

THE *Companion*

Summer 2019



**Bona
Vista**

Enriching Lives...Enhancing Abilities



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As summer comes to an end, I reflect on many exciting things that happened over the last few months. Bona Vista participated in local community events, celebrated staff at an all-agency appreciation event, and held our largest fundraising event - The Greatest Spectacle in Tasting, sponsored by Soupleys.

Bona Vista Programs is one of the larger employers in Howard County, and we provide unduplicated educational, vocational, and residential services to nearly 2,000 children and adults with intellectual, physical and developmental disabilities. We continue to provide services focused on goals and choices of the persons served through a variety of community outings, day service programs, vocational activities and enrichment programs such as art, education and assistive technology.

With the care of our dedicated employees, amazing people are making great strides towards self-sufficiency and independence every day. If you have the desire to learn about the human service field, beginning a career at Bona Vista is an excellent place to gain practical experience, while training is provided to you. I would recommend beginning with exploring the position of the Caregiver of the Developmentally Disabled (CDD). This position provides you the opportunity to be a mentor, teacher, and a

support to people with intellectual and other types of developmental delays. Staff learn to advocate for the person they are serving in a variety of positive ways. Bona Vista spends considerable training time instructing our staff in a number of areas such as; documentation requirements, learning how to track daily notes and goals, learning CPR, behavior management techniques, and how to work with co-workers. Skills learned in this position can be applied in all levels of employment as one grows professionally at Bona Vista.

If you have interest or know of someone who may have the desire to learn more about human services, do not hesitate to contact Bona Vista Programs and inquire about the number of opportunities available through the organization. It is worth your time to take a tour or review the valuable information on our website at bonavista.org.

All the best,

Brianne Boles
President/CEO

P.S. Thank you to each board member, staff, family, and donor that supports our amazing mission!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON	RHODA REYBURN <i>AMI</i>
VICE CHAIRPERSON	KEVIN O'KEEFE <i>Attorney</i>
SECRETARY	STEPHEN NUDGE <i>Retired, Chrysler</i>
TREASURER	KEVIN JOHNSTON <i>Duke Energy</i>

2019 BONA VISTA PROGRAMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PEDRO CASTILLO	<i>Delphi Technologies</i>
CHAD HOWERTON	<i>Walgreens</i>
KEVIN JOHNSTON	<i>Duke Energy</i>
DOTTIE KNEPLEY	<i>Retired</i>
STEPHEN NUDGE	<i>Retired</i>
STEPHANIE ODEN	<i>FCA</i>
KEVIN O'KEEFE	<i>Attorney</i>
RHODA REYBURN	<i>Advanced Medical Imaging</i>
GREG STEPHENS	<i>Stephens Machine</i>
TROY STINER	<i>Eriks Chevrolet</i>
SALLY VYAIN	<i>Ivy Tech Community College</i>
SHELLY WYMAN	<i>The Wyman Group</i>

Spring in Review

Spring was a whirlwind of amazing activity at Bona Vista Programs. If you're friends with us on Facebook or follow us on any other social media outlets, you were able to go along with us on our amazing journeys. From special events, to special visitors, job fairs and our annual basketball game, know that we appreciated each and every single person who in one way or another advocated on our behalf and spread awareness not only of our organization, but of cultivating a community of inclusion!

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in any of our restaurant give back nights. If you "caused an effect" and made dinner a selfless act by supporting us at Chipotle, if you ate some chips and salsa or had a margarita in our honor from Hacienda, if you watched a game and debated which sauce is best on your wings at Wings etc., if you smashed some peanuts on the floor while devouring some

award-winning ribs at Texas Roadhouse or if you made pizza night a priority at Hot Box Pizza, we appreciate you all!



THANK YOU to everyone who came out to the Kokomo Country Club for our 3rd Annual Viva Las Vista casino night event. The staff at the Kokomo Country Club deserves a huge round of applause for their efforts! Keeping up with food and bar orders is no small task given the number of attendees! The Sertoma Club of Broadripple who brought the casino games, dealers and ambiance with their amazing outfits... bravo! Our media sponsor, WWKI, game night sponsors, volunteers and donors of raffle basket items... our hats are off to you ALL! Look for Lady Luck in January of 2020 for our 4th annual event!





THANK YOU to everyone who sponsored, played, cheered, danced, volunteered or in any other way supported the Disability Awareness Basketball Game. The Bona Vista All-Star team (once again) defeated the celebrity team, but both teams were great sports, and we appreciate all of them being willing to play. We were able to raise more than \$21,000!

It wouldn't be possible

without the support of Kokomo School Corporation's donation of Memorial Gym & their amazing janitorial crew who keeps that place running flawlessly or our media sponsor Z92.5/Rock 98.5/WIOU1350! See you next March!

THANK YOU to Kyle & Lisa Rayl and their amazing staff at Soupley's Wine & Spirits for another successful Greatest Spectacle in Tasting event which raised more than \$60,000 for Bona Vista Programs! Their wine and microbrew vendors, the local restaurants, the volunteers and the Bona Vista staff that help make that event possible do not go unnoticed. The behind-the-scenes planning for this event starts

months in advance, and we hope you enjoyed

it! We also appreciated Gary Rhum and his talented friends for entertaining us all evening. Next year's event will be the 26th annual, so plan to attend - Saturday, May 16, 2020, where we hope to hit the million dollar mark in fundraising dollars!



The Secret of Living is Giving

PLAN YOUR END OF YEAR GIVING NOW!

This year has gone by in a blink of an eye! Before you know it, the giving season will be upon us. Plan your year-end gifts now, and consider Bona Vista as the recipient.

