

"We build the foundation of success for children and adults regardless of abilities through encouragement, independence and inclusion in reaching their maximum potential."

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President's Corner



It has almost been a year but we are finally getting ready to build our Imagine That Center that was destroyed in a tornado. It has been quite a battle to get things settled but we are now prepared to move forward. Soon the community will see a building erected on the corner of Hoffer and Plate that will be used around the clock. The Imagine That Center will become the home of the Community Connections Program during the day and will be used for Early Childhood Education, training, celebrations and more during the late afternoon, evening hours and the weekends. This new space will be totally accessible and lots of natural light flowing through the facility. The design of the new building is certainly going to dress up the corner and we appreciate all of the support from our neighboring businesses. Keep your eye on the corner!

This past year Bona Vista also built two homes for adults involved in our services called the Vista's. This has been a very successful project and has offered eight of our adults quality housing very near to the Crossing where so many people participate in services. Bona Vista is now considering our next housing development. Lots of activity is underway to move this project forward.

Bona Vista is working very hard to provide all of our adults, children and their family's viable choices of services and quality of care. Families and guardians should always seek out information on the organization they are considering for their loved one. Questions to ask are what types of licensures, accreditations and levels of accreditations does the organization have to date? This certainly tells a lot about an organization and what their focus is on. Read the mission and vision of the organization and see if the agencies' programs are in line with their mission.

Bona Vista's mission statement is:

We build the foundation of success for children and adults, regardless of abilities, through encouragement, independence and inclusion in reaching their maximum potential.

Please come visit our organization in person or visit our website at www.bonavista.org.

Jan S. Dunn

Grants

IAEYC Early Education

Matching Grants

Indiana Non Formal Child

Development Associate

Project Grant

Howard County

Community Foundation

Sensory Room Grant



We all remember the horrific tornado that ripped through Kokomo on November 17, 2013. Bona Vista recalls this weather event vividly, because we lost our Imagine That! building during the storm. It has been almost a year, but we recently received word that insurance has approved for Bona Vista to rebuild on our same site at 1800 S. Plate Street!

We are working with the talented architect Todd Scoggins to design this building into a new Adult Day Services location. Our Community Connections day program will relocate to the 1800 S. Plate street location for much needed amenities.

Our Community Connections program is an adult day program that helps adults with severe and profound disabilities. At their current location at Bona Vista's Crossing, there are not enough bathroom facilities for each consumer. Our future building, pictured below, will allow our consumers the facilities they need to go about a meaningful day. We are so excited about the future plans of this building, and we couldn't wait to share the layouts! If you would like to donate to help with the construction of our new building, please use your envelope provided, call us at 765-457-8273 or make a donation online at www.bonavista.org. Stay tuned for more updates!



*Thanks for the
donation,
TechnoKats!!!*



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WorkForce Diversity Businesses

Thank you to the following businesses for supporting our WorkForce Diversity program, and helping adults with disabilities obtain and retain community employment in your businesses.

Howard County: McDonalds, Bona Vista Programs, Mac's, Taco Bell, Harvey Hinklemeyers, Quality Inn, Greentown Auto Repair, Smart Mart, Goodwill, Wabash National, Carson's, Kindred Nursing Home, Lil Munchkins Daycare, Kokomo Center Schools, Chili's, Always about Pets, Robert Miller & Sons, Fairfield Inn, Steak-N-Shake, Golden Corral, G4 Security, Meijer, Pizza Hut, Marsh, Walgreens, City of Kokomo, Park 100, and Sam's Club.

Miami County: McDonalds, Woodcrest Manufacturing, The Siding, Dutch Café, Kmart, Walgreens, and Peru Tribune.

Cass County: Matthew Warren, Walmart, Logansport Schools, Kaiser Sanitation, Peak Community, Kentucky Fried Chicken/ Long John Silvers, Kralis Brother Foods, Speedway Bed & Breakfast, and Orion Safety Products.

