

## Terrell joins Board of Directors

DAMAR is excited to announce that **Patrick "Pat" Terrell**, principal of The Winston/Terrell Group, Inc., was elected to DAMAR's Board of Directors. A long-time governmental affairs consultant, strategist and organizer, Pat has held leadership roles at Lewis & Kappes and in state government, including two years as political director for the Indiana Democratic Party.

"Pat's experience in governmental affairs will serve DAMAR well and help open doors to community decision-makers," said **Julia Crowe**, DAMAR board chair.

Pat first served DAMAR as a member of the *Exceeding Expectations* capital campaign cabinet. His previous board experience includes the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the State Boxing Commission, among others. A native of Paoli, Indiana, and graduate of Purdue University, Pat resides in Indianapolis with his wife Karen.



### *There's no place like DAMAR.*

Join the DAMAR Guild for the 2007 Dinner Dance featuring live music and live and silent auctions in celebration of DAMAR's 40th anniversary.

- Date:** October 20, 2007  
**Location:** The Westin Indianapolis  
 50 South Capital Avenue  
**Time:** VIP Hour begins at 6 p.m.  
 Event begins at 7 p.m.  
**Attire:** Black tie optional

Contact **Donna Stutler** at 317.455.7235 or e-mail [donnas@damar.org](mailto:donnas@damar.org).

All donations to DAMAR Services, Inc. are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. In remembering DAMAR's mission in a will or bequest, the following language is suggested: "I give, devise, and bequeath the (sum of \_\_\_\_\_, percentage of \_\_\_\_\_, residue of my estate, etc.) to DAMAR Services, Inc. an Indiana non-profit corporation, exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and located in Indianapolis, Indiana, for the furtherance of its charitable purposes."

To find out more about DAMAR call us at 317.856.5201 or visit [www.damar.org](http://www.damar.org)



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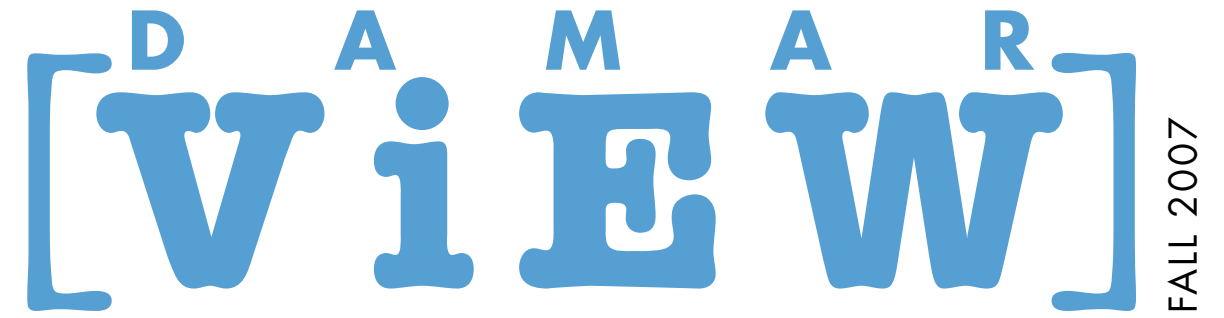
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FALL 2007

## Happy Joey

Every weeknight, the Smith's phone rings. Scott answers, chuckles at his 14-year-old son's routine greeting — "Where's my mom?" — and quickly gives the phone to his wife Jennifer.

"Mama's Boy," she brags. "He's my Happy Joey."

"Happy Joey," has long been a popular idol at DAMAR and is now featured on Indiana billboards and [www.damar.org](http://www.damar.org) as part of DAMAR's new public awareness campaign.

Joey came to DAMAR in 2000 facing autism, mental retardation and physically aggressive behavior attributable to his inability to speak more than single-word sentences. Other service providers had refused him further treatment.

"DAMAR said 'Welcome, Joey' and every day then since he's received the best DAMAR has to offer," Jennifer recalls, adding that her faith in DAMAR grows during Joey's weekend visits and nightly calls home. "I ask my kid what he did today and he answers me in full sentences. And he always says 'I love you, Mom.' That just tickles me because I never thought I'd hear Joey say that."

