



South Central Community Action Program

SCCAP

Empowering people to reach their potential

A social service publication about our community — Brought to you by the South Central Community Action Program

Safety~Net

June 2012

The Jack Hopkins Social Services funding program

By Mark Kruzan
Mayor of Bloomington

Since the inception of the Jack Hopkins Social Services funding program in 1993, the City has provided more than \$2 million in one-time funding to social services agencies for projects that have made a difference in the lives of City residents in need. Beginning with annual awards totaling \$90,000 in 1993, the program had expanded to

See **"SOCIAL SERVICES"**, page 2

El fondo Jack Hopkins proporciona miles de dólares dignos a programas sociales

Por Mark Kruzan
Alcade de Bloomington
Traducido por: Daniel Soto

Desde su creación en 1993, el Fondo Jack Hopkins ha proporcionado más de 2 millones de dólares en la financiación por una vez a las agencias de servicios sociales para los proyectos que han hecho una diferencia en las vidas de los residentes más necesitados de la ciudad. Comenzando con donaciones que suman un total de \$90.000 en 1993, el programa se ha ampliado a 200.000 dólares para el año 2010, con más de 20 diferentes receptores de subvenciones. En 2012 el programa

Ve **"PROGRAMAS SOCIALES"**, p. 2

Connecting at the Crossroads: Ally Alert

By Joan Foor White, Circles volunteer

South Central Community Action Program • 1500 West 15th St. Bloomington, IN 47404 • Contact: Linda Patton, Circles Coordinator, 812-339-3447 ext. 206 or Carrie Felton, Circles Coach at 812 -339-3447 ext. 263.

Take part and make a change!

The Circles Out of Poverty Initiative of Monroe County, a South Central Community Action Program, is actively seeking volunteers to join the next round of community builders. We are a group of people consisting of those experiencing poverty (called Leaders) and those who are not (called Allies), the latter reaching out to engage the former with strategies, friendship, and resources as a hand up to escape poverty and /or its trappings.

We are a diverse group spanning generations, religions, race and politics! Right now, we are recruiting Allies, those advocating for the economically impoverished, and we need you!

Who are you? You are that individual, or couple, wishing to enrich your life by sharing something of yourselves to complete the Circle: 3 or 4 advocates (Allies) joining a person or family in poverty

(Leaders) to work on getting ahead with the whole community consisting of many small Circles.

We meet almost every Thursday evening for dinner at St. Mark's Church on Third and the Bypass in our Getting to Know You endeavor. Children are welcome and we have Youth Group volunteers to engage them. The following is a poem written by a Circles Leader.

Circles
By Kay Goodman

You may not know my face
I am your brother, your sister, every race
I am reaching out my hand
Touch me if you can
Circle my life around neighbors and friends
This Circle can help poverty end
Connected to the Circle, empowered I stand
Rich in spirit, that's what I am

Bridges To Somewhere: People Helping People Building Bridges, Not Moats

Safety-Net is a free volunteer-driven community publication that is published once every three months and is sponsored by the South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP). Its mission is two-fold. Part of the mission is to educate community members about programs available that help individuals and families to enrich their lives. And a second part of the mission is to make positive connections between those in our community who have resources, and those who do not. The ultimate goal is to encourage everyone to participate in making Bloomington a special community that links everyone together. A big "thank you" to all of you who encourage the publication of Safety-Net by contributing

articles that make Safety-Net possible. Each issue features the many agencies, as well as City and County programs, that reach out to people and offer much needed community services. At the end of the publication there is an extensive Agency Guide that enables individuals to locate appropriate resources. Comments from readers are most welcome. Please address them to the editor, white@indiana.edu, as well as to the assistant editor, blakely@insccap.org. Place Safety-Net on the subject line, and state whether you would like your comments printed in the next issue. Past issues of Safety-Net are available at the Safety-Net website, <http://safety-net-newspaper.com/>.

LIFEDesigns: Increasing Housing Options Though Affordable and Supportive Housing

By Cindy Fleetwood
Housing Options Manager
www.LifeDesignsInc.org
cfleetwood@lifedesignsinc.org
800.875.9615 x208

Although many events impact homelessness, the lack of affordable housing is often viewed as the primary contributing factor. Any discussion surrounding a plan to end homeless is incomplete if the need for affordable housing is ignored. The capacity to finance housing is critical. (City Manager's Task Force on Homelessness, *Three Year Plan to End Homelessness in Worcester*, 2007)

See **"LIFEDESIGNS"**, page 2



Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

LIFEDESIGNS

Continued from page 1

In 2007 LifeDesigns, Inc. introduced affordable housing with Housing Options I on Covey Lane and continues with the expansion into Housing Options II, which should be complete by the end of 2012. Grant funding has made this expansion possible and we've been able to begin discussion around permanent supportive housing projects. We are developing a reputation as the premiere low income housing developer in

south central Indiana. Housing Options I consists of 12 duplexes and successfully served 25 individuals in 2011.

Persons with disabilities who are chronically homeless often need a more stabilizing environment where case management and other services are offered. This environment is referred to as supportive housing. Residency in supportive housing can last as long as the individual or family requires. Individuals with disabilities experiencing homelessness are more likely to face barriers to stable housing

and move through hospitals to incarceration and back again like a revolving door. Supportive housing is permanent, stable and affordable. It includes health, mental health, employment and additional support services. It is a proven, cost-effective way to end homelessness for people who are chronically disabled. It also dramatically reduces the need for expensive emergency public services such as emergency room visits and police intervention, improving the lives of residents and

See "LIFEDESIGNS", page 16

SOCIAL SERVICES

Continued from page 1

\$200,000 by 2010, with more than 20 different grant recipients. In 2012 the program will distribute \$250,000 in funding.

The Hopkins Fund Committee, which is responsible for deciding funding recipients, is composed of five members of the Common Council and two members representing City entities. The 2012 Council Committee representatives are: Dorothy Granger, Tim Mayer, Andy Ruff, Susan Sandberg and

Marty Spechler. Sharon Lucas and Douglas Mattick complete the Committee.

These Committee members judge applications on the following criteria: The program should address a previously-identified priority for social services funds, as determined by the *Service Community Assessment of Need*, the City of Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development Department's Consolidated Plan, or other community-wide survey of social service needs. The award should provide a one-

time investment that, through matching funds or other fiscal leveraging, makes a significant contribution to the program. Finally, the investment should lead to broad and long-lasting benefits to the community.

Throughout the nearly twenty year history of the Jack Hopkins Fund, there have been hundreds of recipients of support to the great advantage of our community. To illustrate the kind of good work the fund promotes, we need look no further than a few of our recent grant awards.

See "SOCIAL SERVICES", page 16

PROGRAMAS SOCIALES

Continúa de página 1

distribuirá \$250.000 en esta financiación.

El Comité del Fondo Hopkins, que es responsable de decidir la financiación de los destinatarios, se compone de cinco miembros del consejo común y dos miembros que representen a las entidades de la ciudad. Los representantes del Comité del Consejo de 2012 son: Dorothy Granger, Tim Mayer, Andy Ruff,

Susan Sandberg y Marty Spechler. Sharon Lucas, Douglas Mattick son los que completan el Comité.

Estos miembros del comité analizan las aplicaciones en los siguientes criterios: el programa debe abordar una prioridad identificada previamente para fondos de servicios sociales, según lo determinado por el *Service Community Assessment of Need* (servicio comunitario y su evaluación de necesidad), la ciudad de Bloomington *Housing and Neighborhood Development Department's Consolidated Plan* (El

plan desarrollado por el departamento de desarrollo de la vivienda en los barrios), u otra encuesta comunitaria en relación con las necesidades de servicio social. El premio debe proporcionar una inversión única a través de estos fondos u otros medios fiscales, y aprovechando estas coincidencias, hacer una contribución significativa a estos programas. Por último, la inversión debería conducir a beneficios amplios y duraderos de la comunidad.

A lo largo de los casi veinte años de historia del Fondo Jack Hopkins,

cientos de destinatarios han sido apoyados y dando una gran ventaja a nuestra comunidad. Para ilustrar el tipo de trabajo que promueve el fondo, no necesitamos buscar más allá de algunos de nuestros últimos galardonados con este premio de subvención. Los premios del Fondo Jack Hopkins 2011 ayudó a proporcionar camas para ayudar a los albergues para el refugio de invierno apoyados por el grupo de integridad de Fe. Lavadoras y secadoras para mitigar los costos

Ve "PROGRAMAS SOCIALES", p. 16

About Safety~Net

David White
Editor-in-Chief

Blakely Clements
Assistant Editor

Joe Lee
Editorial Cartoonist

SPECIAL SECTIONS

The special sections in this issue are: **Voices Seldom Heard, Agency Reports, Volunteer Opportunities, Agency Guide, SCCAP, Public Comment, Therapeutic Jail and Reentry 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.

Welcome To The YMCA Youth Camp !

By Sara Herold, Marketing Director YMCA
812-961-2170, direct line 812-332-5555
www.monroecountyymca.org

At The Monroe County YMCA Day Camps and Sports Camps, campers make friends while learning the values of diversity and cooperation. Best of all, you can be assured your kids are having fun in a friendly, caring, and safe environment.

Campers at the Y learn how to be responsible and resourceful, work in groups, solve problems and make decisions that will help them grow as individuals. As a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y works to help children and teens discover their full potential by providing opportunities to learn, grow and thrive. To ensure that every child and teen has the chance to go to camp, all camps at the Y offer financial assistance to those in need.