Hamilton County: Walmart, Marshall's, Burger King, Target and Goodwill.

Tipton County: Dollar General, Marsh, Pizza Hut and Jim Dandy



Bona Vista's Upcoming Events

Last One Standing Dodge Ball *Right in the Kisser Edition* - February 7, 2015

Imagine That! Groundbreaking - February 2015

Disability Awareness Month - March 1st - March 31st 2015

Positive Results For Kids Developmental Screening - April 29, 2015

Greatest Spectacle in Tasting - May 16, 2015

Run, Walk & Roll - June 20, 2015

Cinderella Ball - August 2015



For more information about any of these events, please call 765-457-8273 or go to bonavista.org.

Check out Bona Vista's Newest Programs!

Behavior Management

Our behavior therapists work alongside the individual's team, consisting of staff, family and case management, to identify behavioral issues that hinder the individual from reaching their maximum potential. Once behaviors are identified, the therapist then puts together a plan and strategy in place to monitor and appropriately address the behavioral concerns.



Individual's services are funded through the Bureau of Developmental Disability Services (BDDS) and are funded through the Family Supports Waiver (FSW) and Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver. If you are interested in Bona Vista's Behavior Management Services, please contact the Director, Pediatric Therapies at 765-457-8273, extension 385.

Wellness Coordination

Wellness Coordination Services are based on the development, maintenance and routine monitoring of the client's Wellness Coordination Plan and the medical services required to manage his/her health care needs. These services extend beyond those services provided through routine doctor/health care visits required under the Medicaid State Plan, and are specifically designed for participants requiring assistance of a Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to properly coordinate their medical needs.

Services through the Bureau of Developmental Disability Services (BDDS) and are funded through the Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver. If you are interested in Bona Vista's Wellness Coordination Services, please contact Nurse Lindsey Davison at 765-457-8273, ext. 313.



When Bona Vista's Programs Work Together... A Success Story:

Patty Beheler came to Bona Vista as a consumer in our Bona Vista Industries (BVI) Program 20 years ago after finishing high school. The goal of Patty entering the BVI program was to gain vocational and life experience in an integrated industrial setting.

As the years passed, Patty gained many experiences working at BVI. She has developed greater communication, customer service, teamwork and work ethic skills. During her work day, Patty would partake in our Habilitation Services. This was an opportunity for her to attend a training class to work on her individual goals. These goals can range from daily living skills, independent living skills, educational opportunities, computer skills and social skills. Working in this program, Patty was able to obtain her Driver's Permit!

With all this under her belt, something very special happened in August of 2014. Through our WorkForce Diversity Services, Patty was able to secure a job in our community. It was a unique situation. Her individual Employment Specialist, Bill Taylor, made arrangements for Patty to perform a job shadow to see if she would be a good fit as a housekeeper at the Quality Inn. After the job shadow was complete and Bill arrived back at the office, Patty called and excitedly announced that Quality Inn had hired her! The staff at Quality Inn was so impressed with her work ethic, they

offered her the position at the end of the job shadow. Patty is now employed in the housekeeping department. She is responsible for the presentation and upkeep of the breakfast bar. Patty works there Thursday through Sunday. She always has a smile on her face, and she is ready to help guests at a moment's notice. After a long week of work, Patty retires home to her husband, Wayne. They live together in a house that was built by Habitat for Humanity in close proximity to Bona Vista Programs.

Patty is a true success story. She has utilized a number of our programs in order for this success to occur. Our mission states that "we work to build the foundation of success for children and adults, regardless of abilities, through encouragement, independence and inclusion in reaching their maximum potential." Patty is the face of our mission; a perfect example of what Bona Vista strives to do each day.



NOW HIRING! DSPs Needed at Bona Vista!

We are now hiring for DSPs! DSP – do you know what it means or what the job entails? It's an acronym for Direct Support Professionals. One could conclude what this position does by the title, but when you work with our clients, the title of DSP means so much more.

