



montgomery county youth service bureau

September 2018

Inside this issue:

Board Member 2
Spotlight

CASA 3

Nourish 4

JUMP 5

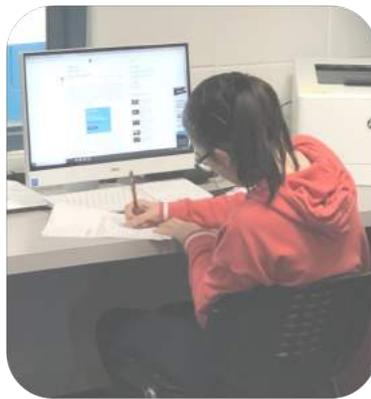
Thank You 6

Our Mission is

empower youth to become responsible citizens through delinquency prevention, community education, youth advocacy, direct services and information and referral.

Alternative School Starts School Year

Shannon Furr



At the Alternative School, we have no ordinary days, no ordinary curriculum, no ordinary classroom, and certainly we have no ordinary students.

Our students come to us for a variety of reasons, and many of them are not what one would expect. While we always have students who come to us with behavior issues or a history of bad-decision making, mostly what we have are students who just don't function well in the traditional classroom.

This year, none of our students fit into the stereotypical mold of an alternative school student. We have three students who are here because they want to graduate early. We have a few students who are here because they need closer supervision. Half of our students are here because they WANT TO BE HERE. This is not the ordinary alternative school scenario.

Another thing that's out of the ordinary is how

many students we have already. In our previous four years, we have begun in August with somewhere between one and five students. Then the classes start filling in a little at a time, with a fairly dramatic influx after Homecoming time and another one after the first of the year. We have been in class around 3 weeks, and we have 19 students already! We actually started our first day with 13 students.

In previous years when our numbers grew, sometimes the classes could be difficult to manage. Even though our numbers are somewhat large already this year, these students are excited to be here every day. They are developing socially, academically, and emotionally in visible ways. Most days I can't even believe that I get to have these students in my classroom at the alternative school.

On top of all of that, we have the best tutor ever! I am a licensed English teacher, so it's pretty safe to say that math is not my strong suit as an educator. Dr. David Maharry, retired college professor and math tutor extraordinaire, helps our students to be successful in upper level math courses even when they are not in their traditional settings.

Our school is A-typical. Our students are A-typical. Our setting is A-typical. Our tutor is A-typical. Yes, even my spelling is A-typical. Awesome is typical for us = A-typical.



Drug Free Montgomery County

For news and facts on Montgomery County substance abuse prevention.

Board Member Spotlight: Amy Cochran

How long have you lived in Montgomery County?

I was born in East Chicago Indiana in 1964 but moved back to Crawfordsville in 1965. I have been in this area ever since. I actually live in Fountain County (just over the County Line between Montgomery and Fountain, outside of Waynetown.) I have been employed with Nucor for 28 years. I have a great job that I love, I am the Cold Mill Production Scheduler at Nucor Steel Indiana. My husband and I also own a small auto repair business that is located on our property. "Cochran's Garage, INC" was a dream of my husbands and we are very blessed to be able to live out that dream today. Even though we live in Fountain County I spend 75% of my time in Crawfordsville and Montgomery County, it will always be my first love and my hometown.

What do you do for fun in your spare time? Can you tell me about your family?

I like to visit family and travel, read, play cards, spend time with friends. I still try and spend any time that I can with my Mentee Hayley. My family consists of my husband Donnie, who became a co-mentor with me to be able to spend time with Hayley if I was traveling or not able to be with them. Our dog Sadie, our cat Sophie, and of course Hayley.

Do you participate in any programs at the YSB?

I was in JUMP for over 11 years with the same Mentee. We were matched when she was 7 ½ . and she just graduated from CHS in June. She lived with her grandmother and was in need of some other adults in her life... enter the Cochran's. We became a family and

included Hayley's grandmother in a lot of our activities. Her Grandmother passed away in 2015 and we miss her a lot; but I had made her grandmother a promise that if anything ever happened to her I would concentrate on making sure that Hayley graduated from high school. And now she has the diploma to prove it. We had a lot of help from her teachers at CHS making sure that she was on track. I have to give them a majority of the credit in her making it through.



What do you like about being a mentor?

