

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS



Indiana University Kokomo Baseball Players & Coaches took time out of their Fall Break to host a baseball game for Bona Vista. Each IUK player partnered with a Bona Vista person served to bat, run and field together at Kokomo Municipal Stadium. We are SO thankful for their support, and look forward to making this an annual event!

If you "Like" us on Facebook, you may have seen some live videos of amazing volunteers from **General Motors** who organized and executed a project at one of our group homes. It's hard to put into words how appreciative we are of their willingness to do this for the residents at that home. They not only improved the look of the backyard by creating two raised flower beds and making the existing shed functional again, but also the quality of life for those who live there!



Have you heard about the **Real Men Read** program? Real Men Read is a reading program that mobilizes United Way of Howard County volunteers throughout the community as readers in early learning centers to increase Kindergarten readiness. Our Keys for Kids Preschool loved having Rocky Lamb from FCA (or Mr. Rocky as the kids called him) read to them, and are looking forward to meeting a new friend when the second round of the program kicks off!



We are so thankful for an amazing group of ladies who came in & painted a room in our Keys for Kids Preschool! They saved our maintenance team a lot of time, and made the room look so much better! Kudos to the **FCA Women's Group** for their hard work & community partnership!



We are thankful to **Taylor Community School Corporation** for having us out to talk to elementary students about disability awareness & inclusion during their #TaylorServes day. In addition to going to the school, Taylor Middle School students came to our main building (1220 E. Laguna St.) to clean playground equipment, transportation vehicles and paint with children! The day was fast-paced, but SO rewarding to those in the community who benefit from the school corporation valuing the importance of service to others.

Fashion Show

On Dec. 7, 2017, Bona Vista Programs, in conjunction with the Kokomo Area Career Center, is planning a shop for a cause fashion show from 6-8:30pm at Central Middle School, 303 E. Superior St. The goal of the event is to bring awareness to those with disabilities, as well as, provide the community the opportunity to shop small business boutiques before the holidays. The fashion show will take place at 7pm and will feature models of all shapes and sizes including persons served at Bona Vista and local high school students. There is no admission fee, and we hope to see everyone there!

Lending a helping hand to Bona Vista Programs is made easy in two ways! Giving is just a mouse click away through, AmazonSmile and Kroger Community Awards. Through these programs, a percentage of your shopping experience will be given back to Bona Vista Programs by selecting our organization.

amazon smile Here's how easy it is to give! Through AmazonSmile customers go to smile.amazon.com and select Bona Vista Programs, Inc. to be given donations from eligible purchases before you start shopping. AmazonSmile will store this information and every purchase made through **smile.amazon.com** will generate a donation to Bona Vista Programs.

Kroger has made a commitment to helping community growth and part of this commitment is the Community Awards program. This donation to help your community is as easy as the swipe of your Kroger Plus Card. To donate follow just a few simple steps made easy at <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>. Individuals are able to sign into their account or create an account and select Bona Vista Programs under the Community Rewards tab.

Shop for a Cause Fashion Show
to benefit Bona Vista Programs

THURSDAY, DEC. 7 | FREE Admission!
Shopping: 6-8:30PM
Fashion show: 7PM



Central Middle School, 303 E. Superior St.
765-457-8273 | bonavista.org
Supported by Kokomo Area Career Center



NOW HIRING

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

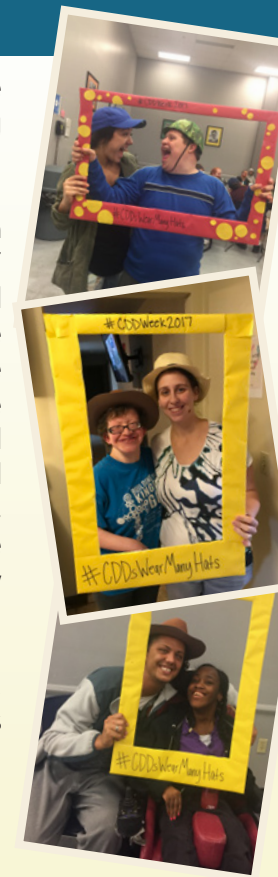
What does a CDD do? Well, that depends on which department they work in, but they ALL wear MANY hats! We have CDDs in every, single department and program. They get to plan and participate in constructive activities in the organization, the community or the persons served home. They also help the people we serve work on daily living skills, communication skills and any other individualized skills 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 Now! to search for the CDD position. Interested applicants may also stop by 1220 E. Laguna St. in Kokomo or call 765-457-8273 for more information!