Y Day Camp, Sports Camp or Specialty camps at the Y share one thing—they're about discovery. Kids have the opportunity to explore nature, find new talents, try new activities, gain independence, and make lasting friendships and memories. We want participants in our Y Sports Programs to learn, grow and have fun through sports. Our goal is to build a community in which everyone has the opportunity for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Sports provide everything—whether it is enjoyment and values to coaching and learning to rising to another level. And, of course, it's fun too!

When summer is over, all the field trips have been taken and all the games have been played, what a child remembers most is our staff. We are proud that we only hire the best! Our staff help create memories that last a lifetime, and more importantly, they help children develop in a safe and positive environment.



For more information on Y camps: www.monroecountyymca.org, follow us on facebook to get the latest updates!

Habitat for Humanity Provides Homes: A Community Effort!

By Meagan Niese, Development Director of Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County
213 E. Kirkwood Avenue Bloomington, IN 47408 • 812.331.4069
niese@monroecountyhabitat.org • www.monroecountyhabitat.org

For the Johnson family, home ownership was always in the plans. The problem was the timeline kept getting longer and longer. “We had the five year plan of trying to buy a house,” said Jason, who works at PrintPack in Bloomington. “We couldn’t save enough to get ahead. Something else (in our trailer) would fall apart or break. We kept looking at the five year plan thinking it was turning into the ten year plan.” Jessica agreed, “We had our hands tied. We felt really helpless. It was a never ending cycle—an awful, vicious cycle.”

But now, thanks to their hard work and preparations, their plan for home ownership will be complete in June 2012, when their Habitat home is built during the Builders Blitz event. During

Builders Blitz, local home builders team up with their subcontractors and suppliers to build multiple houses in just two weeks. They donate their time and materials to provide quality housing for families in need. This growing family including Jason and Jessica, along with their children Zoe (age 5), Emme (age 4), Kinsley (age 1), and a little boy (“Finally!” said Jason) due May 2012, Grady, will all be in their new home before the end of summer.

Jason grew up moving every year. He wants a different childhood for his own kids—one with stability. He said, “We wanted this to be the last move. Not changing school districts each year.”

See “**HOMES**”, page 4



2010 Builders Blitz kick-off.

Representatives from the signature builders raised the first wall of the first house together.

HOMES

Continued from page 3

While he was working hard as a bag operator at PrintPack, it wasn't enough to provide decent housing. "For a family our size it was impossible," he said. "(Monroe County) is set up for roommates in a college town. But when you have one income and one family, you can't do that." Now they will live in Cedar Chase, Habitat's neighborhood community on Bloomington's southwest side.

Jessica is looking forward to moving out of their trailer, which is falling apart. The floors are falling through, water heater has gone out, and it's not insulated. She is grateful that she will have her children in a decent home. "I'm terrified of storms now and being in the trailer when the tornado sirens go off. Now we'll have a sturdy, stable home to stay in during thunderstorms."

Now the Johnsons can dream about the future in ways they never could before. Jessica said, "We sat down that night after we got the call (to say that they were going to have a Habitat home) and said 'Now we can start saving money for college for our kids. We can plan for the future now!'" The kids are all looking forward to having more space to play—inside and outside. Jason can't wait to have space too. He wants to start family traditions and host people for holidays and cookouts. Jessica, who earns sweat equity at Habitat in the office, is anxious to get to know the Signature Builders who will construct her home, Presidium, T.A. Fuller Homes, and Bailey & Weiler. Most of all, they want to share their gratitude.

"It's all happening so fast but we are very grateful that there are people out there who are willing to devote so much time to (Habitat) like this," said Jessica. "This gave us hope. Our future just looks better now!"

The Adult Education program of the Monroe County Community School Corporation will offer classes during the 2012–13 school year beginning in mid-August. And there is a whole slate of possibilities for adults to choose from, as well as for teens who are not attending regular high school.

"We are coming off a very exciting year, in which we saw our students do quite well," says Rob Moore, Director of Adult Education. "More than 60 students earned the GED, 45 of them went on to further training

Adult Education: Get Ready to Go Back to Your Future!

By Melanie Hunter, Marketing/PR Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator
MCCSC Adult Education at Broadview Learning Center



and education, and 185 enrolled in our English as a Second Language classes. We're very proud of our students' accomplishments, and our caring and professional staff look forward to serving more students in 2012–2013."

Adult Basic Education classes help students brush up on their skills and get ready to take the GED® tests and/or enroll in college, apprenticeships, or the military. The focus is on gaining the work skills needed for good jobs while helping to build a better

work force in Indiana. The classes will be held at Broadview Learning Center (705 S. Coolidge Drive), as well as at the Shalom Resource Center and the Crestmont Community Center. Morning, afternoon, and evening classes are available Mondays through Fridays. Registration begins in mid-August, and classes start August 15. Call 300-7731 to schedule your registration time. People interested in attending the Shalom class (Tue & Thur 9:00–noon) or the Crestmont class (Tue & Thur 8–11 or 11:30–2:30) can register on-site during class hours.

By the way, this is the year to get your GED diploma! The tests will become progressively harder over the next two years.

The Teen Learning Class (TLC) is available for younger adult students aged 16-18 who are not enrolled in high school and need to obtain their GED. Registration of new and returning

See "EDUCATION", page 6

Check out the new Financial Stability Resource Guide!

By Ashley Hall
Community Initiatives Director,
United Way of Monroe County
(812) 334-8370 ext 11

Do you need help finding a job? Want to learn how to better manage your money? Resources to answer these questions and many others can be found in the Financial Stability Alliance Resource Guide! The Guide contains valuable information about local agencies and nonprofits that assist in finding employment, opening and maintaining bank accounts, building financial education, offering free tax preparation, and accessing services for persons with disabilities. These guides can be found at many service provider locations, or you can visit the Financial Stability Alliance website at www.FinancialStabilityAlliance.org to download a PDF copy of your own. The Financial Stability Guide is sponsored by the Financial Stability Alliance for South Central Indiana and United Way of Monroe County.

Backstreet Missions, Inc. will be having a "Silent Auction" for theme baskets at the Monroe County 4-H Fair from Sat. July 28–Sat. Aug. 4. The booth will be located in the West building. Hours are 4–10 PM Monday–Friday and 12 PM–10 PM both Saturdays. Over 25 baskets will be on display.

The "Slice of Heaven" fundraiser for Backstreet Missions, Inc. will be Sat. Aug. 18 from 11 AM–3 PM on the SE side of the courthouse lawn. Pies will be sold by the piece or whole.

Leading Volunteers Recognized Be More Awards honor outstanding community service

The Be More Awards, honoring local volunteers for outstanding community service, were presented on April 3 in the Buskirk-Chumley Theater.

Fifty three individuals and groups, all of whom had been nominated by community members, were recognized for their generous contributions of time and talent in the past year. The Awards program is sponsored by the City of Bloomington Volunteer Network, Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, IU Credit Union, United Way of Monroe County and WTIU Public Television.

Award recipients in ten categories were selected by an independent panel of judges. Mayor Mark Kruzan presented each honoree with a commemorative plaque and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation, MaryFrances McCourt, presented each with a \$500 check for the organization for

which the recipient volunteered. A total of \$5000 was presented by the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County to community organizations through the Be More Awards.

Recipient Summaries:

Be More Collaborative Award (Family or Group)

Tornado clean-up volunteers of Van Buren Township: In the weeks following the F1 tornado that hit Bloomington on May 26, 2011, local volunteers gathered, with their chainsaws, heavy equipment, or simply their gloved hands and strong backs, to clean up tons of tree, building and other debris scattered far and wide across the southwestern portion of Monroe County. (The recipient of the funds is the Van Buren Township

See "BE MORE AWARDS", page 6



Katie Hopkins Rodriguez, a Circle Leader with the Monroe County Circles® Initiative, receiving the Be More Knowledgeable Award from Mayor Mark Kruzan

EDUCATION

Continued from page 4

students will begin on August 13 & 14 and will be held once a month after that. Interested teens should call 330-7731 to reserve a registration date and time.

For people who need to learn to speak, read, and write English, there are daytime English as a Second Language (ESL) classes offered Monday–Friday at 8:30–11:30 and 12:30–3:30, plus evening

classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00–8:00. New and returning ESL students may register on August 13 and 14, from 8:30am–2:30pm.

A Transition to College class at Ivy Tech's Liberty Drive campus is available for students who have graduated from high school or earned a GED and who pre-test at 10.0 or above. The class will meet Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:00–noon. Again, interested students should call 330-7731 to reserve a registration time.

If you'd like to get acquainted with Broadview Learning Center and the Adult Ed program, then come to our Open House this fall! Tentatively planned for Wednesday, October 3, from 6:00–7:30pm, the Open House offers a look at this exciting place and an opportunity to meet with teachers, as well as a job fair, snacks, games, door prizes, and fun!

Need some encouragement? Joy Shaw, who earned her GED last year, was a co-winner of Ivy Tech's New

Horizons Scholarship and a speaker at our May Recognition Ceremony. Of her Adult Ed experience, she says, "The past few months have been a life-enriching experience for me that I will take to the next level by advocating, now more than ever before, the importance of investing in the educational process."

Check out MCCSC Adult Education at www.adult.mccsc.edu. Questions? Office hours are 7:30–3:30 Monday–Friday during the school year. Call 330-7731. Why? Because learning is lifelong!

BE MORE AWARDS

Continued from page 5

Volunteer Firefighters.)

Be More Phenomenal Award (Board Member)

Donna Lafferty's work with the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra has spanned a period of 14 years and an average of 100 hours per month. Over the years, she has served as Personnel Manager, head of the Nominations Committee, and Director of Marketing and Development. In 2011 alone, this committee raised roughly \$38,000 for the Orchestra, which relies heavily on volunteers for day-to-day operational support.

