



NEWS FROM THE CLARK COUNTY YOUTH SHELTER

MARCH 1996

NEWSLETTER #6

**OUR MISSION: TO PROVIDE A SAFE ALTERNATIVE
WHEN THERE IS NO PLACE TO GO.**

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:



The months of December through February were a busy time at the Youth Shelter. In order to retain our state license to operate, each year we must undergo a series of inspections by several government agencies. In December our Safe Place program was reviewed by the Indiana Youth Services Association. We are proud to report that our program received an excellent rating and no recommendations for improvement were made. December also saw an inspection by the State Fire Marshall's office. We are pleased to say that again no problems were detected. In January our State Licensing Consultant conducted a two day review. This review encompassed the physical setting, personnel records, youth records, and interviews of the young people we serve. We received an "A" rating from this review. The comments were very positive, but what we were most pleased with was the fact that the young people the Consultant interviewed relayed what a good job they felt we were doing, and how much we were helping them. When worrying about all the many inspections it is also good to know that we don't lose sight of our main mission to provide help to troubled youth. Our final inspection for this licensing year was conducted in February by the state Board of Health. Our score was 93.5%, which the surveyor stated was excellent. While it has been a busy (and stressful) three months we are pleased to know that all the state agencies which govern our child care license are in agreement that our facility, program, and staff are top notch. We hope all the citizens of

Clark County are as proud as we are that the youth of our community have an excellent facility available to them should they need assistance. The Clark County Youth Shelter is here today, and has survived for the past 9½ years because of the love and support of this community. On behalf of all the young people we serve, we wish to say, THANK YOU - CLARK COUNTY.

Candice Chaney Barksdale, MS, CCSW
Executive Director



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

Each December the Youth Shelter selects an Employee of the Year, the person selected for the 1996 honor was one of our Youth Workers, LeeAnn Baumann. The selection of the employee of the year is truly an honor because the person is nominated by their co-workers. LeeAnn was nominated by several staff persons. Without exception every nomination comment focused on LeeAnn's care and concern for the young people at the Shelter and for her co-workers. For LeeAnn working at the Shelter is not "just a job", but truly something she believes in and loves doing. Her dedication to the job is evident in the superior quality of her work, her compassion for our youth, and her willingness to assist her co-workers. The Clark County Youth Shelter is extremely lucky and blessed to have LeeAnn as a member of our Youth Shelter team. Please join with us in congratulating LeeAnn Baumann, the 1996 Clark County Youth Shelter Employee of the Year.



ABOUT OUR STAFF

Two of our youth work staff were honored as employees of the month for January and February. Both Andrea Skaggs and Sandra Peyron were hired in November 1994. They have both proven to be excellent staff members. In fact, this is the second time each of them has been selected as Employees of the Month. Both women's dedication shines through in their willingness to go the extra mile to get the job accomplished and in their interactions with our young people. Thank you Andrea and Sandra for the terrific job you always do!

Our Safe Place Coordinator, Brenda Bramble, is a television celebrity. Brenda was interviewed on Channel 15, February 3rd for a segment the station was doing on volunteer opportunities in the local area. Brenda spoke on the usage of volunteers at the Shelter and through Safe Place.

CHEERS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!!!!

Our volunteers contributed a total of 20 hours to the Youth Shelter during Dec., Jan., and Feb. Those volunteering their time to help at the Shelter were:

Evelyn Moffett	JoAnn Robbins
Rocky Huffine	Wanda Worrall
Diana Miller	Carolyn Gowan
Rick Spurrier	Don Bramble

The Youth Shelter held a Safe Place Volunteer Appreciation luncheon Feb. 16th. The theme was "We Love Our Volunteers". Wanda Worrall was honored as **Volunteer of the Year** for contributing the most volunteer hours to the Shelter during 1995.