Jennifer credits DAMAR with Joey's success, saying, "I think he always sensed that I wanted to understand him and now I can. That's our connection. His happiness and self-esteem — it's all because DAMAR's program works and the staff really cares. DAMAR gave me a Happy Joey."



DAMAR staff Colleen Fly and Joey share a special moment before DAMAR's prom.

## The Third Decade

### November 1991

Sertoma Club of West Indianapolis hosts inaugural hayride to benefit DAMAR.

### January 1993

DAMAR buys eight acres of additional land, preparing for growing demand for services.

### August 1993

DAMAR opens DAMAR Academy to address the unmet educational needs of clients.

### December 1994

DAMAR serves 49 residents on campus and 36 clients in community group homes.

### August 1995

DAMAR launches BASE program to serve adolescents with severe behavioral challenges.

### July 1997

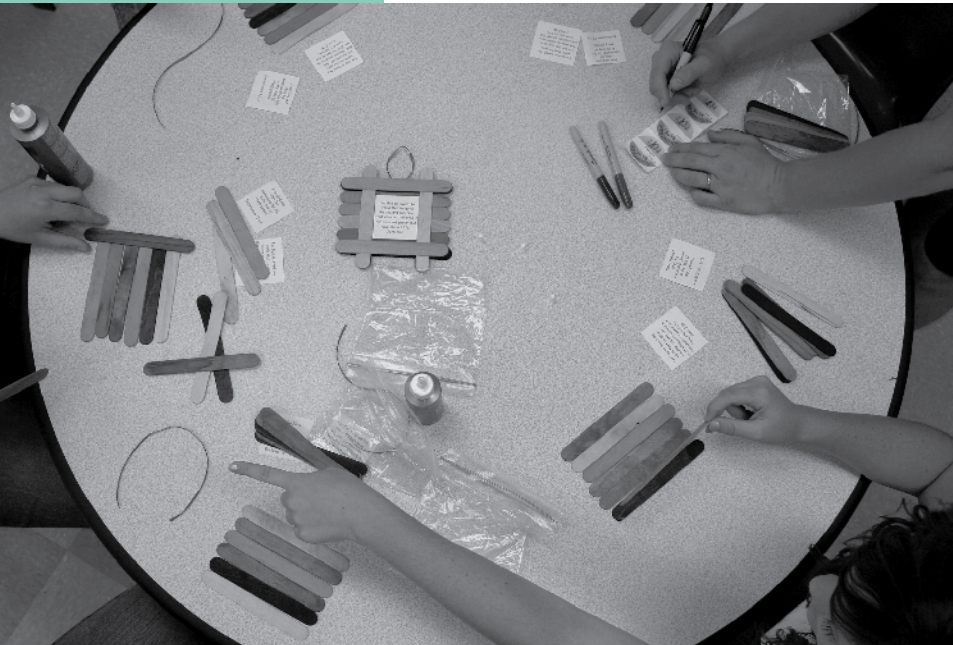
Due to success of BASE program, DAMAR opens BASE II, now the Autism Pavilion.



## Strauss named DAMAR's first Director of Educational Services

From 16 students in 1996 to 160 in 2007, DAMAR Academy has grown tenfold over the past decade.

Respected veteran educator **William "Bill" Strauss** has been named DAMAR's director of educational services in charge of directing operations for DAMAR Academy, which will likely serve 160 students this year.



## Beyond Limitations

The front page of this "new look" DAMAR View highlights the third decade of an organization growing from tentative competence to respectful confidence in its ability to serve well. This period witnessed the first physical expansion of our property and the first special event developed by our staff, Wild West Day, which still today brings together clients, families and volunteers in common celebration and fun.

Most significantly, this decade launched our singularly unique BASE program. This much needed service for children with both intellectual and significant behavioral challenges was an indicator of things to come for the DAMAR mission.

But perhaps, most representative of our developing organizational culture was the Mini-Marathon success of client Shawn King and counselor Brian Bill. This amazing feat dramatically demonstrated what can be accomplished when one person looks beyond perceived limitations to help another human being unlock their precious potential. If one could make such a difference, it is easy to imagine how much we could accomplish together.



