in-Chief

Doug Wilson
Assistant Editor

Joe Lee
Editorial Cartoonist

SPECIAL SECTIONS

The special sections in this issue are: **Voices, Agency Reports, Volunteer, Opportunities, Youth Programs, Agency Guide, Housing Issues, Therapeutic Jail And Re-Entry Programs.**

AGENCY REPORTS

Each issue of *Safety~Net* has articles contributed from the many non-profit/social service agencies in the Bloomington area about programs and services that they provide, as well as volunteer opportunities.

AGENCY GUIDE

There is an extensive Agency Guide pointing out where specific services/programs are available and how to access them.

WE WELCOME COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS. Please send these to the editor at white@indiana.edu. Sign your name, and indicate whether you would like for your comments to be published.

South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP)

By Doug Wilson, Director of Communications, South Central Community Action Program, 1500 W. 15th St. • (812) 339-3447

SCCAP is a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for low-income citizens to move toward personal and economic independence. Its programs include: Affordable Rental Housing, the Circles Initiative, Energy Assistance, Family Development, Head Start, Individual Development Accounts, Section 8 Housing, and Weatherization.

Operation Back to School is a new initiative by SCCAP

Heading back to the classroom this fall will be a little easier for 2,200 area children thanks to Operation Back to School, a new initiative from the South Central Community Action Program.

Operation Back to School provided \$100 worth of back to school supplies to children in kindergarten through 12th grade in Brown, Monroe, Morgan and Owen counties. To be eligible to participate, children had to be from families with



income at 200 percent or below the federal poverty line.

The families and their children were able to pick out their school supplies and clothing at four locations: at the Target store in Bloomington on Aug. 2, the Spencer Walmart on Aug. 3, the Bloomington Walmart on Aug. 4 and the Martinsville Walmart on Aug. 5.

“Parents from families who may be struggling economically want their children to have required supplies and appropriate clothes to go back to school, just like anyone else,” SCCAP Executive Director Todd Lare said. “In this difficult economy, we are pleased to be able to assist many of these families through Operation Back to School.”

The \$220,000 that was spent to help children and families through Operation Back to School came from stimulus funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

SCCAP Weatherization Program seeking Monroe County applicants

SCCAP has depleted its waiting list of applications for weatherization in Monroe

County after completing 169 homes with federal stimulus dollars. The organization also weatherizes homes in Brown, Morgan and Owen counties, but has hundreds of people on its waiting lists in those counties.

The Weatherization Program reduces energy consumption in low-income households and insures that each client has a safe, operating heat source. Each client receives a furnace inspection and an energy audit. SCCAP uses private contractors to repair or replace heat sources, install insulation and seal the homes. Homeowners and renters are eligible.

“We encourage families in Monroe County to apply right away,” SCCAP Executive Director Todd Lare said. “The Weatherization Program allows households to reduce their utility bills at no cost to



them while being safer and more comfortable in their homes. On average, across the nation, it reduces energy costs by \$437 per household each year.”

To be eligible to have your owner-occupied or rental home weatherized, your household income must not exceed 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines. The income limits by family size are: 1 person in household – up to \$21,660; 2 people – \$29,140; 3 people – \$36,620; 4 people – \$44,100; 5 people – \$51,580; 6 people – \$59,060; 7 people – \$66,540; 8 people – \$74,020. For apartment buildings to be weatherized, two-thirds of the occupants must be eligible for the program and all units in the building must be weatherized. To apply, call 339-3447, ext. 228 or 275.

South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP)

1500 W. 15th St.
(812) 339-3447

Circle Leaders Take On Housing Issues!

By Bonnie J. Vesely, Family Development Coordinator, South Central Community Action Program

Did you know that Bloomington has the HIGHEST rents in comparison to income in the state of Indiana? Indiana University students provide a lot to Bloomington, including valuable volunteer help for non-profits, but their presence also drives the cost of rent up and wages down. A few students can get together and rent a three bedroom house for \$900 - \$1000, but a low-income family can't afford this. Students provide employers with a steady source of low-wage workers, so employers don't need to pay a wage that a family can live on to people with lower educational levels.

The Monroe County Circles™ Initiative assists low-income people as they work their way out of poverty. Participants, called Circle Leaders, attend a training that helps them analyze their lives and individual resources, as well as strengths and weaknesses in community resources available to them, and promotes the development of leadership skills. After completion of the course, trainees become eligible to become Circle Leaders in an initiative



help, and connections to the middle-class community.

Each week, Circle Leaders and Allies attend community-building meetings that include dinner, a vibrant youth community, programming on topics that can help Circle Leaders work toward their goals. One meeting monthly is dedicated to support group discussion, and another monthly meeting is a “Big View” session. Big View provides Circle Leaders with opportunities to use the leadership skills that they have developed. With input from Allies and Circles™ staff, they choose a problem to address in the local community – or in the state or nation.

that matches them with middle-class community “Allies,” who provide friendship, emotional support, problem-solving

Circle Leaders unanimously chose to work on the Section 8 housing issue because stable housing is the necessary basis for low-income people to work toward self-sufficiency. Everything begins with having a roof over your head so that you can think about dealing with the other issues in your life. The Section 8 program, which provides landlords with vouchers paying a large percentage of a family's rent depending on their income, has been critical in helping most Circle Leaders obtain this stability. Unfortunately, the number of Section 8 vouchers available from the federal government is not nearly adequate to provide shelter for the many low-income people who need it. And the number of landlords who accept Section 8 is also very inadequate.

There are many myths about Section 8 that need to be dispelled. The City of Bloomington's Community and Family Resources (CFR) Commission will hold a meeting this fall for landlords not currently on the Section 8 program, as well as for realtors. A forum will provide information on Section 8 and reasons that many land-

lords find renting to Section 8 recipients to be beneficial, and organizers will lead a discussion of ideas for creating other types of affordable housing in Bloomington and Monroe County.

As part of their Big View effort, Circle Leaders are working with the CFR Commission to organize and promote this meeting. Circle Leaders have also asked Jason Carnes, Field Representative for Congressman Baron Hill, to look into the way in which the monetary amount of vouchers is determined. It appears that Monroe County is lumped in with other, poorer counties to determine Fair Market Rents, and that this reduces the dollar amount of Monroe County Section 8 vouchers in comparison with what is needed to afford rent in our community.

We are fortunate to live in a community of so many caring people, who understand that what affects people in poverty affects everyone. Big View participants hope that these people will come together to help solve the housing problems in our community. Circle Leaders are VERY excited about tackling this problem!

Amethyst House, Inc. is an important community resource

By Julia Dotson. Lead Case Manager

Amethyst House, Inc. is a Bloomington-based non-profit United Way agency that provides residential and intensive outpatient services to people with drug, alcohol and gambling addictions, as well as educational and self-awareness groups for those with potential addiction issues. Amethyst also provides outpatient services in the Evansville community.

“Amethyst House partners with individuals, families and communities

impacted by addictions and substance abuse issues by providing quality recovery services and guidance for clean, sober and healthy living.” Our Mission Statement has evolved from a group of recovering community members who, in 1980, recognized the need for safe housing and sober role models and pooled their resources to establish this service. Since its inception, the Bloomington community has strongly supported Amethyst House.

As federal and state funding diminishes and many addiction treatment programs are closing their doors, Amethyst continues to work toward finding and establishing funding sources through federal and

state grants, donors, and individual and corporate regional partners, to enable us to keep our existing services and expand to meet the needs of citizens with addictions issues. For many, Amethyst House residential programs offer long-term positive and productive alternatives to serving jail time. We work closely with Drug Court, probation and parole, and the court system in general to provide structure and treatment for our clients as they develop independent living

skills within their newfound sobriety. These skills include finding employment, enrolling in school, becoming involved in the Twelve Step recovery community, and establishing healthy relationships with their families and significant others. Amethyst halfway houses offer a safe, supportive living environment with Case Management support and housemates working toward a clean, sober lifestyle.

Not all Amethyst House clients are referrals through the legal system. Anyone 18 years or older is welcome to talk with us about their substance abuse and/or

Amethyst House, Inc.
 Outpatient office: 812-336-3570
 Men's house: 812-336-2812
 Women's house: 812-336-2666
 Evansville office: 812-401-3415
 Website: www.amethysthouse.org

See “Amethyst House”, page 5

Centerstone: Who we are and what we do

By Bill Ferry, Centerstone PATH Case Manager

Centerstone, a not-for profit behavioral health organization, was formed over the course of the past two years as Center for Behavioral Health (Bloomington), Quinco Behavioral Health (Columbus), Dunn Mental Health Center (Richmond), and Centerstone of Nashville Tennessee have joined forces to share strengths and better serve a wider range of communities across southern and central Indiana, and Tennessee.

Centerstone of Indiana offers mental health consultations, acute emotional assessments, and comprehensive psychiatric evaluations to determine optimum level of care and the full range of treatment options. Psychiatric diagnosis and medication management combine with carefully monitored psychiatric treatment and case management to provide a full-circle approach to curing mental illness.

Services include:

- Adult services address mental

disorders of all ranges and severity, from mild depression and anxiety symptoms to serious mental illnesses such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorders. Treatment regimens focus on assisting each client attain the

highest level of independence possible.

- Case management services support treatment action plans, including: home-based

support for clients with severe behavioral health disorders; monitoring of symptoms and progress toward established goals; assistance accessing community resources; education and advocacy; crisis intervention; life skills training; and coordination of medical appointments.

- Recovery Support programs provide an environment of community, education, work, and sympathetic support to individuals seeking addiction recovery. These are peer-support programs designed to facilitate mentoring and sponsoring relationships.

See “Centerstone”, page 5

UNPRECEDENTED STATE CUTS

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including staff lay offs, large scale salary reductions, decreases in employee benefits, and curtailing of meaningful services that provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to fully participate in the life of the community.

Collectively, Stone Belt Arc, Options and Christole serve more than 3,000 individuals and families in Monroe, Bartholomew, Owen, Brown, Green, Morgan and Lawrence counties, providing children and adults with residential, employment, educational and clinical services. Recent news that the three agencies will receive a Medicaid reimbursement reduction equaling more than \$1.3 million -- with a cumulative impact of 4% of their agency budgets -- has created a devastating impact in the community.

“Although the state is experiencing a significant shortfall in revenue, it is unclear why these reductions are necessary, given federal stimulus funding and past state savings in services to people with

disabilities,” said Susan Rinne, Executive Director for Options. “We know that the current state budget included a 2% reduction in funding for Medicaid. This money was supposed to be replaced by the increased federal match authorized through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It would be helpful to know why that decrease in state spending was not sufficient to balance the budget, and why these cuts are being made at the expense of the most vulnerable population.”