Be More Involved Award (College Student)

Emily Bornstein is a powerhouse volunteer at Middle Way House, dedicated, self-directed and compassionate. She designed an art program and curriculum for children ages 2 to 17, recruited other art students to help her, secured funding for supplies, and planned art activities each week, involving over 60 children. She is working to insure that this program becomes a permanent collaboration between Middle Way House and the Hope School of Fine Arts at IU.

Be More Creative Award

(Arts and Culture)

Mary Lee Deckard was one of the founders of the Monroe County History Center in 1980, after a group of volunteers saved the building from being torn down. Since then, she has been a driving force on the Collections and Exhibits Committee, the Garage Sale Committee, helping at special events, and single-handedly managing the Museum Gift Store. Thanks to her and her involvement, the History Center is a place to enjoy the past while looking to the future.

Be More Knowledgeable Award (Education/Literacy)

Katie Hopkins Rodriguez is involved with the Monroe County Circles® Initiative as a Circle Leader—someone who does not have enough resources to be stable, but is highly motivated to become self-sufficient. As the national Circles® Campaign seeks to expand, Katie has helped create a video explaining Circles® in Spanish and shared her story at trainings all over Indiana and the U.S. Because Katie shares a difficult story, people are reminded that poverty has many faces.

Be More Sustainable Award (Environmental/Animal Welfare)

What began as Lisa Ritchel's once a week dog walking shift at Bloomington Animal and Control quickly turned into her helping them in nearly every aspect of their

operation. She serves as an adoption counselor and is responsible for registering all of their adopted animals' microchips with their new owners' information. In addition, she spends hours each week comparing lost reports to animals in the shelter, calling potential matches and reuniting lost cats and dogs with their owners.

Be More Energized (Youth)

Hannah Fidler, age 16, was one of the first and the youngest Bloomington volunteers to help open the 100% fair trade store downtown, Global Gifts, in 2009 and has volunteered weekly ever since. She joined the Board of Directors in 2010 and quickly formed and led the educational outreach committee. She has since developed three fair trade curriculum modules for K-12 students and recently tested these modules at Harmony School during Martin Luther King Jr. Day. She is looking forward to teaching the curriculum in Bloomington public schools. (Recipient of the funds is Fair Trade Bloomington)

Two 'Be More Bloomington' awards were presented. These awards are selected from all of the submitted nominations and include consideration of overall excellence, level of community impact and embodiment of community goodwill.

The first was presented to **Phillip**

Saunders, who has been volunteering for the Shalom Community Center since the idea for a day shelter for people experiencing homelessness in Bloomington first took hold in 1999. He rallied support, leading the Shalom Team at the First United Methodist Church, where it was housed for its first decade. He has served on the Board, on the Finance and Development Committee, and designed their donor database. He volunteers almost every day, picking up the mail, preparing donation deposits, entering data and printing and mailing thank you letters. Phil has a passion and vigor for Shalom like no other.

The second was presented to **Julie Pointer**, for her 19 years of volunteer leadership with the Monroe County Girl Scouts have helped them to flourish, allowing more girls to discover new opportunities, connect with new friends, and make a difference in the world around them. She currently serves as the Service Unit Manager for the southeastern half of Monroe County, serving over 500 girls and supervising 281 adult volunteers. She also chairs the Monroe County Cookie Sale Team and is in her 9th year as director of the Girl Scout Day Camp, taking a week's vacation from her full time job to serve in this role!

See "BE MORE AWARDS", page 16

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

Volunteer to Fight Poverty

The volunteer opportunities listed below will enable you to work to prevent poverty (through sex education or assistance with getting a job) or to assist those in need (of food, housing, furniture, reading material, education or simply a kind word and listening ear). The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network is the primary source for information about volunteering locally. To search for more opportunities, visit www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer or call 349-3433. The inclusion of an organization in this list does not imply City endorsement or support of the organization's activities or policies.

Volunteer Opportunities

Family Shelter Site Supervisors

Site Supervisors at the New Hope Family Shelter add to the staff presence at Bloomington's homeless shelter for families, and help those families address the problems that led to homelessness. All volunteer shifts, which are about four hours long, are during the day. Volunteers attend a one-hour training and then shadow a current site supervisor for a shift. Volunteers are asked to commit to at least one shift per week. Please contact Jim Riley to find out about training at (812) 340-3052 or jim@nhfsinc.org (www.newhopefamilyshelter.org)

Peer Education

The Peer Education program of Planned Parenthood of Indiana trains outstanding youth leaders in sexuality and other health issues so they can be resources for their peers. All potential Peer Educators are required to attend 25 hours of training. Participants are provided with factual, medically-accurate information about sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, sexual orientation, pregnancy prevention, healthy relationships, and drugs and alcohol. They also learn about the social environment in which sexual decisions are often made and the factors involved in making responsible choices. The program,

which is also designed to improve parent communication with their teens, is for teens ages 14 to 17 (with parental consent) and college students. Once the training is completed, a possible stipend is available. Please contact Mai-Lin Poon at (812) 336-0219 ext. 1214 or mai-lin.poon@ppin.org. (www.ppinc.org)

Monitor Volunteer Shifts

The Midwest Pages to Prisoners Project is looking for individuals to monitor weekly volunteer work sessions. Working with at least one other volunteer, monitors help other volunteers organize and complete the work scheduled for a given night. This includes selecting books, writing short letters to incarcerated men and women, packaging books, sorting and shelving. They are interested in hearing from anyone dedicated to the mission and goals of the project. As this is a supervisory position, they ask that those who are interested volunteer for about a month first. A commitment of one year is preferred, but one semester would be considered. Please contact Michael Lewis at (812) 325-1378 or mwpp@pagestoprisoners.org. (www.pagestoprisoners.org)

Deliver Meals

Can you deliver meals for Meals On Wheels once a month? Volunteer drivers take meals to people who are homebound over the noon hour within Bloomington. It's more fun

to do it with a friend, spouse, co-worker or sibling and use this time to get together while helping others. Volunteers must be 18 or older and have their own transportation, a valid driver's license and a registered vehicle that meets state minimum insurance standards. Please contact Kathy Romy at (812) 353-2248 or mow@bloomingtonhospital.org. (www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org)

Food Pantry Shopper/Driver

The Simply Local Organic Food Security System (SLO FoodS garden pantry) dispenses healthy, vegetarian options & locally grown organic produce to members of the community in need of dietary supplements free of charge. A volunteer is needed to haul multiple crates & flats of foodstuffs from Hoosier Hills Food Bank to the pantry on Fairview. Availability on Tues. and Wed. is a must as is a truck or hatchback vehicle with appreciable space. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Mylo Roze, Eco Media Center, at (812) 332-8796 or greenthecity@yahoo.com. (www.freewebs.com/ecomediacentre)

Eliminate Poverty Housing

Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County is a volunteer-driven organization that welcomes people from all walks of life to join them as they build simple, decent, affordable houses in partnership with families

in need. You can work to make poverty housing a thing of the past by volunteering in the office on Mondays from 8 a.m. to noon, answering phones, greeting guests, and providing the support necessary to keep this dynamic organization running efficiently. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Maegen Ionoff at (812) 331-4069 or volunteers@monroecountyhabitat.org. (www.monroecountyhabitat.org)

Furniture Pickup or Distribution

Each Saturday between 8:30–10:30 a.m., volunteers distribute furniture from the St. Vincent De Paul Society warehouse to those in need. Volunteers are also needed for furniture pickups during the week. You should be able to either lift and move furniture and appliances or have a pickup truck for hauling. Adult and teen volunteers are welcome to volunteer once a year, twice a week, and everything in between! Please contact Donald Van Arman at (812) 361-3344 or donald@vanarman.com. (www.bloomingtonsvdp.org)

Job Coach for People in Poverty

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) job coaches are needed to assist those in poverty with basic job hunting skills. You may work on creating a resume, looking online for jobs, identifying jobs that might be a

See "VOLUNTEER", page 9

Global Youth Service Day a Success!

Submitted by Bet Savich, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network



High school students in Monroe County spent a day in service to the community, because some things you can't learn in the classroom!

On Friday, April 20, over 200 high school students from 4 area schools converged on the Warehouse (1525 S. Rogers St.) and the B-Line Trail to get their hands dirty in volunteer projects as varied as installing a rain garden to painting a mural along the B-Line Trail.

While organized by the Volunteer

Network, it was co-sponsored by the Monroe County Youth Council and received funding from the Youth Council for expenses and from the B-Line Enhancement Fund.

Every student left school early that Friday to serve their community.

Fourteen projects were completed during the day.

These included:

- The B-Line Trail and Switchyard Clean Ups, where students collected approximately 100 lbs. of trash, 50 lbs. of recyclables, 150 lbs. of metal, and 8 bags of garlic mustard, an invasive species.
- At Rose Hill Cemetery, students picked up and raked up 25 bags of

trash and natural debris. They worked hard and made a noticeable difference to the cemetery to prepare it for Memorial Day.

- In Butler Park Gardens, about 75 feet of garden perimeter fence was mulched and weeded. An entire compost bin was turned, a mulched

See "GYSD", page 17

VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 7

good fit, completing applications, and listening, supporting and giving advice about how to explain employment gaps or difficult backgrounds.

