

Wings of a Dove

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F S T . V I N C E N T N E W H O P E

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St. Vincent New Hope Day Services Program

By Jim Van Dyke

New Hope is once again expanding the services it offers to Hoosiers with Disabilities as we are now just a few hectic weeks away from opening an Adult Day Services Program. These services will initially target those New Hope clients who currently do not have meaningful daytime activities and those whose daytime activities are inadequate to meet their needs and desires. The last few pieces of preparation are coming together as we have promoted

Andrew Cornetta to be the manager of the Day Services Program, and we are completing renovation of a portion of the New Hope building.

Andrew has been a team leader in the SILP program for the past eight months. He has his bachelor's degree from Indiana University in Religious Studies. We believe our Day Services Program will be inclusive, innovative and inspirational under his leadership.

When work is completed on the building, we will have approximately 1,000 sq. ft. of space dedicated

to an enriching day for people currently in our residential services. As we serve more persons, we have plans to double the space.

However, the many services we intend to offer

will not fit inside the New Hope building. We expect and encourage our participants to become engaged in activities throughout Indianapolis. We will be there to encourage and support them as they experience community opportunities in whatever fashion works for them.

We may eventually expand the program to individuals in the greater community, including elderly individuals whose families desire an Adult Day Service Program that emphasizes individual growth while ensuring healthy and safe participation in activities. The Adult Day Services Program will be

part of the Community Outreach Department.

Kathy Ballard, director of Community Outreach, is very enthusiastic about the new service New Hope is adding.



Jay Martin (left), Andrew Cornetta (center) and Matt Kistler enjoyed a Colts home game. The Colts won! Photo credit: Sue Phillips

"It is our intention to build a premiere Day Services Program which addresses the unique gifts and strengths of our consumers and builds many bridges to inclusive lives within our community."

Kathy Ballard
Director of Community Outreach

Working to keep families together

By Kathy Ballard

The Community Outreach Department has received another contract from the Marion County Department of Child Services to provide home-based counseling to families involved in the child welfare system. Since the program's inception in July 2002, more than 970 families have been served and hundreds of children have been reunited with their parents.

The home-based counseling program provides a multitude of supports to families including individual and family therapy, intensive case management, parent mentor services and supervised visitation. By working closely and non-judgmentally with families, we are able to assist them in identifying their gifts and strengths, define needs and goals, and work toward strengthening the family system.

We have learned that indeed families can heal from instances of abuse and neglect and become stronger and more cohesive. We are very pleased to have been awarded a contract so that we may continue our work with families.

The Spirit of Caring is alive at St. Vincent, represented by the three doves of our logo, flying proudly in an integrated formation, depicting the three aspects of holistic healing - body, mind and spirit. We strive to deliver to our patients and families extraordinary patient care every day, with the three doves as our guiding symbol. As a member of Ascension Health and St. Vincent Health, we are called to ...

Service of the Poor
Generosity of spirit for persons most in need

Reverence
Respect and compassion for the dignity and diversity of life

Integrity
Inspiring trust through personal leadership

Wisdom
Integrating excellence and stewardship

Creativity
Courageous innovation

Dedication
Affirming the hope and joy of our ministry

Meet Donna Richards, New Hope's Corporate Responsibility Officer and Quality Assurance Coordinator

As we begin the new year, my wish for all of our associates and individuals is for you to have a very happy and safe new year. As we work together to cultivate a work environment where associates and individuals are highly regarded, where business is conducted with integrity and where we strive to make the New Hope Experience one of quality, I want to remind you of our philosophy of excellence.

St. Vincent New Hope (SVNH) is dedicated to meeting a high ethical standard of individual conduct in all of our service delivery and business operations. In support of this commitment, SVNH has established a Corporate Responsibility Plan (CRP), which promotes corporate citizenship, healthcare regulatory compliance, a customer service focus, Health Information Portability and Accountability Act compliance, and a culture of integrity. The SVNH CRP policy is designed to implement the Ascension Health Corporate Responsibility policies.