We would like to express our appreciation to Wall Street United Methodist Church for the use of their building for the luncheon.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

The month of April is nationally recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. Agencies such as the Youth Shelter conduct community education forums throughout the month to increase the public's awareness of child abuse and neglect and to disseminate prevention information. This year the Indiana Chapter for the Prevention of Child Abuse has adopted the theme "Their Hands Hold The Future" as the focus of prevention efforts.

DID YOU KNOW:

- In the United States last year there were 3,140,000 reports of child abuse or neglect?
- In Indiana there were 60,323 reports?
- In Clark County 1,390 reports?

DID YOU KNOW:

- In the United States last year there were 1,271 children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect?
- In Indiana there were 56 deaths? (This is more than one death per week and is the highest number ever recorded in this state!)
- In Clark County one child died?

DID YOU KNOW:

- In Indiana, in the years between 1978 and the present reports of child abuse and neglect increased by 2356%?
- 47 out of every 1000 children are reported as victims of child abuse or neglect?
- Of the number of youth who have had sex at age 13 or younger, 60% were forced for their first sexual experience?

If you are as outraged and shocked by these statistics as we are please ask yourself, "What can I do to make a difference?" Suggestions for getting involved during April, and all throughout the year are:

1. Join the Clark/Floyd County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse. Our meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM in the auditorium of the New Albany-Floyd Co. Public Library.
2. Write letters to your local,

state, and federal legislators expressing your shock and outrage and ask them to support children's legislation and funding issues.

3. Wear a blue ribbon during the month of April, which signifies your observance of the month. Blue ribbons are available at the Youth Shelter (courtesy of local florists).
4. Request a speaker at your next community or church event. The Youth Shelter or the Council for Child Abuse Prevention will be pleased to provide a speaker to talk about child abuse and its prevention.
5. Volunteer at a youth serving agency. There are many such agencies in Clark County. The Youth Shelter is in need of Safe Place and housesitting volunteers. Please contact Brenda Bramble at the Shelter if you are interested.
6. If you suspect that child abuse or neglect is occurring - REPORT IT! Contact Child Protective Services at 288-5444 or local law enforcement agencies. The law requires that you report suspected abuse or neglect.
7. Love and protect your children. Tell your children often that you love them and hug them often. If you are feeling the effects of stress and out of control with your children call the Youth Shelter (284-5229) or the Care Line (1-800-CHILDREN) we can offer suggestions to help you and your child.

DID YOU KNOW:

● Abused and neglected children are 53% more likely to commit juvenile crimes and 30% more likely to commit crimes as an adult?

"Their Hands Hold The Future", do we want a future of children and adults who are committing criminal offenses? Or, do we want a future of productive children and adults contributing to the betterment of our community? Their hands do hold the future, but our actions now determine that future.

TIPS ON SELF ESTEEM

"Our own self-esteem affects everyone around us. When we feel comfortable about ourselves, we have healthy relationships with family and friends and we do well in school, at work and in our social lives. Low self-esteem is a vicious cycle. When children don't feel good about themselves, they never learn how to build solid relationships. They spread their negative feelings to others. Children don't have to lose hope or stop believing in themselves. We all touch children's lives in some way - whether we're a parent, a relative, a teacher, a coach, a neighbor or a friend. Many children can hang onto the warmth of knowing that one person makes them feel good about themselves."

You can help your child to build a better self image.

1. "Be positive. Recognize improvement and effort, not just accomplishment."
 2. "Learn to listen and talk with children in a respectful way."
 3. "Tell your children that you love them, no matter how old they are."
 4. Allow children to share household responsibilities. It makes them feel competent."
 5. Take care of yourself. Children learn to take care of themselves by watching you."
- Remember, "You are a mirror for your children. Help them see the good in themselves through you."

