



# Youth Service Bureau

HELPING YOUTH LIVE HEALTHY LIVES | AUGUST 2011

*"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."*

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

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## From the Interim Director

JANE CHRISTOPHERSEN, Interim Director

The Youth Service Bureau is undergoing some major personnel changes. Mike Scime resigned in May having just returned to the office after suffering a stroke in February. (Fortunately, his health continues to improve.) We thank Mike for all he did for the YSB and wish him the best. Mike's stroke occurred on February 5th and the YSB was suddenly without an active Executive Director. As the Interim Director (and not in the hunt to become the next Executive Director), I would like to take this opportunity to both brag about and thank our staff. I think we can truly say that the Youth Service Bureau has never missed a beat in terms of providing services to our clients and maintaining operations. Without question, the greatest amount of credit goes to our Office Manager, Gina Williams. Very simply, she knew what needed to be done and did it. If I needed to do something, she let me know and then helped when possible. That is really why we were able to maintain so well. I will never be able to thank Gina enough for what

she does for the Bureau. The rest of the staff has continued to run the programs as well as ever. I want to thank all of them—Nancy Hartley, Mig Willhite-Gallian, Jill Voliva, and Jennifer White—for their constant high level of professionalism and passion for our mission. They all do their jobs exceptionally well.

*"The Youth Service Bureau has never missed a beat in terms of providing services to our clients and maintaining our operations."*

The other personnel changes involve the Juvenile Mentoring Program. Nancy Hartley is retiring August 31st. We will really miss her! She has always been a model of perfection as the JUMP Program Manager. The good news is that she will continue to be involved in the program as a mentor. We wish Nancy a wonderful retirement! Fortunately, Jill Hampton was

ready to make a return to the Youth Service Bureau. She left about a year ago when the Healthy Families Program was transferred to the Putnam-Owen Healthy Families Program. She started last week and has been in training with Nancy, so there should be a seamless transition. I am not sure that we could get anyone better than Nancy or Jill.

I would also like to thank our Board of Directors for their support. I want to especially thank Aus Brooks and Tony Cosenza for their time and efforts. Aus has listened to me when I have come to him with issues and has always offered a thoughtful response or perspective. This has not been an easy year to be President of the Board, but Aus has been there for us every step of the way.

As always, I want to thank our volunteers. We would not be able to function without them. They too have been supportive and understanding during the last six months. Clearly, they make our programs great.

## Juvenile Mentoring Program

NANCY HARTLEY, Mentoring Program Coordinator | Written by: JILL VOLIVA



Andrea and Dana,  
matched 9/16/2006.

*“Dana credits Andrea with getting her through school successfully.”*

Caitlyn and Jennifer,  
matched 11/9/2006.



Dana and Andrea. Caitlyn and Jennifer. Kentai and Steve. Six very different people whose lives are forever changed because of their Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP) relationships. They were matched in 2006 and Dana, Caitlyn and Kentai just graduated from high school. They are leaving Andrea, Jennifer and Steve behind to pursue their futures. We sat down and chatted with each match at different times. Here are their stories...

Dana was 13 when she was matched with Andrea by JUMP Manager Nancy Hartley. She remembers little about those first JUMP activities; bits and pieces of attending a haunted barn and falling in some mud. What she remembers about the activities, she remembers fondly. Dana and Andrea chose to do a lot of activities on their own over the years and Andrea was a huge part of Dana's school life, helping with homework, studying, SAT's and applying for colleges. Dana credits Andrea with getting her through school successfully and Andrea's words of wisdom to Dana were, "Stay focused and stay in school! Stay focused on your future!"

Dana and Andrea have an easy, laid back friendship, one that came naturally to them but Andrea cautions anyone con-

sidering being a mentor that it might not always be that easy. She encourages anyone to mentor as it is a rewarding and fun experience, but to remember to set boundaries because you just can't do every activity you think you will when you are first matched. When asked the most difficult part of their relationship, both ladies responded in unison, "Coordinating schedules!" Andrea loved watching Dana grow and mature and said their relationship has morphed into more of a friendship as she got older, but with getting older comes more scheduling blocks such as school activities, part time jobs, etc...Andrea had a fair amount of life changes during the match as well, welcoming two children into her family. Dana said she loved watching Andrea's family grow.

