

FREE



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

November-December  
2017

## Milestones opens new Anxiety/ OCD Clinic for area youth

By James Wiltz, PhD, HSPP, NADD-CC, Director of Milestones  
[www.milestonesclinic.com](http://www.milestonesclinic.com).

**M**ilestones Clinical and Health Resources at 550 South Adams Street in Bloomington recently opened a new Anxiety Disorders & OCD Clinic for Children and Adolescents. This is exciting news for young people in southern Indiana who need assistance getting past the barriers of anxiety symptoms or obsessive thoughts that intrude on day-to-day life.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), up to 25 percent of children and adolescents have or will develop an anxiety disorder. In some cases, fear and panic prevent a person from taking part in activities that make life enjoyable. The good news is that help is available, and it works.

Milestones, the clinical division of Stone Belt, has been providing services in southern Indiana for more than 10 years, and our therapists and psychiatrist are highly trained in working with children and adolescents with and without disabilities who experience anxiety and OCD.

Our new clinic now will increase our capacity to provide those services. Jennifer Halloran, LSW, Deb Mishler, LCSW, Cindi Winegardner, LCSW, and psychiatrist Dr. Melinda Weakley have over 50 years of combined experience providing services to

See "MILESTONES",  
page 8

## What about the Children?

By Mary Goetze, KAP Program Volunteer

**W**hen a parent is incarcerated, their children may face changes in where they live and go to school, and sometimes even the people they live with. They may feel shame and rejection. With increased responsibility and loss of the absent parent's income, the parent or caregiver may also have new emotional and material challenges. One existing service that reaches out to these children is the Read-to-Me program in the Monroe County jail. Volunteers record parents reading a book to their children, then send a copy of the book along with the recording to the child. Parents and caregivers say the children show a special attachment to the books and recording because they love hearing the voice of their absent parent.

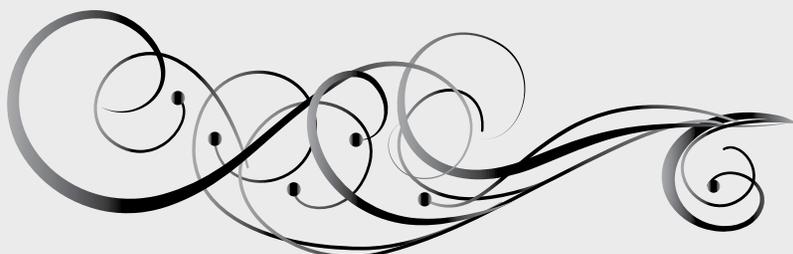
One parent of a child receiving a book asked, "What other services are there for children?" After scouring the community for programs and finding none, a group from the Hope for Prisoner Task force (a social justice initiative based in the Unitarian Universalist church) responded by forming a new program. They called it Kids with Absent Parents or KAP. Girls Inc and Big Brothers Big Sisters stepped up to become partners with the volunteer group, and now the committee has representatives from MCCSC Student Services, IU Social Work, SCCAP and Head Start. Others members are professionals, currently employed in or retired from such

See "CHILDREN",  
page 8

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Editorial Comment

**O**ur Guiding Principle is to reach out to others who are coping with practical and emotional crises, and to say, we are here as one community, interconnected with each other in a positive way. This means, among other things, providing shelter, food, medical care, opportunities to step out of poverty, peace, and mutual respect. This whole world would be a much better place for all people if everyone felt this way about our brothers and sisters. As individuals, we cannot change the world. However, we can all come together and help others in our own community. Let us show others, what we can do right here in Bloomington by reaching out to each other, and climbing that mountain together. To paraphrase Pete Seeger, We WILL Overcome.



Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

# Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter

By Lynne Foster Shiffriss, Board member, Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter

**T**he Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter began at Trinity Episcopal Church downtown in January 2009. As a member from back then said, “We needed to do something. People were sleeping outside our church, and that limestone is COLD!”

Trinity members ran the shelter by themselves that first year, through April.

Since then, other faith communities have joined the effort, rotating hosting duties between churches and Wheeler Mission.

As of this writing, the shelter will be hosted Nov. 1 through March 31 by Wheeler every night, (except for the first three nights, which were to be at local churches) after a sprinkler system is installed.

Bloomington’s fire marshall agreed to provide the shelter with special fire protection measures until the new sprinkler system is in place.

## Volunteers

The Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter depends on volunteers. This year, the number of volunteers is way down from previous years, and board members and experienced volunteers have been doing non-stop trainings.

Volunteering is rewarding,



David R. Zai, left, and Sarah Phillips from Trinity Episcopal Church, right, solo during a fundraising concert for the Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter Oct. 20 at St. Thomas Lutheran Church. The concert, organized by Suleiman Zai, brought together volunteers and performers from several faith communities for an evening of magical music and a buffet of delights with a Turkish theme, prepared and served by members of St. Thomas. Courtesy photo

good work. If you want to volunteer, get in touch with Dan Watts, who can arrange a one-hour training.

Volunteers who are trained get an email from signup.com and then

can choose when or if to volunteer. And if circumstances change, a person can take themselves off the roster for that night.

Call Dan Watts at 732-939-9426.

## Supporting the shelter

The Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter needs plenty of money and goods to support taking care of those who need it during the winter months.

Fundraisers have been taking place.

The shelter recently received a check for \$10,000, contributed by area customers of Bloomingfoods through the Positive Change project during September.

The two local Chipotle restaurants had a recent “dine and donate” event, which raised \$1,109.

Many people came together under the leadership of Suleiman Zai for a wonderful benefit concert Oct. 20 at St. Thomas Lutheran Church. That magical evening of music came together thanks to volunteers and faith communities — including Sulieman Zai and 40 musicians from Bloomington, as well as out of town and abroad; guest performers and composers David Pereira and David R. Zai; and choir members from the Unitarian Universalist, First Presbyterian and First Christian churches who offered additional vocal support, thanks to choir directors Susan Swaney, Katy Strand and Jan Harrington, respectively.

The concert raised \$1,590.

Monroe County donated \$2,510 to the shelter through the Sophia Travis grant.

Upcoming as of this writing is a Nov. 6 fundraiser at Get Some Pizza!, 211 N. Walnut St.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the fundraiser at Bucceto’s on Dec. 12. It’s 4 p.m. to close — dine-in, carry-out or delivery. Print out the flier from the IEWS website at <https://www.interfaithwintershelter.org/> or

See “WINTER SHELTER”,  
page 8



Connie Pepler, a volunteer with Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter since the beginning, conducts a training for new volunteers. Courtesy photo

## About *Safety~Net*

**David White**  
Editor-in-Chief

**SCAAP**  
Assistant Editor

**Joe Lee**  
Editorial Cartoonist

## 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](mailto:white@indiana.edu). Sign your name, and indicate whether you would like for your comments to be published.

# Special Section: South Central Community Action (SCAAP) Programs

## Healthcare Coverage – The Time is NOW!

By Laurie-Ann Curry, Executive Administrative Assistant, SCCAP

**N**ovember 1 through December 15th is 2017's open enrollment time for employer coverage and the federal Marketplace. This year the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) will also have a time during which enrollees can change their plans. "Just like the oil in your car, it is important to check your healthcare coverage status and make sure you are ready for the road and any healthcare needs" states Susan Jo Thomas, Executive Director of Covering Kids & Families of Indiana (CKF), a state-wide nonprofit that helps Hoosiers understand and sign up for Indiana and federal healthcare coverage programs. "Healthcare coverage – insurance - can be confusing for consumers. We want Hoosiers to know help is available."