SVNH associates are encouraged and expected to report any violations of policies, procedures or concerns about illegal or unethical practices. If you observe a behavior that potentially contradicts our Core Values, what should you do? You should respectfully question the associate, talk with your supervisor and contact your Corporate Responsibility Officer (CRO), or you may choose to contact the National Values Line, an independently contracted reporting service, which ensures objective, timely investigation and resolution of reports.

A thorough investigation will occur for any report of violations. St. Vincent New Hope strictly prohibits retaliation in any form against any individual reporting an issue or concern in good faith. When we all follow the SVNH ethical standards of excellence, we ensure a safe and secure New Hope Experience for everyone.

Thank you for your dedication to quality and excellence. Have a safe and Happy New Year.



Donna Richards

Reporting numbers:

**SVNH Corporate Responsibility Officer:
Donna Richards – 338-4507**

Values Line 1-800-707-2198

Meet Toni Ketner, HIPAA Officer for St. Vincent New Hope



Toni Ketner

The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act, Privacy and Security is a law that protects health information. St. Vincent New Hope as an agency works with St. Vincent Health to implement practices mandated by the federal government. We continue to identify and document the shortcomings and analyze the risk tolerance of the organization as well as monitor for compliance. Education is required yearly; and as with CRP, SVNH associates are encouraged to report any violations or concerns about illegal or unethical practices. Feel free to contact Toni at 338-4589 for any HIPAA questions or concerns.



Many thanks to the members of the SVNH Accessibility Committee (l-r Toni Carter, Adriana Powell, Jerry Byrd, Sarah Mooney, Tarina Love, Donna Richards, Karen Morgan; not pictured: Denise Schmidt) and the late Joe Quinn for creating the SVNH Accessibility Plan. The Accessibility Plan lists possible barriers that limit access to programs; identifies methods that we have in place to remove those barriers; and develops a schedule for taking necessary steps to achieve a barrier-free environment.

Your Voices

Down Sizing

By Darin J. Yoder, mentor with Community Outreach
As told by Kenneth H. Davis



Kenneth (right) with Darin and the completed entertainment center

Darin looked online to find out about woodworking, because I took woodworking at Lawrence North High School with my shop teacher. I also worked with my grandfather on woodworking. I really loved doing that!

Darin showed me papers about a woodworking show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and about a shop that was up in Noblesville. The first time I went to the woodworking shop, I got nervous because it was the first time meeting new people at a new place. It was some guys from a Kiwanis Club that make toys for kids like wooden cars, small tool boxes and nameplates. Darin set up the time to meet with Gary and Fred at the woodworking shop. I decided that I was going to downsize because I have an entertainment center that is big and heavy. I am going to live on my own away from my parents' house and did not want to move it. I wanted something smaller with wheels and a door that locked. So I measured the unit, got the dimensions, and then drew it on a piece of paper. Darin and I then rode up to the woodworking shop.

Fred, Gary and Darin helped me start measuring wood and we set it aside. Fred wanted a better drawing so Darin and I drew up a new improved drawing of the unit. It took a couple months of cutting, gluing, clamping and staining to make the unit look right. I felt good because this piece would be mine to bring home. My energy level is up and I am really happy since it has been built. I am planning to put my electronics in the cabinet.

New Hope Writing Club

The St. Vincent New Hope Writing Club meets weekly at Holliday Park. There are eight writers who attend the weekly sessions. Staff who are with the individuals served by New Hope are also encouraged to participate in the weekly sessions. Everyone loves this creative outlet and **Ron Hart-Hults** has been leading the group since its inception in April 2006. The writing and photography from the club are on display in New Hope administrative offices and the exhibit changes every six weeks.

A Blue Winter

By John Lorton

For most of us winter is something we just have to get through. There is snow and ice to drive through. Plans must sometimes be canceled. It takes more effort to do most everything. In many ways, we found winter much easier as children (snowball fights, no school, and time to ourselves). Perhaps there are some good things about winter and we just have to look for them.

Winter

By Cindy Sears

It is too cold!

I need to have my coat on all the time.