My favorite part of being a mentor was watching Hayley's curiosity and being with her when she saw things or did things for the first time. We learned about things that she would be interested in doing but we made it fun to learn. To this day she will text me (cause that is what they do, no talking on the phone) and say "I used something you taught me today or I remembered to do something and wanted to tell you that it is because you showed me how." I like helping people and I got as much out of the relationship as I gave so it was a win/win. Also the love and affection she gave me that continues to this day is a big bonus.

Why did you decide to participate as a YSB Board member?

After being a mentor for so many years I knew that I emotionally could not mentor another child at this time. Especially since Hayley is still in our daily lives. But I wanted to give back to the community and I believe in all that the Youth Service Bureau is doing for our kids. We have so many troubled youth and they blossom when they are given the right amount of encouragement. I know from first hand that the YSB does that. The team that Karen Branch, the director, has been given is one of the best I know. Each individual working at and with the YSB has a passion and a desire to help all of these children. Being on the Board was just a small way to be a part of that team. I feel like I am still helping to give our children a better future.

What would you say to encourage others to volunteer?

Most everyone I know wants to give back in some way, they are just not sure how or who to contact. Some are afraid to commit or do not feel that they have the time in their busy schedules. I encourage anyone who is wanting to help or at least thinking that they could be a help in some way, to contact the YSB. Talk to any of the team in the office. You may not realize all of the ways you can but these folks have a lot of ideas on those ways. The children of Montgomery County need us, to encourage them to believe in themselves and give them the knowledge that with hope they can achieve the impossible, or at least more than what they thought they could achieve. Be a volunteer it will make your heart happy...



Thank you to Duke Energy for your continued support of the Youth Service Bureau!

Being a CASA Volunteer: Why not try it?

Jane Christophersen



Barbara Johnson became a CASA last July. During her interview, Barbara explained to me why she thought she wanted to become a CASA, a Court Appointed Special Advocate. She had been a preschool teacher and director in Illinois for many years. She understood how a chaotic or dysfunctional family situation negatively impacts kids. But she couldn't really do anything other than help the children as much as she could while they were in her classroom. She loves children. So she was excited about the idea of being able to have an impact on kids' lives and help get them what they need. I realized that she was a busy woman; she and her husband are restoring her family's homestead, she has children and

grandchildren, and is active in clubs and her church. But I knew that she was really committed to her lifelong passion for children. So after her graduation from training and swearing in, I gave her what I believed to be the most difficult and time consuming case we had on our waiting list. She has since taken two more cases. I was not wrong about her first case. It continues to be difficult and time consuming more than a year later. But Barbara has seen the children's lives change for the better. She recently told me, "I have seen a remarkable difference in one of my CASA kids. His life has totally turned around. He has gone from a life of fear and uncertainty to one of happiness due to a grandmother who has given him boundaries and safety and unconditional love." Barbara was instrumental in getting the young man placed with his grandmother. She has sat in school conferences and made sure important school personnel have also been in the conferences. She simply won't give up on an issue until it is resolved. She considers an important role of a CASA to be a good listener and to ask that extra question instead of assuming that there just isn't an answer. She advocates for her CASA kids because, as she says it, "I have to focus in on the children because their par-

ents are unable to do so due to their current situation." Probably the only other thing that concerns Barbara as much as doing everything she can to help her own CASA kids is the waiting list that we currently have. She has told me that when she talks to people about her work as a CASA, they often respond that although they understand how important it is, they don't think they could do it. They tell her they will get too emotionally involved, or they don't have time. She says she always responds with a question, why not try it? You'll never know unless you try it.

We currently have 50 children waiting to have their own CASA. We will start a training in late September or early October. It takes four weeks and 30 hours, meeting two evenings a week to complete the CASA training. If you have been thinking about trying a challenging and rewarding volunteer activity, contact me at 362-0694, x 104 or email me at jane@mcysb.org. You too can speak up for a child and change a life.

Teen Court looking for Volunteers

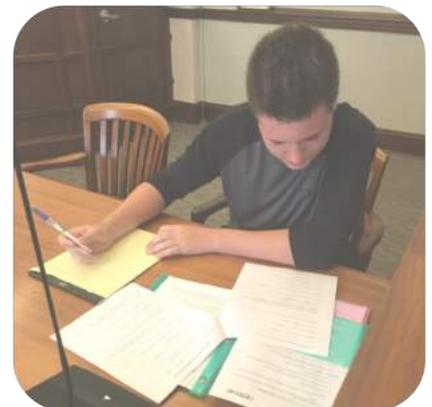
Teen Court is a diversionary program for first time juvenile offenders. Rather than going through traditional court, these offenders are required to attend Teen Court and receive a disposition (sentence) from their peers.