CKF of SCCAP wants Hoosiers to know:

- Our navigators are trained and licensed with the state of Indiana.
- Our services are FREE and there is NO income restriction!!! Anyone is welcome to make an appointment with our navigators.
- We have Spanish & Portuguese speaking staff on site.
- Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) have year around enrollment.
- Starting this year and annually thereafter, the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) will offer consumers the opportunity to change their health plans between November 1 – December 15 regardless of when they enrolled or the date of their recertification.
- Marketplace Open Enrollment is November 1 – December 15, 2017 with coverage starting January 1, 2018
- If you do not have healthcare coverage or have questions, free unbiased help is available from CKF of SCCAP, Covering Kids & Families of Indiana and other community organizations.

CKF of SCCAP advises consumers to do a healthcare coverage tune up to make sure they understand and maintain coverage. For more information, call 812-339-3447 ex 510 or ex 511; email [katherine@insccap.org](mailto:katherine@insccap.org), [hannahw@insccap.org](mailto:hannahw@insccap.org) or visit [www.CKFindiana.org](http://www.CKFindiana.org).

### About Covering Kids & Families of Indiana

Covering Kids & Families of Indiana (CKF-IN) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to ensuring all Hoosiers have accessible healthcare coverage. CKF-IN promotes and facilitates healthcare coverage by building coalitions that enroll, educate, and support Hoosiers and by advocating for strong inclusive public policies. For more information, visit [www.ckfindiana.org](http://www.ckfindiana.org)

### Cobertura médica: ¡el momento es AHORA!

Del 1 de noviembre al 15 de diciembre es el tiempo de inscripción abierta de 2017 para la cobertura del empleador y el mercado federal. Este año, el Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) también tendrá un tiempo durante el cual los inscritos pueden cambiar sus planes. "Al igual que el aceite en su automóvil, es importante verificar el estado de su cobertura de atención médica y asegurarse de estar listo para la carretera y cualquier necesidad de atención médica", afirma Susan Jo Thomas, directora ejecutiva de Covering Kids & Families of Indiana (CKF, una organización sin fines de lucro en todo el estado que ayuda a los residentes de Hoosiers a comprender y suscribirse a los programas de cobertura de salud federales y de Indiana. "La cobertura de salud - seguro - puede ser confusa para los consumidores. Queremos que los Hoosiers sepan que hay ayuda disponible".

CKF de SCCAP quiere que los Hoosiers sepan:

- Nuestros navegadores están



Courtesy photo

capacitados y autorizados con el estado de Indiana.

- ¡Nuestros servicios son GRATUITOS y NO hay restricción de ingresos! Cualquiera puede hacer una cita con nuestros navegantes.

- Tenemos personal que habla español y portugués en el sitio.

- Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) y Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) tienen un año de inscripción.

- A partir de este año y anualmente a partir de entonces, el Plan Healthy Indiana (HIP) ofrecerá a los consumidores la oportunidad de cambiar sus planes de salud entre el 1 de noviembre y el 15 de diciembre independientemente de cuándo se inscribieron o la fecha de su recertificación.

- La inscripción abierta en el mercado es del 1 de noviembre al 15 de diciembre de 2017 y la cobertura comienza el 1 de enero de 2018.

- Si no tiene cobertura de salud o tiene preguntas, hay ayuda gratuita e imparcial disponible en CKF de SCCAP, Covering Kids & Families of Indiana y otras organizaciones comunitarias.

CKF de SCCAP aconseja a los consumidores que hagan un ajuste de la cobertura de atención médica para asegurarse de que entienden y mantienen la cobertura. Para obtener más información, llame al 812-339-3447 ex 510 o ex 511; envíe un correo electrónico a [katherine@insccap.org](mailto:katherine@insccap.org), [hannahw@insccap.org](mailto:hannahw@insccap.org) o visite [www.CKFindiana.org](http://www.CKFindiana.org).

Acerca de cubrir a los niños y las familias de Indiana

Covering Kids & Families of Indiana (CKF-IN) es una organización sin fines de lucro dedicada a garantizar que todos los residentes de Hoosiers tengan cobertura médica accesible. CKF-IN promueve y facilita la cobertura de salud mediante la creación de coaliciones que inscriben, educan y apoyan a los Hoosiers y abogan por políticas públicas inclusivas fuertes. Para obtener más información, visite [www.ckfindiana.org](http://www.ckfindiana.org).

# The Beauty of “Thriving Connections”

By Linda Patton, Thriving Connections Coordinator

SCCAP’s Thriving Connections (TC) program came about because while, as an agency, we offer vital supports, such as Head Start, energy assistance, and housing choice vouchers, to help stabilize people who live in poverty we continue to see these same families, generation after generation. We felt it was important to create and offer an intentional, focused way for people to actually move out of poverty while being fully supported on their journey.

We were able to identify and implement a community building model which was both complex enough and flexible enough to address individual challenges to getting out of poverty. While Thriving Connections is not a miracle cure for poverty, it has exceeded our expectations as a way to move people permanently out of the

need to receive support benefits and it’s also changed the way many non-impooverished people think of poverty. The model was built to grow and adapt as needed and we have fine-tuned it through its nine years of existence.

In a wider culture that is becoming more and more polarized, one of my very favorite things about Thriving Connections is the diversity -not just economic but also racial, age, faith, politics, gender and all variations thereof. Thriving Connections most basic goal is bringing people together across race and class lines to get rid of poverty. To accomplish this goal we start out educating and establishing relationships between people called Leaders, because they are leaders of

their own life, who live without enough resources (poverty) and people called Allies, who have enough resources (middle class or wealth). This Thriving Connections community meets every week for dinner and provides programming for both adults and children. In addition each Leader meets with their allies at other times to work on their education, financial and personal goals.

We work on what we have in common: a desire for all families to not only have the basics they need to survive, but have enough resources to thrive and be able to give back as productive members of the community. We try to learn from each other and share what has worked for us without presuming it will work for anyone else. We take the information we’ve learned to the greater community, offering insights into poverty that government, educational, civic and

faith institutions usually don’t receive. We presume good intentions and believe everyone involved in Thriving Connections is here to learn, grow, and work towards the abolishment of poverty.

In the nine years since Thriving Connections began we’ve helped sixty-four families study poverty, assess their skills and resources, learn how to set and achieve goals, and give back to the community. Participants have completed college degrees, obtained jobs, received raises, participated in financial and emotional counseling, moved to safe and stable housing, bought homes, been accepted into the Habitat for Humanity program, addressed health challenges, obtained

support for personal growth, supported each other through tragedy and victory and gave back to the greater community!

The Thriving Connections participant’s ninety-five children have learned about problem solving, financial literacy, communication and planning for the future. In fact one of our initial participants’ son, who was eleven when we began, is now, at age nineteen, in training to become our first second-generation Leader!