Dana will be attending Ivy Tech and eventually Purdue with hopes of becoming a veterinarian. Both intend to stay in touch, via email, phone and lunch dates. Andrea has no doubts that she will be around to see Dana do all of the things she dreams of, because as Dana reminded her on the way out the door, "You still have to help me get a job!"

Caitlyn and Jennifer's match came about when Jennifer was a JUMP staff person and met Caitlyn when she was interviewed for the program. The two immedi-

ately clicked and Jennifer knew that for someone like herself who was maybe slightly hesitant of the time commitment mentoring entails; it was fate to meet a kid that she connected with so easily and who needed a mentor. Jennifer advises anyone wanting to be a mentor that they should do it, "Only if you truly have the time. I loved every second that I spent with Caitlyn but it got harder once I had a child and Caitlyn got busier with school activities. You had to really want to make time for each other." Jennifer approached mentoring hoping for a great friendship, and not trying to fix any problems for Caitlyn.

Caitlyn also remembers the haunted barn activity but mostly talks about the one on one time she spent with Jennifer, doing simple things like making dinner, watching *Gilmore Girls* and playing with Jennifer's daughter. She said that she immediately felt comfortable with Jennifer and found it easy to be open and honest with her about things going on in her life.

Both Caitlyn and Jennifer know they have found a friend for life in each other. As Caitlyn moves on to attend the University of Indianapolis as a Physical Therapy major, or "possibly nursing...or exercise science..." Jennifer had some last words for her. "Stay in school. Don't be afraid to

change your major. And stay away from stupid boys!" Caitlyn just smiled.

Kentai doesn't remember a lot about life before Steve. They were matched first in a school based mentoring program called TALKS, where Steve would go into the school once a week and read to Kentai and two other fourth grade students. Kentai remembers not loving TALKS at first. He preferred learning in the classroom and didn't like being pulled out and made to feel different. But then he got to know Steve...and the rest is history. They joined JUMP when Steve contacted Nancy and said he'd like to be a mentor, but he already had a mentee in mind. Perhaps not the most traditional way to be matched, but it worked for them and it worked well.

Kentai and Steve spent many years together and they had a lot to share with us when we sat down that warm August evening. You could sense not

only the close bond the two share, but a unique mutual respect that flows from one to the other. Steve quietly reflected on his time with Kentai, sharing events that they both enjoyed. A Colts game, for example, and a Pacers game, and a major league baseball game which they traveled to on a train. The two share a love of sports, Wabash College, and also apparently, "Eating!" Steve struggled a bit at first because though he describes Kentai as genuine, he doesn't talk a lot, and Steve is a self-described talker. He wanted to prove to Kentai that he was interested

without seeming intrusive. Eventually they found their footing, and Steve tells future mentors that mentoring is, "Worthwhile, but be flexible. Every family is different and while you're familiar with how your own family works, you're not familiar with other families and how they do things. Adjusting to each others schedules

and ways of doing things is just part of building your relationship."

As Kentai heads to basic training for his future in the Army in October, they both know things will have to change. Communication will be limited until Kentai's first base assignment. The two are committed to staying in touch, whether it be through letters, email or Skype. When we asked them for any final thoughts, Kentai expressed his gratitude to Steve for his help, the experiences and the many great times the two shared. Steve, obviously touched by Kentai's gesture, offered some advice that could have been for all of our graduates. "As you meet your challenges, remember all you've accomplished so far. Stay true to your goals, and stay true to yourself."

All of us at the YSB congratulate our JUMP graduates and wish them the brightest of futures!

*"As you meet your challenges, remember all you've accomplished so far. Stay true to your goals, and stay true to yourself."*



Kentai and Steve, matched 1/16/2006.

**Make a Difference.  
Be a Mentor.**

**765-362-0694 ext. 12**

## Teen Court is Awesome. That's why.

JENNIFER WHITE, Teen Court Program Coordinator



Legend Johnson defends during a mock hearing.

Why should you volunteer for Teen Court? Because Teen Court is Awesome. That's why!

Teen Court is currently looking for middle and high school students to serve as

jurors, attorneys, clerks, and bailiffs for actual Teen

Court cases!