There was recently a flyer created for hiring DSPs with a "dictionary approach" to explain what a DSP is and does: a DSP (noun)- acronym for Direct Support Professional, DSP – (noun) ~ someone who cares about the quality of life of other individuals, DSP – (verb) ~ someone who provides support to another person, and DSP – (verb) ~ provides instruction to help one with daily living skills.

Not mentioned in this flyer are the incredible consumers that DSPs are able to work with each day. How awesome it is to see your client learn and grow right in front of your eyes, and that you are responsible for their growing education and smiling faces.

We have nearly 275 DSPs that work at Bona Vista in our programs. We depend on each DSP to come to work and care for our clients. They are an integral part to the success of our programs. This is an important job! Our DSPs work year round, different shifts, holidays and weekends to support our clients. Now that I think about it the word "important" doesn't really encompass and define this job. You have to love what you do – and love to help people.

We receive compliments every day from families about the treatment they receive at Bona Vista from our staff. This confirms the commitment and high level of quality that our staff gives to our clients. "The environment [at Bona Vista]



is positive. They find ways for my son and all the consumers to use their abilities to their full potential and create opportunities for them to be successful," parent Sherry O. stated in a testimony.

YOU would be responsible for the care of loved ones – parents, children, family and friends all depend on our high quality staff. We come into work every day supporting our mission of helping clients reach their maximum potential. Being a DSP is so much more than just a job, it's a lifestyle that you commit to, and we need committed individuals to join our organization.

We could not have a successful organization that helps 2,000 individuals each day without our dedicated employees. If you would like to make a difference in someone's life - join Bona Vista's staff today. Please visit www.bonavista.org, click on careers and tell us why you want to join Bona Vista Programs. You need a GED or high school diploma and the passion to help others. You can also call us at 765-457-8273. Believe what we do, do what you believe - providing services beyond expectations for 56 years.

Pre-Vocational Training Program Update!

As a participant in our Pre-Vocational Training (PVT) Program, consumers now have the opportunity to become involved in three unique but connected service options. The programs offered are Education, Volunteering and Entrepreneurship.

The PVT programs are off to a productive start with volunteering in the community. The consumers are enjoying their time in the program. Our consumers have been volunteering their time at the Rescue Mission, Project Access and Urban Outreach. The volunteer program has recently completed its community service hours for this month! The consumers are looking forward to next month's volunteer experience. Bona Vista's maintenance and IT staff have been hard at work setting up the necessary items to make the classroom functional for further trainings in the Educational and Entrepreneurial areas. There have been constructive meetings with the consumers and staff, and we are confident this program will continue to grow. We can't wait to update you on the progression of the PVT program!



Rescue Mission with Anna Brown, Volunteer Coordinator

Fun times at Bona Vista’s Early Childhood Programs!



Bona Vista’s Keys for Kids Preschool and Early Head Start recently had a costume parade! Look at all of our fun characters that showed up! Keys for Kids is now enrolling in our full day 2’s classroom and our half day 3,4, and 5’s am and pm classrooms. Please call Melinda Green at 765-457-8273 ext. 386 to enroll. For Early Head Start enrollment info, contact Jennifer Wilkinson at 765-457-8273 ext. 374!

Congratulations Keys for Kids & Early Head Start!

Bona Vista’s Keys for Kids Preschool and Early Head Start have once again been NAEYC, National Association for the Education of Young Children, accredited! Our programs have achieved a new, five-year term of NAEYC Accreditation by successfully completing the renewal process. The administration, teaching staff, and families of Bona Vista Programs are all recognized for continuing to uphold the mark of quality represented by the NAEYC Accreditation system. NAEYC Accreditation of programs for young children represents the mark of quality in early childhood education. NAEYC Accreditation began in 1985 with the goal of providing an accrediting system that would raise the level of early childhood programs. Congrats to our NAEYC Accredited Programs!