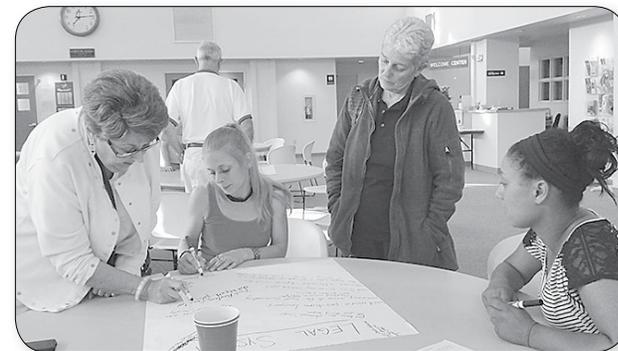
Besides increases in resources and decreases in the use of government benefits, TC families see huge gains in their social capital as they establish broader more diverse networks which provide them with support, information and opportunities for collaboration. Participants see high decreases in feelings of isolation and shame and become more involved in the larger community. Two of our participants have become, extremely valued, full time SCCAP employees.

A typical year in TC embraces many big events and sometimes big changes! Examples of our activities and accomplishments include being honored by the City of Bloomington with a “Be More” award for the great volunteer work we do, facilitating poverty simulations, speaking to IU & Ivy Tech classes, attending city wide focus groups and committee meetings as well as participating in events for other non-profits like Big Brother

See “*THRIVING CONNECTIONS*”, page 5



Courtesy photos



## THRIVING CONNECTIONS

Continued from page 4

Big Sister's Bowl for Kids' Sake. TC participant programming may include financial literacy, communication, job interview skills, goal setting, overcoming emotional trauma, and fun family activities.

Guest speakers at TC functions have included the Dean of IU's school of Education, Women Writing for a Change, Habitat for Humanity, Planned Parenthood, Judges, educators from local school systems, Work One and Cook Inc. We have even helped the City of Bloomington make emergency preparedness kits to be passed out to people with low incomes and helped a Leader build her Habitat House!

As a rule, TC holds one training a year with around fifteen highly motivated people who live in poverty. In 2015, we chose not to train a new group of leaders so we spent the year reflecting on what we do well, refining what we've been doing, and looking at Thriving Connections "down the road" in order better serve our participants. We appreciate being part of an agency with the vision to understand that poverty is complex and needs varied strategies to address it.

Thriving Connections has two paid staff positions which provide outreach, community education, recruitment, training and support of leaders, their families and all volunteers. One of the reasons TC is so cost effective and has been so successful over the years is its reliance on volunteers to do everything from preparing meals for our weekly meetings to youth programming to going with low income people to the doctor's office. Long time volunteers cook, teach, lead programs, support

leaders and learn as they continue give. In 2016, 216 volunteers donated 3968 hours to help TC leaders achieve their goals! Of that, 245 were hours donated by low income people as they become more engaged in the greater community.

Recently, we were able to offer a 12-week Home Weatherization Training Program to provide job skills and community service opportunities to Leaders and other participants. One of the Leaders was named a Monroe County Energy Leader by the Monroe County Energy Challenge. This Leader has helped with energy audits and demonstrated the use of energy saving ideas and products for residents of BHA's Crestmont housing. All the Leaders who participated felt the training was helpful and added skills they could use on resumes and on the job. Because it was held at the same time and place as our regular weekly meetings where our families eat together and children are offered age appropriate programming while adults learn new things, there were no barriers of child care and availability. We have decided we like the model of having on-going stand-alone training modules provided by partners or staff at weekly meetings to increase leader knowledge and skills.

We are also piloting a new employment-focused training with active Leaders. Initial feedback has been extremely positive and we feel having stand-alone topical trainings will allow us flexibility and extend our potential reach. We've partnered with Old National Bank and they come to our weekly meetings to present their excellent financial literacy training. We know how important having books available in the home is so every year we receive grants from FIRST BOOK which allow us to provide literacy

programming and a take-home library for every child!

The Indiana University ACE-Advocate for Community program has placed a student with us for four years who recruits and supervises many talented, passionate IU students. The ACE has facilitated partnerships with IU Kelly School of Business to create a Social Media training and video, School of Social Work and School of Education to work with our youth programming. We are extremely pleased to have the continued partnership with IU's Eigenmann Hall! IU students who lived at Eigenmann their freshman year and developed a relationship with us and are bringing in new groups such as the IU Mauer School of Law that will work with leaders on issues of debt and access to legal support. Kappa Sigma Fraternity is a strong new supporter who has cooked for us and helped a leader move.

This year, along with our revised and honed new leader and ally training, we chose to change our program terminology. We now call people working their way out of poverty 'Captains' since they are sailing their ships through life with the help and support of a great crew, a solid ship and well-chosen provisions. You have to be willing to get rid of excess baggage, that isn't helpful to your journey, and make sure you know how to navigate life's rough seas! We recently graduated ten new Captains; they and their families are looking forward to working with Allies.

All of us here at Thriving Connections are looking forward to the future holds for our program and are very appreciative of the dedication and generosity of our Captains, Allies, Volunteers and community partners!



# SCCAP THRIVING CONNECTIONS GRADUATES TEN FROM 'CAPTAIN' 101 LEADERSHIP TRAINING

By Katie Thompson, SCCAP Thriving Connections, Coach

**E**xactly 26 weeks ago, on April 6th, we set sail on our journey together – 10 captains, 10 ships, all with their own unique stories. None of us knew what to expect. 26 weeks is exactly half a year, and a lot can happen in half a year. We had many things to celebrate – graduations and birthdays, new jobs and promotions. We watched a new life grow inside of ShaKay. There were losses, too, and many weeks we all came in with our own burdens. These burdens may have been called by different names, but together we all shared the experience of carrying tremendous weight. We encouraged each other from underneath our own respective heavy loads, shared those sad eyes and deep sighs, that the only New and Good we could think of from the past week was that we were here, together, now, still in one piece.

We all came in with the things we carry, our cargo and baggage, pinched in between too much of some things and not enough of others. And every week we came in, sat down, and for an hour or so, left all that piled up by the door. We laughed, and we cried. We “watched the glitter”. We were thoughtful and playful. We practiced mindfulness, and filled up lots of Post-Its, and drew murals, and had long, meandering discussions full of insight about hidden rules and the stormy seas each of us faced.

I loved how the walls of our classroom filled up with easel paper, as we surrounded ourselves with our drawings and the things we had learned. I loved that the numbers of the workbook pages kept going up and up – I think we all felt a sense of accomplishment as our binders slowly filled up with our knowledge, our discussion, our shared experiences. No one had sailed this course before us, and we were charting it as we went.