Teen Court is a diversionary program for first time juvenile offenders. Rather than going through the traditional juvenile justice system, these first time offenders are tried by their peers in an actual courtroom setting. As jurors you decide their punishment. Punishments can include anywhere from 5-45 hours of

community service, essays, written and oral apologies, curfew, join a positive youth organization, and the list goes on. Teen Court meets every other Monday night at the Montgomery County Courthouse, Circuit Court (2nd floor) from 5:30-7:15pm. Please contact Jennifer at 362-0694 ext 16 or [jennifer@mcysb.org](mailto:jennifer@mcysb.org) for more information.

## The Ups and Downs of Being a CASA

JANE CHRISTOPHERSEN, CASA Program Coordinator

Being involved in a child abuse and neglect case is not always a particularly pleasant way to spend one's time. In fact, it can be downright depressing. It is harrowing to know the number of ways and level of intensity parents can harm (sometimes forever) their children. I think the most difficult part of being involved with these abused and neglected children is knowing that sometimes the child is so damaged psychologically or emotionally that he may never be able to have a normal childhood, or life. Even if the

parental rights are terminated, the child is left to pick up the pieces of the devastatingly dysfunctional relationship

with his parent(s) in terms of his ability to function in a family and society. I am not sure there is anything sadder to see than a child who is his worst enemy in his attempt for happiness. He can't remain in loving homes of family members or with foster parents because of intolerable behavior. He struggles to earn privileges or even stay in a residential program. He is the victim, but becomes the predator. All this misery can start to make a person feel as though there is no hope.

And then, there are cases that make one want to sing out loud. These cases involve the rehabilitation of parents who end up getting out of the system with their kids and living happily ever after. Nothing is bet-

ter than that. Other uplifting scenarios involve difficult to adopt children finding their forever families. I think anyone who adopts abused or neglected children is to be commended and admired. But there are some who are simply in the arena of sainthood. One such couple recently became the pre-adoptive parents for five children age 8 and under. A sibling group of five who can remain together! The idea that people are willing to totally turn their lives upside down and open their home and hearts to become instant parents to five little girls. That makes a person feel that no matter what happens, there is always hope.

*The CASA Program will begin a*

**TRAINING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS**

*Monday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Please contact Jane at (765) 362-0694 ext 13 or email [jane@cysb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jane@cysb@sbcglobal.net) if you would like more information.*



Court Appointed Special Advocates  
FOR CHILDREN

# A Fun Summer for YAR

JENNIFER WHITE, Youth as Resources Program Coordinator

Youth as Resources' summer has been a fun one! Serving breakfast for lunch at the Friendship Kitchen, a trip to Kings Island, giving a grant to the Crawfordsville High School Marching Band, and more!

Youth as Resources has decided to end their fantastic summer by announcing it's 4th Annual Battle of the Bands!

This year's Battle of the Bands will be held Saturday, October

22nd at the 4H Building. YAR is currently contacting potential sponsors, as well as possible bands.

This year's proceeds will benefit Montgomery United Fund for You (MUFFY)!

Montgomery United Funds serve approximately 25,000 people in Montgomery County. The youth recognize that without the support of MUFFY, many area non-profits would

not be able to do the work they do.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining YAR or Battle of the Bands, please contact Jennifer at 362-0694.



YAR served breakfast for lunch at the Friendship Kitchen.

# It's That Time of Year Again!

JENNIFER WHITE, REINdear Program Coordinator

It's that time of the year again! Referral forms have been sent to schools, DCS, and other community referral partners.


Businesses, individuals, and organizations who participated in 2010 can expect to hear from REINdear towards the end of September in order to confirm participation this year.

REINdear (Reaching Everyone in Need) coordinates community efforts to support children who may otherwise do without during the Christmas season. Each year schools and other community organizations assist us by distributing referral forms to families in need. REINdear then keeps a database of names

and information about the children for distribution to others who want to help.

If you are interested in providing gifts for a child, please contact Jennifer White at 362-0694 ext 16.





