

# News

# LINE

Fall 2014



*A publication of Lifeline Youth & Family Services and Crosswinds*

## Mark Terrell Celebrates 20 Years of Service

In August, Lifeline celebrated 20 years of service from CEO Mark Terrell. In honor of Mark's faithful service, Lifeline friends and supporters donated \$26,115 to Lifeline's programs.

Mark's leadership has taken Lifeline from a nearly-bankrupt agency to a fiscally strong and well-managed nonprofit organization. During his tenure as CEO, Mark has grown the organization from one with 17 employees to one with over 300 employees and over 20,000 people served per year. In addition, Mark has:

- Developed a three-phased Independent Living Program, Sexually Maladaptive Behaviors Program, and detention program.
- Founded the Pierceton Woods Academy alternative school.
- Acquired two additional nonprofit organizations.
- Launched an organization to provide executive leadership and back-office services for other nonprofit organizations.
- Founded a national and international nonprofit organization to serve children and families in the private sector.

Mark continues to effectively lead Lifeline today with character, integrity and wisdom. We are grateful for all he has done and will continue to do to help struggling youth and families!



# Change starts here.

## Caribbean Mountain Academy Brings Hope & Healing

Students, staff and mission teams enjoyed a summer of service, growth and fun at Caribbean Mountain Academy. Here are a few highlights:

- Nine mission teams visited and served at Caribbean Mountain Academy.
- A delapidated bridge was rebuilt in a local community, allowing food to be safely transported by donkey between community members.
- A school was built in El Callejon allowing more children to be educated.
- A new home was built for a Dominican family that will be passed down to other family members for generations to come.



*Mission team member Caleb Kimmel with local boy on the newly rebuilt bridge.*



*Caribbean Mountain Academy staff on top of Pico Duarte.*

We also saw growth and success in our residential program. Numerous students have successfully left our program with a new outlook on life, values, relationships, and faith, resulting in successful reunification with their families at home.

A key to this success is the adventure-based portion of our program. One adventure our students experienced this summer was completing a five-day hike up Pico Duarte, the highest peak in the Caribbean! The hike was instrumental in teaching our students leadership skills, perseverance, and how to work together as a team.

We are grateful for all of the opportunities God provided us with this summer to bring hope and healing to our students and the communities surrounding our campus!



# Community Partners: Breaking the Cycle of Poverty

This fall marks the start of a new school year, including a chance to send a new group of Project Incentive preschool “graduates” off to Kindergarten—prepared to be successful, thanks to this community-funded program!

As we look to the year ahead, we want to take a moment to look back and thank the following partners who have invested in our program over the past year:

***Howard P. Arnold Foundation***

***Drug & Alcohol Consortium of Allen County***

***Foellinger Foundation***

***Lincoln Financial Foundation***

***Edward M. and Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation***

***Benjamin Smyser Foundation***

***Florence M. and Paul M. Staehle Foundation***



Project Incentive serves children and families who are living in Brookmill Court Apartments, a low-income housing community in Fort Wayne. The children in this community are at risk for lower educational achievement, participation in delinquent or risk-related activities, and growing up to

live in poverty as adults. By giving them a consistent, quality education we’re equipping preschool-aged children with strong social skills, the tools to make healthy choices, and good learning habits in an effort to break the cycle of poverty that is so prevalent in this community.

## Crosswinds Receives K21 Health Foundation Grant



This summer, Crosswinds was awarded a \$75,000 grant by the K21 Health Foundation to provide affordable in-home counseling services to the residents of Kosciusko County.

Our home-based approach allows our clients to maintain privacy and helps our therapists facilitate change as they work with families in their most comfortable environment.

The grant from the K21 Health Foundation will allow Crosswinds to offer in-home counseling services to Kosciusko County residents at a reduced rate in cases of financial need. “K21 is excited to partner with Crosswinds in the initial startup of this initiative. I believe that preventative programs like this will foster resilience and coping strategies for our at-risk youth,” said K21 Director Dr. Kevin Roberts.



## Fishers of Men



You never know when your actions will touch someone's heart forever. Following Lifeline's annual Fish with the Pros fundraiser we received this message from a guest who brought a business acquaintance with him for the weekend:

*"That guy is still smiling! He has never had something like this happen to him. In fact, he said his experience was one of the top five things to happen in his entire life."*

*"...Your impact at Lifeline goes farther than reaching kids and at-risk families. Here is a grown man whose life is forever changed from a simple fishing trip. I never could get John\* to talk about his faith. But if he is not a Christian, he received as much love from a Christian group as he will ever receive. I appreciate your efforts to maintain this event. Perhaps if John\* has not given himself to the Lord, we might have helped move him in that direction."*

We can't promise a life-changing experience for every guest but we can promise a great time with great people - all for an amazing cause. Mark your calendar now to join us at "Fish with the Pros" in 2015. For details visit [www.fishwiththepros.com](http://www.fishwiththepros.com).



Mark your calendars now!  
1st Annual "Jazzin' Up January"  
Fundraising Event  
January 29, 2015 from 6:30-8:30  
More details to follow!

## Lifeline and Crosswinds Welcome New Staff

Earlier this year, Lifeline and Crosswinds welcomed **Rick Sawyer** into the position of Vice President of Administration.



Rick comes to Lifeline and Crosswinds with 26 years of experience in accounting and finance related activities. For the past nine and a half years, Rick has served as the Chief Financial Officer for Tower Bank & Trust.

Rick's background and expertise will be instrumental in bringing added efficiencies to our internal support structure, along with providing strategic financial direction as we continue to grow and expand.

**Tanya Carpenter** joined the Lifeline team on October 1st as Executive Assistant to Mark Terrell. She has worked the past 20+ years as an Executive Assistant with the last 9 years at Tower/Old National Bank. Prior to that she was Executive Assistant at Physicians Health Plan (PHP) for nearly 10 years.



Tanya has been married to her husband Bob for 16 years and has one daughter, Gabrielle who is 11. The Carpenters are members of Emanuel Lutheran Church in New Haven.





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# Get Involved

As Christmas approaches, it is easy for kids to get wrapped up in “getting” rather than “giving.” We’ve got the perfect opportunity for you to show the importance of generosity!

Each year Lifeline’s Project Incentive holds an event called “Project Wishlist” which provides the residents of Brookmill Court Apartments the opportunity to submit a Christmas list to be filled by a generous individual. Oftentimes the parent’s lists consist of what many of us would consider everyday essentials such as sheets, blankets, toothpaste or winter boots.

We invite you and your family to invest in one of our families this year. By planning, shopping, and giving together, your family’s generosity will not only bless you, but also a family who may otherwise go without.



For more information about Project Wishlist and/or to choose an individual or family to help this year, please contact Bernice Bush at [bbush@lifelineyouth.org](mailto:bbush@lifelineyouth.org).

## Changing hearts and bringing hope.