

Winter 2012

# THE COMPANION



[BONAVISTA.ORG](http://BONAVISTA.ORG)

Did you know that Bona Vista serves children and adults WITH and WITHOUT disabilities? Did you know that we have 14 different programs? If you are reading this and didn't know those facts, then you are exactly the individual we are trying to inform during the next year with our "Did you know...?" Educational Campaign.

# President's Corner

We are happy to introduce to you our newest project "The VISTA", two homes for eight adults who are part of our Supported Living Program. The project is fully funded through the Indiana Housing Community Development Authority and the Indiana Federal Home Loan Bank. Community First Bank is our sponsoring bank and we appreciate their support on this project.

The project will also be the second Green Project in our community. It will be at the silver level and we are pleased about that as well. First and foremost, we are going to be able to offer safe and accessible housing to four women and four men who qualify for the project. We are hoping to break ground this coming January and the type of winter we have will determine our completion date. The Vista is on Plate Street directly across the street from the Crossing so please stop by and view it as the building begins!

Bona Vista is also in an expansion mode. We are providing a host of adult services in Hamilton and Madison Counties. Our Workforce Diversity staff has visited with several high schools in both Hamilton and Madison Counties in order to help facilitate job placements for young adults graduating from school. The students would be graduating with certificates and will be looking for a School to Work Successful Transition Program.



Bona Vista does an excellent job of providing these needed services. It is very important that the young adult finds meaningful and steady employment after they complete their high school curriculum. The meetings with the high schools have gone well and have been embraced by many of the school corporations.

Our reach into Hamilton and Madison County has also allowed us to open day services to adults who have waiver services. Any parent or guardian who would like to learn more about our capabilities and level of quality, please review our many credentials on our website, [www.bonavista.org](http://www.bonavista.org), or call and we can provide you information.

## Medicaid Waiver Changes

Bona Vista is dedicated to keeping our employees, clients and supporters informed of any changes made within our government. Recently, there have been some changes with Medicaid Waiver Services. Effective September 1, 2012, the Supported Services Waiver (SS) is now the Family Support Waiver (FSW), and the Autism Waiver and Developmental Disability Waiver (DD) is now the Community Integration & Habilitation Waiver (CIH).

Some facts that you should be aware of regarding the Waivers:

- If a person is currently on the wait list for any of DDRS waivers – Autism (ASD), Developmental Disability (DD), or Support Services (SS) - they will be moved to the Family Support Waiver (FSW) wait list and targeted for the FSW by the earliest application date that they have submitted. **They will not have to reapply for any waiver**, and their position on the wait list will be the same as it was on ASD, DD or SS wait lists.
- If a person is currently on the SS waiver, they will automatically begin receiving services through the FSW. These individuals will receive the same services and benefits as they were on the SS waiver, as the new waiver is exactly the same, only named differently and includes two more services and an increased cap. **They will not need to do anything.**
- If a person is on the ASD or the DD waiver, they will automatically continue receiving their services through the Community Integration & Habilitation (CIH) Waiver. These individuals will receive the same services and benefits as they were on the ASD or DD waivers, as the new waiver is exactly the same, only named differently. **They will not need to do anything.**
- An application has been submitted for the increase in funding (from \$13,500 to \$16,250) on the Family Supports Waiver (FSW).
- The FSW is a capped waiver, but soon will be expanding to cover direct care service for in-home support.

If you have any additional questions regarding the Medicaid Waiver Changes, please contact us at 765-454-5997 or email [kland@bonavista.org](mailto:kland@bonavista.org).



## Bona Vista will be running a “Did you know...?” Year Long Educational Campaign!

Did you know that Bona Vista has been in our community since September of 1958? Did you know that Bona Vista serves children and adults WITH and WITHOUT disabilities? Did you know that we have 14 different programs? If you are reading this and didn't know those facts, then you are exactly the individual we are trying to inform during the next year with our “Did you know...?” Educational Campaign.

Bona Vista has a number of resources for our community, and we want to make sure that everyone is aware of what Bona Vista has to offer. Bona Vista would like to take the next year to highlight our agency and the wonderful programs that we provide the community.

