

Youth Services staff recently paid a visit to the PotashCorp Campus to check on construction of the new McLennan Center for Youth.

Getting into the building mode are front (from left): Joseph Rhodes, Nancy Bloom, Hannah Wolod, Rico Sanchez; middle: Maggie Connors, Sara Mischler, Alison Guenther; rear: Bridgette Taylor, Brett Mueller, Marigo Afendras.



“South Dreams Big” Telethon

From noon November 7th to noon on November 8th the students of Glenbrook South High School will host a telethon “South Dreams Big” broadcast from the school to benefit the programs of Youth Services. In a spirit of youth helping the community, the students will perform, entertain, and encourage viewers to dig into their wallets to assure that YS programming remains healthy and growing. The live broadcast is a first for both Youth Services and GBS so don't miss the fun. Tune in to local access channel 17 or 26 and toss the remote away for 24 hours.

A Crisis Intervention Success Story

It was just after lunch on a normal workday when two teen girls walked into the Youth Services office. They didn't have a relationship with the organization and they weren't sure they were doing the right thing either. All they really knew was that they had a friend in terrible trouble and that Youth Services helps kids.

The distress on the faces of the two young visitors was so clear that they were immediately shown into a conference room where they met with Nancy Bloom and a youth worker.

“These were a couple of very courageous young women who recognized that their friend was at risk and that they had to do something to help her,” says Nancy. “Sometimes it takes betraying a confidence to do the right thing. I have no doubt that by their brave actions these two girls saved their friend's life.”

The girl in question had been suffering from an eating disorder for some time and had also been increasingly practicing other self-destructive behavior. It became clear to her friends that without help the girl would be in serious trouble; they feared for her life. Even though they knew about her problems, no one else did. Since secrets are sacred when you are a teenager, it took some courage for the two friends to decide to intervene by asking for help and guidance from Youth Services.

As soon as the girls felt comfortable enough to confide the identity of their friend, they and two youth counselors were dispatched to the friend's home. The parents met the revelations about their daughter with surprise and then tears. Their daughter, relieved to have her secret out in the open, was accompanied to the hospital not only by her parents and her friends, but also by the

(continued on page 3)



Board Members

President

- Bill McKinley - Sr. Vice President, Harris Bank

First Vice President

- Rick Klare - Vice President of Sales, Fidelity Container

Second Vice President

- Howard Eirinberg - President, Vienna Beef

Treasurer

- Myrna Newman - Accountant

Secretary

- Donna Gulley, - Retired School Counselor

Immediate Past President

- Martin Kaplan - Associate Director, JVS

Executive Director

- Nancy Bloom, M.Ed

Life Member

- Robert Anthony - Retired
- Pam Buchholz - Attorney
- Mike Cabay- Retired, Managing Partner Accenture
- Nancy Dowdle – Community Leader
- Nancy Firfer – Senior Advisor, Metropolis 20/20 and former President, Village of Glenview
- Dan Fraser – Assistant Vice President, Amcore Bank
- Sharon Harris – Accountant
- Tom Klise – President, Cherokee Wireless, Inc.
- Marcia Korman – Teacher
- Teddie Kossof – President, Teddie Kossof Salon & Spa
- Joe Muldoon – Surgeon, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare
- Harry Omartian – Owner, AAA Lock & Key
- Rian Spencer – Credit Associate, Harris Bank
- Tom Steil, Vice President, Northern Trust Bank
- Doug Welch – Vice President of Operations, Allstate Insurance

From the Executive Director

My Dear Friends.

Have you ever bumped into something that was right in front of your face but because your attention was focused elsewhere you just didn't see it? Sometimes it can be small or sometimes quite big and when you knock into it, it can leave you wondering how you could have missed it in the first place. I was reminded of that not long ago when I was driving to work and admiring the beautiful houses, neat lawns, and flower gardens that compose our neighborhoods when suddenly, as I was zipping by the trailer park on Waukegan Road, I thought: "Some of our kids live there." These homes are quite distinct from the norm of Glenview and Northbrook. They are modest mobile houses that may have grass but not lawns, flower boxes instead of gardens, and by North Shore standards, they're, well, tiny. Yet many families live there as mother and father struggle to make a living and build better lives for their children.



This is such a wonderful community full of successful people that sometimes it's easy to miss those struggling in our midst. We've got fantastic schools that are attractive to families wanting to assure that their children get the best education possible. Over the years I've come to know many of these families through my job at Youth Services and I've come to admire their courage. I know that may sound strange, but it takes courage to leave a neighborhood where you have a network of friends and extended family, a job, and a sense of belonging, and move miles away to a place where you have no support, will be more or less isolated, and at a greater distance from work. How many buses will it take to get to that city job now?

Just who are these families living in the trailer parks, the military housing complex, and the scattered-site Section 8 houses in Glenview and Northbrook? Some are minorities, some are single parents, and some are the families of active military personnel, and like the rest of us, they are striving to live the American Dream. But they're not there yet, so they live in pockets of poverty that can be spotted throughout our community. These families bring many challenges with them but they also bring rich diversity that, I believe, makes us a stronger community. Experiencing different cultures when they are young can only be an asset to our children when they enter the world at large.