We are currently in the process of expanding our Adult Day Programs at our Crossing location. The focus of this expansion will be to provide improved habilitation services that will focus on the quality of life and daily living skills for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The goal is to help these individuals grow and gain independence at their own pace and enhance their current abilities.

The money you donate to this effort will directly impact those receiving services each day. We will be able to show you the difference your dollar makes to those in our programs.

We encourage you to come in and see our programs in action, and see for yourself firsthand where or how your donation makes an impact. Please contact Brittnee Smith at bsmith@bonavista.org or 765-457-8273 to schedule a tour or meeting, or visit our website at www.bonavista.org to make a donation.



Valued, Appreciated, Treasured.

Everyone wants to feel appreciated. It's a natural human reaction. Not because we need the attention or want everyone to know what we have been doing, but it IS nice when someone notices, validates your work and lets you know they appreciate you. In June, we put on a staff appreciation picnic at Highland Park for our employees to enjoy and receive a free T-shirt! We appreciate those who took the time to attend and let us know how much they enjoyed the recognition. We can't wait to do it again!

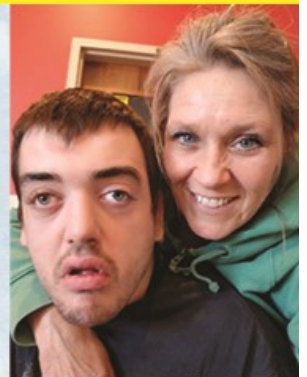


Rock Stars WANTED!

We are hiring, and we would love to have you or someone you know join us as a Caregiver of the Developmentally Disabled (CDD)!

What does a CDD do? Well, that depends on which department they work in, but they wear so many hats! We have CDDs in every single department and program. They get to plan and participate in constructive activities in the organization, the community or the persons served home. They get to help the people we serve work on daily living skills, communication skills and any other individualized goals that they are working toward to maintain their independence. More than anything, though, they get to love the people we serve! Become an integral part of their family, and watch them grow and succeed!

To apply, go to bonavista.org and click on "Apply." Interested applicants may call 765-457-8273 or email Director of Development & Training, Alison Brantley, at abrantley@bonavista.org for more information!



Run, Jump & Play – Is there a Delay?



Parents or Guardians of children ages birth to 5 years of age – It's not too late to get signed up for our next FREE Developmental Screening coming up on August 21! Screenings are performed by licensed therapists who provide guidance and reassurance, and will try to answer any questions you may have about your child's development. Call Brooklyn Dugdale at 765-454-5340 to schedule your appointment! These screenings are provided, in part, by funding from the United Way serving Howard and Tipton Counties.

If you can't make it to the quarterly full screenings, we do have mini-screenings every Wednesday morning at our 1220 E. Laguna St. location in Kokomo – thanks to a generous donation from our friends at We Care Kokomo. Appointments are required, so be sure to call to schedule!



LIVE UNITED!

United Way Awards Grants to Two of Bona Vista Programs

The first United Way award granted to Bona Vista will support Early Childhood Services, which include Keys for Kids Preschool, Special Education Preschool, and Keys for Kids Pediatric Therapies. These funds will support the goal of better preparing children in Howard County for Kindergarten through our Level 4 Paths to Quality preschool services and specialized therapy services. The second United Way grant funds the Community Connections Day Program which helps our most severe and profoundly disabled adults. The funds received will help support the goal of allowing the persons in our programs the right to live, love, work, learn, play and pursue their dreams in our community.



Every Hand Makes a Difference

We are always thankful when people want to take their time to impact Bona Vista and those we serve. This Spring/Summer we have met several new friends who have shared their time and talents with us, and we are continually grateful!



TANNER FERNUNG is a young man we met via our Twitter account (@Bonavista_) who does spray paint art as a hobby and as a living. He brought his unique talent to Bona Vista's day services and taught six individuals how to use spray paint as art. They learned how to use stencils versus how a project might look if they choose to freestyle the work. It was wonderful and amazing, and the adults are already looking forward to Tanner's next visit!



DELPHI TECHNOLOGIES coordinated a work day through the United Way serving Howard and Tipton counties where they exchanged their suits and ties for work boots and paint clothes. We had a long list of projects, and they got started on one of the hottest days of the year. They filled pot holes, fixed a storage shed, stained bridges, installed speed bumps, painted classrooms and so much more!



Thanks to **PEAKS N VALLEYS ROOFING** for putting a new roof on the garage of one of the adults we serve! They volunteered their time to complete this project in the blazing Indiana sun! The roof looks amazing and we are beyond thankful and appreciative of their work. We would recommend their communication, efficiency and quality work! 10/10

In recognition of Flag Day this year, **SHELLEY JONES** came and educated the adults in our day services program on the meaning behind many different flags. She was very knowledgeable, and we appreciate her sharing with us! We hope to never stop learning and sharing new things with those we serve.

Hey Batter, Batter – SWING!

For the first time ever, the Kokomo Jackrabbits opened up their concession stands to local non-profits this season. Bona Vista Programs staff and volunteers worked the stands 12 separate times and earned just over \$3,500 in the process. We learned a ton in the process, and couldn't have done it without each and every individual who volunteered their time to help us, including these businesses Kokomo Auto World, C&C Cleaning, KHCPL, Logansport Girls Basketball Team, Grissom Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram, and Bona Vista board members.

Thank you to Indiana Public Employers' Plan (IPEP) for donating 100 tickets AGAIN this year to the adults in our Residential Program. Not only are they able to watch a Jackrabbits game together, but IPEP also hosts a tailgate before the game with all the fixin's of a traditional baseball game! Thank you for your continued generosity each year!