It is hard for me to go out.

No fun!

No fun!

No fun!



Winter – Photography by Herb Kemp

Snow is so Hard

By Herb Kemp

I never like to see snow on a day I have to work. The bus is always late. I have to go out and clean the snow off the walks. I have to take more time to do everything. One day I will live in a place with no snow. Snow makes everything I do so hard.

Why I Love My Job

By Jason Dunderdale



I love my job!

(Editor's Note: The *Indianapolis Star's* Why I Love my Job essay contest had one of New Hope's associates featured as one of the winners. Jason had one of the top five winning essays published in a special Love my Job section of the paper on Feb. 14).

I have the best job because I fix wheelchairs and obtain wheelchair parts for individuals who are non-ambulatory. There are times I will hear comments such as "Wheelchairs are like cars." Actually, they are more like legs. Somebody who is non-ambulatory relies on a wheelchair to get from place to place. Without a functioning wheelchair, performing even the easiest of tasks can be very difficult or even impossible.

There are approximately 90 non-ambulatory individuals in the

program who I know, and know me, on a first-name basis. I make many house calls dealing with minor repairs someone might need to get a wheelchair functioning again. There are times when the problem cannot be repaired and something needs to be replaced. That is when I work with a durable medical equipment supplier and insurance. At times, they make my job much more challenging.

The paperwork can be quite tedious and lengthy, but the rewards of getting somebody's wheelchair up and running to maintain independent mobility makes it all worthwhile. I have been with St. Vincent New Hope for more than eight years and see myself here for many years to come.

Our Group Home cluster holiday parties

By Stacey Hissong



Susan "Becky" Jung in her "I've been good" hat.

Seton, DeMarillac, DePaul and Justin Group Homes all threw festive and fabulous family Christmas parties before the holidays. The individuals we serve were so thankful for their friends, families and advocates who came. Everyone visited and met the families of all the individuals who live at their family member's home. Thank you to everyone who planned, participated and attended these parties.



Thanks to Tamara Raglind and Pamela Stevens for helping the ladies at 48th Street have a wonderful Christmas Party (l-r): Jenny Peters, Patty Henderson, Carol Hooker, Tamara Raglind, Pam Stevens, Lisa Thacker and Kari Stout. *Photo credit: Jeanne Reyman*



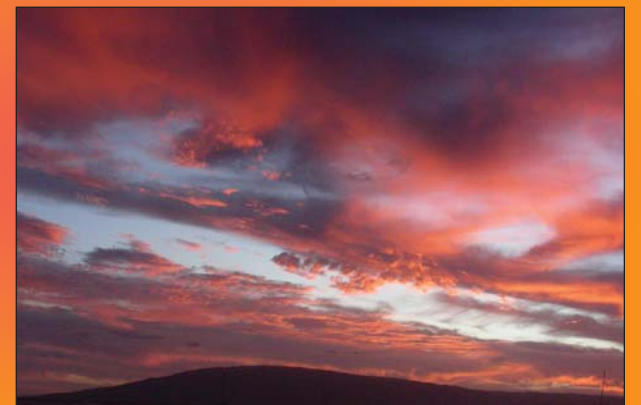
John Leach, Julie Burrows, Kathe Rae, Leslie Krom-Selden, Susan Robinson and Anthony Rogers at the Thanks-for-Giving Lunch.

Thanks to everyone who supported our annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale and Thanks-for-Giving Soup Lunch. The bake sale raised \$218, which will be used to assist a family served in Community Outreach. The soup lunch donations totaled \$155, which will be sent to the Daughters of Charity Foundation to assist a DOC mission in Venezuela. Because of your compassion and generosity, we continue to live the Daughters of Charity mission of supporting those most in need.

A photo in my mind

By Marcia Carithers

I saw the prettiest sunset northwest of my apartment. It was colored orange and red. The sunset was long and wide. If only I had a camera, I would have shown you the beauty that I saw.



Holiday Door Decorating Contest

By Mac Bellner

Drab, drab, drab, institutional door after institutional door: at St. Vincent New Hope things were not looking like the holiday spirit was catching on in early December. Someone suggested a door decorating contest, a sign up sheet was posted, and the scene began to change. Judges were **Joe Cleary**, team leader in Residential Maintenance; **Sam Wade**, manager of Transportation; and **Mac Bellner**, Group Home manager. With a whopping 19 entries, it was clear that judging could not be based on creativity and artistic presentation alone. Incorporating the Core Values, the judges chose as criteria Spirituality, Inclusion and Fun! The competition was stiff, but three winners emerged: **Tarina Joy Love** for Spirituality, **Stephanie Ebert, John Leach, Becky Sigmon** and **Debora Sloan** for Inclusion; and **Ann Williams, Connie Miller, Anthony Rogers, Phyllis Teusch, Angie Reed, Cheryl Hazelwood** and **Latrice Garrett** for Fun! Awards were presented at the December Town Hall meeting, and a great time was had by all!



Tarina Joy Love, office professional for Quality Assurance, Staff Development and Nursing, was a winner for Spirituality.
Photo credit: Sam Wade



The Supported Living Cluster III team of **Stephanie Ebert, John Leach, Becky Sigmon** and **Debora Sloan** won the Inclusion category.
Photo credit: Sam Wade



The Supported Living Cluster I team of **Ann Williams, Connie Miller, Anthony Rodgers, Phyllis Teusch, Angie Reed, Cheryl Hazelwood**, and **Latrice Garrett** won the Fun category. *Photo credit: Sam Wade*



Jamie Laird and his brother **Bill** visited a Deer Farm while Jamie was in Wisconsin for the Christmas holiday.

Spring Break in Indy

By Kaela, Jason, Sarah, Kyle, Kamie, Hanna, Jessica, Jackie and Nadia



(Back row, l-r) – **Lisa Nuckles**, team leader for Justin Group Homes; **Kaela Harrell, Jason Kim, Sarah Potter, Kyle Berens, Kathe Rae**, manager, Staff Development and Mission Services for New Hope; (front row, l-r): **Kamie Stahley, Hanna Novoa, Jessica Pittman, Jackie Arnason, Nadia Sebastian**.

We are nine Creighton University students coming from a wide variety of beginnings and backgrounds, yet joining together for one week of service during our spring break. Creighton's Center for Service and Justice sponsors the Spring Break Service Trip (SBST) Program, which sends more than 240 Creighton students to 29 sites all over the United States. SBST is guided by seven pillars: Service, Justice, Simplicity, Solidarity, Sustainability, Community and Reflection. We integrate these seven pillars into our week and into our lives to guide us and teach us how to be men and women for and with others.

After a weekend living with the Daughters of Charity and our first day of service at New Hope, we reflected on our experiences thus far:

It is amazing how giving and welcoming the Sisters are toward our group and all those who seek their hospitality. The love of life and of others they display is contagious. We are staying with the #1 Colts fan, nurses, healthcare workers and a hospital VP, yet all of them form a beautiful community into which we have been fully welcomed. The experiences with New Hope and the numerous other agencies could not be possible without **Sisters Cathy, Katie, Rosaria, Pat, Mary John, Louise, Mary and Lucille Marie**. We love them ALL!!

The New Hope staff is inspiring in their dedication to the people they serve and care about each day. We saw that it is more than a job; rather a passion. As Lisa oriented us to the Justin House, she turned an enthusiastic face to each resident. With the staff members there, we could see that this was more than just caregivers and individuals served, but the creation of a home and a family. As we entered each resident's room, we delved into their personalities and loves from Disney to the Colts. However, it was their family photographs that showed us their lives and who they are. For example, J.R. hosted us in his room, as we did some cleaning, and was eager to answer any questions we had about his personal belongings. We enjoyed spending the rest of the afternoon conversing and playing games with J.R. and the other residents, as they welcomed us into their family.

Upon entering the group home, we were greeted with open arms and smiles. We interacted with the residents while playing games, listening to music, and in conversation. Despite our former misconceptions about developmentally-challenged individuals, we found ourselves relating with them much more than expected. After our week here in Indianapolis, we will work to incorporate the lessons we learned through our experiences into our daily lives in the Creighton community. Specifically, we hope to remember the patience demonstrated by multiple residents with communication barriers, when we encounter barriers ourselves. In addition, we will strive to gain the confidence to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. Through our experiences, we discovered that while at first glance our differences may be more apparent, we are all united by our common experiences and values.

Fridays with the Guys

By Summit Academy Volunteers

Dawn, Daniel, Hannah, Josiah, Nicolas, Rachel and the guys, Dan, Jeff and Steve.



Steve, Jeff and Dan with Summit Academy volunteers and staff at the Indianapolis Museum of Art outing.

For many of us, Fridays are special days: the kickoff to the weekend seems to give us more energy and brings ready smiles to our faces. For students at Summit Academy and three guys served by New Hope, Friday is also Friday Community Outreach (FCO) Day - time to meet with new friends and share some special moments together.

The students and residents meet every other Friday afternoon for a time of sharing and caring. The students have been volunteering in one of the New Hope homes for the past four years. Last year, the students started meeting with three special guys at the Amherst home. Their time and fellowship really blossomed into special friendships over the years.

Some of the activities they have enjoyed include playing games: Hangman, Uno and Yahtzee are special favorites. They have also made decorations and celebrated

special seasons by painting pumpkins, trimming the tree at Christmas, and dressing up for different holidays. Planting flowers is another time of great fellowship, and there is also great joy in just sitting and talking on the back deck and really getting to know one another.

This year, there are a few new students in the group and they have become fast friends with the New Hope residents. Events have been planned for the remainder of the school year, and the students and Amherst gentlemen worked together to prepare this article. There was so much excitement generated in writing this article that the group plans to start either a blog or a creative writing/art journal. Who knows, the Friday friends may even publish their work some day! What is certain is that there really is something special about the friendships being enriched on FCO Fridays.

Fall Festival

By Kathe Rae

The always popular Fall Festival, a New Hope favorite, was celebrated at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. This year the costumes were creative, funny and spooky. All who attended seemed to have a great time, enjoy the wonderful decorations, ate pizza, danced, listened to music, saw old friends or made new friends. The traditional food drive was part of the event and all donated items were given to Community Outreach to assist families in need. We are grateful to Sagamore Health Network, our sponsor for the evening. The Sagamore volunteers decorated the gym and helped serve the food.



J.R. Eaton and Nurse Consultant Cindy Miller dance to the tunes at the Fall Festival.



Thanks to Sagamore Health Network and the volunteers for another great party!

Thom Thyme

By Lora Harvey



Hi! My name is Lora, and this is my friend Thom. Our friendship began in the summer of 2005, when I was between jobs and wanted to take the opportunity to search for volunteer opportunities. Fortunately I found St. Vincent New Hope, and the volunteer coordinator matched me up with Thom. Thom and I quickly became good friends.

Thom is smart, articulate and has a great sense of humor. He has a staff of people who take very good care of him and his housemates. It is a very demanding job, and these people are real heroes. With all the demands of just meeting physical needs, it is difficult to fit in time to take the clients out for recreational activities, though they do manage to do it when they can.

When I started volunteering with Thom, he encouraged me to get "van trained." Taking this on just seemed so overwhelming to me. What a huge responsibility that would be - first aid; all those straps to secure him into the van; and never mind the size of the van itself! But Thom kept encouraging me, and I decided to finally give it a try, and I'm so glad I did. We go all over the place. We've been to the circus, the zoo, cookouts, movies, the mall, Indians baseball and more. We really enjoy our time together and always look forward to the next outing. Thom is always so appreciative of the time I spend with him. I know I get at least as much out of the experience as he does.

I have always wanted to volunteer and am so glad to have the opportunity to be of service. I highly recommend it.

People

Thanks, Gloria!



Gloria (left) with Dr. Shull and Marilynn Marshall. Gloria was hired on Sept. 19, 1978.
Photo credit: Kathe Rae.

Gloria Gordon, a dedicated nurse, retired Dec. 31, 2007, after 29 years of service. “Thank you to every one I encountered during my 29 years at New Hope,” said Gloria. “Just know, I tried to be the best nurse I could be for the individuals we serve. Maintaining and improving their health was my main goal and priority. It is not easy letting go and moving on, but it is time! I will always have lots of fond memories (and some not so fond) of Kappa, the dining room with family-style dining, residents’ day out, POD clean-up, the parties, etc. I plan to volunteer in the nursing office at least monthly starting in April or May so *See You* and *Thank You!*”

Tributes to Gloria

I don’t think any words that I write can truly convey what everyone at New Hope has experienced of Gloria’s love and caring for each person. Her compassion, gentleness and professionalism were always evident no matter what the circumstance or the time of day (or night!). Gloria is a joy-filled person whose love and faith in God is certainly what carried her through each day. When I saw this little poem I felt that it was something that Gloria could have uttered each and every day of her caring ministry at New Hope.

Place Your Healing Touch in My Hands

Unknown Author

Help me as I care for my clients today,
Be there with me, O Lord, I pray
Make my words kind —it means so much—
And in my hands place Your healing touch
Let your love shine through all that I do,
So those in need may hear and feel You.

“Gloria, thank you for loving and caring about each and every one of us as you would have for cherished family members!”

Sr. Francine Brown, D.C.

“The loyalty trait of staying with the same company for 29 years is truly extraordinary! In those years, you have touched an amazing number of lives with your thoughtfulness, skill and attention to the needs of the whole person. Thanks for trusting us as your employer in all those years and happy retirement.”

Jim Van Dyke

“What a blessing it has been to work so many years together. I have learned your faith is strong and firmly planted. I will miss our conversations! I have learned you are honest, caring and dedicated. There are so many, many qualities that I appreciate about you!”

Peggy Tinney, RN

“You were always such a joy to work with and such a great support for me.”

Marilynn Marshall, former director of nursing at New Hope.

“My first memories of you are of your being “The Nurse” in charge of C Pod and the children’s unit. Back then, I wondered how

you did such a good job working with the kids as I considered them holy terrors.”

Lynn Feldman

“You have been a great example of dedication and deep abiding love through the years of caring for the individuals we serve. Your heart and humor are wonderful gifts. May your retirement years be joyful and blessed.”

Susan Robinson

“Your dedication to New Hope is remarkable, almost as remarkable as you. I will look forward to your monthly volunteer visits!”

Toni Ketner

“I have always enjoyed asking you questions and getting wonderfully complete answers. It has been a pleasure having you on board for so many years.”

Toni Carter

“It has been a pleasure working with you the past 28 years. From C-Pod to Kappa to Supported Living.”

Mary Wagner-Shields

A Blanket of Love

By Lisa Ciesielski (Written for Gloria Gordon)

A blanket of love will never be made out of fabric squares.
A blanket of love will never be held together with threads.
A blanket of love could never have a price tag hang from it.
A blanket of love is for all seasons because love will never be at home on a shelf all alone.
God knew the heart of the young girl could not move on without thinking about how things could have been if she only had more time at home.
God knew that this place did not have all the answers to her questions so
He wrapped her up in a blanket of love and sent her into this new world where she found out that she had so much to give to the world.

The young girl learned how to be a friend to others from the love that she found in the blanket of hearts that God had placed around her.

The young girl grew into the woman that is here today and will go out into the world and share her love that she received from all the hearts that had become a part of her life.

Gloria, you were one of the first ones to share your heart with me and I hope that I have become everything you wanted me to be.

And I hope you know that my love will never leave you, my heart will always be a blanket that will keep you warm when you remember the young girl who has become a woman.

Love from Lisa, January 2008



Lisa Ciesielski (left) and Gloria share memories. Photo credit: Kathe Rae

“May the best of everything follow you through retirement. You deserve it all.”

Kurt Shields

“I have enjoyed working with you and learning from you. Best wishes, success, love and happiness.”

Reba Kerkhof

“I have so enjoyed working with you all these years. You have always been an advocate for the individuals and have strived to ensure they have good health care. Take care and happy retirement.”

Kathe Rae

“You can take some credit for who I am today! I was young and impressionable 23 years ago and you taught me the ropes back on Kappa. I will miss your laugh, stories and working with you.”

Amy Flint

“I hope you have the time now to have lots of fun! I have always enjoyed chatting with you and seeing you smile. Happy retirement!”

Kathy Ballard

People

Congratulations to **Joanna** and **Ryan Bond** on birth of their daughter, **Chloe Vittoria**.

Welcome to **Wanda Buchanan**, LPN, nurse consultant for SLP.

Congratulations to **Andrew** and **Emilee Cornetta** on their recent marriage.

Congratulations to **Andrew Cornetta** on his new position of manager, Day Services Program.

Welcome to **Cassi Dean**, new team leader for SLP Cluster II.

Welcome to **Stephanie Ebert**, new team leader for SLP Cluster 111.

Congratulations to **Tiffany Mason** on her marriage to **Michael Jackson**.

Congratulations to **Kathe Rae** on her new position of manager, Staff Development/Mission Services.

Congratulations to **Leah Steere** on her new position as director of Group Homes.

Congratulations to **Desiree Tilton** on her new position as Staff Development coordinator.

Welcome to **William Warfield**, RN, SLP nurse consultant.

Congratulations to **Ginger** and **Steve Edwards** on the birth of son, **Steve III**.

Congratulations to **Kosi Collins** on her promotion to team leader at Rosalie Group Home.

Welcome to **Theresa Tepedino**, team leader for Providence Group Home.

Remembering our Friends

Thoughts of Fred

By John Leach



Fred Totten

December 16, 1959- October 30, 2007

Fred will be missed by all who knew him. Fred became part of the New Hope family in September 2006 when he lived at Washington Blvd. Fred is best known for giving hugs and handshakes. Fred was quiet, gentle and never demanding. He gave everyone the gift of his loving presence. The Totten family was very supportive of Fred and of New Hope. We will all miss Freddy.

Holiday Happenings



Kris Shallenberger, HR Recruitment at St. Vincent, brings a Hope for the Holidays gift to Jerry DeBaun.

“Jerry DeBaun (left) is a huge Jeff Gordon fan,” said Kris. “Jerry was born deaf and never learned to sign but NASCAR stuff is a language all its own! He was so happy when we invited him to lunch with HR in the cafeteria and we presented him with a Jeff Gordon standup. Hysterically, he gave “thumbs down” to what I thought was a cool framed copy of Tony Stewart.”

Mission & Ministry, Inc. Music Grant



Mike Simmons, (left) music instructor for Purple Melodies, leads the choir class.

Photo credit: Heather Willman

St. Vincent New Hope was happy to receive news that we had gotten a three-year grant for the Purple Melodies Music Program from The Daughters of Charity, Mission & Ministry, Inc. The grant provides money to purchase musical instruments, equipment and a licensed music instructor for three years.

Two sessions of either keyboard, percussion or choir will be offered each spring and fall to the individuals we serve. The funding also includes one summer music class. The first sessions started this fall and everyone is really having a great time! We are fortunate to have **Mike Simmons** as an instructor. Mike helped design the program and did a pilot class this summer for keyboards. He has a master's degree in music education and 17 years teaching students in Indianapolis Public Schools. In addition to this wealth of experience, Mr. Simmons writes, arranges music and is a professional musician.

Members of the Keyboard Class were **Marcia Carithers, Dan DeVries, Darren Golder, Julia Kemp, Rob Miller and Dana Zunk**. Choir Class participants were **Jason Chang, Lisa Clyngenpeel, Eric Dorfmeier, Mary Ann Gilbert, Patty Henderson, Julia Kemp, Gail Lanham, Millie Martin, Shaun Murphy, Bob Ray, Steve Reiff, John Richey, David Sklan, Cindy Twigg and William Webster**.