As a Teen Court volunteer youth have the opportunity to act as juror, clerk, bailiff or attorney for actual Teen Court cases.

Teen Court meets at the City Building (300 E Pike St, Crawfordsville) every other Thursday from 5:15-7:15pm. Our next ses-

sion is October 11 and continues every other Thursday.

For more information please contact Jennifer White at (765)362-0694 ext 114 or email Jennifer@mcysb.org.



Nourish Starts New School Year

Cathy Kruse

Nourish just started their 5th year of the backpack program with our first distribution on 8/31/18. We would like to thank Franciscan Health for the use of their facility to store and pack for our program.

Did you know that 1 in 4 children in Montgomery County are food insecure? There are 6,160 students enrolled in our county schools which is not including all of the preschools. Currently we are able to supply 238 backpacks to students in Montgomery County which includes a few preschools, all county elementary schools and the county middle schools. This leaves 1,540 children in the county schools plus numerous in the preschools that are left food insecure on the weekends. The backpacks contain some nutritious foods, snacks, foods that small children are able to fix themselves and a recipe. Each backpack costs us approximately \$6.25 per bag. We were able to add Head Start to our program this year and increase the number of bags distributed to other

schools in the county thanks to our generous donors.

I would like to thank Banjo, Cargill, Hoosier Heartland State Bank, Wesley Thrift Shop and an anonymous donor who helped tremendously in increasing our numbers this year and enabling us to add Head Start to our program. I would also like to thank our partners, All-4Kids, First Christian, Christ Lutheran, St. Bernard's, Linden UMC and the Sugar Creek Cluster for their generous financial support and to their volunteers who pack and deliver the backpacks to the schools.

Also a HUGE thank you to the following for their monthly packing and unloading trucks: Andrea Coons and employees of Banjo, Aaron Trost and employees of Cargill, and Gary Hamand and the Liberty Chapel Tuesday night Bible Study group. Wabash Freshmen for unloading our biggest delivery at the start of every school year. North Montgomery FFA, CHS Key Club for their continued loyalty, and Joyce Ledgerwood, Shirley McCormick, Janet & Don Armbruster and Dana Lowe who pack and deliver 45 bags every Wednesday. And to all of the numerous volunteers who make this program successful.



Suicide Prevention Walk Huge Success!

Sara Clapp

Over 150 participants came together for the first annual Suicide Prevention Walk hosted by the Montgomery County Youth Service Bureau on August 18th at Milligan Park. This walk started as an idea from Inspire. Several of these young ladies have personally felt the loss from a friend or family dying by suicide and wanted a way to raise awareness and remember their friend. The girls voiced

their idea, brainstormed to make a plan and with the help of Youth as Resources and YSB staff, made the walk happen. It just goes to show there is so much power within our

youth to make a good thing happen. The goal was simple, to bring our community together to talk, bring awareness and help break the stigma of suicide. We wanted to provide the walkers an environment where you feel comfortable to be honest, be open and feel supported by those around you. This walk was made possible through the generosity of our sponsors Duke Energy, Chad Budreau State Farm, Montgomery Chapter of Civitan Club, Crawfordsville Family Eye Care and Crawfordsville Hometown Dental.



JUMP Makes a Difference

Jill Hampton



Leah Rusk has been a mentee in the Montgomery County Youth Service Bureau, JUMP Program since 2012. She started as a 10-year-old child and is currently a 16

year old girl in High School. Leah was matched with Terry Lawrence that same year and they have been meeting together on a regular basis for the past six years.

Three years ago, Terry came into Jill Hampton's office at the Youth Service Bureau to talk with her about the possibility of Leah going to a Police Academy camp. She had heard from a friend that this was available and knowing that Leah hoped to be in law enforcement someday, she wanted to find out more. After doing some research, they discovered the Indiana State Police Academy offered a weeklong camp each year along with a partial scholarship. That scholarship, along with some grant money provided by the Montgomery County Community Foundation, allowed Leah to attend the camp for the first time in Rennselaer, IN in 2016. Leah loved it so much that she attended the Indiana State Police academy again in 2017 and 2018!

This past July, the State Police Academy camp was held at the University of Indianapolis and was sponsored by our local American Legion Byron Cox #72. Leah stated, "All of the camps have been great but this was my favorite of all

of them. I cannot thank the American Legion enough for sponsoring this event. Becoming a police officer has been my lifelong dream and attending these camps is a step in that direction!"