Training and information about current applicable job openings are provided. Job coaching occurs at both Shalom Community Center (Mon. and Fri. from 10 a.m. to noon) and The Salvation Army (Wed. from 1:30–3 p.m.) Your encouraging attitude can help clients become more independent and stabilize their lives! Basic computer and internet skills are required. Please contact Rebecca Nunley at (812) 876-3383 or rnunley@area10agency.org. (www.area10agency.org/rsvp)

Administrative Assistants

LifeDesigns (formerly Options and Cristole) is seeking volunteers to assist with front desk coverage and general office administrative tasks. This is a wonderful opportunity to polish your customer service skills and learn valuable office administration skills at the same time. The office environment is occasionally fast-paced and always customer-focused and fun-filled! LifeDesigns provides all of the training required. Experience with a multi-line phone and computer, as well as prior office experience would be helpful. Please contact Cindy Fleetwood at (812) 332-9615 or cfleetwood@lifedesignsinc.org. (<http://lifedesignsinc.org>)

Caring Companion for Elderly Neighbor

If you volunteer as a Caring Companion through Area 10 Agency on Aging, you will make a new friend while helping someone live at home as long as possible. Matches are carefully made, taking into consideration location, schedules,

needs and interests. The time commitment is generally one hour a week. You will visit with a homebound senior, socialize and assist him or her with light home care, such as dusting, running errands, making phone calls or pet care. All volunteers must apply and receive a background check. Please contact Holly or Cecelia at 876-3383 or ctrueblood@area10agency.org. Monthly support/training meetings are optional but recommended. Adults, teens and families are welcome. (www.area10agency.org/rsvp)

Volunteers for Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones offers transitional housing, an independent living program and supportive services to youth between the ages of 16–20 experiencing homelessness. Volunteers are engaged as partners by serving as tutors or by sharing their personal passions, such as playing guitar, cooking, or creating art, with the residents. Other opportunities include facilitating weekend activities, creating welcome baskets, maintaining information technology and participating on the fundraising committee. Please contact Alysia Fornal at (812) 339-9771 or afornal@steppingstones-inc.org. (www.steppingstones-inc.org)

File Clerk

Backstreet Missions has seen an increase in the number of men needing food and shelter this year. As a result, their clerical needs have increased as well. A volunteer is needed at the men's shelter to update guest files, help develop a new filing system and keep documents supplied to the intake area. Volunteer must be detail-oriented, a quick, accurate typist, proficient with Microsoft Office, and able to back up information. Please contact Linda Kelley at (812) 333-6360 or linda@backstreet.org. (www.backstreet.org)

[backstreet.org](http://www.backstreet.org))

Bike Project Shop Managers

If you enjoy tinkering with things and have a passion for empowering others, the Bloomington Community Bike Project wants to put you to work as a Bike Project Shop Manager! Managers open and close the shop, interact with volunteers and patrons, oversee sales and keep the shop in order. Shifts from 3–6 p.m. are available on the day of your choice. Mentoring will continue as you learn the ways of the shop. Those interested should be responsible, able to convey the rules of the shop, and comfortable with people of all ages and incomes. No experience is required as all training is provided. This opportunity is perfect for retirees, engineers, gear heads, bike enthusiasts, sustainability missionaries, alpha personalities, B-Line fans and Bike Project believers. Please contact Steve Dean at (812) 829-9238 or sdean@bluemarble.net. (www.bloomingtonbikeproject.com)

Wednesday Club Assistant

'Wednesday Club' at The Salvation Army is an exciting program for kids 6-14 years old that will meet from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. this summer. Volunteers will assist staff, teaching lessons and supervising art, swimming, computer use and other activities. Be a part of this program and swim, play and learn with some of the areas most deserving youth. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Courtney Grau at Courtney_Grau@usc.salvationarmy.org or (812) 336-4310 ext.12. (www.bloomington.salvationarmyindiana.org)

Receptionists, Screeners and Interviewers

Indiana Legal Services is seeking volunteers with good communication and computer skills for three positions.

Receptionists assist with general office work; prior experience is preferred but not required. Screeners gather income information from clients by phone and complete income eligibility forms. Interviewers conduct in-depth interviews about the client's legal problem by phone and log the information. Volunteers will work with a support staff person for a short training period. Please contact Micki Fountain at (812) 339-7668 ext. 4238 or micki.fountain@ilsnet.net. (IndianaJustice.org)

Furniture Pickup and Distribution

Each Saturday morning, volunteers with the St. Vincent De Paul Society distribute furniture and appliances from their warehouse to those in need. Additional volunteers are needed from 8:30–10:30 a.m. to assist them. Volunteers are also needed for furniture pickups during the week. You are welcome to volunteer once a year, twice a week and everything in between! Volunteers should be able to lift and move heavy items. Those with pickup trucks are also needed. Adults and teens welcome. Please contact Donald Van Arman at (812) 361-3344 or Donald@VanArman.com. (www.bloomingtonsvdp.org)

Garden for Those in Need

The Hoosier Hills Food Bank garden program at Stranger's Hill Organic Farm increases the amount and nutritional quality of the fresh fruits and vegetables they provide to area food pantries and soup kitchens. You can either garden with them during their regular volunteer hours (Mon. and Thurs. from 9–11 a.m.; Wed. from 5:30–7:30 p.m.) or join their 'Garden & Gleaning' e-list to receive announcements about volunteer opportunities. Special hours can be arranged for groups. Volunteers will not only contribute to raising

See "VOLUNTEER", page 10

VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 9

thousands of pounds of nutritious and delicious food, but also learn and share sustainable growing practices. The minimum age for volunteering is 14 unless supervised by an adult. No experience is necessary as training is provided. Please contact Nicole Richardson at (812) 334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org. (www.hhfoodbank.org)

Area 10 Receptionist

As a volunteer receptionist for the Area 10 Agency on Aging, you will explain the services they offer, greet visitors and assist with general office projects. Shifts are usually four hours per week. If you are interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Jeni Waters at (812) 876-3383 ext. 524 or jwaters@area10agency.org. (www.area10agency.org)

Paint, Drywall, Remove Debris

Help a neighbor in need. Join the team of volunteers who will finish repairs on a storm-ravaged house on State Road 45. It has been almost a year since the May 2011 tornado and thanks to volunteers, the house now has a new roof and is almost gutted, but a new crop of volunteers are needed to remove debris, drywall, spackle and paint. No experience is necessary, but those with trade skills are asked to bring their own tools. Let's get this gentleman back in his home this month! Please contact Mark Pitman, crew leader, at (812) 322-2219 or mcpit316@yahoo.com.

(<http://sites.google.com/site/monroecountycoad/>)

Entertain Senior Citizens

Garden Villa is a long-term care facility on Bloomington's west side, which provides services to residents with a range of abilities and cognitive levels. Their residents appreciate performances of all kinds, such as musical entertainment, dramatic performances, magic shows and dance recitals. Many of their residents also benefit from community donations of lap blankets, stuffed animals, books, CDs and magazines, so bringing an armload of goodies could be another entrée into their facility. All ages welcome! Whether you are interested in a one-time volunteer experience, an ongoing opportunity

See "VOLUNTEER", page 17

CIRCLES® INITIATIVE Youth Programs

Submitted by Linda Patton, Circles® Coordinator

South Central Community Action Program

1500 West 15th St., Bloomington, IN 47404 • lindap@insccap.org

812-339-3447 x206 • www.insccap.org • Fax 812-334-8366

My name is Emily Johnson and I am a doctoral psychology student at the University of Indianapolis. As part of my internship, I spent a semester working as a youth program volunteer with the Monroe County Circles® Initiative. My "job" with Circles was to plan the youth programming curriculum and volunteer with the kids every Thursday night

The Circles® Initiative is a high-impact strategy to move people out of poverty and change the way the public views poverty. Locally, it is housed at South Central Community Action Program and has been active in Monroe County for almost four years. A Circle is made up of a person or family highly motivated to get out of poverty, called a 'Circle Leader' and their 'Allies', people who have stable resources, are interested in learning more about poverty and are willing to help the Leader achieve their goals. Every Thursday evening, we meet for community building, eat a meal together then participate in activities and programs that support leader goals. Children are welcome to these meetings and after dinner they attend their own programming while their parents meet.

I cannot express to you how fortunate I feel to have worked with Circles even just for this short of a period of time. Every week, I would forgo driving back to my home in Indianapolis to stay in Bloomington to work with the kids at Circles. Every week, I was treated as a member of the family in the Circles community as we eat a meal together, and families entrust me with the care of their children. Every week, I was inspired and blown away by the determination of the Circles families. Believe me when I say that Circles isn't like any other program that serves families in poverty. We as professionals are not serving these families—we are partnering with them and in many ways they are serving us. The Circles Leaders bring to the table what they want to get out of Circles. The Circles Leaders are a group of incredible people who fly in the face of every stereotype we Americans hold about people in poverty—I truly feel that people like this and programs like this are the key to breaking the poverty cycle.

I always feel like Circles is like a family. I enjoy it when I get to go. The youth leaders always make activities that are age appropriate; they always have open ears to our opinions and ideas. Circles is always something that my sisters and I look forward to. It has never been something that our parents have to drag us to or coax us into, it's something we GET to do. Circles is exactly what it sounds like; a circle, a circle of friends we have.

~ Bethany Tackett

Even so, I personally spent very little time with the Circles leaders themselves; rather, I spent my Thursday nights with their children. We play psychoeducational activities for the older kids and free play for the little ones, but more importantly we offer them a non-judgmental, enriching environment with dedicated volunteers. I have seen some of these kids make developmental strides through the youth program that they may not otherwise be able to make. Children who previously could not keep themselves from striking out at peers are now learning to share and take deep breaths before expressing their feelings with words. These are 3 year olds no less! Show me a three-year-old with impulse control and I'll show you a successful youth program.