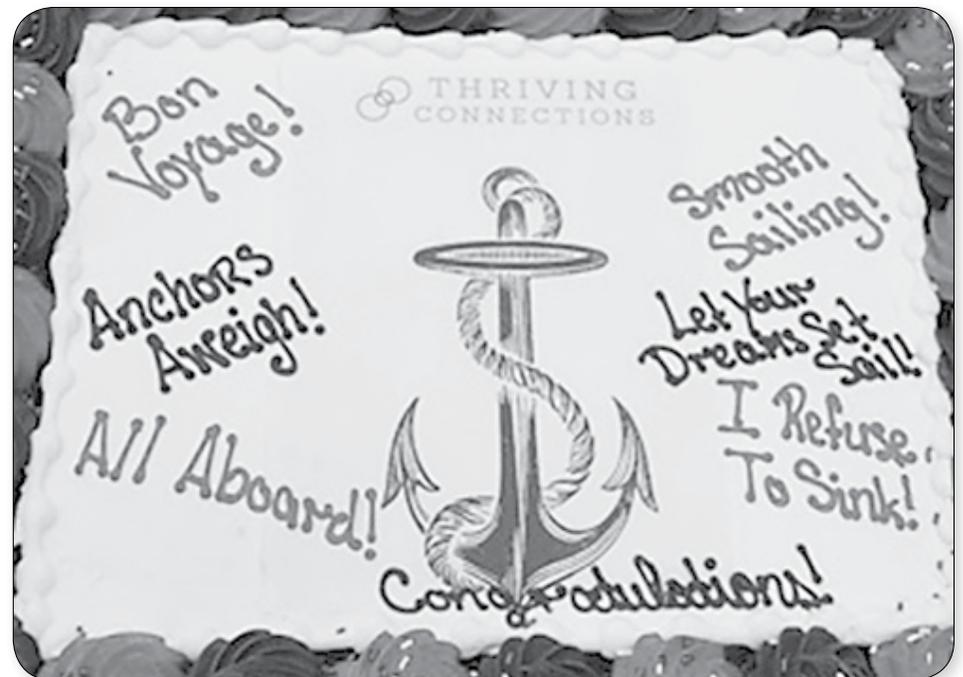
We shared a lot in those 26 weeks, and I was always struck by the tremendous strength displayed by each and every person in the class. Every single person went through some seriously tough times, and every single person made it out on the other side even stronger than they were before. I was amazed at the cleverness, creativity, and resourcefulness of our



Courtesy photos

Captains – the way they were able to make things work for themselves and their families, even in seemingly impossible situations. It also became clear, in the half a year we spent together, how much our Captains deeply and fiercely loved their kids and their families. The Captains were also incredibly brave, willing to open up about their experiences and their struggles, even when they were painful. Especially when they were painful.

I am honored to have spent this past half year with this amazing, strong, smart, persistent, talented, funny group of people. No matter what the week leading up to it had been like, I always, always left our class feeling better than when I walked in. We created something really special together, and I couldn't be more pleased, or more proud, of the accomplishments of each and every one of our Captains during our journey together. Bon Voyage!



# Salvation Army Prepares to Serve Others for the Holidays

By Monica Clemons, The Salvation Army of Monroe County,  
Office: (812)336-4310, Email: [Monica\\_Clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Monica_Clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org)

**B**loomington, IN – October 9, 2017 – Christmas assistance sign up for low income families with children 14 years old or younger will be Monday October 30th through Friday Nov. 3rd at the Salvation Army from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each day and open until 6 pm on Thursday Nov. 2nd. Monroe County residents who need help this Christmas with food, clothes, and toys should stop by the Salvation Army Community Center located at 111 N. Rogers St. in Bloomington. Please bring a state issued ID or Birth Certificate or insurance card for each person in the household, proof of residency and written documentation of your household income for the past 30 days, this includes any form of Government assistance such as Food Stamps or SSDI.

The Salvation Army's Food Pantry/voucher hours will change during November and December. We will be open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 1:00-3:30 pm and Friday mornings 9:00-11:30 am.

Angel Tree is a part of The Salvation Army's 2017 Christmas Campaign which brings hope to thousands of Monroe County residents throughout the year. We can't do this without help: volunteers and donations are needed. Find more about how you can help by visiting [www.bloomingtonsa.org](http://www.bloomingtonsa.org).

## Share your #redkettlereason at [www.redkettlereason.org](http://www.redkettlereason.org)

The Salvation Army is a not-for-profit operating in all 50 states, and in 126 countries worldwide.

Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

## Doing the Most Good

Every year, The Salvation Army helps nearly 30 million people, roughly one per second. Support us at [donate.salvationarmyusa.org](http://donate.salvationarmyusa.org).

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## THE SHALOM WRITERS CIRCLE

*The Shalom Writers' Circle meets every Wednesday at the Shalom Center to share stories, writing (including poetry, prose, and songs), and to write together. All are welcome and no preparation is needed for participation. Questions about the group can be directed to Shannon Gayk at [sgayk@indiana.edu](mailto:sgayk@indiana.edu).*

### All Because of You ~ Rick May

One star will shine  
So bright tonight  
One heart shall sing  
With all its might  
One lonely life will  
Start anew  
All because of you.

A dream once lost,  
It now unfolds  
A living angel he  
Now holds  
As once again the bells  
Ring true  
All because of you.

You gave this heart  
A second chance  
By offering up  
A sweet romance  
Two souls entwined  
By circumstance.  
All of this is true.

One more day  
I wake to find  
A love so rare  
And so divine.  
I've wondrous skies  
Forever blue  
All because of you,  
Just because of you.

### Having Faith ~ Reva Duke

God tells us to hold on to faith  
But it is hard  
when society will not hear  
what we have to say,  
When society sees us as just  
a number.  
When society doesn't have  
Faith in us.

### I believe ~ Daisy Baker

I believe in hope.  
I believe in love.  
I believe in God.  
I believe in peace.  
I believe in faith.



## CHILDREN

*Continued from page 1*

fields as social work, education, law enforcement, graphic art, and music, all of whom share a concern about mass incarceration in our country and the impact it is having on youth.

In an effort to find the best way to help these children and their caregivers, the KAP committee launched a three-month pilot program in September. Their aim is threefold. First is to provide a safe gathering in which the children participate in creative activities that are enriching, engaging and fun. Secondly, they want to involve the caregivers in designing the KAP program so that it addresses their needs and goals for the children. Lastly, they want KAP to become a caring community that offers friendships that mutually benefit children, caregivers and volunteers.

At the first KAP event on September 24, families met for a 2-hour program. It began with a lunch donated by local restaurants and food stores. After eating, the children headed off to a play area where volunteers led them through story-telling, songs and craft activities. Some of the older kids migrated outside to shoot baskets with the volunteers. Meanwhile, parents met to get acquainted with one another and members of the KAP committee. They were encouraged to talk about the challenges they face and to brainstorm ideas for ways KAP can help. In addition, the meeting provided them a chance to meet others who face some of the same challenges. The families received a booklet listing existing services and resources in the Bloomington community, books and a thank-you gift of donated items—as well as some new friends.

Feedback from the parents participating in the first gathering was 100% positive and they plan to return for the next KAP event. They responded:

I liked

- “Sharing information, feelings, frustrations”
- “That they are not here to judge us.”
- “Being able to speak up.”
- “Hearing other peoples similar struggles.”
- “Honestly all of it”

As they move forward, the KAP organizers are eager to welcome more parents and caregivers, including grandparents or other relatives of children affected by incarceration, to future KAP gatherings. To become a part of this new developing program, please send your contact information in an email to [kidswithabsentparents@gmail.com](mailto:kidswithabsentparents@gmail.com), or call or send a text to 812-327- 0144.

## MILESTONES

*Continued from page 1*

young people with anxiety and OCD. They also have extensive training in Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT). Although there are many ways to treat anxiety disorders and OCD, CBT has proven over many years to be the most efficacious as well as cost-effective therapy option.

That is why this clinic is so important to the greater Bloomington community. Our clinicians' experience and training in evidence-based treatments for anxiety and OCD will bring relief to many children and adolescents who experience difficulties with stress and panic.

