

33 Years

1975-2008

Connections

Spring 2008

Volume 1 Issue 11

Human Service Center

Serving the Human Condition

See What is Inside.....



Staff Attend Transition Fair

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Breakfast at the High Rise

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Trivia Night a Big Success

Pictured: Gary Buatte, Executive Director, Mary Rosendahl of Willisville representing the third place team, Beth Nordin of Red Bud representing the second place team and Mike Schmitz of Sparta representing the first place team.

Read about it on Page 5

From the Executive Director

I recently read an article written by Dr. David Mee-Lee (Tips & Topic, Volume 5, No. 4, July/August, 2007) about evidence-based practices. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMSHA) has conducted research to identify therapies, medications and services that have demonstrated effectiveness and are recognized as evidence-based practices. Dr. Mee-Lee pointed out in his article that evidence-based practices can serve as effective tools in the helping professions, and other research has found that therapeutic relationships have as much, if not more, impact in helping others as using evidence-based practices. In an effective working relationship, an individual can guide service planning, delivery and evaluation. After reading Dr. Mee-Lee's article, I began to think about relationships outside the helping profession.

We are involved daily in relationships whether they are relationships with family members, co-workers, schoolmates, parishioners or with others in our community. It is hard to imagine a day without relating to another human being. If you took the time to develop a list of all the people and situations in which you relate to someone, you would probably be surprised at how often and at what levels you relate to other people. While some relationships have a deeper and richer value than others, such as most therapeutic relationships, they all seem to have at least some function. The function of each relationship also seems to have different benefits.

As you read the Spring edition of our newsletter, Connections, you will find a wide variety of examples of our relationships within and outside our organization. We value our relationship with you as a reader of our newsletter as well as the relationships that we have with our donors, volunteers, and community stakeholders. While our newsletter is somewhat limited in how well you can get to know us, I hope the information you see inside will give you a better understanding of who we are and what we do. If you would like to get to know us better, please contact me. I would be happy to share more about us with you. As the title of our newsletter is trying to convey, we hope to have a connection with you.



Visit us at
www.humanservicegroup.com
to view current and past issues of
HSC Newsletters and Annual
Reports and to see all the types of
services we have to offer our
community



Gary L. Buatte

HSC Participates in Transition Fair

A transition fair was hosted recently by Southwestern Illinois College in Red Bud. Each year Perandoe, a special education provider serving children with disabilities, organizes the fair so that students, parents and teachers can explore the vocational and educational opportunities available to students transitioning from high school. HSC staff was on hand to explain the process to access our services and to answer questions. Individuals seeking our services will need to be registered with the Illinois Division of Developmental Disabilities currently through a Prioritization of Urgency Need for Services (PUNS) process. There are currently approximately 17,216 individuals throughout Illinois waiting for approval of services. If you would like more information about our services to people with developmental disabilities and the registration process, please contact Joni Chandler at 618-282-6233, extension 122.



Joni Chandler
Director of Day Services

New Production & Procurement Manager



Monica Wessel
Production &
Procurement Manager

Monica Wessel has joined Human Service Center as the Procurement and Production Manager. Monica received her Bachelor's degree in Engineering from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and her Master's in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. Monica has been active in the community with Boy Scouts, Friends of the Library and the Society of Women Engineers. She worked at Human Support Services in Waterloo for over 3 years and is excited about prospective projects here at HSC. Monica is married and has two children.

What's Going on in the Buildings in the Back?

Have you ever wondered what is going on in the buildings in the back of the property in Red Bud? Some of you may have brought aluminum cans for recycling to this building - Building P (Production). The adults that come to our Day Program work there to assemble products for several local customers. We also receive, sort, and distribute commodities, such as cereal and bakery goods, to State prisons, Veteran's Affairs and Illinois Youth Centers. In March, we ordered over 100 tons of commodities to be distributed throughout Illinois in the month of April.

Monica Wessel, Production and Procurement Manager, is responsible for finding work for the people that attend our sheltered workshop. Assisting Monica is Debbie Eggemeyer and Pam Brueggemann. Monica is seeking interested entrepreneurs that wish to further develop our production process by creating a new business enterprise in Red Bud. Also, Monica could use help with paper donations that can be delivered to Building P between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Along with paper donations, she is in need of plywood that can be used as a paper donation bin. Please contact Monica at 618-282-6233, extension 133, if you would like to help.