Leslie Green, CEO for Stone Belt Arc, spoke about the unique place of non-profit providers in the community. “Agencies such as Stone Belt Arc, Options and Christole are highly valuable resources that are particularly vulnerable because of the budget cuts they are currently experiencing. Community-based, non-profit organizations are the backbone of services for people with developmental disabilities. Our connections with local businesses, governments and donors allow us to provide essential services that are not provided by large-scale, for-profit providers.”

Over the past several years, non-profit agencies have been challenged with changing reimbursement structures

and increased regulations that have made it harder to survive. The recent cuts to Medicaid reimbursements put agencies and a valuable community safety net at immediate risk.

The 45-day lead time that agencies statewide received to make these budget cuts (the minimum advance notice required by state law) is not consistent with the budget period or professional programming standards. “Announcing drastic cuts on short notice to the people we serve breaches the trust they place in us. Essential services such as respite care, community employment, and educational programs are threatened,” Bert Clemons, President and CEO of Christole, shared.

Over the past decade, efforts led by advocacy organizations such as The Arc of Indiana have made Indiana the largest state by population size to eliminate state institutionalization for individuals with developmental disabilities. The cost savings have been more than \$95 million to the state. At the time, FSSA told advocates that savings were to be incorporated into funds to help bring people off the Medicaid Waiver waiting list, a list of individuals with developmental disabilities

in need of services. Over the past several years, that waiting list has instead grown substantially to more than 22,000, while comparatively few people have been selected to start receiving services. With these drastic new cuts the agencies have significantly reduced capacity to serve additional people.

“All three of our agencies are dedicated to providing high quality programs that strengthen our community, even in the face of this adversity,” said Stone Belt Arc CEO, Green. “The Governor and our Legislators need to recognize that, without the essential services we provide, vulnerable members of our community will suffer. We ask the Governor to reconsider these cuts and to direct state agencies to work more closely with advocates, consumers, families and providers to find solutions.”

Stone Belt
 2815 East Tenth Street
 Bloomington, IN 47408
 812-332-2168, ext. 261
 cpaul@stonebelt.org
 www.stonebelt.org

National Alliance On Mental Illness (NAMI): Its programs and goals

By Jill Bolte Taylor, Ph.D., President NAMI Greater Bloomington Area

Our local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in the Greater Bloomington Area is healthy and growing more active in our community. On the first and third Mondays of every month, NAMI, in conjunction with the Mental Health America's TLC group, provide support meetings for families in mental health crisis. These meetings occur at the First United Methodist Church in Bloomington, Room 302, at 7pm. For more information please contact Lee Strickholm at 339-5440.

In addition, our NAMI affiliate is invested in providing education for both the public as well as families with severe mental illness. This Fall our NAMI will again offer our signature 12-week Family-to-Family course at no charge to the public. This course is for family members of individuals diagnosed with severe mental illness to learn more about: the different types of mental illness, how to interact with someone who is experiencing psychosis, the different types of medications, what is going on in the brain of a person with mental illness, how to cope with having a family member with a mental illness, and much more. Through the Family-to-Family Program, we also make available relevant books and videos. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this program, please contact Kathleen Mickel at 812-336-3992 or bonniemickel@yahoo.com. We just finished running the NAMI BASICS six week course which is specifically for parents

of children and adolescents with mental illness. We hope to run the BASICS program at least once a year.

We also provide educational meetings for the general public. This past May we held a panel discussion concerning "What can we expect when our mentally ill loved one ends up in jail?" Judge Galvin, Chief Deputy Pershing of the Sheriff's office, Deputy Prosecutor Trisha Huffman, Andy Chandler from Probation and diversion specialist Dr. Don Weller donated their time. Our local NAMI affiliate is committed to sponsoring these types of educational presentations and discussions on subjects of interest to our members and the greater community. In October we hope to host an "Ask the Psychiatrist" program. Keep an eye out for that this Fall.

NAMI-GBA is also involved in several advocacy activities. First, our Advisory Council to Centerstone meets periodically with Centerstone's leadership to discuss the accessibility of quality treatment and services for our mentally ill family members. Second, we are actively involved with the teaching of the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) educational program put on by the Bloomington Police Department. We believe it is vital to the well-being of our family members who are ill that our law officers be specifically trained in how to recognize when someone is experiencing psychosis and how to de-escalate a potentially dangerous situation. It is important that our police

officers learn to recognize psychosis so these individuals can be taken for mental health treatment rather than taken to jail.

I hope you will stop by our booth at the Farmer's Market or pick up a copy of our newsletter "Brain Pages". You will also be able to learn more about NAMI at the upcoming display at the MCP Library this Fall. If your local group would like to learn more about NAMI, please call and we'll send a speaker to meet with your group.

Finally, our NAMI affiliate is committed to brain research and helping scientists find cures for these debilitating brain disorders. We do this in several ways. First, we recognize the value of brain donation to the Harvard Psychiatry Brain Collection for research into the severe mental illnesses. Second, we participate in appropriate clinical trials ranging from genetic testing to pharmaceutical medication trials. We believe that from knowledge will come a cure, and as advocates for the mentally ill, we use our voices to help these individuals who are often too ill to use their own. Please join our NAMI efforts by becoming a member.

Jill Bolte Taylor, Ph.D.
President NAMI
Greater Bloomington Area
812-824-7411
info@namibloomington.org
www.namibloomington.org

CENTERSTONE
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- Addictions Services offer comprehensive addictions treatment including intensive dual diagnosis treatment for those with both serious mental illness and substance use problems.

- Foster Care Select is a child-placement agency operated by Centerstone, which promotes the highest possible quality of care to foster children with special needs. This program addresses children's individual treatment needs, provides training to parents and in-home support, as well as crisis intervention for children in foster homes.

- Residential services boast a wide range of housing options for those facing behavioral health challenges. Transitional housing, 24-hour supervision, and long-term subsidized apartments for independent living comprise Centerstone's all-inclusive residential programs, one of the largest in the state.

Centerstone has more than 60 facilities across 17 Indiana counties and was recently awarded a 3-year accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). For more information about Centerstone, please call 800-344-8802, or visit www.centerstone.org.

AMETHYST HOUSE

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gambling concerns. Every outpatient and residential client is responsible for payment toward their treatment; with assistance in finding work and budgeting, clients are better prepared to prioritize financial responsibilities when they move toward independent living.

A common frustration among people moving into a sober lifestyle is "What do I do with my free time?" Amethyst offers life skills and leisure programs, including sports, art projects, and connecting with community events, most of which are at no additional cost.

Speaking of fun and free time, mark your calendars for an evening of Contra/Square dancing (lessons included) and barbeque at Harmony School on Saturday, September 11th. This fundraiser is a family event and tickets will be on sale soon at our main office at 11th and Walnut Streets, or contact us by phone. Hope to see you there!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WHAT: An evening of Contra/Square dancing (lessons included) and barbeque for Amethyst House

WHERE: Harmony School

WHEN: Saturday, September 11th

TICKETS: This fundraiser is a family event and tickets will be on sale soon at our main office at 11th and Walnut Streets, or contact us by phone.



How the CROP Hunger Walk benefits people throughout the world

By Rev. Judy Dunson, CWS Regional Direction (IN-KY)

Your participation in the Monroe Co. CROP Hunger Walk makes a difference—one person at a time! The funds you raise are joined with those from Walks throughout the United States to support the work of Church World Service (CWS) and its partners around the world as well as in Bloomington, Indiana as described in the article by Roger Heimer in this issue.

Indonesia

In Indonesia, the CWS-sponsored Permaculture and Sustainable Agriculture training was facilitated by IDEP Foundation, an Indonesian non-government organization addressing the urgent need for (1) sustainable food production, (2) resource management, and (3) environmental education for sustainable living.

Kenya

In Kenya, some 3,800 people—about 475 households—in Kapchemogen community, in the arid West Pokot district, are taking part in a project of CWS partner Yang'at to access reliable resources of water for household and livestock use.

To this point, the people of Kapchemogen have gotten water from a season river some 6.5 miles away—a six-hour round-trip for the women and girls whose job it is to fetch water. During the dry season, men have had to move their animals in search in water and pastor.

Conflicts have often arisen between the women and children struggling to get water for household use and men trying to get water for their animals. The over-use of water sources has led to environmental degradation. In addition, the com-

munity has had no sanitation facilities, so waterborne illness like diarrhea have been very common, especially among children, women, and older people.

So, what is CWS doing about this. CWS is helping Yang'at to construct sand dams, rain water harvesting tanks, and sanitation facilities that are sustainable, environmentally friendly, and culturally appropriate to the communities. Through the project, community members are becoming aware of water issues and gaining leadership skills, and good hygiene and sanitation practices. Women are becoming more empowered, and are engaging in economic activities like basket and ointment making, which are increasing their incomes. Girls' education is being given priority, and, with readier access to water sources, they are attending school in greater numbers.

The United States

CROP Hunger Walks have raised nearly \$300 million in the last 20 years in the fight against hunger with nearly \$75 million being used to fight hunger in communities here in the United States. It is the largest nationwide hunger event making a difference here and abroad, fighting hunger one step at a time.

How to help

Please join us for the Monroe Co. CROP Hunger Walk this year. It is take place on Sunday, October 17, in Bloomington. Materials are available to help you share the CROP Walk story and raise funds. For more information, contact Rev. Roger Heimer at 812-333-5664.

Recover The Passion: Walk For The Hungry

By Roger Heimer

A Sunday afternoon walk in Bloomington on October 17, 2010 will raise funds to combat local and world hunger. It's called the annual CROP Hunger Walk in which CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. More walkers are expected this year when the launching of the event is moved to downtown Bloomington. Much support comes from churches and religious groups who will host a pre-walk education and celebration gathering to demonstrate their unity in the cause.

The CROP walk is a unique way to link overseas starvation prevention with support for local providers of emergency meals and groceries.

The thousands of dollars raised by the walk each year are divided by sending 75% to development projects run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) overseas and issuing grants to 5 hunger fighting centers in Bloomington from the other 25%. The designated local beneficiaries are:

- Community Kitchen
- Hoosier Hills Food Bank
- Monroe County United Ministries
- Mother Hubbard's Cupboard - and
- The Shalom Center

Judy Dunson, Regional CROP/

Church World Service Director, recently described CROP changes to a group of Bloomington walk leaders. Judy, who personally organizes an Indianapolis event with over 1,000 walkers, said that the biggest innovation is the help offered to participants who get monetary sponsorships from web or internet contacts. The group walking in Bloomington in October will represent over 1,000 sponsors, many times the count of walkers.

