

Youth Shelter News

A NEWSLETTER OF THE CLARK COUNTY YOUTH SHELTER & FAMILY SERVICES, Inc. (CCYS)

“Serving youth and families in a safe and caring environment”

Spring 2011

What's New at CCYS

As a new year blooms around Southern Indiana, the Clark County Youth Shelter continues to provide services to assist youth and families make their way to a brighter future.

In addition to the Residential Program, which provides shelter and basic needs to youth in crisis as well as individual, group, and family counseling, CCYS offers Anger Management for Teens, Shoplifting Prevention, and Family Education & Support classes to the public at-large. These free classes help

strengthen the fabric of our community through education and skill building.

As a private non-profit, CCYS relies on the support of the local community and local, corporate and state grant opportunities to fund its programming. If an individual or group would like to assist in supporting the youth shelter, donations are enthusiastically accepted! To the right is a list of the most commonly needed items. We also enjoy visiting groups in the community to answer questions about what we do, so don't hesitate to invite us to your club meeting!

Information on any of our programs is available by calling 812-284-5229 or by visiting our website at www.ccysfs.org or our Facebook Fan Page: Clark County Youth Shelter.

To the many organizations and individuals who support us regularly with in-kind and financial gifts, WE APPRECIATE YOU! Thank You for believing in on our community's future: today's youth!

Notebook Paper
Towels
Wash cloths
Twin sheet sets
Travel sized deodorant
Hair Brushes
Puzzles
Arts/crafts kits
Underwear (teen sized-boys/girls)
White twin sized down comforters
Kitchen towels and dishcloths
Bleach
Lysol Cleaning Liquid
Laundry Detergent
Dishwashing Soap
Dishwasher Tabs
Paper Towels
Liquid Hand Soap
High Efficiency Light Bulbs
Window Cleaner
Lip balm
Band Aids
Peroxide
Thermometer Covers
4x6 Photo Paper
Office Depot gift cards
Wal-Mart gift cards
Great Escape gift cards
Zoo gift cards
McDonald's gift cards
Bookstore gift cards
Gas cards
Bead/Jewelry kits
Plastic Storage Containers
Plastic Storage Bags
Napkins
1" school binders



**Thank
You!**



News, Notes, & Coming Events

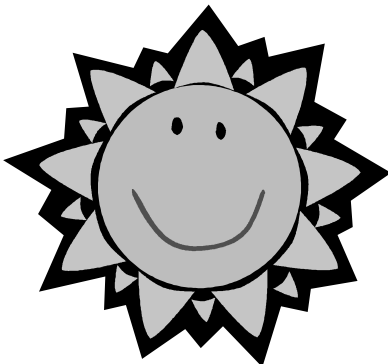
Family Fun Festival scheduled for May 21

The fourth annual Family Fun Festival to benefit the Clark County Youth Shelter is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, May 21, at Port Fulton Park, behind the Howard Steamboat Museum. The event, which features carnival-style games, food, and prizes, is held in conjunction with the museum's annual Chautauqua. Event organizers say the games and prizes are a great opportunity to entertain the kids while adults shop and peruse the items at the Chautauqua.

"The kids love the carnival games like a cake drawing and face painting, but I think everyone who attends is really drawn to the dunk tank," said Amy Schneidau, Assistant Director. This year, the board and staff of the shelter anticipate having locally known business people, teachers, coaches and others to sit in the tank, hopefully drawing in a crowd.

There is no admission to the festival. The games are all ticket-based, with tickets costing \$1 each. Carnival-type food (cotton candy, popcorn, and fried candy bars) will also be sold to raise money for the shelter.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Sponsors who opt for the \$500 level of sponsorship will get their logo and company name on the event t-shirts that each of the volunteers wear. A \$200 level of sponsorship is also available. For more information, contact Amy Schneidau at 284-5229. completely



Thank You Supporters!

The following organizations and businesses have provided considerable support in the form of donations or grants this fiscal year. We thank you for believing in the quality of our programs and staff!

HORSESHOE FOUNDATION
OF FLOYD COUNTY



Community Foundation
of Southern Indiana
Ensuring generosity. Forever.™



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Clark County Sheriff's Dept.
Prevent Child Abuse Clark/Floyd
Jack Hood, Memorial
Micky Reisert, Memorial
Tiny Barthold, Honorarium

Visit us on the web at www.ccysfs.org

Mentoring: A Step in the Right Direction

By Charles Williams, Ph.D.

Nationally, the latest FBI crime data show a noticeable decrease in violent crime across the United States, which includes juvenile delinquency rates — crimes committed by youth under the age of 18. However, disturbingly, during the same time period, we've seen an increase in the number of black teen murders. And few can ignore the recent spike in youth suicides committed as a result of bullying, another type of senseless violence which appears to happen mostly within our schools. However, bullying isn't the only violence issue facing our schools. According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES):



- There were 25% more violent crimes committed in middle schools than in high schools.
- Eighty-five percent of public schools in the United States reported one or more incidents of crime, for a

total of 2 million school-related crimes.

- More than 32% of youth reported being bullied at school.
- About 23% of youth reported that gangs were present in their schools.

However, while youth violence does find its way into our schools and classrooms, much of it starts in our homes and communities. Studies tell us that the lack of a stable home life or a consistent positive adult presence can lead to the development of youth violence and aggression. In fact, research suggests that in the absence of such things, children are more likely to develop internalizing problems like depression and externalizing problems such as aggression — placing these youth at greater risk for violence and school failure.

Therefore, there has been a renewed call for the creation and implementation of mentoring programs, led by President Obama, which culminated in the creation of the President's Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative. The reason why Mr. Obama is such a strong supporter of mentoring is because, well, it works. Specifically, mentoring can develop social and emotional competence (which

is also a tool to prevent bullying), as well as build self-esteem and self-confidence. Moreover, effective mentoring programs can increase school attendance as well as school engagement. Therefore, not only does mentoring address issues related to youth violence, it can also serve as yet another tool in efforts to improve outcomes for students in America's public education system.

Key to this recommendation is funding. Here's a message for public officials and private funders: Find programs that work, and *consistently* fund them. Far too often, programs are funded for a year or two and then cut, which is a problem because research also tells us that without consistency, positive outcomes will be fleeting.

And while I am aware that there is no quick fix or magic remedy to this complex issue, which has many sociological root causes, mentoring is a step in the right direction.

Dr. Williams is an assistant clinical professor in the School of Education and director of the Center for the Prevention of School-Aged Violence at the Goodwin College of Professional Studies at Drexel University. This information was reprinted with permission from the author.

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Clark County Youth Coalition
Re: Clark County Youth Shelter & Family Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 3081
Clarksville, IN 47129

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A member of:
 Clark Co. Youth Coalition
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 Youth Services
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 Floyd County ATOD
 IARCCA



Metro United Way

Return Service Requested

The Clark County Youth Shelter & Family Services, Inc.
“Serving youth and families in a safe and caring environment.”



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I want to give a troubled young person a chance by becoming a friend of CCYS with my tax deductible gift of:

\$10 \$25 \$50
 \$100 \$200 Other