News and Updates from Counseling

Bullying & Relational Aggression

Written by Stacy Stein, Mental Health Therapist

Bullying has become one of the more frequent terms used in school today, but a term that may not be as familiar is relational aggression, which is a form of bullying. The term was developed in the early nineties by Dr. Nicki Crick, who defines it as “emotional violence and bullying behaviors focused on damaging an individual’s social connections within the peer group” (Crick, N.R. & Nelson, D.A. (2002) *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 30). Some examples of relational aggression may include exclusion, ignoring, spreading rumors, verbal insults, teasing, intimidation, eye rolling, taunting, manipulative affection, use of camera phones and cyber bullying. Technology has made relational aggression even easier for children and teenagers who have access to cell phones and the Internet. There are short and long term effects to relational aggression that cause the victims to seek counseling services. The Human Service Center staff has provided trainings to teachers in the Sparta School District and relational aggression group counseling to students. If you or someone you know would like more information on this subject, please contact Stacy Stein at 618-443-3045.



Shea Haury
Director of Counseling



Dana Barrows
Emergency Services Coord.

Community Support

The Human Service Center’s Community Support Program offers services and support necessary to achieve and maintain recovery for youth, adults and families. The program uses therapeutic interventions that promote symptom management, skill building, identification and use of natural supports, such as family members and friends, and decision making in their journey toward recovery. Resiliency skills are enhanced through the development of relapse prevention plans. The interventions help people recover from the major symptoms of a mental illness. If you or someone you know would like more information about this program, please contact Dana Barrow at 618-282-6233.

Wednesday Breakfast at the High Rise

Beginning in July of 2006, the Human Service Center’s Older Adult Program partnered with the Randolph County Housing Authority to provide a breakfast program for the older adults that live in the senior high rise in Chester. Every Wednesday morning we cook a breakfast for the seniors. The breakfast is a way for the seniors to get out of their apartments and visit with one another. This program is important because depression thrives on isolation so we need to create and maintain social bonds as we age. It continues to be a rewarding experience to see the seniors interact with one another and grow as a community.



Jodi Kranz
Older Adult Manager

Board of Directors

David M. Holder, President
Mike Schmitz, Vice President
Mike Liefer, Secretary/Treasurer
Marc Kiehna
Gail Letcher
Jeff Luthy
Diane Schoenbeck

Management Team

Gary L. Buatte, Executive Director
Beth Nortin, Executive Assistant
Wendy Dougherty, Comptroller
Joni Chandler, Director of Day Services
Shea Haury, Director of Counseling

Star Award

The Star Award recognizes outstanding work of employees by their peers in the months of November 2007 thru March 2008 were:

Carrie Atchison, Donna Ebers, Tina Malloy, Kendra Kennedy, Sam Stellhorn
Judy Curran, Kim Cash, Lisa Cullum, Stacey Mitchell, Mark Bollmann, Vic Sieberg,
Gary Nurnberger, Joyce Hicks, Andrea Blazier, Martha Louveau,
Helen Acton, Janey Willis



Welcome New Staff

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Sabrina Falkenberry | Mike Hunter |
| Michelle Hinnerichs | Teresa Hubbard |
| Joyce Koetting | Maria Meyer |
| DeVel Walton | |

Trivia Night a Success

On February 23rd the Steeleville Eagles hosted our second annual Trivia Night. A total of \$737.00 was raised. The proceeds support the client activity funds in the developmental training program, psychosocial rehabilitation service and residential programs. The client activity fund provides our clients with opportunities that other funding sources do not provide, such as shopping visits, field trips and arts and crafts. "I really got the sense that participants in this event really have a lot of fun and the proceeds support a great cause", stated Gary Buatte, the agency's Executive Director and emcee of the event. All teams donated their winnings back to HSC. A special thank you goes to Mary Lynn Gerlach who organized the event.

Annual Coat and Toy Drive a Success

Each year HSC has partnered with the Red Bud Chamber of Commerce in a coat and toy drive to serve disadvantaged children. During the Christmas holidays we were able to help over 100 children with gently used coats and new toys. The people we serve have an opportunity to give back to the community as they sort, wrap and help distribute toys. In addition to the coat and toy drive, the Chamber of Commerce supplied people we serve with food baskets during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

Philanthropy

Thank You to Our Donors – November 2007 – March 2008

The Human Service Center is grateful to our many donors who help make our mission of service to others a reality.