By no means the biggest walk for a charitable cause in Monroe County, the CROP walk still claims to be the earliest and perhaps the original, event of this type. The slogan or call for the walk remains the same: "We walk because they walk." This reminds the walkers and the public that in developing countries many families walk several miles each day to bring home food and water.

To join the Walk call Roger Heimer at 333-5664 and work within your organization to gather a group to walk together. Advance registration of participating groups enables their leaders to access a store of information for advance education about food, nutrition and development in a range of overseas projects.

Calendar Events

August 21

Habitat for Humanity will celebrate more than 100 homes that have been built in Monroe County with a special event at the Bloomington Farmers' Market on Saturday, August 21. The event will highlight an ongoing photo exhibit at City Hall featuring the work of professional local photographers. The photos were all taken during the 2010 Habitat Women Build.

August 21

Hoosier to Hoosier Community Sale

Want to buy very inexpensive gently used household items? The best sale in Monroe County will be the Hoosier-to-Hoosier Community Sale on August 21 at the IU Stadium from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (early birds pay \$5 to be admitted between 7:30-9 a.m.). Sale items were donated by IU students during move-out. Items include lamps, bookcases, chairs, air conditioners, couches, electronics, small appliances and lots of miscellaneous! All proceeds will raise funds for United Way of Monroe County and Habitat for Humanity. This is a town/gown project coordinated through the IU Office of Sustainability.

August 26

A Guide to Disability Guardianship

The Stone Belt Empowered Learning Series will present a seminar on disability guardianship: @ the Indiana University Innovation Center 2719 East 10th Street, Bloomington **offered twice**

10 am to noon and 5:30 to 7:30 pm

What is **guardianship** and how is it different from other legal representative roles?

When is guardianship **beneficial** and who best serves as a guardian?

What are the **steps** to establishing guardianship for your loved ones?

Space is limited. This event is free and open to the public. For more information or to reserve a space for the seminar contact the Stone Belt Community Engagement Department @ 812-332-2168, ext. 314 / communityengagement@stonebelt.org.

August 29

Wonderlab's Annual Dollar Day On August 29

Mark your calendar for the WonderLab Museum's annual **Dollar Day**, sponsored by Southern Indiana Radiological Associates, Inc. (SIRA)! This special event at Bloomington's science museum will be held on Sunday, August 29, from 1:00 - 5:00 pm. General admission will be just \$1 per person, the lowest admission price of the year, and all are welcome.

WonderLab, a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is located at 308 West Fourth Street. Parking on the street and in the Garage Art facility is free and unlimited on Sundays. A Bloomington Transit bus stop is located in front of the museum, and the main downtown bus terminal is just three blocks east of the museum.

See "Calendar," page 8

Habitat celebrates 100+ homes at Farmers Market

By Megan Niese, Marketing and Communications Director, Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County

102 and counting! Habitat for Humanity will celebrate more than 100 homes that have been built in Monroe County with a special event at the Bloomington Farmers' Market on Saturday, August 21. The event will highlight an ongoing photo exhibit at City Hall featuring the work of professional local photographers. The photos were all taken during the 2010 Habitat Women Build.

Additionally, a building project will take place at Showers Plaza in front of City Hall. Anyone visiting Farmers' Market can participate in the build by pounding a nail. A short program at 10:30 a.m. will include Mayor Mark Kruzan and Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County Executive Director Kerry Thomson. All are welcome to join the celebration honoring the many Monroe County volunteers and supporters who have built hope with Habitat for Humanity.

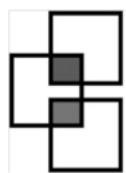


Photos courtesy Kathryn Paul



Habitat of Humanity of Monroe County

213 E. Kirkwood Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47408
812-331-4069 • <http://www.monroecountyhabitat.org>



RSVP Job Links

Achieving success with a friend's help

in partnership with Shalom Community Center, Salvation Army, Amethyst House, SCCAP, Martha's House, New Leaf-New Life, and Area 10 Agency on Aging

RSVP Job Links makes a difference that lasts. Job Links reaches out to the community's unemployed and underemployed through Job Coaching and the Adult Mentoring Program. Both coaches and mentors act as resources to help clients secure employment, stabilize their life situation, unlock their potential, and achieve self-sufficiency and success.

Volunteer Job Coaches meet one-on-one with adults of varying ages, backgrounds, and socio-economic levels. Coaches help inventory skills, evaluate job needs, develop resumes, identify educational opportunities, and link to employers who are hiring. Clients are also connected to resources in the community for additional assistance, including transportation. Through the friendship and support of the coaches, clients can secure steady employment, gain independence, and look forward to providing for their family's future. Free, confidential, non-discriminatory job coaching sessions



are held at two sites: the Shalom Community Center (a walk-in site) and Area 10 Agency on Aging (by appointment).

The Adult Mentoring Program (AMP) connects an experienced, successful mentor with an unemployed client one-on-one over the course of a year. The goal of the mentoring relationship is to empower clients to take charge of their



future through employment, education, and the mentoring friendship. Within the course of a year, more in-depth work can be done with clients on job hunting and interviewing techniques, dressing for success, managing relationships with superiors, improving one's skill set, obtaining further education, making the move to a higher level job, and many other topics. Each client's course of action is personalized, depending on the client's specific needs and goals. After being matched, mentors and clients set their own timetable for getting together. Again, these

sessions are free, confidential, and non-discriminatory.

If you would like to learn more about being a volunteer Job Coach or Mentor, please be in touch. We are always eager to find more talented volunteers to expand the number of clients we can reach. Full training is provided, and no experience is necessary. The commitment is for a minimum of 2 hours/month.

If you are a client seeking services from one of our dedicated Job Coaches or Mentors, please contact RSVP Job Links at 812-876-3383.

Special Section: Therapeutic Jail And Re-Entry Programs

Making a difference: New Leaf/New Life therapeutic programs for incarcerated and released offenders

By Wain Martin, New Leaf/New Life board member

Goals of New Leaf/New Life

New Leaf/New Life (NL/NL) is a local non-profit that works with inmates in the local jail to engage them in activities that help them lead more productive lives upon release and to improve their conduct while incarcerated. With the support of the jail administration and staff, New Leaf/New Life volunteers provide a host of programs and activities in the Monroe County Community Correctional Facility.

Therapeutic jail programs

The New Leaf/New Life Addicts in Recovery@ (AIR) program is based on a community model in which the participants agree to help each other overcome their addiction problems. With light oversight by the Program Manager the group is self governing, setting its schedule, electing senior leaders, and recommending for expulsion the rare member who does not adhere to the spirit of the program. Although the content of the materials being used has an influence, the main benefits from the program come from the group sharing their life experiences, problems, hopes and fears with each other

in the discussions triggered by the materials. NL/NL volunteers provide enrichment programs including play reading, writing exercises, art projects that can be completed and sent to children and family members, music, and even Bingo.

In other programs NL/NL volunteers provide afternoon discussion groups on a variety of topics, including problem solving, making the best of time in jail, substance abuse, values clarification and anger management. Also, NL/NL volunteers provide transition planning assistance focusing on identifying needs upon release and connecting inmates with community resources that can help meet those needs. And NL/NL volunteers provide many enrichment programs for both men and women such as Women Writing for Change, creative writing for men, literature reading and discussion, arts and crafts geared toward strengthening family relations, music, drama, and recreational activities such as Bingo. All together NL/NL volunteers impact three-fourths of the inmates in the jail.

Therapeutic re-entry programs

NL/NL volunteers also support inmates

after their return to the community by providing guidance and counsel and by sponsoring the Crossroads Support Group for all released inmates and the A+ mutual support group for former participants in the AAddicts in Recovery program.

What inmates and released offenders have to say about the impact of NL/NL on their lives

These efforts are having an impact. A former participant in the Addicts in Recovery program writes: "Life is very fun and I'm enjoying living it sober. I have been walking around soaking in the city and I almost started to cry because I've somehow missed all this beauty and wonder all my life. It's like I was just born. Crazy. Anyway, thank you, New Leaf/New Life, for all your help. Your efforts are not in vain!"

One of our Bingo volunteer helpers recently encountered a released jail inmate and was greeted warmly with: "Bingo! Bingo! I can't tell you how important Bingo was to us. Our days are so deadly boring and you all bring a welcome

change and friendly faces. Thank you so much!"

Positive outcomes of the NL/NL programs

The various New Leaf/New Life programs and activities help inmates modify their attitudes and behaviors in ways that can help them become more successful, law-abiding citizens upon release. They also reduce the boredom and tension in the jail and make it less dreary, calmer and safer for both inmates and the jail staff.

You can help to support New Leaf/New Life

Despite all the good things that are happening in the jail, New Leaf/New Life is facing a financial crisis between now and next January when we hope to receive some much needed permanent support. In order to avoid curtailment of our in jail activities we are trying to raise about \$5,000 in the next two months. If you are moved to help with this problem please send a check to New Leaf/New Life, P. O. Box 7071, Bloomington, IN 47407. Contributions are tax deductible.



WonderLab's multi-faceted Water Works exhibit is fascinating for young and old. Photo by Emily Couper

CALENDAR

Continued from page six

WonderLab also is open extended evening hours until 8:30 pm the first Friday of every month, with a discount admission of just \$3 per person after 5:00 pm. For more information, call 337-1337 ext. 25 or visit wonderlab.org.

September 11

Fundraiser for Amethyst House. An evening of Contra/Square dancing (lessons included) and barbeque at Harmony School. This fundraiser is a family event and tickets will be on sale soon at our main office at 11th and Walnut Streets, or contact us by phone (812-336-3570).

October 17

A Sunday afternoon walk in Bloomington on October 17, 2010 will raise funds to combat local and world hunger. It's called the annual CROP Hunger Walk in which CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. To join the Walk call Roger Heimer at 333-5664.

Oasis: Organized Assistance So Inmates Succeed

<http://citizensforeffectivejustice.org/>

If you have been released from incarceration and are dealing with the challenges of life on the outside this meeting may be for you. At an OASIS meeting you will learn about opportunities for housing, employment, health care, and meet others who are coming together to make a change in their lives. We meet every Thurs. 6 to 7 pm in the basement of Mcdoel Baptist church 1008 S. Rogers St (just south of Martha's house). If you are currently incarcerated but know when you are likely to be released and you need immediate assistance with clothes, shoes, a couple of bus tickets, etc. the OASIS team can meet you when you're released. You can contact OASIS by writing to Tania, New Leaf-New Life, by in-house mail.

