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GROUP HOME SERVICES

Submitted by Mike Ritchie:

"Heavilin Happenings October 2008"

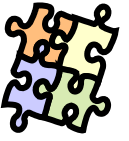
The Heavilin Group home in Valparaiso has been a happening place in the past few months! At the beginning of the summer the boys had a brief summer program, but after that Noel joined the work crew at the In-Pact office, and then Ben began working at Opportunity Enterprises. All the boys enjoyed escaping the heat at the Deep River Waterpark. The guys also took a fun trip to Indiana Beach (despite a storm that kept it closed until noon) and vacationed at Ideal Beach. As you can see, they all enjoyed a wet summer!

Speaking of wet, at the beginning of the summer Noel went to Terre Haute for the Special Olympics Summer Games. Terre Haute was hit with a major storm and had record breaking flooding that closed most of the roads in and out of the Indiana State University campus and caused the cancellation of most of the track events. It made for a memorable weekend, but Noel was able to win a gold medal in the 25 meter freestyle. Noel also played on the Special Olympic softball team and earned a bronze medal at the end of the summer.

At the end of July Ben moved out and a day later Zack moved in. Everybody misses Ben but Zack's never-ending smile and great demeanor has made the loss less painful. Zack has joined Noel and Randy on the swim team, and is also competing in bowling with them for Special Olympics.

Now that school has started, we have activities related with the school. We have Matthew at SELF School, Zack at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, and Noel, Randy, and Dan at Valparaiso High School. The guys have no problem keeping themselves busy! Dan especially is looking forward to the Elvis Fest in October.

Did I mention wet? In mid-September our group home got hit with 10.8 inches of rain along with the rest of Valparaiso. Many of the group homes got hit harder than us, but we certainly did not escape unscathed. All of our staff pitched in to do a little extra, but it was through the efforts of Tiffany, Chris, Megan and Deborah that we escaped with only a few inches of water in our laundry room. Kudos to them!



Community Resources

Submitted by Heather Chopps:

Congratulations:

A special congratulation goes out to Jim Z. Jim recently celebrated his 10 year anniversary with Old Country Buffet in Highland. To honor his longevity, Buffets, Inc. presented Jim with a new watch. Jim is thrilled with his award and says that he loves his job. Jim is a very valued team member at Old Country Buffet and is dearly loved by his co-workers, many of whom have been working with him since his first day.

Way to go Jim!

Many Thanks:

Many thanks to the staff of the clubhouse for their hospitality and patience while housing some of the group home residents that were evacuated from their homes during the recent floods. Your flexibility and willingness to help no matter what is greatly appreciated! Thanks again!!!!

Hours/ Positions Available:

Community Resources has part time positions available in both Lake and Porter Counties. Hours vary Mon-Fri between 7:00 am-6:30 pm and are between 5 and 15 hours per week. We have both temporary and permanent positions.

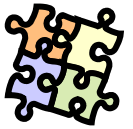
If you need some extra day time hours (not to exceed 40 per week) please contact Heather Chopps at the office.

Consumer- Staff Forum

We are going to have our first consumer- staff forum on Saturday November 22, 2008 at our new clubhouse building. CARF gave us the idea of having an open forum every once in awhile where consumers and staff could sit down with the upper administration of In-Pact and ask us question or give suggestions.

We would like to invite all of the consumers, staff and householders of In-Pact to come and join-us that day from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. We will be serving turkey sandwiches and cold drinks in honor of Thanksgiving. After the forum there will be some type of social event like a movie for everyone to enjoy. We hope that some of your folks will be able to attend.

Submitted by Ruth Fields:



Art and Other Alternative Therapies

Art therapy is a form of [expressive therapy](#) that uses art materials, such as paints, chalk and markers. According to the [American Art Therapy Association](#), art therapy is based on the belief that the creative process of art is both healing and life-enhancing. Art therapists use the creative process and the issues that come up during art therapy to help their clients increase insight and judgment, cope better with stress, work through [traumatic](#) experiences, increase cognitive abilities, have better relationships with family and friends, and to just be able to enjoy the life-affirming pleasures of the creative experience. Art therapy and other alternative forms of therapy such as music have been shown to help people with developmental disabilities cope, relax and become more engaged.

November's monthly in-service will be a part hands-on training using different art therapy activities that can be taken back to those we support. We will also discuss other alternative forms of therapy that can be utilized.

Friendship Union November meeting will be held on Monday the 10th from 6 pm-8 pm at the main office.

November Training Opportunities

Wed, the 5th: Current Employee Review 9 am-3 pm
Mon, the 17th: New Employee Orientation 9 am-5 pm
Tue, the 18th: New Employee Orientation- Med Core A and B 9 am-1 pm
Wed, the 19th: New Employee Orientation 9 am-5 pm
Thu, the 20th: New Employee Orientation- Crisis Intervention 9 am-5 pm
Mon, the 24th: Art and Other Alternative Therapies 10 am-12 pm
Tue, the 28th: Art and Other Alternative Therapies 5 pm-7 pm

October Training Opportunities

Thu, the 9th: Current Employee Review 9 am - 3 pm
Mon, the 13th: New Employee Orientation 9 am -5 pm
Tue, the 14th: New Employee Orientation- Med Core A and B 9 am-1 pm
Wed, the 15th: New Employee Orientation 9 am-5 pm
Thu, the 16th: New Employee Orientation- Crisis Intervention 9 am-5 pm
Thu, the 23rd: Management Training on Disciplinary Procedures and Employee Evaluations 10 am-12 pm
Mon, the 27th: Effective Instructional Supports for People with Autism 10 am -12 pm
Tue, the 28th: Effective Instructional Supports for People with Autism 5 pm-7 pm

Thank you to everyone who collected toilet and paper towel rolls for the Friendship Union. We greatly appreciate your help and received much more than we needed. Thanks again!