We're proud that with your help we served 1,600 people with gifts at holiday time alone last year. Is there need here? Yes. Is our community mostly well-to-do? Yes. But if you look closely, you will see we are so very much more.

With gratitude for all you do,

Nancy Bloom

“ This organization is really not about us but about the future and what we will bequeath to the children of our community.”

Bill McKinley
Youth Services Board President



2008-09 Events

Mark Your Calendar

November 7th-8th

Friday and Saturday, Noon to Noon:
Don't miss *South Dreams Big Telethon* hosted by the students of Glenbrook South High School. Channel 17 and 26.

Wednesday, November 19th

Girlfriends Breakfast at the Sunset Ridge Country Club to benefit Youth Services. In addition to a good meal and great company, the Boutique, featuring a variety of vendors, is a wonderful way to start your holiday shopping. To reserve your spot contact Mindy at mindyschloss@comcast.net or 847/562-9880.

Holiday Gift Drive - October - December

Last year Youth Services provided 1,600 individuals living in Northfield Township with gifts for the holidays. Many caring individuals and businesses helped us by sponsoring a child or a family (call now for a wish list). Some provided cash so we could shop for the children, and some did toy or clothes drives for us. One volunteer – a professional shopper – gave us dozens of new clothing items and toys. Two people call us every year to ask for a list of the most popular items on kids' wish lists so they can bring in gifts for children who are not sponsored. Others come in to wrap gifts in December. And of course, some people do all of those things. If you wish to help, please contact Monica at 847/724-2620. We strongly believe that it takes a village to make a real difference in young lives. Fortunately, we are a part of several wonderful villages. With your help, we truly do make a difference.

Monday, February 2nd, 2009

Heart of Glenview – Mark your calendar for an evening where you will enjoy great food from local restaurants, a charity auction, and raffle. This event benefits eight local charities, including Youth Services. It's a great way to support the community, have wonderful food, and visit with friends. Admission tickets (includes food) are \$40 each, and raffle tickets (a split the pot raffle) are \$25 or 5 for \$100. Purchase early. The event sold out last year! Tickets may be purchased from Youth Services.

Green is More than Just a Color

Dear Friends,

It may not be easy to be green, but it is the ecologically responsible thing to do, especially when we consider that this organization is really not about us but about the future and what we will bequeath to the children of our community. That's why we're looking at taking some steps in the construction of our new building that, while initially costly, in the long run will help assure a healthier and cleaner environment for our children and their future.



Our board has decided to investigate several "green" construction options. These include looking into using recyclable building materials and eco-friendly bamboo flooring (instead of hard wood) and the possibility of installing a geothermal heating and cooling system. We are currently getting quotes on such a system (which requires drilling 14 holes into the earth to a depth of 650 feet). While geothermal is projected to be more costly than a conventional system by about \$350,000, it will assure that our building uses less energy and, thus, provide savings overall. As we are all aware, today's energy climate demands this kind of rational response from us.

This means, of course, that we will need to raise a bit more from our friends and supporters. We've set our sights on bringing in an additional \$1 million, which will help cover escalating construction and material costs, apply "green" solutions, and fund an endowment for Youth Services. This is what we might call "crunch time." We've almost reached our goal but we need the extra push in the fourth quarter. So I ask you, our most faithful supporters, to help us reach the end zone.

I appreciate your continued confidence in our agency as we help to shape the future for many young people in our communities.

Many Thanks,

Bill McKinley, Board President

Crisis Intervention *(continued from page 1)*

two counselors from Youth Services who stayed with the family until after midnight to assure that the child would immediately begin receiving proper treatment.

The two young women who came into Youth Services as strangers are now working as volunteers for the organization and their friend is getting the help she needs. In this case, while the adults stepped in to give the proper guidance, it is the kids themselves who are the true heroes. Their story is just one of many successful outcomes for the Crisis Intervention Program, which operates a hot-line 24 hours a day. The number is: 847/724-2620.



3100 West Lake Avenue
Glenview, IL 60026

Phone: 847-724-2620
Fax: 847-724-3499
www.youthservices-gn.org
info@youthservices-gn.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Glenview, IL
Permit No. 36



Volunteer Opportunities

We always have room for caring volunteers. If you have time to share, please call us at 847-724-2620 to find out what opportunities are available.

For More Information on Youth Services visit our website at www.youthservices-gn.org.

Why "People Care"?

When we were looking for a name for this newsletter, we asked the people who are the motivation behind it—the kids we serve. They came up with "People Care," and we can't think of a more fitting title.

Would You Prefer to Receive News Via Email?

You can help us in our commitment to reduce paper usage as well as mailing costs. By receiving this newsletter and special Youth Services' announcements online you will contribute to our efforts to be more environmentally responsible. You can share your email address with us by filling out the enclosed envelope and returning it via mail or fax (847/724-3499), or email Hannah Wolod at hwolod@youthservicees-gn.org.