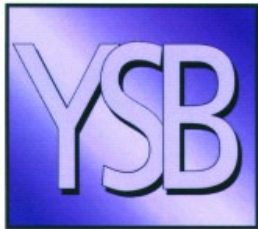


Youth Services Bureau
of Monroe County
615 S. Adams Street
Bloomington, IN 47403

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



CUT HERE C

CUT HERE

I would like to donate

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Only Checks and Money Orders Accepted. Please make checks payable to: Youth Services Bureau of Monroe County
Please mail to: 615 South Adams Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47403

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Youth Services Bureau

of Monroe County

www.youthservicesbureau.net

Fall
2008

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YSB Holiday Wish List



\$25.00 Gift Cards to Wal-Mart
(to buy needed clothing)

Corn Hole Game

DVD-VHS Player

Ping-pong equipment

Frisbee golf equipment

New White Towels

New White Wash Cloths

New Standard size Pillows

White Standard size Pillow Cases

Craft Kits for ages 8 to 18 yrs of age

Nintendo Wii and Wii Fit

New White Twin Bedding sets - flat and fitted
sheets



News Flash

By: Ron Thompson
Executive Director

Wheels to Work Needs Cars!

Monroe County Wheels to Work is a program administered by the Monroe County Wraparound, a collaboration of social services agencies in Monroe County. The objective of the program is to provide affordable transportation to low income families so that they can maintain employment or improve their educational or vocational skill level. This year, demand is exceeding supply. Currently, clients approved for receiving a vehicle are put on a waiting list and notified when a vehicle that meets their needs is available.

Vehicles owned by senior citizens who have older cars in good working order who no longer drive are good candidates for the program. Once the car is sold, the donor gets a tax deductible receipt for the value the program received for the vehicle.

Those wishing to donate a car should contact Ron Thompson at 812-349-2588 or Mark DeLaney at 812-337-2225.



Wheels to Work receives cars and determines whether it is cost-effective to repair the car or to sell it for scrap. The money from scrapped cars is placed in the repair fund. Salvable cars are examined by a mechanic, repaired as needed and sold for half the blue book value to Wraparound. The vehicle can be financed interest free by the buyer to accommodate.

BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana needs volunteers. Being a "Big" is easy and fun. You must be at least 18 years old and have a valid driver's license. Mentors are expected to commit to spending one hour per week with their mentee or two hours every other week. In addition to spending quality time with your "Little," group activities are planned throughout the year for you and your match. Call 334-2828 for further information.



"Project 1825"

Nancy Gagle, Sig Grant Assistant
Susan Forney, ABC Executive Director
Brittany Armstrong, Youth Network Coordinator
and Linda Hanek, Sig Program Director

The Asset Building Coalition is thrilled to announce the launch of its web site! www.monroecountyabc.com. The website is designed to provide parents with real resources for understanding and supporting their teens.

The home page of the website features helpful links for parents, as well as a brain graphic – click on it for a guide to understanding teen actions, motivations, as well as the vulnerabilities and opportunities that a teen brain experiences. The "Guide to the Teen Brain" video segment information is essential to communicating well with teens! Ya gotta check it out!

www.monroecountyabc.com is organized by grant and age group. You can find out about the latest activities of the Youth Network, the CSAP grant, as well as Project 1825. The site will be updated regularly with new content and upcoming events.

Be sure to bookmark the site as a source of info for your family and organization!

The next Youth In Action Teen Night is the December 19th Battle of the Bands at Rhino's!

*Outstanding
Employee
Of
The
Month
2008*



August

**Laura
Grover**

September

**Liz
DeFrance**

October

**Kim
Meyer**



Support the YSB Endowment!

The Youth Services Bureau has an endowment fund at the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County. You can make a gift any time or you can include us in your estate planning. One of the simplest and most popular ways to leave a legacy is through a bequest in one's will. Sample bequest language:

I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, Inc. . . .

You may make a *general bequest* from your estate as follows:

. . . the sum of \$ _____, or _____% or _____ fractional interest of my estate.

You may make a *specific bequest* as follows:

. . . the sum of \$ _____ . . . OR

. . . the property described as _____ . . .

Be sure to designate the Youth Services Bureau Fund. You may designate specific instructions as to how you would like your bequest to be used.

Please contact the Community Foundation for further information.



Hello YSB Community!

By: Amy Drever MSW
YSB Counselor



My name is Amy Drever and I am the newest addition to the counseling staff. As a counselor, I get the privilege of working with YSB youth and their families. I received my MSW in 2007 from Washington University in St. Louis. My work experience includes working at The Rise in Bloomington with children and families impacted by domestic violence and working at RAVEN in St. Louis on a non-violence education program primarily serving youth in the juvenile justice system. My advocacy experience includes working at the Office for Women's Affairs at Indiana University, working as a Workers'

Rights Board Fellow for Jobs with Justice in St. Louis, and serving as a part-time member of Americorps in St. Louis. I also have program evaluation experience for a drug prevention program that serves youth across the State of Indiana through my work at the Indiana Prevention Resource Center at Indiana University. I look forward to bringing my experience to the YSB and serving on a great team of dedicated professionals. I am grateful for this exciting opportunity to make a difference in the lives of youth and their families.