Leah also said that the camp is harder than people might think. They are up every day at 6 a.m. and sometimes still going well after midnight. Her favorite part of the week were the SWAT training exercises! During this course, they learned how to secure a building and get the victims out safely! The lesson she takes away year after year is that for the Indiana State Police officers, integrity is everything! They hold the cadets at these camps to very high standards!



This year at the State Police academy, Leah was awarded a medal for "most athletic" out of the 51 male and female cadets attending the camp.

These weeklong academies have changed the course of Leah's life. She

plans to continue to attend the next two years and following that, she would like to be a counselor at future State Police Academies! Leah plans to attend college at IUPUI and major in Sociology with a minor in Criminology so that she can join a law enforcement agency and fulfill her dreams of becoming an officer!

Leah and Terry's time together in the JUMP program shows you how important it is to have many positive role models in your life! Mentoring a child can truly change the course of a life. Anyone interested in becoming a mentor should contact Jill Hampton at 362-0694 ext. 103 or at jill@mcysb.org.



Inspire
Motivating Youth Success



Over \$5,000

All for Kids	Linden United Methodist Church	United Way of Greater Lafayette	Crawfordsville Monument	Campaign
Banjo/Idex Corporation	MIBOR	Stu & Carolyn Weliever	Crawfordsville Workforce	Sugar Creek Animal Hospital
Cargill	Mischler Dental	Williamsburg Health Care	Delta Theta Tau Sorority	Rick & Donna Tanner
Crawfordsville School Corporation	Morgan's Paint & Glass	Dr. Terri Winn & Brian Turner	James & Sara Dicks	Tanner Insurance
Department of Child Services	Parke County REMC	Up to \$499	John & Carolyn Doyel	Tim & Tina Tanselle
Hoosier Heartland State Bank	Shiloh Hill Farms	Allied Capital Title	Earl & Ruby Elliott	Gerald & Shirley Thacker
Franciscan Health	Smith Family Warehouse	Bill Estes Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep	Charles & Karen Fiedler	Byron and Karen Thada
Indiana Criminal Justice Institute	Tipmont REMC	Chad Budreau Insurance	Robb Fine	Stan & Peggy Walker
Indiana State Supreme Court	Wabash Ave. Presbyterian Church	Carpenter Realty	First Bapt. Church Open Door Class	Joann Whitecotten
Indiana Youth Services Association	Wesley Thrift Shop	Chamber of Commerce	Karen Froedge	John & Joanne Wills
Montgomery County	Witham Healthcare	Davis Morrison Realty	James & Robin Fruits	John & Margaret Zimmerman
Montgomery County Com. Foundation	Women's Legacy Fund	Edward Jones - Tyler Baer	Michael Gaby, CPA	Up to \$99
MUFFY	Y Branch Farms	Froedge's Inc.	James Gobble	Anonymous
North Montgomery School Corp.	York Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge	Goebel Law Office	Don & Diana Gould	Michael & Jennifer Abbott
Nucor Steel	Up to \$999	Herman & Kitty Haffner	Gould Body & Paint	Thomas Alesia
St. Bernard's Catholic Church	American Dream Realty	Hobson Electric	Monty & Sherry Harris	Linda Brady
South Montgomery School Corp.	Austin & Lucy Brooks	Thomas Hunt & Deborah Gwin-Hunt	Hassen Hakim	Brian & Pam Bradley
Sugar Creek United Methodist Cluster	Central Indiana Rubber Products	Knights of Columbus	Samuel & Susie Hildebrand	Business & Professional Women
Valero Energy Foundation	Children's Bureau	Ed & Marcia Labbe	R.E. & J.A. Illingworth	Amy Claycomb
Up to \$4,999	Angela Cooley	LSC Communications	Gerald & Elizabeth Johnson	Daniel & Carla Cler
Arni's of Crawfordsville	Crawfordsville Kiwanis	Pace Dairy	Karen Judd	Jeremy & Catherine Cotton
B&L Engineering	Crawfordsville Paper Products	Sugar Creek Players	Elizabeth Justice	Christopher & Nancy Cox
Gary & Ronna Bohlander	Darren Bechtel-Farm Bureau Insurance	State Farm Insurance	Dennis Krause	Ray & Paige Deckard
Christ Lutheran Church	Scott & Jamie Douglas	Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter	Phil & April Littell	Austin & Kendra Denhart
Tony & Cindy Cosenza	Jeff & Susan Ehrlich	Teacher's Credit Union	David & Virginia Maharry	Ed & Belinda Denning
Dennis & Carol Cook	First United Methodist Church	Scott Voliva	Dale Milligan	Richard & Mary Sue Dickerson
Jim Deer/Deer Projects	Josh Gray - Farm Bureau Insurance	Up to \$249	Montgomery County Civitan Club	Ron & Trudy Dickerson
Department of Education	Jones Family	Anonymous	Emily Oates	Bryan & Laura Donaldson
Edge Information Technology	Journal Review	Joel & Mary Andre	William Oates	Donna Tanner Team
Episcopal Fund For Human Need	Journal Review	James & Patience Barnes	Gail Pebworth	First Baptist Church Edna Martin Circle
First Christian Church	Juniper Spoon	Charles & Louisa Blaich	David Phillips	Dennis & Lisa Gentry
Michael & Terri Grant	Karle Enviro	June Blood	David & Deborah Polley	Carolyn Gibson
Gary & Judy Hamand	Lavender and Hops Style Lounge	Gary Bohlander/Halderman Farm Management Services	Marion Powell	Doree Froedge Gilstrap
Henthorn, Harris, Weliever & Petrie	Michael and Peggy Lohorn	Phil & Farzaneh Boots	Ratcliff Homes	Karen Gunther
Dr. Arun Jain	Midwest Bale Ties	Marcia Brandenburg	Tony Reece	Diana Hall
Joshi Pediatrics	Matt Oates	Andrew & Cali Bridges	Michael Reidy	Ruth Hallett
Terry Lawrence	Morris & Barbara Odle	Richard Bzdok	Analissa Sawick	David Hamilton
	Puritan Water	Greg Carey	Laura Shondell	Susan Hampton
	Patricia Perkins	Capper, Tulley & Reimondo	Jerry & Lucinda Smith	Krissi Harpel
	Darrick & Cindy Ratcliff	Kody Clapp	Jon & Patricia Sommer	Randy & Tammy Harshbarger
	Surb's Tire	Fred & Janet Clements	Pat Sosbe	Thomas & Robyn Henderson
	United Methodist Women	Dale & Judy Cottrell	Brett & Linda Spencer	Stanley Hoffman
		Crawfordsville Family Eye Care	State Employees Com.	Frank Howland
		Crawfordsville Hometown Dental		Susie Hutchison
				Johnson & Williamson Insurance

