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GROUP HOME SERVICES

Submitted by: **Peggy Buchanan**

Summer is quickly coming to an end and, although it has been enjoyable, we are looking forward to those Fall temperatures! Although the fellows at Vermont have participated in several summer activities, we have been holding off on some day trips for when the weather should be less hot and humid. We are planning a visit to Amish Acres in mid-Sept. where we will tour the farm; partake of the "Threshers' Dinner" and see a play. Everyone enjoyed attending the Lake County Fair earlier this month. Charles went with his friends at Bridges and was so excited that he won a big stuffed dog. Chris and Guy went with a group from the clubhouse and Chris said that he had fun on the merry-go-round. Wallace and Aaron went with staff. Aaron went on all the adult rides with Curtis while Wallace and Dorothy looked at displays and played the midway games.

All of the guys played baseball on the Munster Challengers Team this year from May through June. They attended the awards dinner with lots of good food and dancing. Wallace and Charles did not want to leave the dance floor but eventually made it out the door with their shiny trophies in hand.

Wallace and Aaron both attended Camp Millhouse for a week in July. Aaron said that he liked the swimming and archery the best! Wallace said that he liked everything he got to do. Some other summer activities included pool parties; picnics; Grinders vintage baseball games at Deep River Park and outdoor concerts in Valparaiso.

As for the home, itself... Vermont is in the process of undergoing a facelift! We now have new, beautiful flooring in the kitchen and bathroom. Next on the agenda is fresh paint throughout the house and eventually new carpeting in all of the bedrooms. In Oct. a volunteer group will be coming to trim some of the trees in the front yard. We are very anxious to see our new look!

Wishing everyone a safe and fun Labor Day!



The Dignity of Risk

What if you never got to make a mistake?

What if your money was always kept in an envelope where you couldn't get it?

What if you were never given a chance to do something well?

What if you were always treated as a child?

What if your only chance to be with people different from you was with your own family?

What if the job you did was not useful?

What if you never got to make a decision?

What if the only risky thing you could do was to act out?

What if you couldn't go outside because the last time you went it rained?

What if you took the wrong bus once and now you can't take another one?

What if you got into trouble and were sent away and you couldn't come back because they always remember your "trouble"?

What if you worked and only got paid \$.46 an hour?

What if you had to wear your winter coat in the rain because it was all that you had?

What if you had no privacy?

What if you could do part of the grocery shopping but weren't allowed to do any because you weren't able to do all of the shopping?

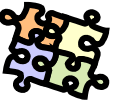
What if you spent 3 hours a day waiting?

What if you grew old and never knew adulthood?

What if you never got a chance?

From *Changing Expectations/Planning for the Future: A Parent Advocacy Manual*

Dorothy Sauber



Submitted by: **Sheila O' Dell**

This month the group home was chosen by the management staff because this home received no citations from their annual State Board of Health Survey. Not only did they receive a perfect survey this year, but for the last three years this home has received no citations. Their exemplary performance should be an inspiration to all. So, that is why **4th Street** has been chosen Group Home of the Month!! Congratulations 4th Street, keep up the good work! BRAVO!!

Submitted by: **Sandra Miller:**

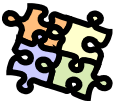
September NC - Supported Services Employee of the Month

I wish I could bottle Virginia's creativity and initiative and pass it out to everyone. She is a go getter and will always try and help the consumers reach their dreams and goals. Virginia does not take "I do not know" for an answer and will investigate on her own to find ways to help In-Pact consumers fulfill their potential. Virginia is dedicated and shows up ready for her days out in the community with her consumers. Recently we had a BQIS Survey for two of her consumers and we passed with flying colors.

Virginia is a professional and takes pride in her work. I believe that Virginia very much deserves to be In-Pact North Central's Employee of the Month.

Thanks **Virginia Stewart** for all your dedication and hard work.

The Supported Service Employee of the Month receives a Gift Card for use at a local establishment! As an added bonus three of the Supported Service Employees of the month for this calendar year may attend the IN-ARF conference in Indianapolis next Spring.



Training Corner

Preparing for CARF

Submitted by: **Ruth Fields**

We are gearing up for our CARF survey. CARF was founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services. Every three years, we invite CARF to come and survey our agency. They make recommendations of areas of improvement that are worked on and achieved between surveys. This process is to ensure In-Pact provides the highest quality of services while continually improving upon our practices. CARF accreditation is like a gold star standard in the fields of human services.

It is important that all staff understand the CARF standards, so October's monthly in-service will focus on those standards and what staff should be prepared for. Heather Chopps, Director of Community Resources, will be leading the training. This is a very important training for all staff to attend. The monthly training will be held on Monday, October 18th from 10 am-12 pm and Tuesday, the 19th from 5 pm-7 pm.

Management Training

Do you frequently forget appointments or meeting? Forget to turn things in or follow-up on issues? Do you feel overwhelmed by the amount of work you have to do each day? Do you bring work home? If you answered yes to even a few of these, time management may be a problem for you. By request, October's Management Training will focus on various time management skills and techniques. In order to facilitate group discussion, please bring your own tips and techniques to share. The training will be held on Thursday, the 21st from 10 am-12 pm. Please note: Management trainings are only open to people in supervisory positions.

Friendship Union News

The next Friendship Union meeting will be held on Monday, September 27th from 6 pm-8 pm at the main office.

SAVE THE DATE: The annual Halloween Dance sponsored by the Friendship Union will be on Friday, October 22nd. Details will be sent out after the September meeting.



September Training Opportunities

Mon, the 13th: NEO 9 am-5 pm

Tue, the 14th: NEO Med Core 9 am-1 pm

Wed, the 15th: NEO 9 am-5 pm

Thu, the 16th: NEO Crisis Intervention 9 am-5 pm

Fri, the 17th: Defensive Driving 10 am-12 pm (Please schedule with your supervisor to attend.)