Source: *Prevention of Child Abuse, Indiana Chapter.*

INDEPENDENT LIVING INITIATIVE

Last fall the Youth Shelter received a state grant which allowed us to begin a new program, Independent Living Initiative (ILI). This program provides training in independent living skills to young people ages 16 to 21 who are not residents of the Shelter. They are young people who are identified by local Divisions of Family and Children offices and Probation Departments as being at risk of

living on their own, but who lack the necessary skills to survive in the adult world. Our first ILI class graduated February 26th. We are thrilled to say the program is an absolute success. You had to only look at the beaming faces of the graduates to see their pride in their accomplishment. Their comments regarding the class and what they learned told us what a vital program ILI is to the young people of this area. Since graduating from the class one young man is now living on his own, working, and continuing with school. One young woman has given birth and is parenting successfully. The Youth Shelter is proud to be able to offer this program to our young adults.

2 - 4 - 6 - 8 WHO DO WE APPRECIATE?
CONTRIBUTORS HONOR ROLL

The following generous individuals, companies, churches, and organizations helped to make our days brighter this past three months. Thank you to each and every one for all that you do for our children.

G.R. Daugherty William Scott
Michelle Rowe Fay Allen
Clark Co. REMC Dorothy Fleece
Ed & Joan Crooks Susie & Jim Boling
Charlie Bliss Johnell schladand
Ellen Shaikun Robert & Wanda Cook
Michael Lanham Don Olson
Dwight Ingle Joseph Easley
Christian Women's Fellowship
Women's Afternoon Fellowship
First United Methodist Church
Amer. Commercial Lines
Dau. of Isabella
Catholic Community
Jim & Barbara Williams
Kappa, Kappa, Kappa
United Methodist Women
Mayer, Vogt, Smith & Palmquist

IN-KIND GIFTS

John Jones Hillerich & Bradsby
Ora Pettit Jim & Susie Boling
Norma French Walgreens
Clark Co. REMC Ray Herdt Florist
Bill Scott American Legion
Barney Harting Tubby's Pizza

Charles King Marcus Edwards
Charles Holland Holy Family School
Lion's Club Storz Novelty
Schimpff's Frito Lay Co.
Women's League Colgates
Clarksville Little Theater
Teamsters Local 793
Center for Lay Ministries
Community Kitchen
Free Enterprise System
St. Augustine's Catholic Church
Silver Creek Junior High School
Sellersburg United Methodist Church
Jeff. Optimist Club
VFW (New Albany)
Amer. Commercial Lines
Knights of Columbus
Church of the Body of Christ
Church of the Latter Day Saints
Clark Co. Youth Coalition
Merlyn Schleicher
St. Lukes Church
Park Christian Church
First Christian Church
Affairs of the Heart
St. Paul's Church
Gladys Blankenbaker
Kentucky Harvest
Wall St. United Methodist Church
Engineered Lighting
Louie & Girdie Barksdale
Bellarmine College
Scott Funeral Home
Eastern Star #3
Greater Clark School Corp.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Contributions were given in memory of Ed Duffy by the following:
JoAnn Robbins Judy Storz

To Mr. Duffy's family and many friends we share your loss. Please know that his memory will live on through your generous assistance to our youth and in our wonderful memories of him.

YOUTH STATISTICS: DEC '95-FEB '96

Youths Residing in Shelter 109

Referral Sources:

Probation	88%
Div. of Fam. & Child.	6%
Parents	4%
Out-Of-County	2%

Aver. Age Served 15 years
Aver. Length of Stay 7 days
Aver. Daily Population 9 youth

Disposition Upon Release:

Return to Parents 65%
Enter Foster Care 10%
Enter Secure Fac. 15%
Ran Away 0%
Other Placement 10%

Counseling:

Individual Sessions 114
Family Sessions 27
Group Sessions 7
(Gp. Participants 52)

SAFE PLACE STATISTICS

Youth Using Program 10

Reasons for Using:

runaway 3
family conflicts 2
lost 2
stranded 2
kicked out of home 1

Business Sites Opened 6

River Falls Mall
Thornton's (Court Ave.)
Thornton's (10th St.)
Thornton's (Hwy. 62)
Turning Point
7-Eleven (Clarksville)