Neil & Pam Karle	United Methodist Women	Ken's Liquor Store	Judge Heather Barajas
Ray & Nancy Kirtley	Mel Vance	Beecher Young	Cargill Employees
Brian & Cheryl Keim	Melissa Waters	Conrad & Judith Harvey	Boys & Girls Club
C.A. & K.A. Leafgreen	Kourtnei Williams		CASA Volunteers
Lough, Gayle & Deborah	Jacie Wilson	<u>Gifts in Honor Of</u>	CHS Key Club
Kari Alexander Luchowski	Peter & Bronna Utterback	<i>All Who Serve Youth</i>	City of Crawfordsville
Nathan & Margaret Lynd	Youngs Chapel Christian Church	<i>Herman & Kitty Haffner</i>	Franciscan Alliance
Richard & Melissa Mason	Jason Wagner State Farm Insurance	<i>Louisa Blaich</i>	Glenda Frees
Eldon McCoskey	Stacey Waye	Tim and Kay Nannett	First United Methodist Church
Jamie McCumber	Mary Lou Weliever DMV	<i>In Honor of Aus Brooks' Birthday</i>	Gary Hamand
Paul Melevage	Emily Williams	David & Deborah Polley	Teresa Hatke
Jason & Shannon Middleton	Youngs Chapel	<i>Lana Knox & Jacob Surface's Wedding</i>	Journal Review
Brad and Suzanne Mullendore		<i>William Hubbard</i>	Joyce Ledgerwood
Adam Nagele	<u>Gifts in Memory of:</u>	Ted Polley	LCS
Wayne & Patricia Newhart	<i>Charles Arvin</i>	David & Deborah Polley	Liberty Chapel Bible Study Group
New Ross Veterinary Services	Isobel Arvin	Jordan Burkett	Dana Lowe
Sina Parks	<i>Julie Doyel</i>	Hoosier Heartland State Bank	Dianne Magstadt
Shawn Pettit	John & Carolyn Doyel	<i>Dani Kinkead</i>	Dr. David Maharry
Marty Pool	<i>D O Dulin</i>	Hoosier Heartland State Bank	McCaffry Photography
Bethany Rauch	Rex Henthorn	<i>Isaiah Kalinowski</i>	Shirley McCormick
Riggen Inc.	<i>Cathy Frederick</i>	John Holtson	Mentor Volunteers
John & Kimberly Roberts	Irmingard McKinney	<i>Arvis & Caspian Lynd</i>	Microsoft
Lynn Robison	<i>Emily Katherine Gary</i>	Nathan & Margaret Lynd	MOPS Group
Jacy Robling, DDS	James & Kathleen Gary	<i>Chris Stockdale & Jessy Flores' Marriage</i>	Amy Munroe
John & Kimberly Roberts	<i>Nathan Hadley</i>	Linda Guidinger	North Montgomery FFA
John & Dolly Rose	Robert & Deanna Durett	Ardis Painter	Nourish Partners and Volunteers
Dixie Ruggles	<i>Pat Hearson</i>	Michelle Warren	Sheila Sowers
Brandy Ryker	Les Hearson	<i>Elizabeth Sweet</i>	St. Bernard's Catholic Church
Amy Sanders	<i>Megan & Devic Hinds</i>	Montgomery Co. Civitan Club	St. John's Church
Mary Seyfried	Allen & Debra Hinds	<i>Alex Thomas</i>	The Paper of Montgomery County
Megan Sewell	<i>Paul McKinney</i>	Mark & Cris Antreasian	The Teen Court Judges
Jessica Shook	Irmingard McKinney	<i>Janet Zachary</i>	Teen Court and YAR Volunteers
Mike & Jill Shubert	<i>Kent Meyer</i>	Hoosier Heartland State Bank	Valero Employees
April Smekens	Carole Meyer	<u>In Kind Donations</u>	Scott Voliva
Charles and Eatha Sommer	<i>Jett Alan Morris</i>	All of the businesses and individuals who donated silent auction items for Dancing With The Montgomery County Stars	Wabash College
George & Judith Spencer	Donald & Martha Morris		Walmart Optical Employees
Mark Stockdale	<i>Beverly O'Rourke</i>		YSB Board of Directors
Kevin & Andra Storms	Bowman-Cohee Construction	Jim Amidon	
Elizabeth Strain	Piper Harlan	Don & Janet Armbruster	
Carla Strong	Tom Warren	Banjo Employees	
Lois Thomas			
Robyn Thompson			
Peter & Michelle Thompson			
Dennis Toomey			

