

CLARK COUNTY YOUTH SHELTER  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 1995

**RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN**

Monday, October 23, marked the kick-off of National Red Ribbon Week. The Red Ribbon Campaign originated when Federal Agent Enrique Camarena was killed by drug traffickers in 1985. Communities across the nation have been united by the red ribbon; symbolizing a commitment to a drug-free lifestyle.

The goals of the Red Ribbon Campaign are to create awareness of substance abuse problems that all communities face, build community coalitions to implement prevention programs, encourage neighborhood and family support, and emphasize drug-free lifestyles.

**THANK YOU TO VOLUNTEERS**

The Youth Shelter could not operate without the help of it's 53 volunteers; both Safe Place volunteers and house-sitters. We are happy to welcome Marcus Edwards as our newest volunteer. Marcus will work with youth through Project Safe Place.

A special thank you goes out to the following volunteers who contributed a total of 20.5 hours during the months of July, August, and September:  
Carolyn Gowen  
Wanda Worrall  
Jeannie Slaughter  
Diana Johnson

Rocky Huffine  
Diana Miller

The Shelter would also like to thank those volunteers who participated in the Bacon's Benefit Sale on October 7 as well as those shoppers who purchased tickets! The Shelter sold 110 tickets; all proceeds went to the Safe Place Program.

**TARC IS NEWEST ADDITION TO PSP**

TARC bus lines has joined the Safe Place Program as our newest business sites. All TARC busses that run in Clark County will display the Safe Place decal with the Youth Shelter number. Any youth in need of help can now access this program through TARC.

**A CHILD IS BORN**

The Shelter is proud to announce the "birth" of a 10 lb. baby girl. The yet unnamed "Baby Think It Over" doll was a generous gift by JoAnn Robins in memory of her brother, David Robbins.

"Baby Think It Over" is designed to give youth an accurate idea of what caring for an infant involves. She looks like an infant, weighs ten pounds, and crys according to her needs and different intervals. Lights on the doll alert staff to neglect and abuse.

"Baby Think It Over" will be used both in and out of the Shelter with youth who express the desire to have a baby.

We hope that "Baby Think It Over" can educate our youth about the impact of teenage parenting before they act on their desire to become teenage parents.

Thank you JoAnn for this generous contribution.

#### PSP UPCOMMING EVENTS

Volunteer Appreciation Day will be held in February. The date, time, and location will be announced at a later date. Updates in Safe Place procedures will be reviewed at this time.

#### HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Holidays are a particularly difficult time for the residents; they are separated from family and friends at a time when most come together. With the help of generous donations from the community, however, the Youth Shelter has been given the opportunity to celebrate the holiday season with the residents.

The following is a wish list, comprised by the Youth Shelter, of items for both the Shelter and the residents we will be celebrating the holidays with:

- \*large screen TV
- \*12 twin comforters
- \*computer for youth workers
- \*basketball goal
- \*sporting equipment
- \*cook ware, dinnerware,

- glasses
- \*computer software
- \*board games
- \*undergarments
- \*hygiene items (shampoo, toothbrushes, soap, etc)
- \*freezer chest
- \*bunk bed
- \*large plastic storage boxes
- \*laundry detergent
- \*dishwasher detergent
- \*pillows
- \*can goods

Without your donations, the holiday season would be a sad time indeed.

#### NEW BOARD ELECTED

The Youth Shelter would like to welcome all of its new board members. Congratulations to the following:

Elected Officers  
President-Dean Marble  
V.P.-Clementine Barthold  
Secretary-Sandy Gillenwater  
Treasurers-Nancy Kempf

New Board Members  
Patti Cooke  
Sharon Elliott  
Bill Mattingly  
Doris Stone  
Kyle Williams

The following board members are no longer serving on the board. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all of the time and energy they have contributed to the Shelter.

Welby Edwards  
Ardis Kimmel  
Barbara Williams  
David Lewis

Your dedication to the Shelter

was greatly appreciated and you will be missed!

#### **BAD PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED**

The Shelter has completed the first three months of a program funded by the Drug Free Communities Grant; as awarded by the Clark County Youth Coalition. The BAD (Betting Against Drugs) program seeks to educate youth about drugs, as well as provide an incentive to say no to drugs.

When a resident is admitted to the Shelter, (s)he is given the option to participate in the program. If they agree, they are given literature to read on various drug and asked to fill out a questionnaire on their drug use. Name of participants are placed in a lottery drawing. The winner of this drawing has agreed to take a drug screen. If this person passes the drug screen, they are awarded a \$100 savings bond. The program also offers a semi-annual drawing in which the award is a \$500 savings bond.

The response from the residents has been overwhelming. We have currently held three lottery drawings: all three "winners" have tested drug-free!

#### **NEW INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED**

The Youth Shelter is proud to announce the implementation of it's newest program which offers independent living skills to youth referred by sources outside the Shelter.

Through Independent Living Initiatives, youth never placed in the Shelter can learn independent living skills. Linda Spires, our Aftercare Coordinator, began the first of four twelve week sessions. The youth will meet from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Mondays. They will cover areas such as employment, managing finances, shopping, continuing education, and marriage and family issues.

The Shelter was one of twenty-five agencies to be awarded this grant through the state of Indiana; Family Social Services Administration.

#### **YEAR END STATISTICS**

We had 314 referrals this year (53% girls and 47% boys). We accepted 235 youths for residential care (51% girls and 49% boys).

The reasons for not accepting referrals for residential care are as follows:

Age-1%  
Non-Status Offense-1%  
At Capacity-9%  
Placement Not Followed Through-20%  
Placement Not Necessary-55%  
Other-14%

The average age for the year was fourteen years. The average length of stay was eight days. The average daily population was 7.5 youths.

Of the 240 youths released from the Shelter, 67% were returned to a parent or relative; 10% were placed in a foster care facility; 6% were removed by police; 6% were placed in a secure facility;

8% went AWOL; and 3% went to an unnamed or "other" placement.

This year, 402 individual, 62 family, and 27 group counseling sessions were held.

#### AGE LIMITS EXPANDED

Due to an increase in referrals for youth outside the Shelter's licensed limit, the Shelter expanded its age criteria for admitting youth. The Shelter now accepts youth aged 11 to 18. Any 18 year-old must have a court order to be placed in the Shelter.