SHARED BLESSINGS

SPRING 2011 NEWS from SHELTERING WINGS

Colts VP makes shelter's mission his own.

"God planted the seed right in front of us," is how Indianapolis Colts VP Greg Hylton describes his family's first encounter with Sheltering Wings seven years ago.

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For more information about our services or if you 'd like to receive our e-newsletter go to shelteringwings.org.



reg explains that he and his wife initially contacted the shelter about providing
Christmas gifts to families staying there. The shelter's faith-based mission resonated with them, prompting Greg to sign on first as a volunteer and then as a board member. He is now beginning his second year as Board Chairman.

As head of the Colts' premium seating and ticket sales, Greg has been able to bring the mission of Sheltering Wings to the attention of many new supporters. He is quick to give credit for his ability to be as involved as he is to Colts owner, Jim Irsay, saying "Mr. Irsay leads by example and does a great job himself. He challenges us all to get involved in the community. I feel that when I'm representing the shelter, I'm also representing the Colts." About the many other companies and individuals Greg has introduced to the shelter, he says, "These are good people who are looking for ways to reach out to the community. It's really just a matter of making them aware of the shelter and its mission."

Like Greg, many donors are attracted to the faith-based component of Sheltering Wings. As Greg says, "They may have heard of the shelter before, but didn't realize that we have things like a pastor on staff and voluntary bible study for shelter residents. It's something that is here for the women who want to work toward healing spiritually as well as physically." Greg's experiences in working with the shelter have made a strong impression on him personally. He says, "You can see God working here. When we have a need for something, it shows up... within hours. I just don't know where else I could go and see that kind of impact."

When speaking about his involvement with the shelter from a father's point of view, Greg says simply, "I hope I'm setting a good example for my kids." With two daughters just entering the teen years, he's especially troubled by the percentage of teens involved in dating violence. "I had no idea it was so prevalent," he says. "I want to make my daughters aware of this problem and how harmful it is to our society." Greg has also been taken aback by the sheer number of calls for help coming into the shelter. "We had 1,415 crisis calls this

past year. That translates to more than four calls a day," he expresses with surprise. "We're expanding right now in our effort to help support the women and children who come to us for assistance...to help them realize that what they're experiencing is not the norm, and that it is possible to be in a loving relationship."

Ultimately, Greg says that he wants to help the shelter end the cycle of domestic violence, and as he says, "We are being very proactive in talking with schools about educating teens on this topic. On stopping the cycle before it gets started." He adds, "I hope that people understand the impact that this place has on the community, and I hope that they'll continue to support the shelter, both financially and with their time." After all, he says, "We are here first to help heal the women who come to us for help. But if we can stop it before it ever starts, we're going to make this a much better community."

With two daughters just entering the teen years, he's especially troubled by the percentage of teens involved in dating violence. "I had no idea it was so prevalent," he says. "I want to make my daughters aware of this problem and how harmful it is to our society."

If you know of someone or are that someone who needs help please call 317-745-1496 or send a confidential email to larrison@shelteringwings.org.

Indiana Generals

For the past seven years The Indiana Generals, a local semi pro football team, have been supporting the women and children of Sheltering Wings. Each spring they hold a Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser for our shelter. They invite our women and children to join them for a fun day of bowling. Watching these big football



players help the kids roll bowling balls down the alley and seeing the big smiles on the faces of these little ones are so rewarding.

In addition they also visit the children and demonstrate a positive male role model through playing games and interaction. Furthermore the children are invited out to practice sessions and local games. Each season the team holds a "Sheltering Wings" night and donates the proceeds to our ministry. When our teen room was created The Generals signed a team jersey and had it framed and donated it to the teen room. Tony Laws, the Generals president, says, "As football players, we sometimes take for granted that we get to play the sport we love. At the end of the day it is only a game. On the other hand, what Sheltering Wings does every day is truly inspirational. The shelter is an ambassador of HOPE and LOVE. This is a true example of GOD's LOVE being shared with those in need. We are humbled to be able to be involved with Sheltering Wings." We appreciate these men for caring and sharing their lives with the women and children at Sheltering Wings. To learn more about the team go to www.indianagenerals.com.

John Force Racing

Four years ago Mark Badgley, Club President of The Mustang Club of Brownsburg, contacted Sheltering Wings and asked that we accept a check from the proceeds of a car show which was held at Bill Estes Ford, Brownsburg. Since that time Mark has applied for and received several grants to benefit the shelter through his place of employment, Johnson Controls. Many of their employees have also volunteered by helping wrap gifts for our families and bringing in food at Christmas time.