Business Sites Closed 0

Total Business Sites 90

School Presentations 6

Students Participating 785

Youth Using Since 1987 229

INDIANA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PROJECT

The Youth Shelter was extremely proud to be asked to participate in a research project conducted by Indiana University's Center On Philanthropy. The title of the project is "Strengthening the Nonprofit Sector". This will be a 2 year project beginning with an assessment of the Shelter's strengths and weaknesses. Many of our staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers were asked to complete an

extensive survey. The survey results will become our two year work plan. Once weak areas are identified Indiana University will provide us with \$1250 each year for training to help improve those areas. Progress monitoring will be ongoing throughout the 2 year period. At the end of the project our staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers will be surveyed once again to determine our success. The end result should be some long range plans which will strengthen the Youth Shelter as we approach our second ten years of service to Clark County's young people.

"WHAT IS A YOUTH?"

A youth is a person who is going to carry on what you have started. S/he is going to sit where you are sitting and, when you are gone, attend to those things which you think are important. You may adopt all the policies you please, but how they will be carried out depends on him/her. S/he will assume control of your cities, states, and nations. S/he is going to move in and take over your churches, schools, universities, and corporations. The fate of humanity is in his/her hands. So it might be well to pay him/her some attention.

Author Unknown

YOU CAN HELP MAKE OUR DREAMS COME TRUE!

The following items are needed by the Youth Shelter.

- 'Outdoor American flag with wall mounting bracket
- 'Flowers (annuals and perennials to be planted in the yard)
- 'Outdoor recreational equipment
- 'Arts and crafts supplies
- 'White socks (mens & womens)
- 'Cookie Sheets
- 'Muffin Tins (12 count)
- '60 Watt Light Bulbs
- 'Polaroid 600 Film
- 'Poster Board
- 'Movies on video tape (Rated G or PG)
- 'Exercise video
- 'Educational Software (IBM Compatible - 286)

BE OUR ANGEL

A few months ago you received a letter from us on the loss of our beloved "angel" Ed Duffy. During our first 9 years of operation Mr. Duffy truly was our angel looking out for the needs of the Shelter and the young people we serve. Each year we have been open we have seen more and more children needing our assistance. We can not provide that assistance without the angels from our community who help us. It is time to step up and recognize the problems the young people of Clark County are facing and to ask yourself, "What can I do to make a difference?"

You can make a difference by becoming an angel to the Clark County Youth Shelter, make a contribution today. Your generosity will enable us to continue to offer assistance to the many troubled young people of Clark County. Remember "Their Hands Hold The Future", but your actions now can help to determine that future.

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YES, I WANT TO BECOME A CLARK COUNTY YOUTH SHELTER ANGEL. I WISH TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN NEED WITH MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF:

___\$10 ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$200 ___OTHER

PLEASE RETURN TO: CLARK COUNTY YOUTH SHELTER
P. O. BOX 886
JEFFERSONVILLE, IN 47131

ON BEHALF OF THE YOUTH SERVED BY THE YOUTH SHELTER, WHO WILL HELP TO SHAPE CLARK COUNTY'S FUTURE, WE THANK YOU FOR BECOMING ONE OF OUR ANGELS!

ANY YOUTH OR YOUTH'S FAMILY
MEMBER NEEDING ASSISTANCE
WITH A PROBLEM IS ENCOURAGED
TO CONTACT THE CLARK COUNTY
YOUTH SHELTER.

284-5229



THE CLARK COUNTY YOUTH SHELTER IS A MEMBER OF

- CLARK COUNTY STEP AHEAD COUNCIL
- CLARK COUNTY YOUTH COALITION
- INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE AGENCIES
- INDIANA YOUTH SERVICES ASSOCIATION
- METRO UNITED WAY OF CLARK COUNTY
- NATIONAL NETWORK OF RUNAWAY AND YOUTH SERVICES
- PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE, INDIANA CHAPTER

