

# Youth Shelter News

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The Quarterly Publication of the Clark County Youth Shelter and Family Services

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This summer has been an extremely busy time here. We've been hiring staff to implement three new programs: Teen Court, Family Support & Education, and Home-Based Independent Living. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on each of these programs.

### TEEN COURT

Funded through a 2-year United Way venture grant this program is designed to intervene early with first time juvenile offenders. Our collaborating partners in this endeavor are local attorneys, juvenile probation office, and Clark Co. Superior Court #1.

The program is designed to deal with a young person's accountability for their actions.

First-time offenders, who have admitted their guilt, can opt to have their case handled through the Teen Court.

Youth who choose Teen Court are "tried" by their peers. The defense attorney, prosecuting attorney, and jury are all youth participants. The only adult participants are the volunteer judge and the program coordinator.

Youth attorneys present their case in regards to appropriate punishment, which may consist of restitution, community service, apologies, and further program participation.

This program has met with great national success and we are excited to bring the Teen Court Program to Clark County.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Metro United Way of Clark County, Robert C Jones, Kathie Danner, Kyle Williams, and Scott Lewis for their participation in bringing the Teen Court Program to Clark County.

### FAMILY SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

Statistics from the Kids Count Data Book show the instances of child abuse and neglect increasing at an alarming rate. We asked the child welfare department of the Clark County Office of Family and Children, "What can we do to help?" The Family Support and Education program was their answer.

The Indiana Children's Trust Fund (Kid's First license plates) is funding this program that will provide an open-ended support and education group to parents in Clark County. Participation in this group is open to the public and free.

We would like to recognize July Nelson and Susan Long for their participation in creating this program. We would also like to send a special thank you to the Indiana Children's Trust Fund



*"Creating a Nurturing Environment for Youth and Families to Realize their Potential"*

## WISH LIST

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The following items are needed by the Youth Shelter:

- School Supplies
- Unisex Deodorant
- Brushes/Combs
- Towels
- Kitchen Utensils
- Gas Grill
- Small Appliances
- Paper products
- Cookware
- Plastic glasses
- Tupperware
- Sweatsuits
- Laundry Deterg.
- Brooms/Mops
- Socks
- Underwear/bras
- Aquarium Supplies
- Tropical Fish Food
- Cleaning supplies
- Polaroid 600 film
- Arts and Crafts items
- Molding clay
- Sporting Equipment
- Backpacks
- Clothing for boys and girls ages 11-18

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for believing in this program and providing the first years funding. We strongly encourage everyone to support the prevention of child abuse and neglect through the purchase of "Kids First" license plates.

### HOME BASED INDEPENDENT LIVING

We have expanded our Independent Living Initiatives program into nine surrounding counties in Southern Indiana. We are subcontracting with individuals in these counties, whose duties will be to provide in-home independent living instruction to youth aged 16-21.

These youth, faced with making the transition to adulthood, but lacking in independent living skills, will undergo 12 weeks of instruction in the basic skills needed to function successfully as an adult.

We have operated this program successfully in Clark and Floyd counties for two years. We look forward to helping youth across Southern Indiana attain independence.

We would like to express our thanks to the Family Social Service Administration for providing funding for this much needed program.

This is an exciting time for our staff, Board of Directors, and the young people we serve. We are adding these needed services as we continue to strive to create a nurturing environment to help youth and families realize their potential.

*Candice R. Paulsen*



We'd like to thank the following people for their generous contributions:

Herdt Florist      Larry E. Farr  
Storz Novelty      Kentucky Harvest  
Dominoes (Jeff)      ACBL  
Rita Gavin      Ora Pettit  
Karen Robertson      Burning Bush  
Mrs. Phelps      Bill Scott  
American Legion      Joan Hoffman  
Joan Humphrey      Repair Affairs  
Sacred Heart Catholic Community  
Tri-Kappa Associates  
Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church  
Ice Cream Willies  
American Red Cross  
Greater Faith Apostolic Church  
Presbyterian Church  
First Trinity Baptist Church  
Georgetown Christian Church  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
St. Augustine Church  
St. Luke's United Church of Christ  
Community Kitchen  
First Presbyterian Church  
Watsworth Family  
Center for Lay Ministries  
First Christian Church  
Cook Memorial Church  
Dorothy Fleece  
Lions Club of Jeffersonville  
Your donations are appreciated!