As a young professional training to be a psychologist, I can tell you that children, regardless of their economic status, rarely get the honest, non-judgmental nurturing attention from non-family members that these kids get at Circles. In fact, programs like this just don't exist in the world. Kids live with perpetual conditions of worth, expectations, and electronics. At Circles, we offer them an emotional outlet and a place to grow and

develop. These are the kids who are going to grow up to be our leaders and I hope that they always have programs like this to turn to.

One week, as per our regular group meeting, the kids went around the circle to say something "new and good" that had happened to them in the past week. One of the kids said, "My new is that I just met this new volunteer who is helping me with my math homework, anndd... my good is that she's really nice and I really like her."

There are so many more things I could say about what Circles means to me, how it has affected me as a professional and as a person, but I really think that says it best—that's one of our kids saying what it means to her. And to me, that's the best reason of all to consider getting involved with Circles.

by Emily Johnson

The SCCAP Weatherization Program has immediate open slots for our service area

By Blakely Clements, Director of Communications and Development, South Central Community Action Program
www.insccap.org

South Central Community Action Program, Inc. (SCCAP) currently has immediate openings for the Weatherization Program in Brown, Monroe, Morgan, and Owen Counties.

The Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program provides energy efficiency services to low-income families, with priority given to the elderly, persons with disabilities, and families with children. Weatherization reduces energy costs for these households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety.

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

To be eligible to have your owner-occupied or rental home weatherized, your household income must not exceed 150 percent of federal poverty guidelines. (Example: Household of 4 individuals making no more than \$33,525 per year.) For apartment buildings to be weatherized, 66 percent of the occupants must be eligible for the program.

Our program's professionally trained crews use computerized energy audits and advanced diagnostic equipment to identify energy-saving strategies in single-family, multi-family, and mobile homes. Cost-effective weatherization

measures and those that are essential for health and safety are then performed, including, but not limited to, installation of insulation, furnace and boiler retrofits, and cooling measures as well can be taken.

"Ensuring your home is well insulated will make you cooler and save you



Chris Howell

money during the summer as well as making you warmer in the winter. Don't put off getting your home weatherized until Fall," stated Jason Hickman SCCAP Weatherization Manager. The CAP office

weatherizes all year around and if you sign up now, YOU can get your home ready before the Fall rush!

After the weatherization work is complete, many households experience energy savings of \$300 per year, or more. These measures continue to save energy and money year after year, providing a long-term solution to high energy bills for low-income families on a tight annual family budget.

If SCCAP has not already weatherized your current home the following are some of the requirements for the program:

- Having a household income of less than 150% according to the Federal Poverty Guidelines. (Please call office to determine if you fall in this guideline.)
- An Indiana Resident
- Meet the minimum screening requirements

SCCAP Weatherization Program is currently under contract to fill immediate openings for this year's program for weatherization. Due to the high demand for assistance, applicants may be put on a waiting list. For more information contact the Weatherization Program at 812 -339-3447 ext. 224 and/or visit www.insccap.org for more details.



Chris Howell

• **Are you in need of lowering your electric bill?**

• **Are you suffering from a "leaky" house?**

• **Do you need help on weatherizing your home?**

Life Cycles

The circumference of our Circle grows bigger with time.
We are all points on it: different colors, ages, sex, and politics.
The centripetal force that draws us (is our center) is the desire for justice,
a need for community, the love for each other despite the differences.
We share stories, laughter, tears, food, and depend on each other
as we consider ourselves an extended family with ties that bind
but with a willingness to loosen the hold that can strangle.
We are turning; we are learning; we are yearning for richer, fuller lives.

Joan Foor White

Special Section: Voices Seldom Heard

Survival Stories

From the Shalom Writers' Circle

"Survival": By Richard May

What do we see in the mind's eye when we hear the word "survival"? In a world that seems to be getting more dog eats dog by the minute, something must be done to allow everyone the right to a decent life. It is this writer's opinion that change occurs at the top. The powers that be seem to operate on the premise that there is a fundamental difference between the "haves" and "have-nots." The pettiness and lack of compassion by these people must be challenged, lest things get increasingly worse for the "have-nots" of this world.

The criminal justice system is as much at fault as the politicians. What kind of a horrific crime is it to take a loaf of bread or pack of lunch meat if the person or their family is truly hungry? Those in charge seem not to care about the causes of such crimes, asking naively: "Why don't you work for your needs as the rest of us do? What makes you so special?" Well, it's really not rocket science that what makes them special is the simple fact that they are people too.

Why is that so easy to forget or ignore? Change must be driven by a sense of our kinship, by reminding ourselves that we are all brothers and sisters, as Jessie Collin Young put it, it's high time to "Come on people now, smile on your brother, everybody get together..." If we don't, the gap of both wealth and understanding between rich and poor will only get larger and absolute chaos will reign supreme.

"Doing Whatever it Takes": By Kent Johnson

I decided that I'd do whatever it takes. I'd been laid off, evicted, and homeless for the first time in my life. Last night, the concrete slab I'd chosen for a bed remained hot from the previous day's sweltering sun. Looking around, I noticed that my private space wasn't as private as it had seemed last night, when it had seemed situated in an impenetrable jungle with only animal sounds framing the darkness. But the morning sun revealed people walking, riding bikes, and two thirty-something women kissing nearby. I hoisted the all-my-remaining-

The Shalom Writer's Circle is a weekly meeting at the Shalom Community Center of writers interested in exploring and giving voice to their own stories. The group currently meets on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:00 at the Shalom Center. For more information contact Professor Shannon Gayk at sgayk@indiana.edu.

possessions backpack over my shoulder and began the cumbersome trek toward downtown, ruing the fact that I still had a guitar because it had been on my back the day I was locked out of my apartment because I had lost my job and could no longer pay rent. Now my beloved guitar was just more baggage on a ninety degree Bloomington day. I sat on Kirkwood playing, with my open case an open invitation for donations. When I later counted the booty, I found 300 Japanese yuan, a single dutch mark, an English pence, and a .20 Euro coin. Damn college town. I never

continued on page 13

My mother moved along The Days

My mother moved along The Days
Like hiding from the wind
fearing what might happen to
her again.
She led us out half way
only to turn around to pray.
She lead us out once again
to build our soul, lead us to
the gates of a promised land
to never end.
So fear not my child, try
and try again! Fear not
that day.

By Nancy

Both poems are from an April 28, 2012 women's writing circle, using the Lucille Clifton poem My Mama Moved Through the Days as a prompt.

The women's writing program at the Monroe County Corrections Center, formerly operating under the auspices of Women Writing for a Change, Bloomington, now operates as a program under the auspices of the Writing for a Change Foundation of Bloomington, Inc. This new arts/education non-profit supports programs where writing is used to promote personal growth, leadership, deepening creativity, and healthy community building. To find out more about the Writing for a Change Foundation of Bloomington, please visit our website: <http://wfacfb.org>

Right Back In

We take the week with here and there
and wonder what will be.
The weekend comes and what
we see is the world we missed
through the week.
How do we change the week from
the end? We may never know
but as the weekend comes to the
end, I find myself Right Back In!
Right Back In! to the week once
again! Once again!

By Dorothy Axsom

Survival Stories
From the Shalom Writers' Circle

Continued from page 12

opened my case in town again. Some of the folks hanging out in front of the library said they were going to Shalom for lunch. I followed. In the basement of a church, I relished chicken a la king that was just like the dish I used to beg my mom to make daily (no kidding. I would have eaten it every day, on toast, mash potatoes, rice, whatever). As time went by, I looked for work. But without a driver's license or social security card and being constantly dirty and sweat-soaked, the offers didn't come. I began to realize that I had also become, at 52, the victim of ageism. Rather than cede to the Great Wall that stood in my road, I set out to replace the identification papers I needed to procure employment. I began to stay at Martha's House, a local homeless shelter. There, I could sleep, shower, shave. I could wear clean clothes again! It wasn't long before that translated into a job, an apartment, replacing the necessities I had lost, and even a car. Sure, my story could have been one of dumpster diving, begging, or even robbery, none of which is above any one of us whose backs are to the wall. But in my case, doing whatever it takes to survive means doing what's right, working hard, and being humble.

The Big Deal About Poverty: How Far Are We Removed?
By David Murphree

I've been out since sunrise limping the long way around toward the bus stop, halfway in search for a meal for later. In the crisp bright air, patches of roof frost struggle in the face of the rising sun, before falling as melted tears to the ground. Splat!

Looking over at the house directly across the road, I read 432; that would be 432 Rogers. My gaze next fixes up the road toward my destination. Not long no... a prize!! Just at my feet is a lifeless furry mass, only slightly mangled.

Hmm, wasn't here yesterday. Fresh kill? I reach down to examine my potential bounty. Damn hip! Screams of pain bounce down the corridors of my brain. Medicaid coming through soon.... I hope.

Small ground hog? A large squirrel? No matter, just helps to be fresh. Thick, lush fur, supple skin, both warm butter to my knife. As I examine it closer, a wonderful stench fills the air confirming my suspicion, "Nothing, no scent at all: it is fresh!"

Whoosh! Bumper sticker flies by: WWJD? He'd eat it, damn it! My day starts out well.

Immediate errand delightfully redirected, I

stand back at the sink of my ancient fortress, a one-room RV trailer in the backyard of my former house, my ex-wife no doubt at rest inside now.

Candidate Romney preaches on the radio compliments of Rush, "I'm not worried about the very poor. There is a safety net in place for them. If it's broke, I'll fix it."