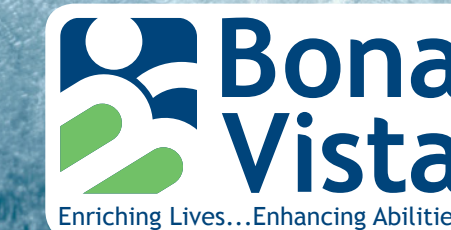


DSP Award Winner

We were SO excited to announce that one of our employees won the 2017 Outstanding Direct Support Professional Award at a conference held in Indianapolis in September! We are SO proud of Kathy Morgan and the work she has done with the persons served at Bona Vista Programs for the last 25 years!



THE COMPANION WINTER 2017



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



The role of a community-based organization, such as Bona Vista, goes deep into the heart of a community. Over the years, Bona Vista Programs has relied on the natural supports of city and the county such as our police and fire departments, who have always gone above and beyond. However, the community in general has little knowledge of the degree of effort, dedication, leadership and absolute focus that goes into an operation of our quality of services and magnitude in size. Did you know we serve more than 2,000 people every day in multiple counties? Most people don't.

Bona Vista Programs will be turning SIXTY years old this coming September! We have worked with many infants and toddlers who are now adults caring for their own families. Others have grown up and are now part of our excellent adult day services, and some are now residing in our waiver homes or our group homes. Over the years, our staff have become the family and the primary caregiver for so many of our persons served.

Bona Vista is very fortunate to have several staff who have been with the agency for a decade or longer! These staff have often paved the way for our persons served through life's challenges, reaching personal goals or sharing the holidays! Most importantly, our staff provide a stable and friendly face that lets our persons served know they are important. The staff don't boast about what they have done during their day or night duties - they simply come to work and support our mission because they know the importance of what we do. The staff who have been with the organization for decades are excellent role models for new staff and provide a historical perspective of where we came from and how we deliver services today. Much has changed over the years and staff have been flexible to adjust.

As we read through our various social media sites, the newspaper or listen to the news, I look at the strength of Bona Vista and our staff and have to say I am very proud. Our staff are out there quietly doing their jobs and making a positive impact on people. Throughout the community, you will find good people working at other not for profits, and often these individuals began their career with Bona Vista.

The agency has been and continues to be a resource for the community. Bona Vista is always looking for ways we can offer families needed opportunities. Most recently, our Positive Results for Kids Therapies began offering free screenings on Wednesday mornings for children aged birth through elementary school. First Steps continues to be a critical early childhood program for this organization at a time when many other players have given up on this important program.

Bona Vista is getting ready to turn sixty. For sixty years this organization has served at the heart of this community, and we will continue to do so for many years to come.

Kindest Regards,

Jill S. Dunn

Jill S Dunn
President/CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - OFFICERS

CHAIR
Jan Dieterly
Retired, Delphi

VICE-CHAIR
Rhoda Reyburn
Business Manager, AMI

SECRETARY
Stephen Nudge
Retired, Chrysler

TREASURER
Kevin O'Keefe
Attorney

2017 BONA VISTA PROGRAMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robyn Braden
Community Howard
Regional Health

Barry Donovan
Retired, Social Security
Administration

Chad Howerton
Walgreens

Kevin Johnston
Duke Energy

Chad McCarter
Kokomo Perspective

Greg Stephens
Stephens Machine

Mike Williams
Syndicate Sales

Shelly Wyman
Wyman Group

David Dukes
FCA

Stephanie Oden
FCA

Coming Soon NEW DOWNTOWN GIFT STORE



In addition to our first Bona Vista Gift Store, 1221 S. Plate St., a second location will open for business at 127 N. Buckeye St. in downtown Kokomo! The creation of a downtown gift store is going to be a huge benefit to the people we serve whose products are being sold. Their items are getting more exposure in the vibrant downtown area through the large glass windows, and their items are on display for the world to see how talented they are.

We've mentioned before, but it's worth repeating, that the artist who creates the piece keeps all of the profits from the sale of the product. Bona Vista doesn't take a portion or any for that matter. That is how the adults in the AIM program make their living - by selling the amazing items they create.

You can also purchase their items through an online Etsy store! If you'd like to sit on your couch in your pajamas and support the adults at Bona Vista, just visit www.etsy.com/shop/BVGiftStore.



TIE DYE T-SHIRTS

These new, handmade by the people we serve, tie dye T-shirts are favorites of those who visit the gift store. Each one is unique -- just like the people who wear them & the people who make them! These shirts are only \$15, and all proceeds go back to the adults who make them in the AIM program. Stop in to get yours or call Miriam O'Malley-Long at 765-454-5344 for larger orders!



Bona Vista Industries receives ISO 9001:2015 certification!

Bona Vista Industries (BVI) has been ISO 9001 certified since 2005, and offers a wide assortment of manufacturing solutions to area and regional businesses. Recently, the program passed the 2015 certification standards, and we are VERY proud of our staff and the pride they take in meeting customer standards.



The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) helps define our processes and gives us ways to improve those processes, if needed. We are always looking at ways to improve, and to make our Industry program better for the customer. If you aren't familiar with our Industries program, we would love to talk to you more about it, give you a tour OR you could check out their brand new web site at www.bonavistaindustries.com.