PS This also means we don't need anymore



TIPS FROM TOM

Submitted by Tom Atchison:

Exceed expectations

If I were limited to passing along only two guide-lines for job success, there's no question in my mind that they would be:

- 1. Know what's expected of you.**
- 2. Exceed those expectations.**

I've known many successful people in my life, and none of them got that way by just doing what was expected or required. They all separated themselves from the rest of the pack by doing more, and by doing better, than what they were "supposed to do." You can as well.

Start by making sure you have a handle on how your boss, your organization, and your consumers expect you to perform. How can you find out? Try reviewing your job description, asking your manager, reflecting on your last performance review, requesting clarification at the start of a new project, probing a consumer, or picking the brain "of a successful and respected coworker who has a similar job.

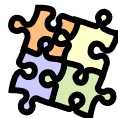
Once you've identified how (and how well) you're supposed to do things, raise the bar on yourself. If you're supposed to produce twenty widgets per hour, shoot for twenty-two; if you're expected to make ten service calls each day, go for eleven; if you're expected to keep your work area clean, keep it spotless; if an assignment is due on Thursday, get it in on Wednesday; if you're expected to make sure consumers are satisfied, try to make them ecstatic.

Look for every opportunity to go the extra mile. That's how you become extra special...and extra successful.

From the book "Start Right Stay Right" by Steven Vent

HAPPY October BIRTHDAY

Purvis Jones, Enchante Vasquez , Moreen Kamau, Lynn Phillips, Victor Dube, Bernice Jordan Maria Shea, Cynthia Price, Kevia Pickett, Francine Lloyd , Mary Martin- Bergeron, Dorothy Traylor, Stacy Watkins, Toni Applegate, Diane Wilson, Debbie Foster, Pamela Covington, Brenda Wright, Vsumuzi Ncube ,Shennette Robinson, Donna Baker, Timothy Kinuthia, Anthony Mytas, Jessica Slakaitis ,Carole Johnson, Molly Mehran, Patrick Nairn, Robert Phillipov



If you or someone you know has been affected by the recent flood the following information may assist you in seeking help.

State Insurance, housing staff available to help flood victims

Beginning Thursday and Friday from 8 AM to 8 PM CDT, representatives from Indiana Department of Insurance, Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) and the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) will be at Family and Social services Administration offices in Hammond, Hobart and Gary. Addresses are 661 Broadway in Gary, 1001 West 37th avenue in Hobart, and 420 Hoffman Street in Hammond.

Should the state's request for federal assistance be approved, the governor will open one-stop assistance centers in the region that will provide more state services.

In the meantime, severe weather victims are urged to report their damage by calling the toll free number 888-335-9490. Reports can be filed from 9 AM to 5 PM EDT Monday through Friday

You can also call:

American Red Cross of Northwest Indiana
791 East 83rd Ave
Merrillville IN 46410
219 756-5360
1 800- RED-CROSS (1 800-733- 2767) or 1 800- 257-7575 (Spanish)

FEMA- correspondence –Unit @dhs.gov

Telephone: 1 (800) 621- FEMA (3362)
TDD: 1 (800) 462- 7585
Fax: 1 (800) 827 8112

Technical Assistance (Online Registration):

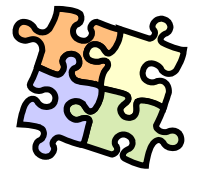
Telephone: 1 (800) 745- 0243
Fax: 1 (800) 827- 8112

Mail

Federal Emergency Management Agency

P.O. Box 10055
Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055

In- Pact, Inc. would like to **welcome** the Following New Staff



Supported Services

Tim Mc Calister/ Supported Service Specialist
Charisse Crossely/ Supported Service Specialist
Ayanna Jeffries / Supported Service Specialist

Group Home staff

Bettina Kilgore / Residential Instructor

For your Information:

As you probably know by now, TV as we know it will change next year as the airwaves go all-digital. Most stations now broadcast both analog and digital signals, but that will end February 17, 2009, when a new law requires them to transmit only digitally. Apply for a **\$40 coupon** that can be used towards the purchase of a TV converter box. The Federal government is offering US households up to two **\$40 coupons...**

To get your coupons, you can call a toll-free number, 1-888-DTV-2009, and give them your name and address. You can also visit a website, www.dtv2009.gov, to apply. The last day to request coupons is March 31, 2009, but there's no guarantee they'll be available at that late date if funding for the program runs out. The coupons are good for 90 days, and the federal government is supposedly timing coupon distribution to coincide with retail availability of the DTV converters. Many leading retail chains, including Best Buy, Circuit City, Kmart, Radio Shack, Sam's Club, Sears, Target, and Wal-Mart, have been certified to participate in the coupon program.

Submitted by Ray Giacomini:

The **third Annual Holiday TV Raffle tickets** will be available soon. A **50 Inch Samsung Plasma TV** can be won. Tickets are **\$10.00** each. Please see **Ray** or **Ann** for tickets.