"If this is 'fixed,' I'm fucked!" I mumble in reply.

I wonder what he would think about my early-morning find, about the gaping holes in the safety net I have experienced and the methods I use to survive.

If my subsistence activities were placed within a traditional hunter/gatherer society, I would be accepted and even admired. Viewed from a modern perspective, the same subsistence activities are not only astonishing, but so to the point of physical discomfort, revulsion, and even disgust. The distinguishing point here is the social stigma of poverty.

Among the many thousands for whom the "American Dream" has found to be wanting, social stigma is the offending stench of shame emanating not only from the larger society but, even more intensely, from within the individual her/himself. THAT is the most difficult part of having to face this life in America. Our life, our efforts, and especially our existence is neither admired nor recognized.

Heading for a Fall: A Song by Billy Young

Wasn't what you said when I met you,
Wasn't in the way you moved at all,
Might have been the way you held my heart
love,
Feel I was heading for a fall.

I've been a beggar down in poor town.
Even lost my songs in old Saint Paul.
And I tried to re-write them down in the mission
But I was heading for a fall.

[Chorus]
Been heading for a fall, just heading for a
letdown
Been trying to find Jesus, but he was on call.
I've been broken on the wheels, of what is or is

not real.
I'm just trying to find some grace, to pray my
own dues,
When I found you.

I'm just heading down the road through all the
chaos
Standing in the rains of Mardi Gras.
I'm lifting to the winds of your bright reflection
Trying to feel the healing of your call.

[Chorus]
But I could be heading for a fall. I could be
heading for a letdown
Trying to find Jesus, but he's still on call
Down and out in New Orleans, no clue, no
warnings
Now all I have left is just a memory of you,

To sing me through.

I can feel your presence through the distance
I can feel your song singing mine
If it wasn't for the one day you were with me
I would never hold this gift of time.

I'm not heading for a fall, I'm not heading for a
letdown.
See I know sweet Jesus is trying to heal us all,
Share his bread and his wine 'cause it could be
your last time
Still you're the only reason by heart beats
through
Transcend love to you
Transcend all my love to you.

Special Section: Therapeutic Jail And Re-entry Programs

NEW LEAF/NEW LIFE

By Jonathan Holland and Dwayne Mead, New Leaf/New Life volunteers
Office: 1010 S. Walnut, Bloomington, IN • Phone: (812) 355-6842

New Leaf/New Life provides therapeutic programs in the Monroe County Correctional Center as well as reentry programs described in this article. For more information about New Leaf/New Life, go to www.newleaf-newlife.org.)

In October 2011, the Perry Township Trustees donated office space to New Leaf/New Life. We officially opened the doors to the public in November 2011. Our goal is to provide continued support for those released from jails and prisons living in the Bloomington area. Many people take for granted the bare essentials, like clothing and hygiene, necessary to start over. We provide our clients with those items such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, and shampoo. To ease their transition back into society, we offer clothing for job interviews and bus tickets for job searches, interviews, and appointments. We also provide information on housing, food banks, and other resources available to them throughout Monroe County. Furthermore, we assist our clients in

acquiring birth certificates and social security cards, which are vital in obtaining housing and employment.

As of May 14, 2012, we have helped over a hundred men and women. Along with providing the tangible necessities to function in society, we are here to give our clients peace of mind. Often times, people recently released from jail or prison are discouraged and with good reason. Job, housing, and food searches are extremely difficult for felons. We are here to listen and hopefully point them in the right direction to agencies and employers that can help. Many of our volunteers have made it over the obstacles that our clients face; they offer support and show them that, with hard work and a little bit of help, there is hope.

IT HAPPENED THIS A WAY! By Danny Griffin

I would wake up in the morning,
First think I'd think, "I need a drink!"
To get my mind off the night before,
Take a Loritab to break the shakes.

The devil thought he had me,
a gazing stock for all to see.
I pawned and sold all my
possessions, man,
To drink away those painful
memories.

I went from P.I.'s to DUI's
To the drunk tank, to a population
cell,
Then the D.T.'s would take my mind
And they'd put me in a padded cell.

The judge ordered in the county
shrink
To evaluate my mind to see if I was
competent
Or if I had overstepped the line... this
time.

Back to the population cell to serve
out all my time.
Then, God sent in a preacher man.
He said, "You don't have to live this
way.
The way that you've been living,
man,
Repent, repent, you're headed
straight for hell.

Then I cried, "Dear Jesus, save me,
please forgive me for all my wrongs.
Now, I know that Jesus heard my cry
and God is still sitting on His throne.
Because I'm a new creation, I've been
born again.
Old things have passed away, reborn
I am!

God's Holy spirit leads and guides
my way.
He tells me what to do and tells me
what to say.
Yes, I'm a new creation, I've been
born again.
Old things have passed away, reborn
I am!

PEACE UNTO YOU, SHALOM By Danny Griffin

If you're down in the valley
And you're out on your own

Peace unto you, peace unto you, Shalom

If you're out on the street, you're tired and you're
beat,
You're welcome in here, out of the cold, out of the
heat.

If it's freezing cold or hot as it can be,

We've always got hot coffee or a cold glass of tea.

You can use the phone, get your laundry done,
Even take a shower, "Better hurry up, you don't
have an hour."

Oatmeal in the morning, spaghetti at noon,
And while you're waiting in line, hand sanitize too.

We don't push on you what you don't want to hear,
We just show the love of God is what we're doing in
here.

I used to think "preaching" would get to your

knees,
But it's people helping people, now that will set you
free!

I know the names of God, and one of them is
Shalom
When you're referring to that name, you're calling
on God's throne.

I know this may be hard for some, but look around
the room,
We're all God's children, 70 back to two.

Peace unto you, peace unto you, Shalom.

A New Hope

By Crystal Harris

When I hear the name New Hope Family Shelter I don't think of it as being a shelter even though I know that's what it is.

I think of New Hope as a big house that has food, family, fun, heart, feeling, sharing, caring, and most importantly love.

My family and I moved into New Hope on August 22, 2011 which was a blessing.

New Hope means the world to me and my family.

It was our first time ever living in a shelter let alone being homeless.

It didn't dawn on me that we were homeless until after we were in the shelter for a week.

The things that New Hope did for me and my family were unbelievable.

For my husband, the staff members helped him type up his resume and send it to different employers online, get connected with the VA, H.I.P (Healthy Indiana Plan), V.I.M. (Volunteers in Medicine), and a dentist for his teeth.

For me, the staff helped me to remember to take my medicine on time and helped me get around by letting me lean on them when I didn't have my cane. They helped me write up a resume and anything else I needed help with in seeking employment. They would watch out for me whenever my husband had to leave town. They were my babysitters and they kept me company.

For my nephew, they tutored

him with his homework, played instruments with him, went to his school and watched his band concerts. They talked with him about various subjects and helped him fill out job applications.

As a family we spent holidays at the shelter cooking, watching television, playing games on the computer, and talking about everything from actors to zoos.

We got real close to the staff members. We have been to dinner with a couple of them. A few have been to the new house that we have moved into. We enjoy each others' company. One of the staff members said that we were his second set of parents.

Our first holiday at New Hope my husband cooked on the grill and we invited the other staff members over as well.

On Thanksgiving 2011, the only people there were the previous director, my husband, and myself. My husband and I cooked a big feast and we had food for several days for the whole shelter.

Different churches donated boxes of food and the director bought everything else. He brought everything we asked for and we chose the food we usually fix in our own home.

On Christmas Day 2011, we had a big dinner that was nutritious and the shelter gave each person a gift. They also had a tree and decorations that

were donated to the shelter as well.

Overall I have never seen so much food, clothes, coats, toys, household items, personal items, etc. donated to the shelter in my life. Every time I turned around there were people knocking on the front door to make a donation of some sort, but I'm not complaining I just felt the love, care, and sharing of other people in the community. Every person or organization that made a donation to the shelter actually made me personally feel a lot of love inside because at that moment I knew that other people cared a lot about others. Some even donated books and furniture.

My experience with New Hope was a blessed one because I stepped out on my faith.

An angel came with a blessing and that blessing was getting us into New Hope. I thank God for New Hope.

Everybody at New Hope is our extended family and we still stay in contact with some of the people even though we have moved out.

Being in New Hope allowed me to be renewed and to sit back and take a look at my life so that I can make some changes.

My family and I were welcomed with open arms and a lot of love.

God bless New Hope. We love you.

Homeward Bound Bloomington: We Did It!

*By Kathy Mayer,
Office Manager/Program Specialist
City of Bloomington
Community & Family Resources Dept.*

The 10th Annual Walk raised over \$41,000 in monetary donations and over \$27,000 in in-kind donations.

Just over 1000 walkers, volunteers and committee members enjoyed a beautiful day at The Waldron, Hill and Buskirk Park (Third Street Park) and a stroll along Historical Prospects Hill, downtown Bloomington and beautiful Dunn Meadow on the IU campus.

Being the largest collaboration among nonprofits working to end homelessness, the Homeward Bound Walk raises funds not only in Bloomington but all over Indiana. The Walk is hosted by the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development (IACED) that supports a network of organizations that build vital communities and resilient families.

The 12 local agencies that profited from the Bloomington Homeward Bound Walk are:

Amethyst House, Centerstone, Community Kitchen, Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Martha's House, Middle Way House, Monroe County United Ministries, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, New Hope Family Shelter, Shalom Community Center, Stepping Stones, and Youth Services Bureau.