Tue, the 21st: July NEO Review 10 am-12 pm (This is for staff who attended NEO in July.)

Tue, the 21st: Defensive Driving 1 pm-3 pm (Please schedule with your supervisor to attend.)

October Training Opportunities

Tue, the 5th: Defensive Driving 5 pm-7 pm (Please schedule with your supervisor to attend.)

Mon, the 11th: NEO 9 am-5 pm

Tue, the 12th: NEO Med Core 9 am-1 pm

Wed, the 13th: NEO 9 am-5 pm

Thu, the 14th: NEO Crisis Intervention 9 am-5 pm

Mon, the 18th: CARF Standards 10 am-12 pm

Tue, the 19th: CARF Standards 5 pm-7 pm

Wed, the 20th: Defensive Driving 10 am-12 pm (Please schedule with your supervisor to attend.)

Thu, the 21st: Management Training- Time Management 10 am-12 pm

Mon, the 25th: Current Employee Review 4 pm-9 pm

Tue, the 26th: August NEO Review 10 am-12 pm (This is for staff who attended NEO in August.)



In- Pact, Inc. would like to

the Following New Staff.

New Hires

Group Home

Lisa Sobczak

Supported Services

Kristen Boender Sarah Bolz

Lucresha DeNeal Donald Gruszka

Helen Gruszka Chris Harper

Violet Krizmanic Megin Hoskins

Community Resources

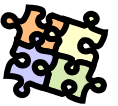
Rickell Collins

Job Opportunity:

Berens Group Home (Dyer, IN) has an opening for a **Data Specialist**. Please contact your supervisor for the posting of the job description and send your letter of intent to Susan Whitten by September 7, 2010.



Congratulations to **Angela Williams** on your promotion to Supported Services Assistant Manager for the Crown Point Apartments! We also like to congratulate **Jenn Popka** on your move to the Quadplexes as their New Assistant Manager! We wish Jenn and Angela all the best in their new positions!



Winner of Congratulation Card Drawing:

Submitted by: **Susan Whitten**

Anna Reilly congratulations on your outstanding work. July 18, 2010, Anna filled in at Heavlin when another staff called off. She had worked a full shift and volunteered to help for four more hours. The following staff received congratulations cards that were placed in the Congratulations Card drawing. Congratulations to you all for your outstanding work Natasha Robinson, Steven Altman, Stephanie Blackman, Angela Williams, Shari Clifford, Marcus Polk, Shannon Davis, Amy Arnett, Stephanie Altman, and Renee Tomerlin.

Community Resources

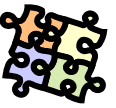


Submitted by: **Diane Wilson**

Volunteers Fill a Need in the Community!!

In-Pact Community Volunteers worked this summer at the Chesterton Middle School using their cleaning skills. They washed desks, chairs, and tables, dusted cabinets, swept and mopped floors, and cleaned the wood shop. Our new consumer, Harry spent his first day vacuuming sawdust in the woodshop. Covered head to toe with dust and with a smile on his face, he asked staff to make a note in his log so his Mom would know why his clothes were dirty. Building and Grounds Director, Joe Mullet expressed heartfelt thanks to our volunteers for their hard work, "With all the cutbacks, we would not have been able to accomplish all that we needed to get done without your help." Long-time custodian Sue said, "We are having a hard time keeping up with your workers!"

Thank you to our Community Volunteers Day Program for a job well done!



Submitted by: **Heather Chopps**

Beginning in Mid-September, we will be starting two new yoga classes at the clubhouse. These will be evening classes and will be held two times per week for five weeks. The first class will be open to **all** IN-PACT consumers, but will be on a first come, first serve basis. Class size is limited. The second class will be open to all IN-PACT staff and also will be on a first come, first serve basis. Cost for each 5 week session will be \$20.00 and must be paid in full prior to the first class. We will be sending out and posting flyers.

Thanks,
Heather



“Getting an idea should be like sitting down on a pin, it should make you want to jump up and do something.”

~ E.L. Simpson



HAPPY September BIRTHDAY

Karen Allen ,David Conner, Carl Bernacky, Dorothy Humes, Penny Givens, Herb, Grulke, Betty Moody, Ruth Altman, Cheryl Kleckner, Charles Blanchard, Barry Flowers, Shawna Dickerson, Stephanie Bardley, Cheri Hooten, Starr Frohock, Angela Williams, Stephanie Altman, Nakisha Pearsall, Zerbabel Agafari, Sherrel Williams, Kathryn Unwin, Anthony Adams, Stephanie Arnold, and Meghan Doyle



Submitted by: **Stephanie Arnold**

Sullivan Group Home

The guys and staff went to the Museum of Science and Industry. They looked at the circus displays on the way to see the U-505 submarine. After the submarine we had fun playing with the water and toys in the Idea Factory. We then proceeded to the farming area where we snapped some photos in a tractor with fake cows. The guys really enjoyed that.

We had lunch, and then were off to the coal mining area, where we took a tour and went underground to see how coal mining is done in the past and in the present. After coal mining we went to the Weather Station. We got to see the wind vortex and the hot air balloons being lighted. This was one of the guys favorites. The last area that we went to they explained petroleum. The bubble was a cool distraction as well. We all enjoyed ourselves very much. My personal favorite was an area that showed old Charlie Chaplin films.



With the price of gas in the stratosphere, as a service to all of our staff, we will try to help you find gas stations in the area that sell their gas at cheaper prices than most other gas stations. You can go to the following web addresses <http://www.garygasprices.com/>. http://www.gaspricewatch.com/default_V3.asp to find a gas station in the area where you live or work that has the cheapest prices.