Mark now takes the lead in the annual Bill Estes Car Show. He has teamed up with John Force Racing for John's annual Open House. This year's event will be the third year of this partnership with each year drawing thousands of guests from all over the United States. Sheltering Wings is invited each year to host an informational booth. The proceeds from this show benefit the families who live at the shelter. The last two years more than \$4,500 has been raised. We are grateful to these men for their kind and generous support

of the women and children at Sheltering Wings. Mark says of their partnership with the shelter, "In my opinion, Sheltering Wings is about building positive healthy relationships. All men need to understand their role as husband, father and as a member of the community. Involvement with Sheltering Wings

community. Involvement with Sheltering Wings provides the opportunity for men to provide support to families in need of a positive influence and direction." For more information about the event log on at www.johnforceracing.com.





Davey Hamilton Racing, Kingdom Racing, Welch Racing, Must See Racing



Mike Larrison and Dillon Welch have

been racing since they were young. Last summer they came out to the shelter to visit and entertain the children. Since that time Mike has signed with Davey Hamilton Racing to continue racing winged sprints, sprints and Indy Lights, and Dillon is driving the National Midget circuit for Marc DeBeaumont. Their dreams of racing IndyCar and NASCAR respectively will someday come true.

Davey Hamilton is a part of *Kingdom Racing*. It is a unique IndyCar race team – their mission is to deliver God's word through motorsports – with a goal of using IndyCar racing as a platform to reach men and women for Christ. Mike talked with Davey about Sheltering Wings and brought him out for a tour of the shelter. The owner of Must See Racing, Jim Hanks, joined in the visit. Shortly thereafter Maria was informed the shelter's logo will be displayed on Mike's cars this season. In addition Must See Racing will be doing a segment about the shelter on their program. We are very excited about partnering with Mike, Davey, and Jim. For more information and to follow their paths – see <u>kingdomracing.com</u>; <u>daveyhamiltonracing.com</u>; <u>dillonwelch.com</u>; <u>mustseeracing.com</u>.

" Let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

Hebrews 12:1

Coaching Boys Into Men





respect for themselves, others and especially the women and girls in their lives. The coaches are provided a "Coaches Kit" that includes a playbook and a series of discussion cards, one for each weekly training session with their team. The sessions are intended to be brief, yet consistent, with topics that cover honor and integrity, respect, personal responsibility, healthy relationships and anti-violence.

Ryan Walden, Athletic Director/Dean of Students from Avon Middle Schools North and South, has joined Sheltering Wings in offering the CBIM Program in our community. Ryan says that, "Coaches are respected and have the attention of the team, as well as being expected to build and develop character and values with them. This program allows coaches to send a unified, structured message and serves as a catalyst in teaching athletes core values." Ryan's coaches have all implemented the program with comments from the young men such as, "How do we show respect to our mom?" and "How do you show respect to girls on the team?" One coach stated, "The program has been a very positive experience for my team and has put things into perspective for me. I'd always taught the boys to be aggressive and this program has given me an avenue to explain that aggressive behavior ends when the team leaves the field." Ryan and our Director of Education & Outreach presented the CBIM Program to coaches throughout the state of Indiana at their annual meeting last month. For more information about this program please contact Brooke at (317)386.5061 or bcouch@shelteringwings.org.

Thank You Larry!

Larry Bellville was the pastor at Cornerstone Christian Church when Sheltering Wings began. He has been a champion in educating our community about what domestic violence is. Over the past six years we have been blessed to have Larry as our Director of Pastoral Care. He has prayed with our board, our staff, our volunteers and the women and children living here. He has spoken

and represented the shelter with the churches in our community. He has led the Church Connection Council meetings, and was instrumental in implementing the Coaching Boys Into Men Program. His heart and passion for this work has been evident by the many lives he has touched. Larry's retirement was February 24. You have been such a source of strength and inspiration for everyone. You will truly be missed.



SHELTERING WINGS

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Upcoming Events

We would love to meet you at:

- September 1 3-7 pm
 John Force Racing Open House | Brownsburg, IN
- October 1 9am-noon
 Annual 5K Walk/8K Run | Hummel Park, Plainfield, IN
- October 27 7-8pm
 Candlelight Vigil | Sheltering Wings, Danville, IN
- October 29 5-10pm
 Battle of the Bands | HC Fairgrounds, Danville, IN

Please be sure to join us for the upcoming Sheltering Wings Open House which will be held sometime this summer after the expansion is completed. Log onto www.shelteringwings.org or become a Facebook fan and watch the progression of the building.

Recent Events

Dinner Dance

On February 12, the Brownsburg Sertoma Club held the 10th annual dinner dance event to benefit Sheltering Wings. It was held at the new JW Marriott in downtown Indy. More than 800 guests were in attendance for this magical evening. Over \$65k was raised! We look forward to next year's event which is scheduled for February 11 at the JW Marriott. Mark your calendar.

A big thanks to our dinner dance title sponsors!





Social **Media**



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Need information, interested in online donations or learning more about the campaign?

- Log onto <u>www.shelteringwings.org</u> and sign up for our e-newsletter and e-wish list
- Process your online donations through Google checkout (with option of recurring donations)
- For updates on the capital campaign log onto: <u>www.shelteringwings.org/newbeginnings</u>