QUESTIONS ?/ 812-320-8046

Special Section: Youth Programs

This section focuses on youth services in and around Monroe County. For more information on youth programs, please see the Agency Reference Guide, pages 13-16

The Boys and Girls Club

By Susan Rudd, Resource Development Assistant, Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington srudd@bgcbloomington.org • www.bgcbloomington.org • (812) 332-5311

Mission of Boys and Girls Club

Today's youth face life-threatening challenges on a daily basis. If our young people are to grow up and become productive citizens of society they need a place where they can just be kids. At times like these, it's more important than ever that we fulfill our mission and our commitments to our members. **The Boys and Girls Club mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.** They need caring adults to help them develop the strong character and the self-confidence to make wise decisions and positive choices as they grow. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington offer that guidance—and much more.

Boys and Girls Club is national

The Club is a chartered member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. As the nation's fastest-growing youth service organization, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America has more than 4,500 clubs and serves more than 4.8 million children ages 6-18, nationally. Locally, our Clubs serve over 1300 youth annually with over 330 kids participating daily at our three facilities. We continue to receive more requests for service every day.

Programs

We provide a safe and positive place

for kids to learn and grow through our year round programming. We offer them ongoing relationships with caring, adult professionals. Our members are encouraged to participate in life-enhancing programs that are age appropriate and age progressive, with a focus on character development. We are a place that offers hope and opportunity for all kids.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington are about opportunity - opportunity for ALL children within this community. Our three dedicated neighborhood facilities are designed solely for youth programs and activities. The Clubs are open after school, during breaks, and when kids have free time and need positive, productive outlets. Every Club has full-time, trained youth development professionals, providing positive role models and mentors. We have a strong commitment to utilizing staff in fulfilling our mission. Volunteers provide key supplementary support, vital in helping us to exert a positive impact on the life of our members.

Reaching out

The Clubs are available and affordable to all young people. We reach out to kids who cannot afford, or may lack access to, other community programs. Dues are low, at \$20 per year for the Lincoln Street and Ellettsville units and \$5 per year for the Crestmont unit. The annual membership includes transportation from the commu-

nity's schools as well as daily homework assistance. We value our collaborative relationship with Girls Inc. and the schools in providing not only transportation but also the year round activities and support that might fill the gap for productive use of time during the after school hours.

This year round access to character building activities is vital in the life of all children, but for those families that are most in need it can be crucial to their developmental progress. A recent article in Time Magazine entitled "The Case Against Summer Vacation" explains that a lapse in enrichment activities over the summer months can mean a "season of boredom, inactivity and isolation" for these kids. Nearly a century of research shows that these types of lapses and dull summers "take a steep toll" on the less fortunate of our youth. While "children with access to high quality experiences keep exercising their minds and bodies... children without resources languish on street corners or in front of glowing screens".

Tania's story

One example of a member that has benefited from year long programming is Tania. She is 8 years old and has been a member of the club for 3 years. She lives alone with her mother, a first generation legal immigrant from Mexico. Her father is still living in Mexico. Her families'

annual income is under \$10,000. Before she was a member of the Club, Tania was quiet and reserved. Now she is involved in every aspect of the club and participates year round. She loves helping others and enjoys reading. Her involvement in Mitch's Kid's, an after school tutoring program, has allowed her to improve by 111.11% in reading and 94.74% in math. When asked, what she wants to be when she grows up, she said "I want to bake cookies for the kids, be an actress, go to college and help old people cross the street". Tania embodies the Club's mission. She is becoming a productive, caring and responsible young girl.

Support the Boys and Girls Clubs

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington take great pride in seeing that all kids have the opportunity to reach their full potential regardless of their financial circumstances. Of course none of this would be possible without the tremendous support of our donors, sponsors, volunteers and supporters. All of these companies, individuals and organizations recognize the Club as a wise investment and help to guarantee a strong future for America's youth. We couldn't do it with them!

To learn more about the Boys and Girls Clubs of Bloomington, go to our website at: www.bgcbloomington.org or contact us by phone at 812-332-5311.

Special Section: Voices

Voices provides a space for writings from people in our community.

Southern Appalachian Poverty, 2001

By Bonnie Vesely

Forget the starkly picturesque
photo ops:
Granny in her front porch rocker
puffing on a cob pipe,
hordes of family around her;
boys in one-strap overalls,
girls in faded, over-worn dresses. Cornfield, wild greens,
a hog. Patchwork quilt on a sagging clothesline,
hugging a rugged mountain.

That's gone. It disappeared into the yawning
maw of mine openings, and closings,
the buzzing maul of loggers' saws,
the crushing track of coal train engines.

Those same tracks still lead to enormous train yards,
post-industrial, post-apocalyptic desolation.
Along the tracks wind roads, miles of inclines and declines, heart-
stopping switchbacks. There are towns:
truly blink-your-eyes-and-miss-it towns. Boarded stores,
long-gone gas pumps, a few tiny grayed, aluminum-sided homes on
hard-baked earth. Active unemployment offices, youth services.

Such disturbed ground yields no comfort.
Just beyond, the green and unfaded mountains refuse to yield.

Special Section: Housing Issues

Emergency Shelter Task Force Formed

By James C. Riley

Community members who responded to Tom Capshew's call for a Homelessness Summit in June identified needs in four areas: prevention and support, agency collaboration and communication, health care, and emergency shelter. The nearly seventy people then broke into groups to discuss each need. Twenty people attending the afternoon session on shelter decided to form an Emergency Shelter Task Force, which has continued meeting since the summit, most recently on July 27, and grown to 40 members. (Meetings appear in the HT's Advance notices.)

The Emergency Shelter Task Force (ESTF) has identified three community needs: a permanent low barrier shelter with its own building, a family shelter, and week-end day shelter, to supplement Shalom's week-day program. In three meetings so far the ESTF has begun collecting information about services for homeless persons already provided by agencies in Bloomington and Monroe County, scouting possible sites, investigating funding, and talking to stakeholders. The aim is to use this information to decide which need to address first and how to find resources.

The ESTF is the most recent in a series of task forces that have worked on the

shelter needs in this community, going back to the early 1990s. Some of those task forces led to new agencies and new services. Shalom, organized in 2000, provides meals, a wide range of services, and day shelter during the week. Shelter, Inc. which closed in 2003, operated family and night shelter programs in several locations, but overextended itself. Martha's House, organized after Shelter, Inc. closed, provides a high barrier night shelter for people who are alcohol- and drug-free and ready to begin a program of services. In 2008 Trinity Episcopal Church and Shalom, working together, began hosting individuals, and occasionally a parent with child or children, without requiring that night shelter guests be alcohol and drug-free or that they stick to a plan for services in order to continue to get shelter. That program operated again in 2009-2010 as the Interfaith Winter Shelter (IWS) in three churches and a city-owned building, and is planned for the 2010-2011 winter as well. And in June 2010 Genesis Church opened a summer shelter that is projected to continue to the end of October, when the Interfaith Winter Shelter will re-open. Both Genesis and the Interfaith Winter Shelter are operating on an interim basis,

from month to month or season to season. Both want to be involved in the formation of a permanent low barrier shelter.

IWS and Genesis programs have provided shelter most nights to between 25 and 40 people. Some of those people return night after night, but there are also new guests who stay for a few nights, and former guests who return after an absence, indicating that more than 40 individuals are homeless in our community on a given night. Bloomington police report also that, in January 2010 in bitterly cold weather, there were people sleeping outside in make-shift encampments in different parts of the city and county. Even with the programs operated by Martha's House and Backstreet Mission, which provides shelter within a mission program, there remains a need for at least 25 to 35 beds a night.

It is more difficult to determine how many families need shelter. Shalom's count made in 2006 suggests about one new family a week but does not indicate how long those families remained in need. During 2009-2010 MCCSC provided additional help to 12 students who were homeless at some point in the year, but suspects that many families are reluctant

to ask for such help; parents fear that their children may be taken from them. Other sources indicate a need that amounts, at a minimum, to two or three families at any time.

As for day shelter, more than 100 people have been eating breakfast, and sometimes up to 200 people lunch, at Shalom in spring and summer 2010. This community now has meal programs at Shalom, the Community Kitchen, Geno's cafeteria, a Saturday afternoon mobile kitchen, and several churches that, in combination, serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner every day of the week. But we have no place for people to get out of the weather, or to rest, on week-ends or in evenings before the shelters open.

All three needs—night, family, and week-end day shelter—have long been acknowledged by social service agencies, volunteers in the existing shelter programs, and city, township, and county authorities. At this moment priorities may be shaped by what can be done first, given the resources the ESTF can find, as well as by what most needs to be done. If you wish to join this effort, contact Jim Riley at rileyj@indiana.edu.

You Have Rights if You are a Renter and Your Home is Being Foreclosed

By Sam Allison, Monroe County Recorder
E-Mail: sallison@co.monroe.in.us • Phone: (812) 349-2536

A major change in federal law occurred in the spring of 2009, and it gives renters much more protection if their landlords wind up in foreclosure. But this important information may not be reaching everyone. Also, it appears that not everyone is playing by the rules.

The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty reports that the **"Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act"** affords tenants the right to remain in a foreclosed property for at least 90 days. In some circumstances, renters can remain in the property until the end of their lease. This was a dramatic shift from the situation that renters faced prior to May 2009, when even tenants who had been paying their rent on time could be evicted with little or no notice.

Unfortunately, the National Alliance to End Homelessness is reporting that banks that take over foreclosed properties are still sometimes failing to inform renters about their rights, or even illegally evicting them. This issue could get even worse as a new wave of foreclosures is expected for rental properties nationwide. In fact, the National Alliance to End Homelessness also reports that 40% of all families that currently face foreclosure are low-income renters.

More information about your rights as a renter are available at: <http://www.nlihc.org/template/page.cfm?id=227>.

If you, or any other renters you know, are facing a situation where a bank or mortgage company is trying to illegally force you out of your home, then I want to know about it. Please feel free to contact me, Monroe County Recorder Sam Allison, directly at (812) 349-2536 or at sallison@co.monroe.in.us

Interfaith Winter Shelter Initiative

By Governing Board of the Interfaith Winter Shelter Initiative

From November 1 to March 31, several faith-based facilities and communities will be providing overnight shelter for homeless guests. This was a project started in 2009 by Trinity Church with the cooperation of the Shalom Community Center and in 2010 expanded to include cooperation with 21 faith-based communities, as well as the City of Bloomington. There were several Shelter sites and these sites rotated during the week as sites for overnight stay (one site per night). The IWSI recruited and trained 461 volunteers during the 2009-2010 winter season. These volunteers provided over 5800 hours of volunteer service. On an average night, 30 to 40 homeless people, both men and women stayed at a site. This project will continue again this coming winter, and potential volunteers are urged to attend the volunteer training sessions to learn more. Training dates for "NEW" volunteers have been scheduled. The first training will be on October 5th from 6-9 PM at First Christian Church downtown. A second training for new volunteers will be held at First United Church on East Third Street from 6-9 PM on October 13th. In order to be a volunteer at any of the IFWS sites one must have gone through one of these basic trainings. Already trained volunteers will be invited to refresher updates at specific sites.