# VOLUNTEERS

## Adult Volunteer Roles

There is much activity on the evenings in which teen court hearings are held. Adult volunteers are needed to maintain order among youth volunteers. It is important that all necessary paperwork is signed and any questions are answered about their roles in Teen Court that evening. In addition to maintaining order, adults can monitor proceedings and identify areas that may need to be addressed by staff. Call Kathy Long at 284-5229 for information.

## THANK YOU

Clark County Youth Shelter wants to thank the following people for donating their time in the past 4 months as a Safe Place, special events, or housesitters....

Wanda Worrell	4/98
Christy Schafer	5/04/98
Ruthie Kendall	5/29/98
Sherrta Lee	5/29/98
Sylvia Gardner	6/11/98
Angela Coots	6/18/98
Evelyn Moffett	7/23/98
Joyce Hecht	7/29/98

## NOTES FROM DAWN

### VOLUNTEER

### APPRECIATION EVENT

The volunteer appreciation event will be scheduled when the addition is completed. You will receive a notice when a date is set for the event. I hope that all volunteers will be able to attend so I have the opportunity to meet you.

### WANTED

I have a list of volunteers who agreed to tutor the youth at the shelter on homework and prepare for tests for 97-98 school year. I am currently updating that list to see who

will be able to tutor for the 98-99 school year. If you want to tutor again this school year or now your schedule allows you to tutor please call me at 284-5229.

## SAFE PLACE FLOYD COUNTY

Safe Place needs volunteers to pick up youth that use one of our 25 Safe Place Business sites in Floyd County if you have friends /family that live in Floyd County or any current volunteers that live within 15 minutes of Floyd County please let me know so we can provide better coverage to our new county.

## SAFE PLACE POSTER CONTEST

Safe Place will be conducting a poster contest for school age children this year. The notices will be given out the first month of school and the deadline will be in December. The judging will take place in January and the winners will be displayed at the River Falls Mall showcases closest to Toys -R- Us in February 1999. In the next newsletter I will be asking for volunteers to judge the posters in January 1999.

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Clark County Youth Shelter needs on-call Youth Workers to cover vacations, sickness, and staff shortages. If any volunteer is interested all you need to do is complete CPR and First Aid to be considered for on-call work. This is a paid position so for an interview please contact Noelle at 284-5229.

## Staff Spotlight

In her letter our Executive Director spoke of the new programs we have added. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce two new staff members, who are implementing these programs.

Kathryn Long is our new Teen Court Coordinator. Kathy has a Bachelor's degree from Indiana University. She had a dual major of criminal justice and sociology.

While in school Kathy completed an internship in the Monroe Co. Prosecutor's Office. She also worked two years as a mental health counselor with Charter Behavioral Health Systems.

In accepting the position of Teen Court Coordinator, Kathy stated she was seeking a position that would allow her the opportunity to utilize both her criminal justice and sociology skills.

Kathy's abilities are a fine match for this position!

If you have any questions about the Teen Court Program please call Kathy at the Shelter.

Julie Cohen is our Family Support/Educa-

tion Coordinator. Julie has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Indiana University. In addition,

she recently completed her Master's degree in Social Work from IUPUI. Julie's past experience has included working with adolescents and parents in a school based health clinic.

Julie is spending her first days on the job researching the needs of families in Clark County and in developing

information that will assist in filling those needs.

Julie is actively seeking referrals into the support and education classes. She is also looking for opportunities to speak to community groups about this brand new program. If you would like more information or would like to schedule Julie to speak to your

group, please call her at the Shelter.

We are excited to be able to offer these two new programs to the Clark County Community. Both Kathie and Julie are wonderful additions to the Youth Shelter team. Please join

us in welcoming them!