Bona Vista has the following programs for children: Keys For Kids Preschool, Positive Results For Kids, Early Head Start, Kindergarten Readiness, Child Care Solutions and Personal Care Services. We also have the following programs for adults: Bona Vista Industries, Residential Services, Community Connections, WorkForce Diversity, Supported Living Services, Habilitation Services, Personal Care Services, Metered Mail and Adapt-Abilities.

If you have any questions regarding any of our programs, contact us at 765-457-8273, and we will get you in contact with the right people. Please visit our website at [www.bonavista.org](http://www.bonavista.org) to learn more about all of our programs. Did you know that Bona Vista helps people like you?

## Imagine That!

Bona Vista is excited to announce the newest addition to our programs: Imagine That! Innovation Center. Opening in January of 2013, Imagine That! offers an innovative play environment designed for children of all ages and abilities. Imagine That! Innovation Center offers a clean, safe and well supervised setting for kids to play and explore! This is a great way for parents to enjoy and share quality time with their children.

Imagine That! Innovation Center has themed rooms for all ages and ability levels: princess, art and dress up, robotics, Nascar and Lego's, interactive games and a toddler room.

Your reservation at Imagine That! includes play time in each of the themed rooms, a private party hostess, and private dining. We are happy to accommodate large groups, private parties and school, camp and church groups. Parties are welcome to bring in their own cake, catering, DJ and treats. Rain or shine this is the coolest recreation center for children of all ages and ability levels in Kokomo!

Please visit Bona Vista's newest addition Imagine That! Innovation Center at 1800 S. Plate Street in Kokomo. We are conveniently located on the corner of Plate and Hoffer streets just ½ mile west of US 31. Call us at 765-450-8403, or email us at [imaginethat@bonavista.org](mailto:imaginethat@bonavista.org) for more information on making a reservation.



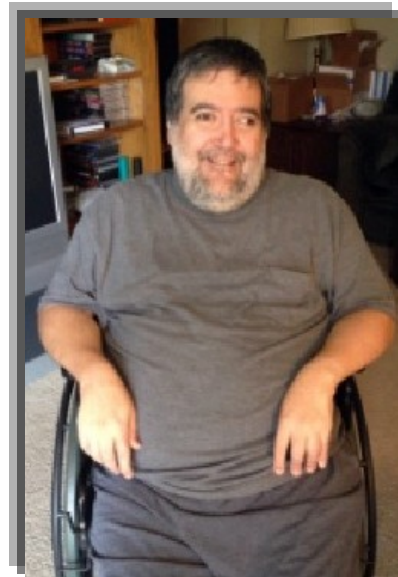
# Personal Care Services

With the new Personal Care Services in-home program up and running, many clients have found Bona Vista's staff a comfort in their own home.

John Martinez is one individual in which Personal Care Services is making a positive impact. He lives with his wife of 15 years, Sarah, and their cat, Shadow. Since his car accident in 2000, John has battled multiple health related issues. John has struggled with tasks around their home which has made day to day activities more challenging.

John heard about Bona Vista's Personal Care Services from the local Area V. John worked in the workshop several years ago before his accident, and he has always had an appreciation for Bona Vista.

John is currently receiving services three days a week with transportation to the grocery store, light housekeeping, laundry and meal planning. John spends his spare time watching his beloved Ohio State Buckeyes, the Indianapolis Colts, Dallas Cowboys and the Indiana Pacers.



When he isn't rooting for all his teams, John spends his time playing cards with his friends and wife, Sarah. John's smile and positive energy can light up a room, and with help from our staff, John is able to live a more independent lifestyle.

*"You guys are doing a real good job, and the staff is really great!" John Martinez*

## Save the Date

*November 19, 2012 - Ruby Tuesday Give back Day for Bona Vista! Go and enjoy a meal at Ruby Tuesday and support Bona Vista at the same time.*

*December 3, 2012 - Ruby Tuesday Give back Day for Bona Vista! Go and enjoy a meal at Ruby Tuesday and support Bona Vista at the same time.*

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*December 17, 2012 - Ruby Tuesday Give back Day for Bona Vista! Go and enjoy a meal at Ruby Tuesday and support Bona Vista at the same time.*

*December 21, 2012 - Bona Vista Christmas Parties!*

*January 19, 2013 - Last One Standing Dodge Ball Challenge at Maple Crest Middle School.*

*February 8, 2013 - A Night to Remember! Mother and son event held at 6:00pm at the Casabella Ballroom, Pastariffic, 3001 S. Webster.*

*April 20, 2013 - Run, Walk & Roll! A 5k and 1mile fun run walk and roll at UAW 292 with registration beginning at 6:30am.*

For information about these and many of our other special events, call Brittnee Burton at 765-457-8273.