Milestones and our surrounding community are lucky to have such fine clinicians working to help young people in need. Please visit us at [www.milestonesclinic.com](http://www.milestonesclinic.com) or call 812-333-6324 to find out more.

# Jail Assistance – A Call to Bloomington's Faith Communities

*By Dave Meyer, New Leaf – New Life*

**A** little joy has been delivered for over 12 years to the Monroe County Jail through the Jail BINGO program. Quietly but consistently, St. Marks United Methodist and the New Leaf–New Life have brought regular joy into the Monroe County Jail. This volunteer-led program brings prizes (including needed toiletry items) and the game of BINGO into the jail's cell blocks and shows the inmates and the guards that people in the community care about those in OUR jail. The program is non-religious, but many volunteers are motivated to participate by their faith.

Its leader, Wain Martin, has retired and the program is going through a transition. In restarting it, we are seeking broader faith community involvement. Are you a member of a faith community that would like to get involved in Jail BINGO? If so, we would love to have you.

We are looking not just for volunteers, but other faith communities that want to sponsor the effort by providing modest financial support, volunteers and storage space for prizes.

In October, the program delivered nearly 170 pounds of prizes and supplies to inmates along with the joy that comes with knowing that someone cares about you.

Do you care? Would you like to help?

Contact Dave Meyer at New Leaf–New Life at [dave@newleafnewlife.org](mailto:dave@newleafnewlife.org) for more information or to volunteer.

A short video on Jail BINGO is on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1N4ZHgkSbM>

## WINTER SHELTER

*Continued from page 2*

pick one up at participating faith communities. The shelter will receive 20% of the proceeds. Bucceto's has two locations in Bloomington — at East Third Street and the Ind. 45/46 Bypass and at West Third Street and Liberty Drive.

To support the Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter general fund, please make out your check to: First Presbyterian Church with “Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter” on the memo line.

Mail or deliver your check to First Presbyterian Church, 221 E. Sixth St., Bloomington, IN, 47408.

### What else is needed?

Donations of goods is also needed, and those should be taken to Congregation Beth Shalom, First United Church, the Unitarian Universalist Church, United Presbyterian Church, Trinity Episcopal Church, First Christian Church, St. Paul Catholic Center, the Church of Latter-Day Saints or First Presbyterian Church.

Some items that are needed include: coffee, sugar, powdered creamer, hot chocolate packets, juice boxes, peanut butter, crackers, cereal bars, first aid items and personal hygiene items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, deodorant, etc.

### More

Learn more about the shelter and get updated news at <https://www.interfaithwintershelter.org/>.

# History Of Courage To Change

By Marilyn Burrus

**C**ourage to change was founded in recognition of the need for lower barrier sober living in and around Monroe County. We wanted to offer sober living options that can meet the needs of those who come from wealth and those who were never so fortunate. That is exactly what we have done.

We are founded on the recognition of individual recovery depending on multiple approaches. We provide the space and help where an individual can come to take full responsibility for their own recovery.

## 2015

We had a growing awareness that the transitional sober living houses currently in Monroe County, while wonderful, didn't have the capacity to address the needs of many.

## 2016 early

Brandon Drake of Keystone Interventions and Marilyn Burrus of New Leaf New Life begin collaborating on a new housing system for south central Indiana.

## 2016 Aug.

Courage to Change is officially founded by Brandon Drake and Marilyn Burrus.

## 2016 Oct.

We began opening other houses in response to need and our positive feedback.

## 2016 Oct.

Our first graduates, David, Gareth, and Nicole, two of whom came to us from Prison, moved into their own place. They are still sober today, and making the most of life!

## 2017

We have been so successful that we've opened six houses in less than a year! We are continuing to improve ourselves in offering transitional housing development. Case workers consult with clients about their health conditions and work together to heal.



## How Courage to Change And New Leaf/New Life Saved Me

**W**hen I got out of jail this last time, in November of 2016, my entire world was turned upside down. Everyone and everything that I had when I went in, was gone when I got out. I walked out the doors of the Monroe County Jail, with the clothes on my back, no phone, no money, no where to go, truly feeling lost, in every sense. I knew that I was going to have to try to re-build my life, but at that point, I didn't even have the basic necessities to simply survive. I went back to the people that I knew, because I felt that they were all that I had. A day after I got out of jail, I over dosed, and was in critical care for 2 days. At that point, I realized that I had to be willing to try to reach out, to ask for help. I wasn't going to figure this out on my own. A friend of the family had started, a sober living house, Courage to Change located in Bloomington. I called him and met with his partner, Marilyn Burrus. They thought it would be good and I moved into one of their houses. We

decided I needed to go to treatment. During that time, my days were spent volunteering at New Leaf New Life, trying to keep myself occupied, not allowing my mind to begin to take over, with all the self-destructive thoughts. I was trying to really do something different, despite how uncomfortable it all seemed to me. In the process of doing that, I got myself semi established at NLNL. I started to help out where I could, doing anything that would keep me busy, sorting clothes, and organizing. For me a biggest part of staying sober, is being of service to others. In doing that, it keeps me out of myself. That is where I get into trouble, when I start to get too fixated on my thoughts and feelings. Being involved with NLNL, and living in Courage to Change Sober Living, has given me the opportunity to be able to work on the things that I need to improve. It also gives me the accountability that I need to be able to stay on track. NLNL and C2C have been the main driving forces in helping me stay sober. Both

**“NLNL and C2C have been the main driving forces in helping me stay sober. Both organizations have impacted my life, in ways that I can not even express my gratitude for, and that’s why I show up and do whatever I can for NLNL and C2C, as the opportunities arise.”**

organizations have impacted my life, in ways that I can not even express my gratitude for, and that’s why I show up and do whatever I can for NLNL and C2C, as the opportunities arise. It’s my way to give back to the two places that have helped me get not only my life back, but get to get Jill back.



# volunteer

## Ways to Get Involved— to Relieve Poverty, to Prevent Poverty, and to Work towards Social and Economic Justice

Submitted by Bet Savich, Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network,  
(volunteer@bloomington.in.gov; (812) 349-3472; www.BloomingtonVolunteerNetwork.org)

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network is the primary source for information about volunteering locally. This is not an exhaustive list or organizations working in this area. To search for more opportunities, visit [www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer), call 349-3433 or email [volunteer@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:volunteer@bloomington.in.gov). The inclusion of an organization in this list does not imply City endorsement or support of the organization's activities or policies.