A special, special thank you to the dancers who gave up their time to make our Dancing With The Montgomery County Stars fundraiser such a success.

Jason Hutchison

Heidi Gambrel

Matt Oates

Sister Joan

Rick Bzdok

Abby Williams

Tom Fullenwider

Stefanie Deaton

Ashley Kendrick

Greg Huey

Justin Froedige

Mallory Graves

Alex Ehrlich

Jessica South

Jordan Burkett

Ashley Clute

Carla Earl

Wayne Applegate

Mark Truax

Amber Raine Swick

Youth Service Bureau



Montgomery County
Youth Service Bureau

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A Note from our Executive Director, Karen Branch

The excitement is building every day that we get closer to moving to our new home. Construction has started and we hope to be moving around the first of the year. If you have not already heard, we want to share what our new building is going to include. There will be a visitation room for families involved with DCS, to have supervised visits; a community room that is available to all non-profits to use as needed; office space for the Children's Bureau Community Partners; offices for all the YSB staff; a new classroom for our alternative school students; program space and a home for our Nourish backpack program as well. For the first time we will have all of our programs under one roof.

None of this would have been possible without the generous grant from North Central Health Services, the Montgomery County Community Foundation, Hoosier Heartland State Bank, Banjo/IDEX Corporation, Valero Foundation, the Franciscan Foundation and Nucor. We cannot say thank you enough to them for making this possible. I would be remiss if I did not also thank St. John's Episcopal Church for housing our agency for the last 47 years! It is because of their generosity that we are now in the position to move forward for the agency and the youth we serve!

We are now in the last stage of our project, building our endowment to insure the long-term sustainability of

the Youth Service Bureau. Our goal is to increase our endowment by \$50,000 over the next several years. We are hopeful that the community will be able to help us reach our goal. If you have already given, thank you so much for your support! All levels of giving are welcome and if you need more information just give me a call or drop by. The Youth Service Bureau has always been an organization that exists because of the community and we want to continue that relationship!

As always, thank you so much for all you do to support our work!