We do work for corporations - large and small - all around Indiana. There's no reason why we couldn't do work for you, too!

COLUMBUS ARTWORK

The Columbus Organization, a Case Management company, held an art search recently looking for persons served artwork that would be hung in the Columbus Organization's headquarters in Pennsylvania. Bona Vista Caregiver of the Developmentally Disabled, Shelby Dillon, had her Sky is the Limit classroom create an art piece to be submitted. And, they WON! The Columbus Organization purchased the piece for \$50, and the persons served split that money.



We are so proud of Caleb W., Nate R. and Charlie P.'s creativity, and of Shelby's initiative to make this happen! CONGRATS!

Wednesday Developmental Screenings

Bona Vista's Positive Results for Kids Therapies will now be offering FREE, walk-in developmental screenings every Wednesday from 8-9a for children ages birth through elementary school! Not sure what that means exactly? Call 765-454-5340.

Therapy is Our Specialty

Bona Vista's Positive Results for Kids Therapies specializes in pediatric physical, occupational, speech and developmental therapies. Currently, we offer outpatient, school based and Indiana First Steps therapies.

Our outpatient clinic offers physical and occupational therapies. Our therapists, who are state licensed, specialize in evaluation, treating and caring for patients ages birth to 18 years. They treat conditions related to minimal to severe genetic, neurological and orthopedic disorders, prematurity as well as developmental delays. Our therapists focus on family engagement and providing parent education and support. We accept Medicaid and private insurance.

Our Keys for Kids Early Education Center contracts with the following schools for pediatric therapies: Kokomo, Taylor, Western, Northwestern, Eastern and Tipton. The children enrolled in these school corporations have an Individualized Education Plan that allows them the opportunity to attend Keys for Kids Preschool and receive either physical, occupational and/or speech therapies.

Indiana First Steps is an early intervention program designed to provide physical, occupational, speech and developmental therapies to children birth to three years of age. The therapies are received in a natural environment such as the child's home, preschool or childcare. Currently, Bona Vista sees 101 children in Howard, Miami and Cass Counties.

Our staff of 15 therapists consists of two physical therapists, four occupational therapists, two speech therapists, one certified occupational therapy assistant, and five developmental therapists. We are a team that works together to make sure that your child is receiving the best, high quality pediatric care that you can find in Central Indiana.

We are currently working on a Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Clinic that will debut in early 2018. If you are not familiar with NAS, it is a group of conditions that occur in a newborn who was exposed to addictive opiate drugs while in the mother's womb. All too often, we receive referrals linked to NAS, and we want to educate parents, guardians and loved ones how to cope with possible conditions related to NAS. The clinic will be led by our therapists, and there will be plenty of opportunity to interact and ask questions with our professionals. Please stay tuned for the official date!



Positive Results for Kids

Free Screening

Wednesdays!

EVERY WEDNESDAY!

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Ages birth through elementary school!

A licensed therapist will screen your child for the following:

Fine motor skills

Gross motor skills

Cognitive skills

Self-help skills

Social skills

Is your child achieving all of their milestones?

Are you concerned about their development?

We are the pediatric specialists for therapy!

Walk in Wednesdays or call 765-454-5340!

1220 E. Laguna, Kokomo

WWW.BONAVISTA.ORG

K4K

Bona Vista's Keys for Kids Preschool program now has limited openings for children ages 2½ to 5 for EARLY MORNING childcare - starting at 5:30am. We are currently trying these hours to gauge the interest and determine what works best for parents. Private pay and vouchers are accepted!

Also, did you know that Keys for Kids Preschool enrolls year-round? If you missed the Fall enrollment when "traditional" schools start, it's no problem! We welcome new children all the time! If your child missed the Kindergarten cut off or you are a new mother looking for childcare so you can return to work... stop in and take a tour of our facility, meet our teachers and see how we can help you!

There are only a few early morning spots available, so don't delay in calling to get your child signed up -- 765-457-8273 -- or to get more information! You can also visit bonavista.org & click "Children's Services" for details on all of our early childhood options!



ON MY WAY TO PRE-K

Bona Vista is looking forward to being an On My Way Pre-K provider, working with children to become Kindergarten ready and partnering with the United Way of Howard County toward their goal of having 75 percent of children in Howard County Kindergarten-ready in the next five years. Since we believe in the program and the mission so much, we even hired an On My Way Pre K Manager - Kim Gordon! She will help get the program up and running and connect families to qualified providers. She has large task ahead, but we are excited to see all she accomplished!

Applications are now being accepted for children to receive this high-quality, pre-kindergarten education! Links to applications and a chart with income eligibility guidelines are available at www.OnMyWayPreK.org. Or, you can always call our friendly staff at 765-452-8870 for more information or to talk to someone one-on-one.