About the Bloomington Catholic Worker

By Laura Ertmer, Bloomington Catholic Worker,
577 Graham Place, Bloomington, IN 47401 • 812 339 4456

The BCW is an ecumenical Christian community that tries to live, pray and work both with each other and with the poor we encounter. The BCW is a community in the tradition of the Catholic Worker movement, but has no institutional affiliation with the Catholic Church. The Catholic Worker movement lives the vision of Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin, who believed that a peaceable revolution would result if people imitated Christ's non-violence, voluntary poverty, and radical hospitality. We take personal responsibility for the well-being of all our neighbors by opening our homes to people facing homelessness.

The BCW community is composed of eight adults, two children, and five guests. Our guests stay with us as long as they need and participate in the community to the extent that they feel comfortable. We are not a service agency, but rather a family in which all are welcome to share in giving and receiving love.

The BCW hosts a potluck dinner at 6 pm every Thursday. All are welcome to attend. On the second Thursday of each month we invite a speaker to lead a round-table discussion. On August 12 Julie and Bruce Pearson will speak on Justice System Activism, on September 9 Father Alias will speak about Our Lady, and on October 14th Liz Mitchell will speak about racism. We are currently located on the south side of town, just past Bloomington High School South. However, once we finish renovating our house on Blair Avenue (near MCUM and Tri-North), we'll be moving up to the Hill. Please feel free to join us for potluck any time – no need to call ahead unless you need a ride. We welcome people of all faiths, genders, sexual orientations, and economic situations.

Dear Friends,

I am one of the guests at this community. I have been living here since February 2010. I found out about this community through one of my good friend's, Mike. I really want to thank this community for helping me a lot during this time when I had a big problem and was feeling bad. Since I have come here, everyone is taking care of me like a family member. Each member of this community gives me a lot of love and kindness. I hope that one day I will stand on my feet and help this community as they did for me because since I came here, I have never felt that I am with strangers or in a new place. Now I feel that I have another family in US, a great family. They always check to make sure I have a comfortable place, enough food, or if I have any problem in my personal life. I am sure that I will never forget what this community is doing for me right now. The other thing is that whenever they go somewhere or have any kind of party, they invite me in order to keep me not feeling sad, strange or get bored sitting at home. I am glad to join them always and it is wonderful experience for me. Beside this, I learn more about

American culture and about Christian people – about whom I had no information about before. I am learning the language, cooking American food, and learning about agriculture -- which I knew before but am now learning in an American style. Therefore, I am not only living with this family community, I am learning too. I pray to God to keep this community healthy, happy, and successful all the time. This would be one of my wish that one day I could do something for this community to convince my heart that at least I am able to do something for the people as this community is doing for others. I am sure I will achieve my goal soon by helping, with God's help, this community and friends.

Sincerely,
RA

Genesis Summer Shelter House for the homeless is a new overnight shelter in Bloomington

By Kurt Buehler, Genesis Summer Shelter House Representative

The Genesis Summer Shelter House (GSSH) provides a low barrier, safe summer environment for persons to receive proper shelter and to get a good night's rest, no matter what their emotional, physical, or economic circumstances might be. GSSH was opened on June 7, 2010, to meet the needs of homeless persons during the summer months when the Interfaith Winter Shelter is not in operation.

GSSH operates on the grounds of Genesis Church, located just north of the IU stadium on the 45/46 bypass. GSSH is a Christian faith-based shelter and is supported by area congregations, individuals, and businesses. This support includes site volunteers, supplies, and financial resources.

Transportation is provided for guests to the shelter each evening via our bus

from the Monroe County Public Library at 8:30 p.m. Check-in is available until 9:30 p.m. as long as space is available. Guests are returned to the library the following morning by 8:00 a.m. While at the shelter, guests are provided with a light snack and drinks in the evening, and coffee and juice in the morning. Other basic personal care supplies are provided as available. There is no required "program" or other offered "services."

GSSH is a low barrier shelter, which means that no breath test is required for admittance. Guests are required to check all personal items, including medications and alcohol into our monitored storage area upon arrival each night. All items are returned to guests as they leave the shelter the following morning.

Escape planning for your home

Scott Smith, Fire Prevention Officer,
Bloomington Fire Dept., 812-349-3888 • smiths@bloomington.in.gov

In 2008, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,451,500 fires. These fires caused 3,320 civilian deaths and 16,705 civilian injuries. In the same year, 103 firefighters were fatally injured while on duty. There were 80,100 firefighter injuries in 2007. In 2008, home structure fires caused 83% of the civilian fire deaths and 79% of the civilian fire injuries.

Homes include one-and two-family dwellings, apartments, townhouses, row houses, and manufactured homes. Fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds. Your ability to get out depends on advance warning from smoke alarms, and advance planning — a home fire escape plan that everyone in your family is familiar with and has practiced.



Facts and figures

- Only one-fifth to one-fourth of households (23%) have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan to ensure they could escape quickly and safely.
- One-third of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often less. And only 8% said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!

Special Section: Volunteer Network

Volunteer Opportunities outlines the multiple opportunities to lend a hand in and around Bloomington. The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network keeps a huge archive of volunteer positions for all ages and skills at <http://bloomington.in.gov/volunteer/>.

By Elizabeth D. Savich, Director City of Bloomington Volunteer Network • savichb@bloomington.in.gov

Each One Feed One - Food Drive - Aug. 27, 28, 29

Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) needs your help on Aug. 27, 28 and 29 to make this food drive a success! 250 volunteers will collect more than 15,000 pounds of food during this two-day event. Store volunteers will collect donations at area grocery stores. You may bring a chair if you like. (Shifts: Fri. 5-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m.; Sun. 1-4 p.m.) Sorters will be stationed at MCUM; some heavy lifting is required. (Shifts: Sat. 9 a.m.-noon; Sun. noon-3 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.) Store coordinators & assistants serve as store and volunteer liaisons and transport donations from stores to MCUM. Repeated lifting is required. Pickup trucks and vans are needed. (Shifts: Fri. 4-9 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. noon-6 p.m.) Adults and teens welcome. Those 15 and younger may volunteer as store volunteers if accompanied by an adult. Please contact Meri Reinhold at (812) 339-3429 or mcum@bloomington.in.us. (www.mcum.org)

Summer Breakfast Prep and Delivery

The Community Kitchen of Monroe County needs your help preparing, assembling and delivering free sack breakfasts distributed to children in low-income neighborhoods during the summer. The prep shift is from 7 to 8:30 a.m. and the delivery shift runs from 8:15-11:15 a.m. (2 volunteers needed). Delivery volunteers help the driver load the van and hand out breakfasts at each stop. Volunteers are also needed to help with dinner preparation Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and with serving from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Minimum age is 14 (10 if accompanied by an adult). Phone is the preferred method of contact. Please contact Annie Brookshire at (812) 332-0999 or volunteer@monroecommunitykitchen.com. (www.monroecommunitykitchen.com)

Summer Shelter Monitors

Genesis Summer Shelter House provides nightly shelter to homeless persons seven days a week. Volunteer monitors are needed from 8 p.m.-midnight, midnight-4 a.m., and 4-8 a.m. Each shift has specific duties, such as registering guests, checking in personal items, and accompanying persons to the bathroom and smoking break areas. Volunteers are also needed for 2-3 hours in food preparation and serving, security, and bus driving. There are many opportunities to share time and to build

positive relationships with the guests and with other volunteers. Volunteers must complete a one hour training prior to being scheduled, and must be at least 18 and provide two personal references with their application. Please contact Genesis Church at (812) 336-5757 or summer.shelter.house@gmail.com.

Help Someone Give Back!

Citizen Advocacy of South Central Indiana, Inc. (CASCI) supports one-to-one matches between citizens with disabilities and other members of the community for friendship and advocacy. CASCI is seeking a volunteer advocate to assist an individual with a disability make new friends and give back by volunteering. This person also likes to take walks around town and would be interested in someone to exercise with. He is looking for a positive role model and someone to help him use his time constructively. Please contact CASCI today and make a new friend. One-on-one initial and on-going training provided plus two group trainings for Advocates and one social event for Partners and Advocates offered each year. Advocates are matched with partners based on mutual interests. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Diana Reynolds at (812) 219-1637 or casci.inc@gmail.com. (<http://casciweb.org>)

Music therapy

Southern Care Hospice is looking for volunteers to do musical activities with hospice patients and other residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. These activities are arranged through hospice, which also provides free training and orientation, background checks and TB tests. Please contact Kimberly Burton at (812) 334-8343 or kburton@southernca-reinc.com. (www.southernca-reinc.com)

Management Team

Special Olympics Monroe County is growing, with over 200 athletes and more to come. Team members are needed to raise funds, recruit and coordinate volunteers and assist in maintaining records. Team members may also work with the athletes during practices and tournaments. Volunteers attend classroom training for 1 ½ hours and are subject to a background check.

Please contact Denise Brown at (812) 325-1548 or soimc.cc@gmail.com. (www.soimc.org)

Employee Training Assistant

A volunteer is needed by Options to

assist their Employee Development Coordinator with the following duties: administrative support (copying, filing, data entry); developing training materials (research, creative presentations); classroom assistance (co-teach classes for staff). Volunteers should be able to work independently and be comfortable using a computer and conducting general office administration tasks. Volunteers should have a positive attitude and interest in enriching the lives of people with disabilities. Please contact January Jones at (812) 332-9615 ext. 228 or jjones@optionsfbl.com. (www.optionsfbl.com)

Bargain Boutique

Do you love clothes? Then consider volunteering for a weekly or bi-weekly shift in the My Sister's Closet store, which is an outlet for new and gently used professional clothing. Their mission is to provide work force attire to low-income women pursuing employment. Tasks include processing donations, tagging and displaying clothing, and helping women select attire. No retail experience is needed; training is provided. All ages are welcome. Please contact Dorothy Hawkins at (812) 355-6842 or hawk81439@aol.com. (www.sisterscloset.org)

Repack Assistants

As part of the Meal Share Program of Hoosier Hills Food Bank, small groups and individuals are needed to repackage prepared foods donated from local restaurants, catering companies and cafeterias. "Repack" occurs every Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 5:30 - 7 p.m. Can you sign up a group for a once-a-month commitment (i.e. first Fri. of the month) or come just once? Due to health/safety issues, volunteers must be over 12. Please contact Kai Westerfield at (812) 334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org. (www.hhfoodbank.org/meal_share_repacker.htm)

Cooking!