### Area 10 Agency on Aging - Deliver Meals to Seniors Weekly

A warm meal and smile as a driver for the Area 10 Agency on Aging meal delivery program. A driver is currently needed to cover a route in the Ellettsville area. Meal pick up is at 10:30 a.m. and the route takes about an hour to complete. Substitute drivers are also needed. Individuals must have a valid drivers license and reliable transportation to deliver the route. A volunteer application is available at [area10agency.org/volunteerapp](http://area10agency.org/volunteerapp). Minimum age

is 21. Please contact Amy O'Brien at 812-876-3383 or [aobrien@area10agency.org](mailto:aobrien@area10agency.org). ([www.area10agency.org](http://www.area10agency.org)) and a caring person to deliver it can be a daily highlight for a person who is homebound or isolated. Make someone's day brighter with a meal

### Cry of the Children - Choir Director

Cry of the Children improves the quality of life for Bloomington adolescents by providing programs and services that enhance the development of effective life and decision



Area 10 meal prep and delivery volunteers coordinate to bring a warm meal and a smile to isolated and homebound seniors. Courtesy photo



Vital volunteers pose after literacy training. They are now ready to get matched with their tutoring partners. Courtesy photo

making skills. Programs include a step dance team, a choir and an annual Thanksgiving dinner. Being a good singer is one thing, but creating a choir strengthens friendships as well as discipline, and makes individuals more focused. Members feel good about themselves and enjoy the support of others. A volunteer choir director - a person who wants to make a difference - is needed. The choir meets after school and Saturday mornings. Minimum age is 21. Please contact Mrs. Dellsie Boddie at 812-361-4059 or [cryofthechildren@gmail.com](mailto:cryofthechildren@gmail.com). ([www.cryofthechildren.org](http://www.cryofthechildren.org))

### Girls Inc. - After-School Big Sister Mentors

Hey Ladies....Join this new opportunity to mentor a strong, smart, bold girl at Girls Incorporated. Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteer mentors (Bigs) and children ("Littles"), ages 5-18. The Girls Inc. program is an after-school, female only, enrichment and mentoring program offered by Girls Inc. at their facility. Bigs and Littles will meet once a week. Please contact Mark Voland at 812-334-2828 or [mvoland@bigsindiana.org](mailto:mvoland@bigsindiana.org). ([www.bigsindiana.org](http://www.bigsindiana.org))

### Opportunity House - Cashiers

Why not check out the Opportunity House thrift store . . . literally! Opp House needs you up front and showing off those people skills. Several reliable volunteers are needed to commit to regular shifts as store cashiers. If you enjoy working with people, are flexible, patient, have a good sense of humor, and can commit to a three-hour weekly or monthly shift between 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or 12:30-3:30 p.m., they would like to hear from you. No experience is necessary; all training is provided. Volunteers

must be comfortable standing for their shift time. All proceeds from store sales benefit Monroe County United Ministries' exceptional childcare and family support programs. Teens are most welcome and they're on the bus line. Minimum age is 16. Please contact Nicola Payne at 812-336-2443 or [nicolabp@juno.com](mailto:nicolabp@juno.com). ([www.mcum.org/opportunityhouse](http://www.mcum.org/opportunityhouse))

### Interfaith Winter Shelter

The Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter depends on volunteers, who must attend one training before serving. Volunteers must be 18 years or older, although those younger than 18 may volunteer for the set-up shifts. Training information can be found at Arrangements for training can be made with Daniel Watts at [wattbush@gmail.com](mailto:wattbush@gmail.com) or 732-939-9426. ([interfaithwintershelter.org](http://interfaithwintershelter.org))

### Recovery Engagement Center

The Recovery Engagement Center is a low-barrier hub for those trying to recover from addiction, meaning that appointments are not required and there is no expectation of a certain period of sobriety – no one is turned away, even if they have only one day clean. They provide classes, recovery coaching, 12-step meetings, a Friday community lunch, gardening, internet access, and other resources. Their goal is to provide a safe space and offer hope for those struggling with addiction. Volunteers staff the front desk, maintain grounds, garden, assist with special events, and provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Paulina Guerrero at 812-355-6378 or [Paulina.Guerrero@centerstone.org](mailto:Paulina.Guerrero@centerstone.org). ([www.centerstone.org](http://www.centerstone.org))

See "VOLUNTEER", page 11



Ruth Richardson, a VITAL volunteer for over 15 years at the Monroe County Public Library, participated in offsite tutoring at a local tibetan te. Courtesy photo



**Above:** Area 10 meal delivery volunteers bring a meal and a friendly face to isolated seniors; **left:** Janet Schell, Teachers Warehouse Volunteer, organized their bookstore; **below:** SCCAP Collage. Courtesy photos



Valerie Merriam has volunteered in the MCUM Food Pantry for over 15 years and is closing in on 5,000 hours served. Courtesy photo



## VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 10

### Monroe County Public Library – VITAL Basic Literacy Tutors

The Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL) program, offered through Monroe County Public Library, matches basic literacy tutors with adults who need instruction. Sessions can include basic to intermediate reading, writing, math, and related skills. After attending orientation and tutor training, tutors design lessons and work one-on-one, once a week for 1 1/2 hours for at least six months. Since orientations are offered monthly, this is a great way to learn if VITAL is a good fit for you. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Jackie Lovings or Bethany Turrentine at 812-349-3173 or vital@mcpl.info. (www.mcpl.info)

### Salvation Army - Inventory Inspector

Every day, the Salvation Army receives hundreds of pounds of donated goods - clothing, furniture, electronics, art, jewelry and more. They sell what is in good shape to the public at low prices and recycle or safely dispose of what is not. Funds raised are used to support their case management, employment and financial assistance programs, as well as their food pantry. Volunteers assist staff as they receive, sort, hang, and tag items and make the store an attractive destination for customers. Minimum age is 16. Please contact Monica Clemons at 812-336-4310 or monica\_clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org. (www.bloomington.salvationarmyindiana.org)

### Shalom Community Center - Weekend Shifts

Shalom recently expanded to 7 days a week, so new volunteers are needed to maintain essential services for their clients - people living in poverty. Shifts are available at the hospitality desk between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sat. and Sun. or in the kitchen between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Hospitality volunteers sign up clients for services, manage mail and storage, distribute donations, and answer the phone. Training is provided; schedule and commitment are flexible. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Sue Murphy at 812-334-5734 or sue@shalomcommunitycenter.org. (www.shalomcommunitycenter.org)

### South Central Community Action Program - Become a Thriving Connections Initiative Ally

Through the South Central Community Action Program's "Thriving Connections Initiative", volunteers act as allies to a person or family in poverty - called a Leader - acting like a good friend or extended family member. Groups consist of the Leader and two allies. Allies provide insight about a variety of life circumstances as the group works to accomplish specific goals set by the Leader. Volunteers attend a monthly group meeting, a twice-monthly Thursday community dinner and meeting, and make an 18 month commitment. Allies receive extensive orientation, training, and support. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Linda Patton at 812-339-3447 or lindap@insccap.org. (www.insccap.org)

# 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](http://www.amethysthouse.org)

**Volunteer Contact:** Gina Lovell ([812]336-3570 x10; [amethyst@bloomington.in.us](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.adult.mccsc.edu)

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

**About:** The Monroe County Community School Corporation's Adult Education program at Broadview Learning Center offers free, individualized instruction and guidance to teen and adult learners. We offer support for successful preparation for the High School Equivalency and other work placement tests as well as Adult Basic Education. Are you looking to improve your basic job and literacy skills or learn new ones, we can help. English as a Second Language course and supportive tutoring for students to create better opportunities of themselves and their families. Call 812-330-7731 to register for orientation and also visit our website [www.mccsc.edu/adulted](http://www.mccsc.edu/adulted). Located on Coolidge between Rogers and Rockport Road, on the #2 South Bloomington Transit Route.