*"I'm excited to be working with the youth in our community through the Teen Court Program. I'm looking forward to seeing a positive change in the role youth participants of the program play in our community."*

Kathy Long

*"I look forward to using this program to strengthen the families in our community by supporting and educating parents."*

Julie Cohen

## Daring to Care



The Clark County Youth Shelter is participating in the Dare to Care 1998 holiday food drive.

During the months of September and October the Shelter will accept donations of canned goods and non-perishable items for this program. Food collected during this food drive will be used to help feed families through the holiday season.

Please join with us in keeping the hunger away this holiday season. Your donation will make a difference for a family in need.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary at 284-5229.

Thank you for your generosity!

## *Year End for Youth As Resources*

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Our Youth As Resources (YAR) program just completed its second year of service provision in Clark and Floyd counties.

YAR funded a total of 19 youth-led community service projects this year. Just a few examples of projects completed in the two counties are:

- \* Kids on the Block purchased costumes for a child abuse prevention puppet show
- \* Girl Scout Troop #1302 landscaped the grounds at Hedden House
- \* 21st Century Scholars worked to improve the conditions at West Haven Cemetery

For a complete listing of all projects and the amounts awarded please join us for our Year End Celebration. We will be highlighting each project, and the children will be addressing the audience on what they learned. It promises to be a heart-warming evening to reaffirm our belief that youth are our best resources.

YAR Year End Celebration  
September 15  
6:00-8:00 PM  
Mt. Tabor School  
RSVP to Catherine Kendall  
by September 8th  
284-5229

## **I want to help but...**

Today's busy schedules often leave us short on time. For many people, after the bustle of everyday living there simply isn't enough time left over to give back to their community.

Fortunately, there are ways to give back to the community that are neither time-consuming nor expensive!

The following are a few ideas on how you/your organization can help an agency in your community without spending a great deal of time or money:

- subscription to a young person's magazine
- donate discount coupons for food or household products
- purchase tickets to movies or sporting events
- donate fast-food gift certificates
- arrange for your organization to donate services (such as printing)
- arrange for your organization to participate in staff development trainings
- highlight the work of a community agency through your organizations advertising efforts
- offer an Internet provider subscription to your local youth service agency
- donate your organization's tickets to artistic, cultural, or sports events.

It doesn't have to take a lot of time or money to make a difference! For more creative ideas how you can help, call Lucy at 284-5229.



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## Talking to Your Kids About Drugs

Drug use is a national problem in America. Parents recognize this problem. Youth and children recognize this problem. Recent studies have examined parents role in the prevention of drug use in their children.

Not surprisingly, parents play a major role in their children's decision to use, or abstain from using drugs. Studies have shown that communication is a key factor in prevention efforts.

Now, studies indicate that age 12 is the critical year for prevention efforts. New studies are indicating that accessibility to drugs, acceptance of use in peers, and actual use doubles while likelihood to report use decreases significantly.

For more information on talking to your kids about drugs, call Michelle at 284-5229. Don't wait until its too late.

Clark County Youth Shelter and Family Services

118 East Chestnut

P.O. Box 886

Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130

Any youth or youth's family member with a problem is encouraged to contact the Clark County Youth Shelter and Family Services at  
**284-5229**

"  
*What is done to children, they will do to society*"  
Karl Menninger

I want to give a troubled young person a chance by becoming a friend of the Clark County Youth Shelter and Family Services with my tax deductible contribution of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10      \_\_\_\_\_ \$25      \_\_\_\_\_ \$50

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100      \_\_\_\_\_ \$200      \_\_\_\_\_ Other

SEND TO:

Clark County Youth Shelter and Family Services

118 East Chestnut  
P.O. Box 886  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

The Clark County Youth Shelter is a member of:

- Clark Co. Step Ahead Council
- Clark Co. Youth Coalition
- IARCCA
- Metro United Way of Clark County
- Floyd Co. Youth Coalition
- Indiana Youth Services Association
- Southern Indiana Providers Alliance
- National Network of Runaway and Youth Services
- Prevent Child Abuse, Floyd/Clark Council