The Circles Initiative Cooking Team needs new members on several Thursday evenings. You will assist with meal planning, preparation, serving and cleanup for this innovative anti-poverty program of the South Central Community Action Program. Cooks start about 4:30 p.m. preparing for the 6 p.m. meal which serves about 50 participants each Thursday. Cleanup is finished by about 7:30 p.m. You are welcome to assemble a team of 5-7 friends or volunteer as an individual. Some people

enjoy cooking a dish at home and bringing it to serve, while others enjoy cooking in the kitchen at St. Marks Methodist Church. Your volunteer experience will include interaction with fun, friendly people. You can volunteer as often as you like; there is not necessarily a week-to-week obligation. Minimum age is 18, unless accompanied by an adult. Please contact Genese Parker at 339-3447 ext. 283 or genese@insccap.org. (www.insccap.org)

Harvest Food

Volunteers are needed for the gleaning program of the Hoosier Hills Food Bank, harvesting excess produce from local farms. The harvest is then distributed for free to those in need of emergency food assistance in South Central Indiana. Gleaning opportunities, some of which are regular and some impromptu, are announced through an e-mail list, online or by phone. No prior experience necessary, as training is provided during the sessions. An ability to drive to the farm is not necessary but greatly appreciated. Adults and teens welcome. Please contact Jessica Williams at (812) 334-8374 or garden@hhfoodbank.org. (www.hhfoodbank.org/glean.htm)

Furniture Pickup and Distribution

Volunteers are needed to pick up donated furniture and to distribute it to those in need through a program called the St. Vincent De Paul Society. You can volunteer individually during the week or with a group of volunteers on Saturdays. The time requirement is very flexible, from a few hours a month to a few hours a week. Volunteers with pick up trucks are also needed. Adults and teens welcome. Please contact Donald Van Arman at (812) 361-3344 or Donald@VanArman.com. (www.bloomingtonsvdp.org)

City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

401 N. Morton Street, Suite 260
PO Box 100
Bloomington IN 47402
812-349-3472
fax: 812-349-3483
volunteer@bloomington.in.gov
savichb@bloomington.in.gov
www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Bloomington-Volunteer-Network/56202931201?ref=ts>

Directory of agencies and services

This directory outlines several agencies and services available to residents of Monroe County. Additionally, many listings provide contact information for prospective volunteers. For more extensive articles about many of these agencies and services, see earlier issues of Safety-Net at <http://safety-net-newspaper.com/>. Several of the agencies and services described provide multiple forms of aid. Unless otherwise noted all services and agencies are located in Bloomington.

Addiction Counseling

Amethyst House

Address: 645 N. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 336-3570

Web: www.amethysthouse.org

Volunteer Contact: Gina Lovell ([812]336-3570 x10; amethyst@bloomington.in.us)

About: Provides structured living environments, treatment, and recovery services for individuals with addictions. Amethyst House operates three transitional living facilities: (1) a men's 1/2 way house, (2) a women's 1/2 way house that serves women and their dependent children up to 6 years old, and (3) a men's 3/4 way house. Amethyst house also operates an outpatient treatment facility in Bloomington as well as Evansville.

Centerstone of Indiana, Inc.

Address: 645 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 339-1691

About: Provides services for people with behavioral and mental health challenges, such as depression, stress, panic disorders, alcohol and chemical dependencies, phobias, child behavioral disorders, grief and loss, marital and family problems, and severe and persistent emotional disorders. Services provided include psychiatry, 24-hour emergency services, and vocational and residential services. Centerstone hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Appointments must be made for services in the evening and weekend.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Address: Hours and locations vary.

Phone: (812) 334-8191

Web: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org

About: Provides support for those wanting to stop alcohol consumption.

AIDS/HIV Services

Bloomington Hospital Positive Link

Address: 333 E. Miller Dr.

Phone: (812) 353-9150

Web: www.bloomingtonhospital.org

About: About: HIV testing and extensive care coordination for those living with HIV/AIDS. Serve as a community resource regarding HIV/AIDS education and awareness. Also offer Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Syphilis testing.

Clothing, furniture, housewares

Backstreet Missions Thrift Store

Address: 1911 S. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 333-3341

Monroe County United Ministries

Address: 827 W. 14 Ct.

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Volunteer Contact: Rebecca Gordan ([812]353-9150; mcmhelp@bloomington.in.us)

About: Provides a subsidized Child-Care Program for low-income families in Monroe County, which includes a year-round program for children two to six years old, and a summer camp subsidized child-care for children ages six to ten, when school is out of session. All care-givers in the families either work full time or attend school part-time and work part-time. There is also an Emergency Services Program that assists families who are experiencing a short-term crisis. The Emergency Services Program includes a food pantry, a clothing program, and financial assistance for rent or utility payments.

My Sister's Closet of Monroe County, Inc.

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St.

Web: www.mysistersclosetofmonroeco.org

Volunteer Contact: JoAnne Bunnage ([812]335-6603; jbunnage@indiana.edu)

About: Provides low-income women with free interview and workplace apparel, helping them overcome hurdles they face to independence and family self-sufficiency. Also sells used, affordable clothes to the public.

Salvation Army

Address: 111 N. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 336-4310

Volunteer Contact: Monica Clemons ([812]336-4310 x10; monica_clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org)

About: Provides a variety of services, including: food pantry, food vouchers, seasonal assistance, clothing and clothing vouchers, furniture, appliances, household items, hygiene items, rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance, medical assistance, disaster relief, summer child care, after school programs, summer residential camps, adult programs, child care connection, nursing home visitation, gas vouchers, bus tickets, a place of worship, and a thrift store. All services are without charge with the exception of Child Care Connection and thrift store.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Address: 4607 West State Road 46

Phone: (812) 961-1510

Web: www.bloomingtonsvdp.org

Volunteer Contact: Scott Alber, ([812]335-1280 volunteer@bloomingtonsvdp.org)

About: A Catholic led ecumenical society of volunteers dedicated to helping those in need. Assistance is offered in the form of community resource information, vouchers for furniture, and in some cases limited financial help with a utility bill, rent, rent deposit or other essential need. Almost all funding comes through donations and assistance is given without regard to religion, race or creed. Volunteer opportunities abound.

Disabilities assistance programs

Abilities Unlimited

Address: 2620 N. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 332-1620

Web: www.abilitiesunlimited.net

Volunteer Contact: Lynne Argent ([812]332-1620; au@abilitiesunlimited.net)

About: Supplies free services to citizens with disabilities, including the elderly. Services include the temporary loan of durable medical equipment after an accident or illness, such as a wheelchair, walker, bath seat. Individuals who do not have insurance can borrow equipment for as long as they need it. Other services include the supply of Home Modifications for Accessible Living to low income City of Bloomington residents. This includes installation of wheelchair ramps, safety railings, and bathroom renovations. Also offers camp scholarships to young people with disabilities.

Citizen Advocacy of South Central Indiana, Inc.

Address: PO Box 1732

Volunteer Contact: Jo Gilbertson

([812]219-5566; j.gilbertson@insightbb.com)

About: Facilitates the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights and interests of people with disabilities through Volunteer Advocates.

Options

Address: 200 E. Winslow Rd.

Phone: (812) 332-9615

Web: www.optionsfbl.com

Volunteer Contact: Karen Scherer, (kscherer@optionsfbl.com)

About: For over 26 years, Options has provided customer-oriented, community-integrated services to people of all ages with disabilities. Options offers customize services in community living, employment and continuing education. Other services include health care coordination, behavior supports and respite. Options services are available in seven South-Central Indiana counties. Options' mission is to partner with people with disabilities and their communities to bring about self-directed and fulfilled lives.

People & Animal Learning Services (PALS)

Address: 680 W. That Rd.

Phone: (812) 336-2798

Web: www.palstherapy.org

Volunteer Contact: Jan Gavin ([812]325-7863; jbgavin@indiana.edu)

About: Provides Equine Assisted Activities (EAA) such as therapeutic riding and hippotherapy to children and adults with disabilities and to at-risk youth from South Central Indiana. PALS is a NARHA Premier Accredited Center (www.narha.org) and a United Way of Monroe County Member Agency.

Stone Belt

Address: 2815 E. 10 St.

Phone: (812) 332-2168

Web: www.stonebelt.org

Volunteer Contact: Amy Jackson (332-2168 x314; ajackson@stonebelt.org)

About: A community-based organization with over 48 years of experience in serving persons with developmental disabilities. Supports include residential, employment, life skills training and psychological services. With locations in Monroe, Lawrence, Owen, Bartholomew and surrounding counties, Stone Belt's mission is to prepare, empower, and support persons with developmental disabilities and their families to participate fully in the life of the community.

Employment resources and job counseling

WorkOne

Address: 450 Landmark Ave.

Phone: (812) 331-6000

About: Assists individuals and businesses in meeting their employment and training needs. WorkOne provides employment services, job counseling and assessment services, training services through WIA, older worker services through Experience Works, vocational rehabilitation services through Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation, veteran services and unemployment insurance benefits.

Options

See disabilities assistance programs.

Stone Belt

See disabilities assistance programs.

Job Links

About: An Area 10 Agency on Aging RSVP program that helps people write resumes, find employment, and prepare for job interviews. Job Links takes place at several locations, including the Shalom Community Center at 334-5728.

Family Services

El Centro Comunal Latino

Address: 303 E Kirkwood Avenue, Room 11

Phone: (812) 355-7513

Web: www.elcentrocomunal.org

About: CCL is a grassroots, community-based organization that seeks to provide an accessible and safe space for all Latinos, with a focus on Spanish-speaking people, to find information, access to resources and a place to hold community events. CCL's work includes tutoring services for all ages, the medical interpretation network, direct service, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, the Legal Advice Project, Informate—series of educational presentations, health programming, and the Bienvenidos program; a support group that helps immigrants acculturate to life in the United States.

Family Resource Center at Templeton School

Address: 1400 Brenda Lane

Phone: (812) 330-7735 x 50117 and 50120

About: Provides pre-school play groups and story hours, a Free Family Market (a free food source) on Fridays, 2:00-3:30 p.m., and programming for families focused on literacy and family fun; information and referrals for the needs of children and families.

Head Start Program

Address: 1520 W. 15th St.