Financial Donations

| | |
|--|--|
| First Baptist Church | St. John the Baptist Church |
| St. Peter United Church of Christ | Knights of Columbus Council #6577 |
| John & Blenda Ingalls | Mrs. Frances Ekes |
| Dan & Kaye Nurnberger | Fisher and Kerkover Law Office |
| Regional Office of Education | Carrie & David St. James |
| Omer & Neva Liefer | James & Mildred Gregory |
| Patricia Walter | Mr. Robert Doty |
| D.Andre & Marie Voges | Loren & Nancy Harms |
| Stanley & Lynn Langrehr | Barbara Koester |
| Bobroff, Hesse, Lindmark & Martone, P.C. | Raymond & Susan Bieri |
| Red Bud Industries | Ken & Karen Wetzel |
| Kalin & Kathleen Liefer | Virginia Moeller |
| Robert & Nancy Koopman | Clara & Milton Mueller |
| Haury Plumbing | Dennis & Jill Phegley |
| Tom & Tracy Welge | Stuart & Nancy Langrehr |
| St. John's Lutheran Church | Business & Professional Women's Club of Sparta |
| Knights of Columbus Council #1952 | Alex Fruth |
| Daniel & Kendra Kennedy | Kenneth & Joan Voges |
| Red Bud Lion's Club | Joann & Daniel Fineran |
| Ken & Alice Mueller | State Farm Insurance –RB |
| Michael & Tessa Miller | Rayburn Fricke |
| Roger's Redi-Mix | Mark Gaubatz |
| Marc Conner | James Weir |
| Patrick Blechle | Thomas Koldilz |
| | Mike Throm |
| | Roy Kelling |

Food or Material Items

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mr. Curtis Henry | Luella Schoenbeck |
| Randolph County Road Riders | Tabitha Dudley |
| Miller's Meat Market | Red Bud Regional Hospital |
| Robert & Karen Kirk | Prairie Du Rocher Elementary School |
| John & Norma Preston | American Legion Post #622 |
| Southwestern Illinois College | Southern IL Jeep Association |
| Jean Schaefer | Red Bud Elementary |
| Trinity Lutheran Sow and Grow | Ruma 4-H Roadrunners |
| St. Patrick's Catholic Church - Ruma | Prairie Du Rocher American Legion |
| Holy Cross Lutheran Church – Renault | Trinity Lutheran School |
| St. Peter United Church of Christ | Coulterville High School |
| Red Bud Dollar Store | St. John the Baptist School – Red Bud |
| Red Bud High School | St. John Lutheran School – Red Bud |
| Adorers of the Blood of Christ | Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts – Red Bud |
| John & Blenda Ingalls | |

Visit our website at www.humanservicegroup.com



Red Bud IGA Partners with HSC to Dye 120 Dozen Eggs for Easter

Donations of Household Items Help Families

“HSC has been very fortunate that we have had people who donate household items to support our group homes,” stated Joni Chandler, Director of Day Services. “I had some counseling staff that asked me if we had some items to help families in the community who needed furniture and other household items. Call it coincidence or something else, but about the same time that counselors made their request, we had donors that met those needs”, Joni indicated. Thank you to everyone that helped HSC. Because you care, we can make a difference in the lives of others.

HSC Endowment Fund Continues to Grow

In May 2007, the Board of Directors established an endowment fund that offers donors an opportunity to provide a wide range of gifts to the organization. Donations from stocks, bonds, real estate, life insurance, wills, trusts and cash are a great way to leave a legacy of hope to sustain HSC’s mission. Thank you to all of our donor’s who gave to support our Endowment Fund this past year. We are pleased that it continues to grow.

Pathways to Improvement 2008 Semi-Annual Summary Report

Internal Reviews

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|-----------------------|---|
| Clinical Records | 157 records reviewed – 78% approval rate |
| Utilization Review | 101 records reviewed – 96% approval rate |
| Unusual Occurrences | 2 cases reviewed – 100% resolution |
| Consumer Satisfaction | 97% satisfaction in Day Serv; 91% satisfaction in Counseling Serv |
| Safety | 13 client accidents/incidents |

Program Outcomes

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Developmental Training | 59% had increases in scales for independent behavior. |
| Psychosocial Rehabilitation | 11% had increases in global assessment of functioning. |
| Crisis Intervention | Decreases in depression and suicidal thoughts |
| Mental Health Group Home | 50% improvement in level of functioning. |
| Mental Health Counseling | 67% understand symptoms of illness. |
| Substance Abuse Counseling | 91% understand consequences of usage. |

Notable Improvements

- Meeting projected job retention rates.
- Changes in preliminary screening packets to acquire more information.
- Improving the internal public server by adding needed documents.
- Improving utilization review formats.
- Safety improvements in Sparta group home.

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10257 State Route Three
Red Bud, IL 62278

Return Services Requested

Nonprofit Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Red Bud, IL
Permit No.1

LOCATIONS

Red Bud

10257 State Route Three
Red Bud, Illinois 62278
Office (618) 282-6233
Fax: (618) 282-6220
TDD#: (618) 282-3747

Sparta

104 Northtown Drive
Sparta, Illinois 62286
Office (618) 443-3045
Fax: (618) 443-5767

Chester

115 East Stacey Street
Chester, Illinois 62233
Office (618) 826-4547
Fax: (618) 826-4549

Some programs were funded in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services

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