The Importance of Bona Vista’s Adult Programs: Supported Living, CHIO, PAC & RESPITE Services

You or a loved one is an adult with disabilities. Where do you go for services? How do you spend your day? Who helps you learn and complete daily living skills? How are those services provided to you? These are questions that you will not know the answers to, unless you are faced with the issue of living with or knowing someone with barriers. We are an organization with many unknown programs that are needed by an individual or family member with disabilities. Bona Vista wants to make our community aware of the high quality and high standards that our adult services provide each and every person through four of our specific programs: **Supported living, CHIO, PAC & Respite.** We treat each client like the individual that they are – they have their own personal goals and needs. Our programming makes it possible for our clients to learn, live and succeed. The following programs are necessary for the individuals who want to have the most meaningful day – and reach their maximum potential.



Supported Living Services provides residential support in the home of the client served. We provide as little as one hour a week and can range up to 24 hours per day. While receiving Supported Living Services, a person served works on individualized goals that are developed during a team meeting. Our goals range from daily living skills, residential management, budgeting, shopping, community integration, financial management and management of medical needs. Supported Living is an alternative to institutional care and offers family-oriented services for eligible adults and children with developmental delays as well as mental, physical, or emotional challenges. Our staff helps these individuals to be as independent as possible. Many, in fact, live in their own home. Our highly trained direct care staff meets the mandatory qualifications for Indiana. They are flexible, respectful, creative, and promote the unique identity of each individual and family served. In addition, the Supported Living program also employs a Program Director, Staff Director, Quality Assurance Coordinator, QDIPs, Staff Scheduler, Staff Trainer, Staffer On-Call, a Clerical Assistant, Supported Living Auditor and a Financial Eligibility / Quality Assurance Assistant to provide support for persons served. Our **Community Based Habilitation – Individual (CHIO) Services** program is a goal based program that includes services outside of the individuals home that support learning and assistance in the areas of: self-care, sensory/motor development, socialization, daily living skills, communication, community living and social skills. Bona Vista’s **Participants Assistance and Care (PAC) Services** are provided to assist consumers to live successfully in their own homes. PAC is a non-goal based program that can be provided outside or inside the home of the person served. PAC services support learning and assistance in the areas of: daily living skills, self-care, scheduling, appointments, paying bills, chores, cooking meals and leisure activity. **Respite (RSPO) Services** is a non-goal based service. Respite Care is typically provided in the home of the primary caregiver, however it can be provided in the community. Respite Care offers relief or a period of rest to the regular caregiver. We treat each client like the individual they are – we focus on the *PERSON* and not the *DISABILITY*. Bona Vista **is, has been and always** will be committed to the health, safety and well-being of our clients. We would love for you to come and tour our facility to see the high quality services that we provide each and every day. Please contact Troy Bowers at 765-457-8273 ext. 321 for a tour. For additional information about all of Bona Vista’s services, visit our website at www.bonavista.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.



Bona Vista’s Last One Standing Dodge Ball Challenge 2015



Come celebrate an early Valentine’s Day with your loved one, closest friends and frenemies as we play Bona Vista’s 10th annual Last One Standing Dodge Ball Tournament to celebrate this day of love! This event will be Saturday, February 7, 2015 at Maple Crest Middle School. Matches

start at 10:00am until the winner is announced! The cost is \$20 per player/ \$120 per team of 6 or \$20 for each benchwarmer. You can have your chance at immediate reentry with our immunity bracelets which are \$50. This year we have a Lovebirds special - buy 2 bracelets - get one free! Prizes will also be awarded for the first, second, and third place teams, best uniforms and highest fundraiser. There are opportunities for you to sponsor and donate to our event on a variety of levels. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, donor or would like to sign up your team, contact Brittnee Smith at 765-457-8273, ext. 335 or check out our site at www.bonavista.org.

