

DECEMBER 2007



**Alec colors and makes handprints on the Thanksgiving banner.**

## Feathers were flying

The week of November 4 was the week of service for Alpha Phi Omega chapters to hold community service projects. How lucky we were to have two chapters choose DAMAR for their project.

The Butler chapter chose to do a craft activity with the clients. They made turkeys out of clients' hand prints complete with feathers and googlie eyes. The decorations will be a festive addition to the clients units and homes. They also completed Happy Thanksgiving banners stating what each client was thankful for this year.

"We are all looking forward to another opportunity to come

and hang out with the kids, because they were so great," said **Cynthia Spreadbury**, a member of Alpha Phi Omega at Butler University. "I can't think of a better way to spend a Saturday afternoon!"

Members of the IUPUI chapter were here on Friday, November 9. They played bingo with all of our campus girls. Everyone had a great time and loved winning the prizes.

We hope both groups will return to serve. These groups are vital to the DAMAR team. They provide the clients with fun opportunities that they might not have if volunteers were not so generous with their time.

**Remember to turn in  
volunteer/intern hours  
by December 6.**

"Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop..."

— Dr. Dorothy I. Height, president and CEO  
of the National Council of Negro Women

## A special holiday thanks



It's the holiday season once again and it seems to be here sooner than ever. In this busy world we live in, I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your volunteer efforts.

The Volunteer Resources program will have a record breaking year thanks to your gift of time. We are nearing 170,000 hours of logged time this year. Thank you for helping us spread the word about DAMAR's volunteer program to your friends and co-workers. The program continues to grow daily. From the various groups and special event volunteers to the interns and 1-1 volunteers who play such a valuable role in our clients lives. We could not accomplish our mission without your precious gift of time.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the annual Elvis holiday concert on December 13 at 7 p.m. in our new Gymnasium & Conference Center here on campus.

Once again, I appreciate all the support we have received from you this year and wish you and your family all the best during the holiday season and the New Year!

Sincerely,



**Donna Stutler**

Volunteer Resource Director

## Giggles and laughs all morning at DAMAR

Laughs filled the base gym as members of the **Heaven Sent Clown Ministry** performed for the clients of the Young Boys Service Line on Saturday, November 10.

Their act consisted of a variety of elements from puppets and magic to the wrap up of the show with the song *Hokey Pokey* involving audience participation. This group volunteers at DAMAR every year and hopes to increase their visits to campus as they always have a great time.

The clowns and their helpers also awarded each member of the audience with a great listener award in the form of crayons, checker games and other fun trinkets. The boys all had a great time watching and participating in the performance. We all hope the clowns will return and share their talent and message again soon.



## Special Thanks Due

The **scrapbooking volunteers** are doing a wonderful job. The girls are really enjoying the time they are able to spend working on the books that help them share their memories with family members and friends.

Even though this activity only takes place once a month, the girls look forward to it and the time they have to share with the wonderful volunteers who participate in this activity.

# Volunteer Success Story

## Ashley reflects on unforgettable experience as a DAMAR intern

Nine months ago, **Ashley Leavelle** swept into DAMAR with enthusiasm and exciting ideas in hopes of becoming a special events intern. Her ideas and willingness to learn and become a member of the Special Events Committee made her a lock for the position.

Ashley's first event was the St. Patrick's Day Dance where she helped with refreshments and danced with clients. She also came in on Easter Sunday to help hide eggs and distribute gifts, then dedicated nearly 100 hours in May to help make DAMAR's annual prom a huge success.

"When we did fittings for prom dresses I had so much fun," Ashley said. "It was like taking 100 girls dress shopping in one day, but that day was the first time I really connected with the girls. I was so excited for them and I was 'ooh-ing' and 'ahh-ing' over how pretty they looked."

Ashley says DAMAR has given her the opportunity to learn

more about special events, and be a part of enhancing the lives of some very special young people.

"Anyone who is thinking of volunteering or interning at DAMAR should know it's an experience like no other," she said. "It is rewarding to be appreciated by the kids and staff. And it's great to have the opportunity to watch these children change for the better and make incredible personal strides everyday. It is an unbelievable feeling to know that you have played a part in that."

A tourism, convention and event management major at Indiana University - Indianapolis, Ashley plans to pursue a career in corporate event planning.



## Giving Back

**Thank you to the following volunteers for "giving back" in October by contributing 1,497.5 hours during the month:**

Rebecca Anderson	Charlene Guthrie
Ryan Armev	Barbara Hittle
Pam Ball	Cheryl Hedden
Ruther Budhi	Paul Hedden
Mindy Cappleman	Tracy Irvin
Miriam Carpenter	Angela Julius
Vicki Causey	Navpreet Kaur
Nyla Cooper	Pete Koers
Erica Davidson	Kay Landis
Matt Devore	Julie Larsh
Diana Douglas	Susette Lawson
Dorian Dotson	Ashley Leavelle
Jane Fultz	Chuck Lindgren
Michelle Gibbons	Chuck Lippens
Candice Griggs	Nancy Lippens

Lindsey Long  
Cara Luecking  
Eric Luecking  
Diana Mann  
Kenya McMillin  
Aaryn Miller  
Andrea Bobe-Napier  
Mary Ellen Nease  
Stephanie Nicolini  
Melissa Nufrio  
Zachary Parrett  
Stacy Perkins  
Jamie Petty  
Amy Retzlaff  
Robbie Ritter  
Amanda Rodeffer  
Teri Rodgers  
Michael Scott  
Andrew Seibert  
Leslie Senesac  
Marissa Simon  
Jenny Sledge  
Laura Smith  
Justin Spradlin

Derek Staton  
Rachel Stephen  
Debbie Swinney  
Greg Swinney  
Tracy Tharp  
Jessica Trent  
Lacey Utter  
Stephanie VanLieu  
Cameron VanSplinter  
Richard Williams  
Kim Wyatt

### Groups

Butler Delta Tau Delta  
Butler Student Education Association  
CYO  
Evan Bayh's Youth Leadership Summit  
Sertoma Hayride

## A holiday gift to remember

Support DAMAR's annual holiday Santa Shop on Dec. 18 from 1 to 5 p.m. We need your donations of candles, picture frames and other knickknacks to ensure clients have a quality selection of gifts to give someone special for the holidays. Cash donations are also welcome. All donations are needed by Dec. 14. Contact Molly Wells at 317-856-5201 ext. 238 for more information.

## Don't miss the annual Elvis Holiday Concert

It will be a "Blue Christmas" without you at DAMAR's annual Elvis Holiday Concert on Thursday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. in DAMAR's new Gymnasium & Conference Center. No RSVP required.



## Mark Your Calendar Upcoming Special Events

### Southport Middle School Caroling and Gift Giving

Saturday, December 8 Noon-4 p.m.

### DAMAR Guild Cookie Decorating

Saturday, December 8 10 a.m.

### Scrap booking for GTU-L and Bradford House

Wednesday, December 12 10 a.m.

### Elvis Holiday Concert

#### at DAMAR's new Gymnasium & Conference Center

Thursday, December 13 7 p.m.

### Santa Shop

Tuesday, December 18 1-5 p.m.

### Aktion Club Holiday Celebration

Tuesday, December 18 1-6 p.m.

### DAMAR Academy Last Day of First Semester

Wednesday, December 19

### CYO Holiday Celebration with the clients

Wednesday, December 19 5:30 p.m.

Imagine. Engage. Achieve.

**Remember . . .**  
Please turn in your October  
volunteer/intern hours by  
December 6.

DAMAR Services, Inc.  
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