Thank you to our underwriters: the City of Bloomington's Community and Family Resources Department, Ivy Tech Community College, Indiana University and United Way of Monroe County, and to our sponsors: IU Credit Union, Lamar Advertising, Bloom Magazine, Tree of Life, Safeguard Printing, Crane Federal Credit, Remax Realty Professional of downtown Bloomington, Lions Club, Master Rental, Bloomingtononline.net, WFHB, WQRK, WBIW and a special thank you to Pet's Alive and the City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Police Dept. and Utilities Dept. for their support and in-kind donations to the Bloomington Walk.

For more information about the 2013 walk and the goal of "Fighting Homelessness One Step at a Time," please contact Walk Chair Kathy Mayer mayerk@bloomngton.in.gov or visit the Homeward Bound Web site at www.homewardboundindiana.org/bloomington.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Continued from page 2

The 2011 Jack Hopkins Fund awards helped provide sleeping mats for the Interfaith Winter Shelter, washers and dryers for Amethyst House Inc., equipment and relocation costs for the new Community Kitchen facility on South Rogers, and cold

storage equipment for the Monroe County United Ministries emergency food pantry as well as many other worthy programs. Most importantly, all of this funding goes to projects that help to support some of the most vulnerable members of our community, especially in this difficult economic climate.

In my years in the state legislature, I saw the state government do exactly

the opposite of what it should have been doing in times of financial crisis. When the economy was in a downturn and people most in need were suffering, the state would cut social service and education funding as so-called savings. I was determined that when I was leading the City, we would protect social service funding even as we were having to pare back funding in other

parts of the city government.

I stand by that commitment. Without the support of this vital fund, the social safety net in Bloomington would not be nearly as strong as it is today. I can comfortably say that funding from this program has improved the well-being of many Bloomington residents, and it is our goal to ensure that it will continue to do so for many years to come.

PROGRAMAS SOCIALES

Continúa de pagina 2

de Amethyst House Inc. Se ayudo con el equipo y la reubicación de las nuevas instalaciones de la cocina de la comunidad a la calle Rogers en el sur de la ciudad y con equipos de almacenamiento en frío para la despensa de comida de emergencia de Monroe County United Ministry, así

como muchos otros programas dignos. Lo más importante de todo esto es que esta financiación va a proyectos que ayuden a apoyar a algunos de los miembros más vulnerables de nuestra comunidad, especialmente en este clima económico y difícil.

En mis años mientras fui miembro de la legislatura estatal, vi al Gobierno del Estado hacer exactamente lo contrario de lo que debería haber estado haciendo en

tiempos de crisis financiera. Cuando la economía estaba en una recesión, y las personas más necesitadas estaban sufriendo, el estado cortó los servicios sociales y la financiación de la educación con la excusa de que estaban ahorrando. Yo estaba empeñado en que cuando llegara a hacer alcalde de la ciudad, mi propósito sería proteger los servicios sociales con financiación, incluso tendríamos un nuevo financiamiento

en otras partes del gobierno de la ciudad. Ratifico este compromiso, el cual sin el apoyo de este fondo vital, no sería tan fuerte como lo es hoy. De esta manera seguirá ayudando a la red de seguridad social en Bloomington, cómodamente puedo decir que fondos de este programa han mejorado el bienestar de muchos residentes de Bloomington, y es nuestro objetivo garantizar que seguirá haciéndolo durante muchos años por venir.

LIFEDESIGNS

Continued from page 2

saving the public tax dollars. An example of a successful supportive housing program includes a study from the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Mental Health Policy and Services Research. For two years the costs associated with nearly 5,000 mentally ill homeless people in New York City were tracked and for an additional two years after they were housed. The savings were enormous. Supportive and transitional housing saved an annual \$16,282 per unit by reducing the dependence on public services. Those services included a reduction in the need for: public health, shelter use and incarceration. (Permanent Supportive Housing Institute, *Corporation for Supportive Housing*, 2011)

The Crawford Apartments project, a LifeDesigns supportive housing collaboration, came about through the

efforts of the South Central Housing Network, a regional and joint body of agencies who have committed to provide various services to the homeless including housing, case management, and life skills education. The Housing Network first identified a critical unmet housing need through the point in time homeless counts and regional Continuum of Care planning process. The region was found to lack sufficient housing options available to people with disabilities who are chronically homeless. This resulted in the mobilization of several partner agencies in order to participate in the Indiana Supportive Housing Institute in the spring of 2011. During the Institute the planning for this development took place and LifeDesigns committed to serve as developer and owner of the property. Some of the other partner agencies in the Crawford project include: Hayes-Gibson International, Shalom Community Center,

Centerstone, Indiana University Health, and the Bloomington Housing Authority. Together with our partner agencies we hope to bring stable, decent, affordable housing and to coordinate the best possible housing resources and supportive services to people with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

In the future, LifeDesigns envisions more housing in our catchment area as we continue to develop communities where accessibility and aging in place are the norm. Our goal to expand these communities will continue to require the kind of partnerships demonstrated by the Crawford Project. We are confident that the resources are available and hope to be part of efforts to bring those together and as a result work to end homelessness, expand access to affordable housing, and create inclusive communities.

BE MORE AWARDS

Continued from page 6

Be More Dedicated (Lifetime of Service)

Lee Marchant has been dedicated to his work with IU Health Bloomington for over 17 years, 12 of those on the Board of Directors. Lee's 20-year involvement with Ivy Tech included positions on the Foundation Board of Directors, raising nearly \$80 million during his tenure as chair. Lee has been a Salvation Army Advisory Board member for over 25 years and an advisor to eight executive directors during this time. Lee's dedicated, reliable service and strong governance have touched the lives of tens of thousands of people in the Bloomington community. (The award was split between the IU Health Bloomington Foundation's 'Dr. Clarence and Rita Marchant Fund, the Ivy Tech Foundation and the Salvation Army.)

VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 10

or a group activity, please contact Kaylee Joergens at (812) 330-6755 or kjoergens@gardenvillahealth.com or stop by the facility to pick-up a volunteer packet and fill out a volunteer application. (<http://site.gardenvillahealth.com>)

Social Media Volunteer/Intern

A social media volunteer or intern is needed at New Hope Family Shelter to collect information about upcoming events related to poverty and homelessness and then share it with the public using Facebook and Twitter. The volunteer will also use technology to assist with developing fundraising campaigns. This opportunity will build on existing skills but basic familiarity with social networking tools and strong computer skills are expected. Please contact Jillian Gruber at (812) 334-9840 or director@nhfsinc.org. (www.newhopefamilyshelter.org)

Crazy for Carrots!

The Hoosier Hills Food Bank needs help labeling a donation of unlabeled carrot cans. It's an easy, no brains, sticker project, a great volunteer opportunity and a good group project for people of all ages who want to feed those in need. Please contact Nicole Richardson at (812) 334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org. (www.hhfoodbank.org)

Fingerpainting and Fun at Head Start

Head Start is looking for fun, energetic friends to read stories to their kids and help with craft projects. You will have more fun if you are comfortable sitting on the floor and lifting 30 to 50 pounds. The classrooms are open Mon. through Fri. between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at multiple sites around Bloomington, although schedules vary at different sites. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old or accompanied by an adult. Head Start is a program of the South Central Community Action Program and provides early childhood

education and support for low-income families. Please contact Bethany Terry at (812) 334-8350 ext. 212 or parent@insccap.org. (www.sccap.monroe.in.us)

Summer Breakfast Prep and Delivery—May–Aug

Community Kitchen of Monroe County is seeking summer volunteers to prepare, assemble, and deliver free sack breakfasts for children in low-income neighborhoods in Bloomington during the summer. The prep shift is from 7 to 8:30 a.m. Volunteers hand out the meals from 8:20 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Regular dinner shifts run from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. and 3:30–6:30 p.m. Minimum age is 14, but 10 if accompanied by an adult. Please contact Annie Brookshire or Janna Arthur at (812) 332-0999 or volunteer@monroecommunitykitchen.com. Phone calls are preferred. (www.monroecommunitykitchen.com)

Best Buddies—July 20–23

Best Buddies needs nearly 150 volunteers to assist at their

International Leadership Conference from July 20–23, for learning, leadership development and fun! On July 20, volunteers are needed throughout the day to assist with registration and the merchandise store. Volunteers are needed for a variety of shifts between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. on July 21–23. Positions include: Speech Coach (help Buddy Ambassadors compose and deliver a speech; 8 a.m.–5 p.m. on Sat. and/or Sun., with both days preferred); Relationship Manager (provide support to participants as needed; half or full day shifts on Sat. or Sun.); Special Events (assist with set-up, clean-up, and chaperoning of social events on Sat. or Sun. evening); Merchandise (assist with store); and Greeters (greet attendees at the opening or closing ceremonies from 8–9 p.m. on Fri. or Sun.). Adult and teen volunteers welcome! Please visit www.bestbuddiesonline.org/lc and select 'conference volunteers' to register or contact Kristen at kristenjohnson@bestbuddies.org or (317) 436-8440 ext. 44. (www.bestbuddiesonline.org/lc)

GYSD

Continued from page 8

entryway to the garden was created and there were a significant amount of weeds pulled from garden pathways. Also, compost was applied to a 4 x 20 foot area in advance of grass seeding.

- At The Community Bike Project, students cleared out storage to make more work room. Some volunteers fixed bikes, from working on the brakes to pumping up the tires. At the end, they test rode all the bikes that were 'fixed' in the shop. Another group painted 60 magnets promoting Bike Week. This was a re-use project—the magnets were previously City recycling magnets from prior years.

- Another group created 20 rain barrels, and designed and painted 16. Both painted and unpainted barrels will be donated to ReStore to raise money for Habitat homes. Rain barrels are being sold at Bloomingfoods for \$80 each, so this could amount to a \$1600 donation to ReStore.