## FOLLOW US



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<http://www.facebook.com/bonavista>



## Kokomo Walgreens Receives 2012 Keystone Award

Kokomo Walgreens store managers, Brian Pier and Chad Howerton, were the recipients of the 2012 Keystone Award. This award was established by Arc of Indiana and Self Advocates of Indiana (SAI) to recognize outstanding employers of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Brian and Chad support Bona Vista's WorkForce Diversity program. WorkForce Diversity is an employment service that helps adults with disabilities attain community employment. Walgreens has worked with our employment specialists utilizing our clients of WorkForce Diversity. Walgreens has allowed clients to grow more independent by employing them in our community. Because of Brian and Chad's support of WorkForce Diversity, the program was able to place clients in all of Kokomo's Walgreens locations.

Walgreens was recognized for their support of WorkForce Diversity and employing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Keystone Award Walgreens received accompanies the Arc of Indiana and SAI's Employment Campaign. The Employment Campaign is designed to speak directly to employers about why employing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is a good business decision. Over the next 12 months, a series of ads will run on "Inside Indiana Business with Gerry Dick" on PBS stations across the state. Walgreens will be featured on these ads. A television crew came out to observe WorkForce Diversity clients in action working at Walgreens! Brian and Chad were able to talk about how hiring people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have benefited their business. Tune in to see our clients in action!

We are so thankful for supportive businesses in our community. Thank you, Walgreens, for being so involved with Bona Vista and all of our programs. If you are a business interested in working with WorkForce Diversity, or you are a client in need of services, please call 765-454-5997 or visit our website at [www.bonavista.org](http://www.bonavista.org).



## Consumer Spotlight Westrom Featured in INARF Magazine



Mark Westrom has been working for Bona Vista Programs since June 4, 2001. Mark has made remarkable progress over the years in the area of communication by asking his supervisor for work assignments and opening up with others and making friends.

He works on a number of jobs at Bona Vista, including our State Use First Aid Kits and Roadway Damage Kits, and is able to perform inspection and material handling as well. Mark is a very valuable member of our team, as he is so versatile.

Mark is also a member of the Bona Vista Safety Committee. In this role, he tours multiple Bona Vista locations and looks for possible safety hazards. He has also served on Bona Vista Industries' Advisory Board.

Mark is a member of the Grace Community Church, where he assists with game night on Wednesdays during AWANA.

Because of Mark's accomplishments, he will be featured in an upcoming issue of INARF magazine. INARF stands for Indiana Association of Rehabilitation Facilities and is the principal membership organization in Indiana representing providers of services to people with disabilities.



## Keys for Kids Preschool: Now Enrolling

Keys for Kids Preschool at Bona Vista Programs has classroom openings for your child, with enrollment happening now! There are opportunities available in the full day classroom for three, four and five-year-olds.

Kindergarten Readiness is also accepting new students. Keys for Kids Preschool programs are academic-based and designed to enhance your child's development through a variety of activities.

These activities are focused on language, fine motor, gross motor, self-help and social skills. Keys for Kids Preschool has achieved a Level 4 ranking from Indiana's Paths to Quality, meaning that it provides the highest level of professionalism in child care.

Keys for Kids offers a professional teaching staff, full-time nursing staff, secured entrances, free developmental screenings, therapy staff and potty training.

The full day program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

## Have a FREE Energy Assessment, Bona Vista receives a \$50 Donation

With the holidays fast approaching, Energizing Indiana has given us a wonderful opportunity. For every member/supporter/friend that schedules and completes a FREE Home Energy Assessment to benefit Bona Vista Programs through December 31, 2012, Energizing Indiana will double its donation to \$50!