Phone: (812) 334-8350

Web: www.headstart.bloomington.in.us/

About: Guides children aged 3 to kindergarten towards gaining cognitive skills, patience, sharing, problem solving, hygiene, safety, and practice in good decision making. Free to income eligible.

IN Dept. of Child Services

Address: 1717 W. 3rd St.

Phone: (812) 336-6351

About: Services are designed to protect children from abuse and neglect by partnering with families and communities to provide safe, nurturing, and stable homes. To make a report of child abuse or neglect the public can call 1-800-800-5556.

Division of Family Resources

Address: 1787 W. 3rd St.

Phone: 1-(800)-403-0864

About: Provides aid to families with dependent children (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF), food stamps, Medicaid.

WIC Program

Address: 333 East Miller Drive

Phone: (812) 353-3221

About: Provides nutritional support for underprivileged mothers, babies and children up to five years of age in Monroe and Greene Counties. Applicants must meet income guidelines, live in Indiana, and have a nutritional need. All services are provided free of charge.

Food stamps

Division of Family Resources

See family services.

Health care

Futures Family Health Clinic

Address: 338 S. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 349-7343

About: provides family planning health services for adolescents, men, and women. Services are provided on a sliding fee schedule based on income. Services offered include annual exam and Pap smear, pregnancy testing, STD and HIV testing, birth control counseling, emergency contraception, health education, birth control pills, birth control shots, IUD (intrauterine device), and condoms.

Bloomington Hospital Home Health & Hospice

Address: 619 W 1st St.

Phone: (812) 353-9818

Web: www.bloomingtonhospital.org

Volunteer Contact: Melanie Miller ([812]353-9818; mmiller@bloomhealth.org)

About: Provides care and support for people who are terminally ill and their families. Training classes for new volunteers are offered twice a year.

Hoosier Healthwise for Children

Address: 401 Morton St., Suite 260 (City Hall)

Phone: (812) 349-3851

Web: www.hoosierhealthwise.net

About: A state sponsored health insurance program for children, pregnant women, and low-income families. Applicants must meet eligibility criteria. Free or low cost, depending upon income.

Monroe County Public Health Clinic

Address: 333 East Miller Drive

Phone: (812) 353-3244

About: Services provided include screenings for hypertension, hyperlipidemia, elevated blood sugar, anemia, elevated lead, tuberculosis, head lice and pregnancy; health and wellness assessments; communicable disease education. Call for appointment.

Planned Parenthood

Address: 421 S. College Ave.

Phone: (812) 336-0219

Web: www.ppin.org

About: Services provided include pelvic exams, breast exams, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, HIV testing and counseling, pregnancy tests, various types of birth control, emergency contraception (the "morning after pill"), as well as abortion services.

Vistacare Hospice

Address: 1801 Liberty Dr., Ste. 103

Phone: (812) 330-9640

Web: www.vistacare.com

Volunteer Contact: Cathi Counterman ([812] 340-3467; cathi.counterman@vistacare.com)

About: Provides caregiver relief and companionship for terminally ill patients and bereavement support for family members.

Volunteers in Medicine Clinic

Address: 811 West 2nd Street

Phone: (812) 333-4001

Web: www.vimmonroecounty.org

Volunteer Contact: Shelley Sallee ([812]333-4001 x109; info@vimmonroecounty.org)

About: Provides free medical care, including dental care at the offices of participating dentists, for people living in Monroe or Owen County who lack health insurance and have an income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. This means that the income must not exceed \$20,420 for a 1-person household. For each additional person, add \$6,960. To qualify for medical care individuals must fill out an eligibility form about their economic situation and set up an eligibility interview. Children or adults who qualify for health care at the clinic will receive free care at Southern Indiana Pediatrics.

Housing (abused women)

Middle Way House

Address: 404 W. Kirkwood Ave.

Phone: (812) 336-0846 (Middle Way), (812) 337-4510 (The Rise)

Web: www.bloomington.in.us/~mwhouse

About: Middle Way House is an emergency shelter that provides services to protect and help women who are victims of domestic

violence and sexual assault, and women who feel they are in danger. Services include a safe place to stay, case management, in-house children's programs, legal advocacy. There is also a transitional housing program called The Rise which has self-contained apartments for families leaving abusive relationships. Women and their children can stay at The Rise for up to two years.

Housing (emergency, for adults)

Backstreet Missions

Address: 215 Westplex Ave.

Phone: (812) 333-1905

Web: www.backstreet.org

About: A men's shelter with services including a crisis and 12 month housing program, meals, the provision of clothing, ministry to spiritual needs, job and life skill training, GED classes, and employment and volunteer opportunities.

Martha's House

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St. (office) 919 S. Rogers (Shelter)

Phone: (812) 335-6841 (812) 332-1444 (office)

Volunteer Contact: Bobbie Summers

About: An emergency shelter with 28 beds for homeless men and women. Services provided include case management, food, and clothing. Opens at 4:30 p.m.

Housing (Intact Families/Adults)

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 573 & 577 Graham Place near Bloomington High School

Phone: (812) 339-4456

About: We offer short-term, home-based hospitality to people facing homelessness.

Housing (Pregnant women)

Hannah House Maternity Home

Address: 808 N. College Ave.

Phone: (812) 334-2662

Web: www.cpcbloomington.org

About: A comprehensive residential program or pregnant women and teenagers. Offers access to prenatal and pediatric care. Also offers life skills training and assistance in achieving longer-term educational and career goals.

Housing (Rental)

Bloomington Housing Authority

Address: 1007 N. Summit St.

Phone: (812) 339-3491

About: Subsidized housing, Section 8, Public Housing. Cost varies to income eligible.

Housing and Neighborhood Development

Address: 401 N. Morton Street, Ste. 130

Phone: (812) 349-3420

Web: www.bloomington.in.gov/hand

About: Creates affordable housing opportunities in the City of Bloomington by working through its partnerships with local non-profit and for-profit developers and through its in-house housing programs. HAND provides housing counseling to individuals with housing needs or difficulties and provides a variety of learning opportunities for the community on housing related issues. In addition, HAND enforces the Property Maintenance Code and the City's weed and trash ordinances.

South Central Community Action Program, Inc.

Address: 1500 W. 15th St.

Phone: (812) 339-3447

Web: http://www.sccap.monroe.in.us/

Volunteer Contact: Beth Pankoski ([812]339-3447 x233; beth@sccap.monroe.in.us)

About: State and federal anti-poverty programs for low income individuals and families. Weatherization Assistance, Energy Assistance, Owner Occupied Rehabilitation, Section 8 rent subsidy program.

Housing (homeless youth)

Stepping Stones

Address: PO Box 1366

Phone: (812) 339-9771

Web: www.stepsstones-inc.org **About:** Transitional housing program and supportive service for homeless young people aged 16-20.

Youth Services Bureau

Address: 615 S. Adams St.

Phone: (812) 349-2506

Web: www.youthservicesbureau.net

About: Provides short-term residential care and crisis intervention for youth ages 8-17. Provides other services as well.

Legal and court-related services

Community Justice & Mediation Center

Address: 120 W. 7th St., Ste. 310

Phone: (812) 339-1551

Web: www.bloomington.in.us/~mediate

Volunteer Contact: Amanda Nickey ([812] 336-8677; vorpcm@bloomington.in.us)

About: Programs include the Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program, Shoplifter's Alternative Program, Workshops, Trainings, and Community Mediation Services for

neighborhood, school, family or business conflicts.

Legal Services Organization of Indiana, Inc. Bloomington

Address: 214 S. College Ave.

Phone: (812) 339-7668

About: Cannot help people in criminal cases. Helps people in civil cases, including: Housing (eviction, foreclosure, landlord/tenant); Public Benefits (food stamps, SSI, unemployment, poor relief, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)); Health (Medicaid, Medicare); Divorce or child custody where there is child abuse or spouse abuse; Child In Need of Services (CHINS); Consumer (collections and repossessions); Education (including expulsion and access to special education services and Vocational Rehabilitation); Access to Justice (e.g. denial of a court-appointed attorney in certain civil cases).

Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates

Address: 120 W. 7th St., Ste. 104

Phone: (812) 339-1551

Web: www.monroementalhealth.com/casa.asp

Volunteer Contact: Sandy Rampley ([812] 339-1551 x23; casakids@bloomington.in.us)

About: Provides direct advocacy for child victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. Volunteer advocates represent children in the court process to protect the child's best interests.

Monroe County Prosecutor—Victim Assistance Program

Address: 301 N. College Ave., Rm. 211

Phone: (812) 349-2670

Web: www.co.monroe.in.us

Volunteer Contact: Sarah Lanman ([812]349-2670; slanman@co.monroe.in.us)

About: Helps to ease the trauma victim's burden by explaining the criminal justice process, accompanying victims to court, updating them on current cases and obtaining restitution.

Meals and pantries (no cost)

Meals

Area 10 Agency on Aging

Address: 630 West Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, IN 47429

Phone: (812) 876-3383

Web: www.area10agency.org

About: Area 10 Agency on Aging offers 3 main nutrition and food services for senior citizens.

Congregate Meals — We offer congregate meals at 11 am at the following locations: Spencer Senior Center, Fairview United Methodist Church—Bloomington, Cambridge Square Apts.—Bloomington, Unionville Senior Center, and Maple Shades Apts.—Ellettsville. Seniors must be over 60, and a \$2 donation is requested.

Mobile Meals — We home deliver meals to seniors who are 60 years of age or older and

who are unable to prepare meals for themselves due to illness or disability. A \$2 donation is requested to help cover the cost of the program. For more information seniors can contact Mary Boutain at 812.935.2505 or e-mail her at mboutain@area10agency.org.
Food Pantry — We provide seniors with two bags of groceries and frozen food each month. Seniors must be over 60 and can call 812-876-3383 to request an application for eligibility.

Backstreet Missions (Gino's Cafeteria)

Monday-Friday: Lunch: 11-12 p.m.; Dinner: 4-5 p.m.

Saturday: Breakfast 8-9:30 a.m.; Lunch 11-12 p.m.

Bloomington Meals on Wheels, Inc.

Address: 714 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 323-4982

Web: www.bloomington.in.us/~meals

About: Provides meals to homebound people who are unable to cook for themselves. No age or economic restrictions. To enroll, call number listed. A volunteer will arrange for meal delivery and special dietary needs, explain the costs and how payments can be made.

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 573 & 577 Graham Place near Bloomington High School

Phone: (812) 339-4456

About: We share a home-based dinner every night of the week at 6:00 on the southside to which all are welcome. Thursday nights have the largest feast. Please call so we can direct you to the correct house.