- A group at the Community Kitchen worked on projects to improve their drainage issues. They installed a rain barrel and dug a small rain garden, as well as clearing a drain. They also helped clean up the vehicle that distributes food and painted the vehicle's racks.

- At Wonderlab Museum of Science, Health and Technology, students cleaned off outdoor chairs in the garden area so that the garden could be

better enjoyed and acted as Discovery Coaches in the museum itself.

- Students removed invasive plants at RCA Park, learning how to use those specialized tools properly and learning how invasive plants negatively impact the natural environment.

- Over 80 students participated in the 'signature project', painting a 400 foot long mural along the B-Line on the side of The Warehouse, a developing youth and family center just south of the Community Kitchen. The Warehouse allowed us to use its facility as this year's hub for Global Youth Service Day activities. The theme of the mural focused on the day's theme of sustainability. The design includes images of the town, the environment and silhouettes of young people. The

adult artist facilitators were Laura Brikmanis & Adam Taylor

And everybody got ice cream at the end, thanks to the Chocolate Moose!

One of the Volunteer Network's main goals for the day was encouraging more high school students to volunteer, especially during the summer when the IU students go home. Each of the groups was given more information about volunteering again at each of the service sites. Another goal was for the students to associate volunteering with having fun. Finally, we wanted to make sustainability a priority in Bloomington with teens.

On the City's website, www.bloomington.in.gov/gysd—for *Global Youth Service Day*—you can see photos of the teens and projects.

Community Tobacco Cessation Classes

By Nancy Woolery, Health Projects Manager
City of Bloomington Community and Family Resources Department
For more information, call 812-353-5811 or visit the web
at www.smokefreebloomington.org

Do you want to quit using tobacco but need help? You're considering a difficult but eventually rewarding decision to quit using tobacco. Quitting tobacco is a challenge, and you'll face some battles. Tobacco cravings can wear you down when you're trying to quit smoking or chewing tobacco, but there is help for you.

There are many local tobacco cessation classes available for you to attend. Beat tobacco is a tobacco cessation program sponsored by Indiana University Health and the Monroe County Tobacco Coalition. You can attend just one class or as many as you like during the week. The classes are free and nicotine replacement therapy (nicotine patches, gum or lozenges) is provided at no cost. The following lists the times, days and locations of the classes:

Bloomington Hospital

6:00 PM Tuesdays
714 S. Rogers Street, Bloomington

Bloomington Hospital Medical Arts Building

10:30 AM Saturdays
619 W. 1st Street, Bloomington

Arby's

5:30 PM Wednesdays
3601 W. State Road 46, Ellettsville

Volunteers in Medicine Clinic

12:00 PM Fridays
811 W. Second Street, Bloomington

Shalom Community Center

A tobacco cessation class is offered 9:00 AM–10:00 AM Thursdays. Participants are given the tools to help them quit using tobacco.

Bloomington Hospital Medical Arts Building

One on One Counseling

619 W. 1st Street, Bloomington
The above location provides counseling to individuals who are unable to participate in a group class due to schedule conflicts or personal need. No registration is required and the class is free. For more information call 812-353-5811.

Free IU Student Tobacco Cessation Classes!

IU Health Center,
Noon on Tuesdays at
600 N. Jordan Avenue, Bloomington
8:00 PM on Wednesdays at
Herman B. Wells Library, Classroom 036.

Free: Support, Materials, and Nicotine Replacement Individual Appointments: 855-7338 or ncottam@indiana.edu

Monroe County Health Department

One-to-one consultations on an appointment basis. Contact Mary Lowery at 812-349-2150. 119 W. 7th Street, Bloomington

YMCA

5:30 PM on Tuesdays
1111 W State Highway 46, Spencer, IN

Can't make it to a class? Call the free Indiana Tobacco Quitline: 1-800-QUIT.NOW.

You will feel much better once you quit using tobacco. Within 8–10 hours of your last cigarette, your carbon monoxide level goes down and oxygen level increases. Within 24 hours your chance of having a heart attack decreases. Within 48 hours your nerve endings begin regrowth and your ability to smell and taste improves. There are many more health benefits to quitting tobacco. Attending a tobacco cessation class increases your success at quitting.

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.

Adult Education

MCCSC Adult Education

Address: Broadview Learning Center, 705 W. Coolidge Drive

Phone: (812) 330-7731

Web: www.adult.mccsc.edu

Volunteer Contact: Melanie Hunter (330-7731 x 52137; mhunter@mccsc.edu)

See "DIRECTORY", page 19

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 18

About: The Monroe County Community School Corporation's Adult Education program offers free, individualized instruction and guidance to teen and adult learners who need to get their GED diploma, want to improve basic job and literacy skills or learn new ones, are trying to learn English as a Second Language, or who aspire to create better opportunities for themselves and their families. There are also low-cost beginning computer classes for people age 55 and over. Classes start again August 16. Orientation for new students is Monday August 22; check for times. Located on Coolidge between Rogers St. & Rockport Rd., on the #2 South BT route.

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

Monroe County United Ministries

Address: 827 W. 14 Ct.

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Volunteer Contact: Rebecca Gordan ([812] 353-9150; mcumhelp@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: 404 W. 2nd 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]335-1280volunteer@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: http://auids.org/

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

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.

LifeDesigns, Inc.

Address: 200 East Winslow Rd.

Phone: (812) 332-9615

Web: www.lifedesignsinc.org

Volunteer Contact: Cindy Fleetwood

About: LifeDesigns, Inc. offers comprehensive services for people with disabilities in south central Indiana including education, housing and employment assistance. We offer services for every stage of life from childhood through adulthood. Our mission to partner with people with disabilities and the community to bring about self-directed and enriched lives through education, information and support. LifeDesigns is a grassroots organization formed by the merger of two well-known agencies, Christole and Options, who have provided leading-edge programs for over three decades.

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

See "DIRECTORY", page 20

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 19

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 evaluate job needs, inventory skills, review available jobs, develop a resume, prepare for an interview, and link with potential employers. Services are free, confidential, and non-discriminatory for job-seekers of all ages. Job Links counselors are available at Shalom Center (334-5728), Salvation Army (336-4310),

and Area 10 Agency on Aging (876-3383).

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.

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: 1711 N. College Ave.

Phone: 1-(800)-403-0864

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

Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM)

Address: 827 W. 14th Court

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Web: www.mcum.org

Hours: 6:30am-5:30pm

About: Full-time care for children ages 2-6 on a sliding fee scale, parents must be employed or attending school, NAEYC-accredited center

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.

See "DIRECTORY", page 21

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 20

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: 338 S. Washington St.

Phone: (812) 333-7404 (admin phone), (812) 336-0846 (crisis line)

Web: www.middlewayhouse.org

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)

Agape House, Shelter For Women And Their Children (part of Backstreet Missions)

Web: www.backstreet.org

Phone: (812) 333-1905.

Address: 300 Opportunity Lane, off W. 3rd Street.

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)

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 (Family Shelter)

New Hope Family Shelter

Phone: (812) 334-9840

E-mail: newhope@nhfsinc.org

About: The mission of the New Hope Family Shelter (NHFS) is to provide temporary shelter for homeless families in Bloomington and Monroe County and, in collaboration with other agencies, to help those families regain housing by addressing the problems that led to homelessness.

Housing (Intact Families/Adults)

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404

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

See "DIRECTORY", page 22

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 21

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.

District 10 Pro Bono Project

Address: P.O. Box 8382

Bloomington, IN 47407

Phone: (812)-339-3610

About: Purpose is to match income eligible clients with an attorney who will take their case for free. Potential clients must apply by phone on Monday from 10 AM to 12 PM, and Thursday from 2 PM to 5 PM. Please, no walk-ins, by phone only.

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: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404

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: 1515 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: 1100 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) 334-5728

Web: www.shalomcommunitycenter.org

See "DIRECTORY", page 23

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 22

Volunteer Contact: Pam Kinnaman ([812] 334-5734; pam@shalomcommunitycenter.org.)
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 Food Pantry
Address: 827 W. 14th Ct.
Phone: (812) 339-3429
Web: www.mcum.org
Hours: Monday-Friday 8-11:30 a.m.; 1-3:15 p.m.

About: Distributes non-perishable food, three days' supply provided. Must be Monroe County resident and complete a brief intake form.

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.

SLO FoodS garden pantry
About: The program emphasizes locally grown produce and dispenses food to those in need on a weekly basis.
When: Wednesdays from 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Where: 615 N. Fairview Street (Trained Eye Arts Center) (on the B-Line Trail just south of 11th St. underpass)
Volunteer Contact: Mylo Roze, Director - Eco Media Center Coordinator - SLO FoodS garden pantry
Web: <http://ecomediacentre.org>
greenhthcity@yahoo.com

First United Methodist Church
Address: 219 E. 4th Street
Hours: Wednesdays, 3:00-5:30 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: Contact Kathy Delaney Willett, Director of Outreach and Enrollment
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)

See "DIRECTORY", page 24

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 23

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.

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 free books, magazines, music CDs, and movies to check out; public Internet computers; downloadable audiobooks and ebooks; and free programs for all ages. It serves the county through facilities in Bloomington and Ellettsville, the Bookmobile, the Outreach Van, and Homebound service. 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 conversation groups. During the school year, the library offers homework help to elementary students and math and reading/writing homework help to teens. During income tax season, volunteers offer free tax help. The library also has public meeting rooms for use by nonprofit groups. Anyone in

the community can produce a program through Community Access TV (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.