To qualify, the appointment **MUST** be scheduled using the link below:

<https://webservices.goodcents.com/PROD/Portlets/Authentication/Authenticate.aspx?ProjectID=60&ProgramID=40&GroupID=BVPI10092012>

You can also visit Bona Vista's website [www.bonavista.org](http://www.bonavista.org) and follow the link provided on our page under "Recent News."

Scheduling is easy. Visit the above website, and you're ready to start. The step-by-step online enrollment guide will walk you through the scheduling process. If you have already enrolled, but not scheduled your home energy assessment, this is a great way to do so. Spread the word by emailing this attachment to your family and friends! If you have any questions, call the helpline at: [1-888-893-8218](tel:1-888-893-8218).

Please take advantage of this great win-win opportunity. Our organization receives needed funds and YOU receive, An Energy Advisor will assess the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in your home to determine operating efficiency, Replace up to 9 traditional bulbs with CFLs, Install up to 3 low-flow faucet aerators (2 bathroom/1 kitchen), Install up to 2 low-flow shower heads, You'll also receive a comprehensive report detailing what can be done to start saving energy and make your home more comfortable.

Many times an assessment reveals that only simple and relatively low-cost improvements are necessary to achieve significant energy savings! Thank you for your support of Bona Vista Programs, Inc!



## Bona Vista Happenings

**The Vista:** Bona Vista along with the Chamber of Commerce had a Ground Breaking ceremony on October 18, 2012. The Vista will be located at 1220 S. Plate Street across from Bona Vista's Crossing. Eight residents will live in The Vista, which will be energy efficient. Each person will have a private bedroom and bathroom, and they will share common space such as kitchens and laundry rooms. The clients will also have a garden to tend to which will allow residents to be involved in an activity that they can enjoy – regardless of age or disability. Construction for The Vista will start January 2013.



**Madison & Hamilton County Expansion:** Bona Vista opened a new office in the Noblesville Area at 593 Westfield Road. We have expanded our WorkForce Diversity Services, Habilitation Services and Supported Living Services into Madison and Hamilton Counties. WorkForce Diversity has had success with local businesses. They have placed four clients in the community. There have been two client placements at Kohl's, one at Walmart and one janitorial position at Defense Finance & Accounting Services. Meredith Platt, WorkForce Diversity Coordinator, stated that "Kohl's has been great at working with WorkForce Diversity and our clients. The managers and supervisors constantly praise the clients for their hard work and ability to learn new tasks." If you have any questions about our expansion and services provided in Madison and Hamilton counties, please call Meredith at 1-800-334-5054.



**Bona Vista Industries:** BVI successfully passed their annual ISO audit, which is a critical designation for our services. It also helps us maintain and secure new industrial contracts. We passed this audit with no citations and lots of praise!

**Early Childhood Services & Business Office:** They had an outstanding audit from First Steps of Indiana.

**Early Head Start and Full Day Preschool:** They received a Five Star designation from IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management), in addition to an excellent licensing outcome by the State of Indiana Child Care Licensing Board.



## Last One Standing Dodge Ball Challenge 2013

The 8th annual Last One Standing Dodge Ball Challenge to benefit Bona Vista Programs is planned for Saturday, January 19, 2013 in the gymnasiums at Maple Crest Middle School in Kokomo, Indiana.

Up to 40 teams of six players who are 18 years of age or above will compete against each other in this fast paced game of throwing and dodging. Co-ed teams are encouraged! The cost for entry will be \$15 per person. Prizes will be awarded for the first, second, and third place teams, best uniforms and overall fundraising team.

The tournament is a great way to help Bona Vista raise much needed funds. All proceeds from this event will go to support pediatric and adult programming at Bona Vista Programs.



Last year we had a total of 34 teams who competed for the title of "Last One Standing" and we are planning on another successful competition in 2013.

Many community leaders came out to support their favorite teams, and the event is always open to the public. There are still opportunities to sponsor our event on a variety of levels.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or would like more information on this event, contact Brittnee at 765.457.8273, ext. 335 or check out our website at [bonavista.org](http://bonavista.org).