**While 96% of parents and caregivers believe their child safety seats are installed correctly, research shows that**

**7 OUT OF 10 CHILDREN ARE IMPROPERLY RESTRAINED\***

**Visit the YSB/Cville Fire Dept**  
**CAR SEAT SAFETY CLINIC**  
and have your child safety seats inspected by certified car seat technicians.  
**There is no cost to you!**

Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

1:00- 4:00pm

**First Baptist Church**  
1905 Lebanon Rd, Crawfordsville

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\*[http://www.seatcheck.org/news\\_fact\\_sheets\\_statistics.html](http://www.seatcheck.org/news_fact_sheets_statistics.html)

# 2011 YSB Donors

THANK YOU to these gracious businesses, organizations, and individuals.

## Over \$5,000

Division of Children's Services  
Indiana Criminal Justice Institute  
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## Up to \$999

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Whitesville Christian Church  
Wabash Ave Presbyterian

## Up to \$499

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Sew Vac Central  
Jerry & Lucinda Smith  
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Sugar Creek Animal Hospital  
Paul & Candace Sutton  
Tanner Insurance  
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pany  
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William Wythe  
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## Gifts in Memory of:

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Hall Peebles  
David Phillips

## *Jim Owen*

Scott & Tamara Hemmerlein

## *Ann O'Dell*

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David & Sheridan Hadley

## Gifts in Honor Of

*Mike Scime*  
Jim & Chris Amidon

*The Sons & Grandchildren of Tom Hunt*  
Tom & Laura Hunt

## In Kind Donations

St. John's Church  
Journal Review Newspaper  
The Paper of Montgomery Co.  
Prime Lawn Service  
St. Bernard Church  
Linden United Methodist  
Crawfordsville Radio

**YSB Events...**

- } 9/12 - TEEN COURT (5:30-7:15p at Courthouse)
- } 9/13 - MENTOR SUPPORT SESSION - Kids & Nutrition presented by Purdue Home Extension (6:30-8p at St. Johns)
- } 9/15 - YAR (5-6p at YSB)
- } 9/19 - CASA training (contact Jane at 362-0694 ext 13 for details)
- } 9/22 - YAR (5-6p at YSB)
- } 9/24 - JUMP ACTIVITY - Scavenger Hunt at Wabash College (9-11am)
- } 9/26 - TEEN COURT (5:30-7:15p at Courthouse)

**SEPTEMBER 2011**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	14	<b>15</b>	16	17
18	<b>19</b>	20	21	<b>22</b>	23	<b>24</b>
25	<b>26</b>	27	28	29	30	

**Meet Jill Hampton...**

It's hard to believe that it is September already! It has been a busy couple of weeks for me learning about the Juvenile Mentoring Program and all the wonderful things that staff, mentors, and mentees are all doing. Nancy's last day was August 31 and she will be missed by us all. After training with her for the past week and a half, I got a feel for the passion and enthusiasm that Nancy brought to this program and I am excited to now be a part of this! I have worked at the Youth Service Bureau for

over 20 years in various capacities, but for the past twelve years as a Family Support Specialist, Supervisor and Program Manager for the Healthy Families Program. Last September that program merged with Putnam Families Services and was no longer part of the YSB. I missed working with the Bureau and am happy to be back and a part of JUMP. Mentors please know that I am here to offer support in any way I can. Feel free to call me at anytime. As a reminder, our Mentor Support Session will be Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at

St. John's Church from 6:30-8:00pm. Refreshments will be served and Joy Dugan from Purdue Nutrition will be presenting on "Kids and Nutrition". Also on September 24th will be our Mentor/ Mentee activity which is a scavenger hunt at Wabash College from 9-11a. I look forward to meeting you and hope to see you at one or both of the events in September. We have interviewed several new Mentors and plan to have a training session in October. The date has yet to be set!



Jill has worked with the YSB for over 20 years and is excited to be a part of JUMP!



Montgomery County  
Youth Service Bureau  
209 East Pike Street  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

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BULK RATE  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Be sure to take a REIMdear name and bring a smile to a child's face this holiday season!

**JENNIFER WHITE**  
Montgomery County  
Youth Service Bureau  
209 East Pike Street  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
765-362-0694 ext 16  
jennifer@mcysb.org



REIMdear names will be available the first of November. For more information on how you can participate contact: