

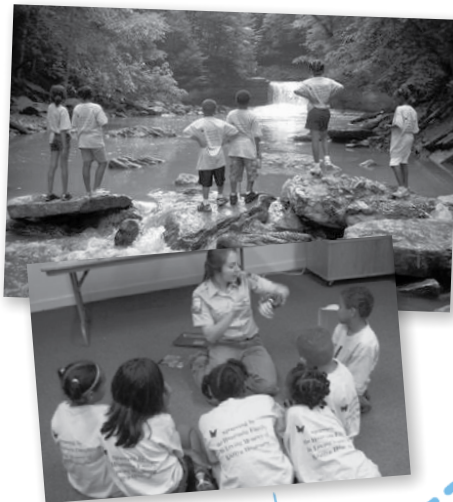
SHARED BLESSINGS

SUMMER 2009 NEWS *from* SHELTERING WINGS

SHELTERING WINGS
+
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Healing Through Giving

Two years ago while our family was preparing for the arrival of our fourth child, we were struck with the unexpected loss of our 11 year old daughter, Kaitlyn. As the months passed, and the holidays were approaching, we were buying gifts for our remaining three children. One thought continued coming to my mind, "What about the money we would be spending on Kaitlyn if she were still with us?" "What would Kaitlyn want us to do with the money?" was the next question. We wanted to give the money in a way that would keep her memory alive, yet make a difference in someone's life. Finally, after Christmas but before Kaitlyn's April birthday, I spoke with Andrea, the Children's Coordinator at Sheltering Wings. She listened as I explained the situation and how Kaitlyn was a very compassionate, loving and fun girl in addition to loving the outdoors. Andrea suggested a day trip to a State Park.



Kaitlyn's Day Out



Cover Story | Kaitlyn's Day Out...Cont'd



Perfect! The money would be used to take children from the shelter on a one day trip to enrich their lives in God's beautiful gift of nature. An opportunity for adventure, yet an 'escape' into a peaceful, serene setting; a time to hear and see different insects and animals; yet a time to know that someone who doesn't even know them cares very much for them!

This was our second year to spend Kaitlyn's birthday without her. Just like last year, we went out to eat, and over to the shelter to drop off a birthday dessert along with a note explaining it was our daughter's birthday and she is no longer here to celebrate with us. After dropping off our donation, I walked out excited for what might happen on the day of the trip, and say a prayer for the children as well as the adults, and the difference that might be made in multiple lives just from this one event.

By sponsoring what is known as Kaitlyn's Day Out, we are making a difference in someone's future. Knowing this increases the healing from our own loss. We choose to heal by choosing to give.

If you find yourself in a situation of no longer being able to give a gift directly to someone, we encourage you to give a gift in their memory. Let their memory live on through your donation. And, in the event that money is not an option, your time can also be a treasured gift.

We have opened our hearts that God will use us – even in the loss of our daughter. It is amazing how God will open doors for you if you'll open your heart to Him.

Continuing to heal, Chris & Carla Huntsman



Staff Highlight

Through a generous donor who has a heart for our ministry and our children, we are excited to announce the hiring of Sara Leathers, MSW, as our Part Time Children's Therapist to our shelter team.

Thank you to our sponsors of the 2009 Fashion Show



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Serving Our Community | Mary Williams

Colts executive visits the Shelter with Super Bowl ring.



Recently, board member Greg Hylton paid a visit to the children of Sheltering Wings. They were enamored by his large Super Bowl ring. Many speculated if he was a football player, the owner, or a coach for the Colts. It was a great day for them and very enjoyable for Greg.



Did You Know?

1st Annual “Battle of the Bands” is big success.



Over 150 people attended our first annual Battle of the Bands. As part of their participation, band members attended an educational training about sexual assault and dating violence. In addition, one of their performances had to be an original song about this topic. Throughout the day the attendees were given information about primary prevention for sexual assault and warning signs to watch out for in dating relationships. The entrance fee to attend was a canned good, which was donated to a local food pantry. The highlight was our guest speaker, Carrie Revel, a survivor of abuse. The winners were: 1st place Epic Fail, 2nd place HookT and 3rd place Chasing Canada



The Indiana Generals

For the past five years the Indiana Generals, a semi-pro football team, have supported Sheltering Wings with fundraisers and giving of their time and talents. Each year they sponsor a bowl-a-thon and invite our children to participate. It was a fun day where the children were able to see positive male role models.

Question Corner

Q: How long can a resident stay at Sheltering Wings?

A: They may receive our services for up to two years.

SHELTERING WINGS

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Reflections | Maria Larrison

Leaving the chains of domestic violence behind.



I had the privilege of attending the funeral of Angie Warnock. During the service the priest spoke several times about her leaving the chains of this earth behind. Reflecting on his statement, she had a plan to leave the chains of domestic violence behind her. Unfortunately those plans never came to fruition. Her murder has touched so many in this community. She was such

a bright light in every area of her short life. Her love for her girls was evident by the many testimonies given on her behalf. My prayer is that this community will continue to be outraged by such atrocities. You can walk through our doors any day of the week and see the results of domestic violence in our community. We are fortunate that these women and children found us before it was too late.

Domestic violence is not always about physical abuse. Abusers have had such control over their partner they feel they can manipulate others as well. They will have a persona of a calm, cool, collected individual in front of law enforcement, judges, co-workers, neighbors, and friends. All the while they control what their partner wears, who they talk to, how much money they spend, where they work, and the list goes on and on. Should their wife/husband decide to leave the situation and obtain a protective order they may stalk, make phone calls, and harass, all the while playing the system. It is frustrating to say the least. Once again I urge you to become informed about what you can do to help our community address the issue of family violence. We are here for you.

Blessings to you, | Maria Larrison, CEO

Dates To Remember:

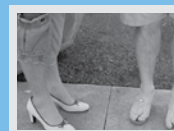


Where: Hummel Park, Plainfield, Indiana

When: October 3rd, 2009

Registration begins 8:00 am

Run/Walk begins 9:30 am



"Walk A Mile In Her Shoes" Event will also start at 9:30 am

Domestic Violence Clergy and Lay Leaders Training:

September 1, 2009 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Hendricks County Senior Center, contact Larry Bellville, Director of Pastoral Care, 718-5454 ext.207

Volunteer Training:

Saturday, August 22, 2009. 9am-1pm

Saturday, October 24, 2009. 9am-1pm

Saturday, December 12, 2009. 9am-1pm

Contact Amy Willis, Volunteer Services Coordinator, 718-0735 ext. 304