Community Kitchen

Address: 917 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 332-0999

Web: www.monroecommunitykitchen.com

Volunteer Contact: Annie Brookshire ([812] 332-0999; volunteer@monroecommunitykitchen.com)

Monday-Saturday: Dinner: 4-6 p.m.

About: Provides hot meals in a sit-down area as well as cold carry-out boxed meals. Also provides meals for afterschool programs at Boys and Girls Club, The Rise, Girls, Inc., Monroe County Community Corrections JAMS Program, Teen Learning Center, and Rhino's Youth Center.

Community Kitchen Express

Address: 100 W. 11th St.

Monday-Saturday: Dinner: 4-6 p.m.

About: Provides hot and cold meals as carry-out only. See Community Kitchen listing (above) for phone and volunteer information.

First Christian Church

Address: Corner of Kirkwood Ave. and Washington St.

Sunday: Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.

Harvest House Soup Kitchen

Address: 1107 S. Fairview Dr.

Phone: (812) 339-4462

Sunday: Lunch: 2-4 p.m.

Shalom Community Center

Address: 620 South Walnut Street

Phone: (812) 332-5728

Web: www.hoosier.net/~shalom

Volunteer Contact: Pam Kinnaman ([812] 334-5734; pkshalom@ix.netcom.com)

Monday-Friday: Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.; Lunch: 12-1:30 p.m. (except Wednesday lunch, 12-1 p.m.)

About: A daytime resource center for those experiencing homelessness and poverty. The facility is open all day and functions as a Day Shelter for guests, where they can use restroom facilities, make phone calls, and do their laundry. Guests can go there to see case workers, employment counselors, connect with visiting agencies, seek assistance through the Family Homelessness Prevention Project, store belongings, receive mail, use restroom facilities, and take a hot shower.

Pantries/Groceries

Area 10 Agency on Aging

See meals and pantries — meals

Hoosier Hills Food Bank

Address: 2333 W. Industrial Park Drive

Phone: (812) 334-8374

Web: www.hhfoodbank.org

Volunteer Contact: Kai Westerfield (334-8374; volunteer@hhfoodbank.org)

About: Collects, stores and distributes donated food to 84 nonprofit organizations with feeding programs that directly serve needy and hungry people. Distributes about 2 million pounds of food to hungry people each year.

MCUM Emergency Pantry

Address: 827 W. 14th St.

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Hours: Monday-Friday 8-11:30 a.m.; 1-3:30 p.m.

About: Canned goods only. One week's worth provided. Must be Monroe County resident. Must present photo ID, SS#, last 30 days income.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 355-6843

Web: www.mhcfoodpantry.org

Hours: Monday-Friday 4-6 p.m.

About: Provides nutritious food to people in need. Most of the food is received from the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. Also operates a Nutrition Education Program and an organic Community Gardening Program.

Salvation Army

Address: 111 N. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 336-4310

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon; 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

About: Need ID. Depending upon income and resources, can offer one week's supply of groceries. Will not provide again for at least 30 days.

Shalom Community Center
Address: 620 South Walnut Street
Phone: (812) 334-5728
Hours: Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
About: Provides brown bag lunch, groceries.

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Bloomington
Address: 2111 W. Vernal Pike
Phone: (812) 336-4976
Hours: Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
About: Provides canned goods. Must be a resident of Bloomington Township.
Township Trustees Food Pantries—Perry
Address: 1010 S. Walnut St.
Phone: (812) 336-3713
Hours: Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
About: Provides canned goods. Must be a resident of Perry Township.

Medicaid

Division of Family Resources
About: Medicaid is a federal and state funded medical assistance program that pays for approved and needed medical care for persons who meet eligibility requirements. For more information on the Division of Family Resources see the family services listing.

Older citizen programs

Area 10 Agency on Aging
Address: 630 W. Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, Indiana 47429
Phone: (812) 876-3383
Web: www.bloomington.in.us/~area10
About: Offers programs and services, as well as being a resource of information about services for older and disabled citizens living in Monroe and Owen Counties. Services that can be accessed include in-home health-related services, home-delivered and congregate meal sites for the elderly, support groups, affordable housing, assistance for the homebound, handyman services, a long-term-care ombudsman program for residents of area nursing homes, a Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, an Older Workers Program for those 55 and older seeking employment, recreational and arts programs at Area 10's Endwright Center in Ellettsville, and also manages the Rural Transit bus service.

Pregnancy testing, counseling, education

Planned Parenthood
See health care.

WIC Program
See family services.

Rent, utility, bill assistance

First call the Township Trustee in the Monroe County Township in which you live: Bean Blossom (876-5109), Benton (332-6081), Bloomington (336-4976), Clear Creek (824-7225), Indian Creek (824-4981), Perry (336-3713) Polk (837-9446), Richland (876-2509), Salt Creek (332-9777), Van Buren (825-4490), Washington (331-0809).

Youth programs

Big Brothers Big Sisters
Address: 418 S. Walnut St.
Phone: (812) 334-2828
Web: www.bigsindiana.org
Volunteer Contact: Andrea Smith ([812] 334-2828; amsmith@bigsindiana.org)
About: Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana helps children in Monroe and Owen counties reach their potential through professionally supported, one to one relationships with measurable impact.

Bloomington Boys and Girls Club
Address: 311 S. Lincoln St.
Phone: (812) 332-5311

Web: www.bgcbloomington.org
Volunteer Contact: Lily Kleinlein ([812] 334-2828 x232; lklein@bigsindian.org)
About: A guidance organization which fosters the physical, intellectual and social growth of boys and girls ages 6-18 with a special concern for those most in need of service.

Girls Inc.
Address: 1108 W. 8th St.
Phone: (812) 336-7313
Web: www.girlsinc-monroe.org
Volunteer Contact: Lucy Berger, Director of Operations ([812] 336-7313; lberger@monroe.girls-inc.org)
About: Girls Inc. of Monroe County, is an affiliate of a national youth organization dedicated to inspiring girls to be strong, smart, and bold through after school programming, organized sports, and summer/winter camps. Provides programming for girls ages 6 to 18. Services include transportation, organized sports, a teen room, technology, self-defense and homework help.

Harmony School
Address: 909 E. 2nd St.
Phone: (812) 334-8349
Web: www.harmonyschool.org
Volunteer Contact: Libby Gwynn ([812] 334-8349; libby@harmonyschool.org)
About: An independent pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade school providing education to youth ages 3 to 18 from a wide range of economic and educational backgrounds.

Rhino's Youth Center
Address: 331 S. Walnut St.
Phone: (812) 333-3430
Web: www.rhinosyouthcenter.org
Volunteer Contact: Brad Wilhelm ([812] 333-3430; rhinosdirector@ameritech.net)

About: Provides entertainment as well as other programs for the youth of our community in an alcohol, tobacco, and drug free environment. In addition to music and shows, provides programs in partnership with the City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department through the week after school. Several creative and practical classes and workshops, as well as mentoring, tutoring, counseling, and more, are available.

Youth Services Bureau
Address: 615 S. Adams St.
Phone: (812) 349-2506
Web: www.youthservicesbureau.net
About: Alongside youth shelter (see housing [youth]), provides counseling, education, supervised recreation, and transportation to and from school, as well as referrals to a variety of agencies for other needed services. The Youth Outreach Program, in collaboration with MCCSC, works with suspended and expelled middle school youth, and provides these students with intensive, one-on-one teaching to help them keep up with their education while they are out of school.

Additional services

Catholic Charities-Bloomington
Address: 631 North College Avenue
Phone: (812) 332-1262
Web: www.CatholicCharitiesBtown.org
About: Provides education, social service delivery, and advocacy. Takes special interest in poor, disabled, and otherwise disadvantaged persons. Serves residences of Brown, Lawrence, Morgan, Monroe, Orange and Owen counties, especially through mental health services. Provides individual, family, couples and group counseling to the English- and Spanish-speaking clients.

Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County
Address: 213 E. Kirkwood Avenue
Phone: (812) 331-4069
Web: www.monroecountyhabitat.org
About: Habitat for Humanity helps families and volunteers to build homes for those living in inadequate housing. The homes are for families who have an income but do not have the funds to secure a bank loan. The money to build the homes comes from contributions from local churches, citizens, businesses, and other sponsors. Families pay back a zero interest mortgage over 15-25 years. That money goes into a fund which helps to pay for more houses.

Monroe County Safe Kids Chapter
Phone: (812) 353-5437
About: Certified Child Passenger Safety technicians will help you install your child's car seat and answer questions regarding general vehicle safety. If you need financial help with the purchase of a seat, let us know. All services are by appointment only.

Midwest Pages to Prisoners Project
Address: 310A S. Washington St.
Phone: (812) 339-8710
Web: www.pagestoprisoners.org
Volunteer Contact: Tess Hannah (339-8710; midwestpagestoprisoners@yahoo.com)
About: Provides free reading material to inmates upon request. Encourages self-education among prisoners in the United States.

Monroe County Public Library
Address: 303 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Phone: (812) 349-3050
Web: www.mcpl.info
About: Offers books, magazines, audiovisual materials, Internet computers, and free programs for all ages. It serves the county through facilities in Bloomington and Ellettsville, the Bookmobile (with over 25 stops weekly), and the Outreach Van. Library cards are available at no charge to all county residents. The VITAL literacy program offers one-on-one confidential tutoring to adult learners and ESL classes. During the school year the Main Library offers homework help to elementary students and math homework help to teens. During tax season volunteers offer tax help. The library also offers public meeting rooms to nonprofit groups. Anyone in the community may produce a program through CATS for the Public Access Channel

Monroe County Wrap-Around
Address: 645 S. Rogers St.
Phone: (812) 337-2225
About: Monroe County Wrap-Around is a multi-agency committee that provides needed services to families with children. For example, a case is brought to a particular agency, then a representative from that agency can present the case to Wrap-Around and all participating Wrap-Around agencies can play a role in coordinating help to the family in the most effective way. The planning process is done with the families "in the driver's seat". Each family identifies a "team" that works with them, and the team develops a plan based upon the strengths and needs of the specific family. Representatives from families also serve on committees that examine the policies and goals of Wrap-Around. This summer, the Lost Child Fund, which operates within Wrap-Around, is accepting funds to send children of working single parents to camp.

New Leaf–New Life, Inc.
Address: PO Box 7071
Phone: (812) 349-2890
Web: www.newleaf-newlife.org
About: Volunteers work both inside and outside the jail to help inmates, and those recently released from jail transition successfully back into society. Services offered include: employment help; support groups; family support; and community referrals. Volunteer opportunities can include: mentoring; transition services; office work; family outreach; or programming in the jail.