

Volunteers Make *Birdies* Better

For the past three years, **Chris Baire** has looked forward to Thursday evenings in the summertime. As a volunteer for the *Birdies Toward Better Behavior* introductory golf program for Damar clients, it's his weekly opportunity to play golf with youth who want to learn more about the game.

"I love this program and it's a great opportunity for the kids," Chris said. "On the greens, everybody wins."

Birdies runs twice weekly from April through August. On Tuesday evenings, the young *Birdies* participants concentrate on developing special skills, such as grip and stance, and putting and chipping. On Thursdays, clients are matched with a volunteer to play the par 3 course and build valuable friendships.

"This friendship and communal rapport enables them to gain confidence in social skills which are easily transferable to future interactions and relationships with others," said Jim Porter, Damar's recreation director in charge of the *Birdies* program.

"The volunteers have done an excellent job connecting with the



Volunteers Bob Williams (center) and Chris Baire (right) prepare for a round of golf with Stephen.

kids on a personal level," said Sean Otis, recreation assistant. "It has been a great way for our kids to develop positive relationships and have lots of fun," Thanks to all the *Birdies* volunteers for their efforts on the golf course.

"The more you lose yourself in something bigger than yourself, the more energy you will have."

– Norman Vincent Peale, American clergyman and writer

Mission Indy Week July 8-11



I am happy to announce that Mission Indy will partner with us again for the fifth year and provide programming

for our annual Vacation Bible School (VBS). Mission Indy is a local non-profit that provides opportunities for Christians to serve the community. This year's team consists of about 25 middle and high school students from different parts of the state, as well as adult sponsors and Mission Indy staff members.

Damar's clients will enjoy two days of VBS and benefit from a variety of special learning opportunities, including a puppet ministry, bible lessons, crafts, swimming, group discussions and recreation.

We are so excited to offer another Mission Indy VBS experience for our clients and thank to Mission Indy and its volunteers for allowing Damar to host this wonderful event.

Look for more information and pictures in next month's newsletter.

Sincerely,

Donna Stutler

Volunteer Resources Director



Boot Stompin' Fun for All



Volunteer Ruth Carpenter (white shirt) prepares to serve lunch.

A wester-style feast was served, smiling faces were painted and the country band rocked the tent at Damar's 16th annual Wild West Day held on Saturday, June 21.

The event was a success, thanks to the help of more than 30 dedicated volunteers who began arriving as early as 9:30 a.m. to grill the corn and hot dogs. Others helped serve food and drinks, paint clients faces, take pictures and share a dance or two with clients as they enjoyed the live music.

"It makes you appreciate the little things in life and I can't wait to do it again," said Rich Longworth, a first-time Wild West Day volunteer.

We always appreciate their help and look forward to working with them at other events in the future.

"This event makes me appreciate even more what Damar does for the children," said Lisa King, a Damar parent and volunteer. "When I see my son smiling and having a great time I know that, as a parent, I made the right choice for him and that he is in caring, loving hands."

Mark your calendars today for Damar's next big event coming soon! Fair Day will be held on Tuesday, July 22 at Damar!

Special Thanks Due

Smiles spread from ear to ear as the performers of **Heaven Sent Clowns Ministry** performed another hilarious show on June 7. This show was especially fun for all of the clients. They had their faces painted and were given foam noses so they could become clowns for the day.

The Good Shepherd Catholic Youth

Organization (CYO) hosted two events this month. On June 8, CYO sponsored bingo night for 100 clients, who enjoyed winning prizes and having snacks with the volunteers as they played bingo together. On June 29, CYO sponsored a relay race and cookout. Everyone had a great time at both events.

Volunteer Success Story

Three years and three lovely young ladies later, Pam Ball is still going strong with her volunteer efforts at Damar. Her journey began in 2005 when her church group visited campus to perform community service project and learn more about Damar's mission.

"I appreciate the fact that the kids who live at Damar are given a chance to be the best they can be, and they have the chance to have fun at the many special programs Damar offers," Pam said.

Shortly after her church's visit, Pam became a one-on-one volunteer and was paired with a young lady named Kathleen. They were together for more than two years when, in January, Kathleen moved to a different part of Indiana. They still talk on the phone and visit each other.

Pam was then paired with two sisters, Rebecca and Nancy. Both girls needed a special friend to spend time with.

Pam and the girls enjoy their time together and often go to movies, shopping to spend time with Pam's family. Rebecca and Nancy especially enjoyed Pam's family cookout where they had the opportunity to play with Pam's



5-month-old niece and her grandchildren.

"I loved the cookout and Pam is a good cook," Nancy said.

Another activity that Pam shares with the girls is photography.

Pam bought photo albums for herself and the girls — including Kathleen. She always takes pictures of special time they share and gives each of them copies to put in their albums.

It's just one of the many ways she gives back

to the girls and herself.

"I believe that you should do what you can do when you can," Pam said. "Trust that you have improved someone's life in a small way and have given that person some good memories to take with her next walk in life."

Pam has done many great things for these young ladies and we appreciate her continued dedication to Damar's mission.

GivingBack

Thank you to the following volunteers for "giving back" in MAY 2008 by contributing 922.50 hours.

Rebecca Anderson
Chris Baire
Pam Ball
Joan Bartley
Kaley Bolante
Amanda Buchanan
Ruther Budhi
Breanna Burk
Michelle Calbert
Miriam Carpenter
Lisa Ciralsky
Cari Cox
Dorian Dotson

Diana Douglas
Jessica Drennan
Jane Duselis
Connie Elliott
Mallory Elliott
Clint Fielder
Shanaa George
Merry Glaser
Alicia Goss
Maggie Goss
Rachel Hadley
Karen Hampton
Barb Hittle

Amy Hudson
Verdonna Hudson
Hahawu Ijetta
Angie Julius
Pete Koers
Phil Kunkel
Brandon Lang
Marty Lindgren
Chuck Lippens
Nancy Lippens
Cara Luecking
Eric Luecking
Kelly McKenney

Kenneth Marcum
Nancy Mernone
Jennifer Mihm
Aaryn Miller
Linda Moore
Andrea Bobe-Napier
Stephanie Nicolini
Kelly Overton
Zach Parrett
Lindsay Payne
Julia Porter
Jennifer Rich
Shane Riddle

Robbie Ritter
Amanda Rodeffer
Katherine Rios
Judy Russell
Jeff Schabel
Toni Schabel
Diane Simpson
Greg Smith
Laura Smith
Jason Smock
Debbie Swinney
Greg Swinney
Carl Snyder

Emily Snyder
Michelle Tate
Mindy Taylor
Sarah Ullom
Stephanie VanLieu
Laura Vanover
Maggie Wright
Kim Wyatt

Groups

Duke Energy

QTG

Remember . . .
Please turn in your June
volunteer/intern hours by
JULY 5, 2008

Damar Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 41
Camby, IN 46113



Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming Special Events

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

Wednesday, July 2, 2008	6:00-7:30 p.m.	CYO Acting Lessons
July 8-11, 2008	9-2:30 p.m.	Vacation Bible School with Mission Indy
Wednesday, July 9, 2008	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Scrap Booking
Wednesday, July 16, 2008	6-8 p.m.	CYO Skating Party
Tuesday, July 22, 2008	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Fair Day
Tuesday, July 29, 2008	6:30 p.m.	Movie Night sponsored by CBRE



If you are receiving this newsletter by mistake or no longer wish to receive it, please contact Molly Wells at 317.856.5201 ext. 238 or mollyw@damar.org.