## AIDS/HIV Services

### Bloomington Hospital Positive Link

**Address:** 333 E. Miller Dr.

**Phone:** (812) 353-9150

**Web:** [www.bloomingtonhospital.org](http://www.bloomingtonhospital.org)

**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](mailto: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.

*See Employment resources and job counseling*

### Salvation Army

**Address:** 111 N. Rogers St.

**Phone:** (812) 336-4310

**Volunteer Contact:** Monica Clemons ([812] 336-4310 x100; [monica\\_clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:monica_clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org))

**About:** Provides a variety of services, including: food pantry, food vouchers, seasonal assistance, clothing and clothing vouchers, appliances, household items, hygiene items, rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance, medical assistance, disaster relief, after school programs, summer residential camps, adult programs, nursing home visitation, bus tickets, a place of worship, and a thrift store.

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

**Address:** 4607 West State Road 46

**Phone:** (812) 961-1510

**Web:** [www.bloomingtonsvdp.org](http://www.bloomingtonsvdp.org)

**Volunteer Contact:** Scott Alber, ([812]335-1280 [volunteer@bloomingtonsvdp.org](mailto:volunteer@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

### LifeDesigns, Inc.

**Address:** 200 East Winslow Rd.

**Phone:** (812) 332-9615

**Web:** [www.lifedesignsinc.org](http://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)

**Facility Address:** 7644 W Elwren Rd, Bloomington,

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1033, Bloomington, IN 47402

**Phone:** 812-336-2798

**Web:** [www.palstherapy.org](http://www.palstherapy.org)

**Volunteer Contact:** Jennylynn Vidas, (812-336-2798 ext. 15, [jennylynn@palstherapy.org](mailto:jennylynn@palstherapy.org))

**About:** PALS provides therapeutic Equine Assisted Activities (EAA) to individuals with disabilities, veterans and at-risk youth in South Central Indiana. PALS programs are designed by professionals and aim to develop and restore functional skills, enhance well-being and improve quality of life. Services are available to individuals ages three and up. PALS is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl) Premier-Accredited Center and United Way of Monroe County Member Agency.

### Stone Belt

**Address:** 2815 E. 10 St.

**Phone:** (812) 332-2168

**Web:** [www.stonebelt.org](http://www.stonebelt.org)

**Volunteer Contact:** Amy Jackson (332-2168 x314; [ajackson@stonebelt.org](mailto:ajackson@stonebelt.org))

**About:** A community-based organization with over 48 years of experience in serving persons with developmental disabilities. Supports 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.

*See "DIRECTORY", page 13*

## DIRECTORY

Continued from page 12

### Employment resources and job counseling

#### My Sister's Closet of Monroe County, Inc.

Address: 414 S. College Ave.

Web: [www.SistersCloset.org](http://www.SistersCloset.org)

Volunteer Contact: Julie Tobin, (812) 333-7710; [Info@SistersCloset.org](mailto:Info@SistersCloset.org)

About: Provides women facing issues of poverty, homelessness and domestic violence—who are looking for employment, with free interview and/or workforce attire, interview skills training & coaching through job mentors, image consulting, and life skills training through workshops with the Success Institute. All services assist women to overcome the hurdles they face on the road to independence & family self-sufficiency. All new and gently-used Clothing & Accessories, Undergarments, New Make-up, and Personal Hygiene items are provided free to those with vouchers from referral agencies, and for sale to the general public.

#### 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.

#### Stone Belt

See disabilities assistance programs.

### Family Services

#### El Centro Comunal Latino

Address: 303 E Kirkwood Avenue, Room 11

Phone: (812) 355-7513

Web: [www.elcentrocomunal.org](http://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/](http://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.

#### Programas de Alcance a Latinos

##### Latino Programs and Outreach Division

Address: 401 N. Morton St. Suite 260,

Bloomington, IN 47402

Phone: (812) 349-3430

Web: <https://bloomington.in.gov/>

Contact: Araceli Gómez-Aldana, [latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov)

Acerca: El Departamento de Recursos Comunitarios y Familiares de la Ciudad de Bloomington ha enfocado sus esfuerzos para alcanzar a la comunidad Hispana ofreciendo una gran variedad de programas. Eventos culturales, educación cívica, servicios directos y traducciones, El programa de radio Hola Bloomington en WFHB y la publicación Del Boletín Comunitario.

About: The City of Bloomington's Community and Family Resources Department has focused its outreach efforts on the Hispanic and Latino community by offering a variety of programs. Cultural events, civic education, direct service and translations, The Hola Bloomington Radio Show on WFHB and The Boletín Comunitario.

#### Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM)

Address: 827 W. 14th Court

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Web: [www.mcum.org](http://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: 119 W. 7th 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](http://www.bloomingtonhospital.org)

Volunteer Contact: Melanie Miller (812-353-9818; [mmiller@bloomhealth.org](mailto: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.

#### 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](http://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.

#### Vistacare Hospice

Address: 1801 Liberty Dr., Ste. 103

Phone: (812) 330-9640

Web: [www.vistacare.com](http://www.vistacare.com)

Volunteer Contact: Cathi Counterman ([812] 340-3467; [cathi.counterman@vistacare.com](mailto: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](http://www.vimmonroecounty.org)

Volunteer Contact: Shelley Sallee

See "DIRECTORY", page 14

### Local Health Care Enrollment Assistance

All U.S. residents are required by law to have health insurance. If you are uninsured, there are coverage options that meet your needs and fit your budget:

- Affordable Care Act "Health Insurance Marketplace"
- Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP 2.0)
- Medicaid
- Children's Health Insurance Program (Hoosier Healthwise)

There are several free local resources that can guide you through the process, explain coverage options, answer questions, and help you enroll. Indiana Navigators provide free unbiased assistance and can work with you one-on-one to enroll in health care plans.

#### ASPIN Health Navigators:

Call (877) 313-7215 for Navigator assistance.

#### City of Bloomington:

Call (812) 349-3851 for enrollment assistance. Para Español, (812) 349-3860 o [latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov)

#### Individual Solutions-IU Health:

Call 1-888-531-3004 to make an appointment to see a certified Navigator, or visit [iuhealth.org/individual-solutions](http://iuhealth.org/individual-solutions)

#### Monroe County Health Department:

Call Scott Stowers at (812) 349-2075 or e-mail [ssowers@co.monroe.in.us](mailto:ssowers@co.monroe.in.us)

#### SCCAP Health Coverage Assistance Program:

Call (812) 339-3447 for Navigator assistance.

Visit [www.in.gov/healthcarereform](http://www.in.gov/healthcarereform) to find a certified Navigator.

Call 211 (available 24/7 free of charge) or visit [www.in211.org/healthcare-project](http://www.in211.org/healthcare-project) to learn how to apply, try a health insurance cost calculator, and get more local information.

## DIRECTORY

Continued from page 13

([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.

#### Friend's Place

**Address:** 919 S. Rogers (Shelter)

**Phone:** (812) 332-1444

**About:** An emergency shelter with 40 beds (18 for men and 12 for women). Services provided include case management, food, and clothing. Opens at 6:15 p.m.

