

Youth Services Bureau  
of Monroe County  
615 S. Adams Street  
Bloomington, IN 47403

[www.youthservicesbureau.net](http://www.youthservicesbureau.net)



“Laying the Groundwork for Building Positive Youth and Healthy Families.”

YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU OF MONROE COUNTY

Help the YSB provide needed support to your community’s youth.



Put the YOU in YOUTH



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I would like to donate

\$25    \$50    \$100    Other

To “Laying the Groundwork for Building

BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS

of South Central Indiana needs volunteers. Being a “Big” is easy and fun. You must be at least 18 years  
ver’s license. Mentors are expected to commit to spending one hour per week with their mentee or two  
In addition to spending quality time with your “Little,” group activities are planned throughout the  
match. Call 334-2828 for further information.

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Fall  
2007

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“Laying the Groundwork  
for Building  
Positive Youth and Healthy Families”

615 S. ADAMS STREET BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47403 (812) 349-2506



## Director's Report

By Ron Thompson, Executive Director

Recently as I was leaving my office I encountered a mother and her daughter in our building's vestibule. They were both visibly upset. I asked them if anyone was helping them. They told me that they had walked to the shelter after their car had broken down and were late for their appointment for the girl to be admitted to the shelter. They were homeless. The girl pleaded for me not to call the police. I told them that I would not call the police and I would check to see if I could expedite the girl's intake, which I did.

Had they not identified themselves as homeless, I would not have known.

I recently testified before a state legislative committee that was looking into runaway, homeless and unattached youth. While I and my fellow emergency youth shelter providers throughout Indiana could talk about the numbers of children we serve each year, we could not refer to any recent data that accurately reflected the number of our state's or

information that was going to be shared. The "new" information, according to the HUD officials' press conference, was that we have "overestimated" the nation's homeless population. They cited homeless census takers as categorizing people who were "precariously housed" as homeless. In HUD's view, youth who were 'couch surfing' (staying with friends for a week or two at a time, but with no permanent home) were not homeless. Nor were those who moved in with friends or family. "Precariously housed" was not previously in my vocabulary. It is synonymous with homeless.

A cost benefit analysis has shown that housing the homeless saves communities money. The cost of crime, law enforcement, medical care and resources from the social services community for the homeless costs more than providing housing for them. A number of cities now have a 10 year plan to end homelessness and President Bush has appointed a

long time homeless advocate, Philip Mangano, as the nation's homeless czar.

of youth Central Indiana needs volunteers. Being a "Big" is easy and fun. You must be at least 18 years  
 ver's license. A few months ago, I watched a web casting of one of our Big Brothers and Big Sisters group problems are addressed through the  
 In addition to spending quality time with your child, you can help them learn to solve problems and address the  
 nate. Call 334-2828 for further information.

appointment press conference. In the email announcing the press conference/web cast it led one to believe that there was important infor-



## Have You Seen It!

By: Sharon Lucas  
 Safe Place Coordinator

It has been around since the end of August and you could see it anytime of day or night. It comes into your home and pops up when you're not expecting it. What I'm talking about is our Project Safe Place commercial. This year I set a goal to reach 7,500 youth in the Monroe and Greene county areas. Where do you find 7,500 youth today? Beside schools, statistics say they're in front of the TV. We contacted Insight Media and started the process of making a commercial.

The goal was to make it positive, upbeat and informative. We were very lucky to have Jenn Cristy on

board with this project. Her large contribution was the use of her song "All of Me". She also participated in the cast of the commercial along with Bloomington South Students; Anna Delong, Megan Campbell, Margaret Gray, Lauren Lucas, and Rosalind Sternberg.

The commercial has been playing on MTV, Nick at Night, and the Cartoon Network but will end in October. If you haven't had the opportunity to see it yet, you still can. Go to [www.youthservicesbureau.net](http://www.youthservicesbureau.net) and click on Commercial.

In 90 degree weather these girls stuck it out like pros while making this commercial and showed no signs of slowing down. They were great to work with.

Thanks Ladies!!



Employee  
 Of  
 The  
 Month



2007

July  
 Georgia  
 Nichols

August  
 Jenny  
 Dustin

September  
 Jared  
 Bradshaw



## “Project 1825”

By: *Linda Hanek*  
Program Director

18-25 yr. olds experience multiple life transitions and can be at risk for developing alcohol, tobacco and other drug related problems. In Monroe County, data from sources such as public health agencies and law enforcement have pointed to a need to reduce underage and binge drinking among this demographic. Increases in blood alcohol contents, arrests, emergency medical care and sexually transmitted diseases are some of the indicators of problems surrounding the overuse and abuse of alcohol.

The Asset Building Coalition in partnership with the Monroe County Commissioners has been awarded a federally funded state incentive grant to reduce underage and binge drinking among

young adults. This four year grant with a potential for a fifth year has been

named “Project 1825”

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match. Call 334-2828 for further information.

Project 1825 is part of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF), a program of

the Indiana division of Mental Health

and Addiction and focuses on science based prevention. Key ideas include prevention that has a life span focus, cultural competence and sustainability. There are two phases to the grant. The first phase involves partnering with Monroe County agencies and organizations that have a public health orientation to gather real data on our 18-25 yr. olds. To this end project staff is developing a data bank which will house data from all agencies serving 18-25 yr. olds. This will allow for the creation of a true profile of our county and its needs. It has the potential to empower community partners with information they can use to develop programming or seek grant funding.

It will also aid project staff and its governing advisory council in choosing programming that fits our community and its stakeholders. The goal is to reach the neighborhoods with their invisible 18-25 yr. olds in reducing risky alcohol consumption and the problems that go along with it.