**We worry about what a child will become tomorrow,
yet we forget that he is someone today.
~Stacia Tauscher**

Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services Releases Report

By: Ron Thompson

The Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services was created by the 2007 Indiana General Assembly and appointed by the Governor, Senate and House of Representatives.

The subject of Disproportionality was highlighted in 2005 when the Indiana Youth Services Association, with funding from the Lilly Endowment, commissioned Indiana University to conduct a study of suspensions and expulsions in Indiana schools. That study concluded that Indiana had the highest expulsion rate per capita in the nation and the ninth highest out of school suspension rate. It also showed that children of color were more likely to be expelled or suspended than their white counterparts for the same types of offense. It also showed a child was more likely to stay in school by changing schools than changing their behavior.

The Commission released its report on October 15, 2008. It reports that there is over and under representation of youth of color in Indiana's child welfare, education, juvenile justice, and mental health systems.

Some examples of data demonstrating disproportionality and/or disparate outcomes in the four systems are:

- *African Americans are over-represented in foster care, comprising approximately 28% of those in care in Indiana, even though they constitute 8.9% of the state's youth population.
- *African American youth are 2.64 more times more likely to be arrested than other youth and .52 times less likely to be diverted to alternative programs than other youth.
- *African Americans are 3.4 times more likely than White students to be suspended out-of-school and over twice as likely to be expelled.
- *Youth with undiagnosed or misdiagnosed mental health

challenges are more likely to experience school expulsion, juvenile detention, or placement in other settings that may be unresponsive to their needs.

The Commission's recommendations include:

- *Data-driven, objective decision making in a culturally competent manner at all decision points and interactions with youth.
- *Standardized, disaggregated race-specific data collection that instills system accountability and responsiveness to youth of color.
- *Cultural competency training and systemic responsiveness to the needs of youth.
- *Diverse and bi-lingual workforce reflecting the youth populations being served.
- *Provision of timely, evidence-based services to keep youth of color in home and in school, and prevent their contact with other more restrictive systems.
- *Child-serving agencies using best/promising practices that eliminate disparities in treatment and provision of services for the youth they serve.
- *Inter-agency, intra- and cross-system coordination and collaboration to implement recommendations.
- Provision of sufficient resources to implement and sustain programming.

Much work lies ahead. The Commission noted that many of the recommendations would take additional resources. It also pointed out that those costs would be recaptured in long term savings realized by the implementation of the recommendations.

Hopefully, the state will see beyond the next budget session and start adapting some of the recommendations immediately. Our children deserve no less.



Project Safe Place Is moving In.....to Owen County!

By: Sharon Lucas, Safe Place Coordinator



Yes, it's official. Indiana has awarded us funding to expand the program in Owen County and I'm happy to say that we have been very welcomed by the community.

We started this process over a year ago by meeting with several people to establish if there was a need for our services. Spencer-Owen Community School's Superintendent, Marsha Turner-Shear, was my first contact and proved to be very valuable in learning about the needs of the Owen County youth. It was clear from her and several other agencies that not only was there a need but a passion to do what was best for the youth and their families in this community. Their enthusiasm and interest in helping kids fueled us to work hard to get the money we needed so we could get started. July 2008 funding was given to the Youth Services Bureau of Monroe County to expand Safe Place into Owen County and by October 2008 the Spencer-Owen Community Schools became our first Safe Place sites.

It wasn't long before other businesses contacted us to get on board. Missy from Connect'd Gaming grew up with Safe Place in her community and was excited to learn we were here in Owen. Connect'd Gaming is a family owned business and is serving youth through providing a safe and fun facility for youth to enjoy activities in different ways. We were thrilled to have them be a Safe Place site as well as Jesse at JP Computers & Media who is located in Connect'd Gaming. But we are not done yet. Look for the YMCA and other local businesses to display the yellow and Black sign soon.

I want to thank Marsh Turner-Shear, Scott Monnett director of YMCA, Owen County Library and to the Owen County CASA's for educating and supporting Project Safe Place!.



Pictured with Lori Voss is Kim Meyer, YSB Assistant Director

Special "Thanks" goes out to Lori Voss and fellow staff with Cook Urology and Women's Health in Spencer, Indiana. Their dedicated and generous staff hosted a "bedding drive" for Binkley House Youth Shelter. Our need for bedding that is suitable for the winter months has grown. The work of organizing this event by Lori was definitely appreciated by our organization.