**Gregory A. Johnson**  
President & CEO

The creation of Bill's new position underscores DAMAR's success in leading efforts to effect legislation making it possible for local schools to contract with service providers like DAMAR.

"This is a significant achievement for DAMAR because it enables us to provide educational support to even more students facing developmental, learning and other challenges in achieving their greatest possible potential," said **Greg Johnson**, President and CEO.

Bill is primarily responsible for maintaining DAMAR Academy's compliance with federal and state education requirements, fulfilling students' Individual Education Plan (IEP) needs and providing effective leadership of the school's teachers and staff.

"I am very excited about joining DAMAR's team and developing a new school that provides such valuable education and support to a very important and deserving population in our community," Bill said.

An Indianapolis native, Bill holds both a Bachelor of Science and a master's degree in education. Previously, he served as a high school administrator for both South Vermillion and Plainfield Community school districts, beginning his career as a high school English teacher at Hamilton Southeastern Schools.

Bill and his wife Linda have two adult children and currently reside in Clinton, Indiana.

## A penny for your search

Help DAMAR build better futures for people facing developmental and behavior challenges by using Goodsearch.com, a yahoo-powered free search engine that gives a penny per Internet search to any user's registered charity of choice.

Visit [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and select **DAMAR as your charity of choice today!**

## Staff celebrate anniversaries

DAMAR is recognizing two dedicated employees for achieving 20 years of service.

In her two decades as DAMAR's food service director, **Dottie Gilliam's** strong leadership has sustained the responsible growth of dietary staff, programs and operations on the DAMAR residential campus, including last year's successful expansion of food service facilities.

Since 1987, **Julie Nedde's** commitment as a direct support professional has helped countless clients achieve a higher quality of life. Throughout her career at DAMAR, Julie has been highly regarded by clients and families for providing excellent client care.



"The quality of service from Dottie and Julie has enabled us to provide the consistency of care our clients need to achieve their potential, and we appreciate their loyalty," said **Liz Snyder**, DAMAR vice president of human resources.

**Julie Nedde and Dottie Gilliam** celebrate 20 years at DAMAR.

## DAMAR launches new look and Web site

An updated logo and color palette along with a redesigned Web site and publications are among the many features of DAMAR's revitalized look and feel, unveiled recently in conjunction with a major outreach initiative to increase community awareness of and involvement in DAMAR's important mission.

Improvements to [www.damar.org](http://www.damar.org) are part of a multi-phase renovation to provide enhanced access to information about DAMAR's innovative programs and support services, employment and mission support opportunities, community outreach and trainings, and more. **Log on to [www.damar.org](http://www.damar.org) today!**

## Event to commemorate 40th anniversary

The community is invited to attend a special Open House celebration in honor of DAMAR's first 40 years. The event also will include the unveiling of the *Faces of DAMAR* in recognition of those stewards whose profound influence has contributed significantly to DAMAR's success.



**Date:** September 27, 2007  
**Location:** DAMAR Gymnasium & Conference Center  
6324 Kentucky Avenue  
**Time:** 6 p.m.

RSVP not required. For information, contact **Allyson Wells** at 317.455.7239 or e-mail [allysonw@damar.org](mailto:allysonw@damar.org).



**Dr. Jim Dalton**  
Vice President & COO

## Expanding Mission

DAMAR's important mission was further enhanced on June 25 with the opening of a new residential building on campus, which allows us to serve an additional 20 children facing autism-related challenges.

Although DAMAR's Autism Service Line has grown significantly in recent years, this additional capacity enables us to meet the ongoing needs of children and families from Indiana and beyond. Children with severe autism need intensive services and support to

develop new ways to learn and communicate, socialize and regulate their emotions and behaviors. DAMAR's expansion provides them access to these and other resources that previously have been unavailable.

As the need for autism services increases, we are committed to providing the full continuum of care and support to those impacted by these challenges. Thank you for continuing to support DAMAR as our exciting growth continues.