#### Wheeler Mission

**Phone:** (812) 332-2452

#### Center for Men

**Address:** 215 S Westplex Ave

#### Programs and services:

Emergency Low Barrier Shelter

Orientation to addictions recovery program

Long term supportive housing

Working guest program

Public meals

#### Center for Women and Children

**Address:** 100 S Opportunity Lane

#### Programs and services:

Emergency Low Barrier Shelter

Referral Service to other agencies (connect to care)Long term supportive housing

### 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.

### 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

**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:** 205 S. Walnut Suite 16

**Phone:** (812) 336-8677

**Web:** www.cjamcenter.org

**E-mail:** cjam@cjamcenter.org

**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:** 201 N. Morton Street

**Phone:** (812) 333-2272

**Web:** www.monroecountycasa.org

**Volunteer Contact:** Kelli Shannon ([812] 333-2272, ext. 11; kelli.shannon@monroecountycasa.org)

**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:** 631 West Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, IN 47429

**Phone:** (812) 876-3383

**Web:** www.area10agency.org

**About:** Area 10 Agency on Aging offers 5 main nutrition and food services for senior citizens.

**Congregate Meals**—We offer congregate meals at the following times and locations: Maple Shades Apts., Ellettsville, 10:30 am; Cambridge Square Apts., Bloomington, 11 am; Spencer Senior Center, 11:30 am; Unionville Senior Center, 11:30 am. Seniors must be 60+ and can complete a brief application at the meal site of their choosing. A \$2 donation is requested.

**Mobile Meals**—We deliver meals to homebound seniors who are 60+ and who are unable to prepare meals for themselves due to illness or disability. An application to determine eligibility is required and a \$2 donation is requested. Contact Area 10 at (812) 876-3383 for more information.

**Food Pantry**—We provide homebound seniors with two bags of groceries and frozen food each month. Seniors must be 60+ and meet eligibility requirements. Call Area 10 at (812) 876-3383 to request an application.

See "DIRECTORY", page 15

## DIRECTORY

*Continued from page 14*

**Restaurant Vouchers**—We provide restaurant vouchers to seniors 60+ to be used at the Village Inn in Ellettsville or the Stinesville Mercantile in Stinesville. A \$2 donation is requested.

A brief application is required and vouchers can be picked up at Area 10 or the Stinesville Mercantile.

**Farmers Market Vouchers**—We distribute farmers market vouchers to seniors 60+ for use at the Bloomington Farmers Market or Spencer Farmers Market. Seniors must complete an application and meet income guidelines. Contact Area 10 at (812) 876-3383

### **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:** 727 W. 1st Street

**Phone:** (812) 323-4982

**Web:** www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org

**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.

### **City Church Food Outreach**

**Address:** 1200 N Russell Rd. Bloomington IN 47404

**Phone:** 812-336-5958

**Web:** citychurchfamily.org

**Email:** info@citychurchfamily.org

**About:** City's Food Outreach brings the mission of LOVE people, BUILD family, LEAD to destiny to life. Currently the Food Outreach gives groceries to families every month following the 3rd Saturday of the month service. Saturday service starts at 5:30 and tickets are distributed discreetly during service. December 20th, January 17th, February 21st, March 21st

### **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.

### **First Presbyterian Church**

**Address:** Corner of Lincoln and 7th Streets

**Saturday:** Breakfast: 7:30-9:00 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

**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:** 1100 Allen Street

**Phone:** (812) 355-6843

**Web:** www.mhcfoodpantry.org

**Hours:** Monday-Friday 12-6 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:** Tues, Thurs 1-3:30 and Wed, Fri 9-11:30

**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://ecomediacenter.org

greenthecity@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:** 631 W. Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, Indiana 47429

**Phone:** (812) 876-3383

**Web:** www.area10agency.org

**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 the Aging and Disability Resource Center, 2-1-1 Infolink, in-home health-related services and referrals, home-delivered meals, food pantry, congregate meal sites, support groups, education for family caregivers, affordable housing, assistance for the homebound, handyman services, a long-term-care ombudsman program for residents of area nursing homes, RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program, recreational and arts programs at Area 10's Endwright Center in Ellettsville, and Rural Transit bus service.

## **Pregnancy testing, counseling, education**

### **Planned Parenthood**

*See health care.*

### **WIC Program**

*See family services.*

**See "DIRECTORY", page 16**

## DIRECTORY

Continued from page 15

### Rent, utility, bill assistance

First call the Township Trustee in the Monroe County Township in which you live: Bean Blossom (876-5109), Benton (339-6593), 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:** 807 N. College Avenue

**Phone:** (812) 334-2828

**Web:** www.bigsindiana.org

**Volunteer Contact:** Mark Voland, mvoland@bigsindiana.org, 812-334-2828, ext. 227.

**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.bgcblloomington.org

**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.

#### WonderLab Museum of Science, Health and Technology

**Address:** 308 W. 4th St.

**Phone:** (812) 337-1337

**Web:** www.wonderlab.org

**Volunteer Program:** (812) 337-1337 ext. 20 or volunteer@wonderlab.org

**About:** WonderLab is an award-winning science museum with hands-on exhibits and programs for children and their families. WonderLab offers a free Teen Night monthly during the school year. WonderLab also participates in the Access Pass Program, which provides reduced admission of \$1 per family member per visit for eligible families. The museum also offers many half-price admission events. Volunteering is a natural next step for teens. Those entering grade 7 are eligible to become volunteers at the museum. Additionally, high school students are eligible to apply for summer internships at WonderCamp, the museum's summer science day camp.

#### 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.

#### City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

**Address:** 401 N. Morton St. Suite 260

**Phone:** 812-349-3433

**Web:** www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer

**About:** The Volunteer Network, which has over 200 local partner nonprofit and governmental organizations, is your one-stop source for volunteer information in Bloomington and Monroe County. Member organizations post their volunteer needs on the Network's online database so potential volunteers can see what community needs they can meet. The Volunteer Network also offers training in volunteer management to new volunteer coordinators and training in nonprofit board service to new and continuing board members. The Network partners with the Martin Luther King Birthday Celebration Commission in the organization of the 'A Day On, Not a Day Off' day of service, in which thousands of Bloomingtonians participate. In addition, the Network matches the material needs of local nonprofit organizations with community members and businesses who can meet those needs through our partnership with the Herald-Times on the Community Wish List.

#### 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.

#### New Leaf-New Life, Inc.

**Address:** 1010 S. Walnut St., Suite F

**Phone:** (812) 355-6842

**Email:** newleaf1010@gmail.com

**Web:** www.newleaf-newlife.org

**About:** New Leaf-New Life runs therapeutic programs in the Monroe County jail, and provides products and services to ex-offenders at our office at 1010 South Walnut, Suite F. Services offered include: assistance in obtaining a birth certificate or social security card, employment help, support groups, family support, community referrals, clothing, bus tickets, hygiene products, and funding for GED testing. Volunteer opportunities can include: mentoring, transition services, office work, family outreach, and programming in the Jail. Check our Facebook page for news and updates.

#### Reach High Consulting & Therapy LLC.

Autism ABA and Diagnostic Clinic

**Address:** 2101 W Tapp Rd. Bloomington IN 47403

**Website:** reachhighconsulting.org

**Phone:** 812-330-4460

**Fax:** 812-330-4461

**Email:** aba@reachhighconsulting.org

**About RHC:** Reach High is Bloomington's first ABA clinic. Reach High was birthed out of a growing need in the City of Bloomington. Providing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) has meant families and clients are equipped with the tools to reach their maximum potential. Reach High strives to have clients in multiple environments within the community, this allows for skill sets to be strengthened and become more natural overtime.