



Damar clients enjoyed CYO's Valentine's Day Dance, complete with themed decorations and a live band.

A Recipe for Fun

What are the ingredients for a fun event? Start with a theme and an appropriately decorated venue, add a pinch of good music, stir in some energetic people, and you are guaranteed to have a great time. Catholic Youth Organization's (CYO) annual Valentine's Dance was made that much more special because it was on Valentine's Day.

The Side Effects, a group of sixth-graders representing Our Lady of Greenwood Grade School, provided the entertainment. Although young in years, the band demonstrated their music

savvy by performing a variety of tunes that kept Damar's gymnasium rocking while CYO's 27 volunteers enjoyed dancing with clients.

"Events like this give our kids opportunities for important peer-to-peer social interaction, and that really makes a positive difference," said Diane Lamond, Damar director of residential services.

Damar welcomes groups of all sizes for rewarding volunteer opportunities designed to meet your specific needs and interests. Contact Mike Kraft at 856-5201 or mikek@damar.org

Mark Your Calendar Upcoming Special Events

Monday-Friday, March 1-5, 2010
Eastern Michigan Alternative Spring Break

Monday-Friday, March 7-14, 2010
Baldwin College Alternative Spring Break

Tues., March 9, 2010 • 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Salvage Yard Christian Church – Scrapbooking
Damar Family Services Building

Friday, March 12, 2010 • 6 p.m.-7:15 p.m.
CYO St. Patrick's Day Dance
Damar Gymnasium

Monday-Friday, March 15-19, 2010
Florida International University
Alternative Spring Break

Tues., March 16, 2010 • 5:45 p.m.-7:15 p.m.
CRBE Movie Night
Damar Gymnasium

Welcome to the Intern Edition of Our Newsletter



Over the past two years, the Damar Internship Program has expanded and is serving 75 interns annually. Interns have the opportunity to get

ahead of the competition by showcasing their skills and abilities while completing their degrees.

Student interns, who work their way into a program and perform at high levels, quickly pave their way to a solid career path. Our organization is learning that our interns contributions are as rich and rewarding for us as it is for them.

"An internship program can be an integral recruiting tool," said Liz Snyder, human resources director at Damar. "By attracting outstanding college students, an organization has the opportunity to observe students at work and review their work habits, technical ability, interpersonal skills and adaptability before making a full-time commitment."

Damar provides a variety of experiential learning opportunities that help students progress in their personal and career development. By offering these experiences, we are not only contributing to the career exploration process of the intern, but also evaluating the intern's performance and assessing the capabilities of employees who work with them.

Please take the opportunity to read about our interns and their fields of study at the various Indiana colleges and universities.

Sincerely,

Donna Stutler

Volunteer Resources Director

GivingBack

Thanks to the following volunteers for "giving back" 1,415 hours in JANUARY 2010.

Sara Baldwin
Erin Cantrell
Ronald Gasvoda
Hailee Carter
Jan Ann Caudill
Kesha Conner
Emily Courtney
Kortney Crawford
Julie Davis
Ashlyn Dewitt
Nikki Disalvo
Ashley Dowell
Riley Fore
Jeff Fox

Lauren Herrli-Warner
Marta Hohman
Jenell Holstead
Erica Hubble
Tony Jay
Jessica Kissel
Peter Koers
Marty Lindgren
Amanda Mackey
Alex McKenna
Damari Montgomery
Danielle Montoney
Christine Murphy
Nwamaka Onochie

Sam Patterson
Heather Reckerd
Sara-Ruth Riggis
Robbie Ritter
Abrara Rogers
Jennifer Sands
Becky Siegman
Chauntee Spellman
Donna Suttles
Greg Swinney
Debbie Swinney
Leslie Taylor
Christina Wood

Groups

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Salvage Yard Christian Church
IUPUI MLK Day of Service volunteers
IUPUI Delta Sigma Pi fraternity
CYO

Special Thanks Due

A large group of clients turned out for the monthly scrapbooking activity. **Becky Siegman** and her great group of volunteers from **Salvage Yard Christian Church** does an outstanding job each month assisting participants with the fine art of scrapbooking.

It was movie night on Damar's campus as **CYO** hosted the showing of a popular movie for clients. Not only did **CYO** bring terrific volunteers, but they also brought movie treats. Fun for all!

Ways to give to Damar:

- Plastic Easter eggs
- Easter candy
- Books for scrapbooking
- Costume jewelry for annual prom
- Spring jackets
- Basketballs, soccer balls and volleyballs
- Table games
- Personal hygiene items
- Coloring books and crayons
- Books for scrapbooking

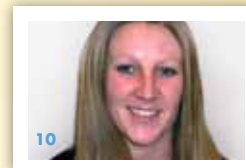
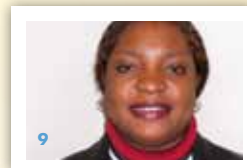
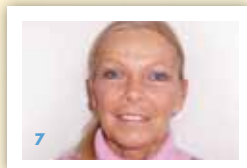
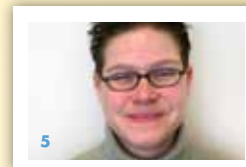
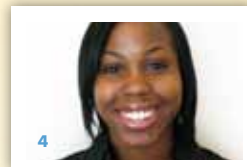
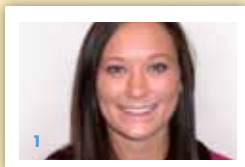
Do know a friend or family member who could lend a hand? Damar has needs for people skilled in the following areas to help with upcoming special events and activities:

- Beauticians/barbers
- Artists
- Woodcrafters
- Painters
- Crafters
- Professional Dry Cleaner
- Seamstress/Tailor
- Photographer

Please contact Mike Kraft at 317-856-5201 or mikek@damar.org if you can help us with any of these items. Thanks for your support!

Highlighting our spring semester Damar Interns

Each year, Damar provides dynamic and rewarding internship experiences to talented and energetic Indiana college students seeking to gain real-world experience in their pursuit of higher education. The following students represent Damar's Internship Program – Spring 2010.



1 Sara Baldwin, IUPUI

Sara has been interning in the human resources department. Majoring in HR management, she will graduate in December 2010 and pursue a career in healthcare or nonprofit HR.

2 Kesha Conner, Walden University

Pursuing a master's degree in mental health counseling, Kesha works with Damar's Girls Services. Kesha said her internship has allowed her the opportunity to learn what the mental health and behavioral services entails. Graduating in December 2010, Kesha would like to continue working in the mental health field and eventually specialize in marriage and family counseling.

3 Emily Courtney, IUPUI

Emily earned her bachelor's degree in December 2009, and served Damar as a human resources intern. She said, "I'm gaining valuable skills that I can apply wherever I decide to go in my career. It's interesting to see how an organization, like Damar, has so many people who enjoy what they do and work so hard to make a difference in the lives of others."

4 Julie Davis, IUPUI

Julie will graduate in May with a bachelor's in tourism, convention and event management. Julie is an intern in the volunteer resources department. She said her experience at Damar is giving her a better perspective on non-profit special events. Julie hopes to have a career with a non-profit agency as a special events coordinator.

5 Marta Hohman, Indiana Wesleyan University

Marta is interning with Damar's Adolescent Boys Services program, and will graduate in August with a master's in counseling. "This internship has given me the experience of working with a new population and the opportunity to see how residential facilities operate," Marta said.

6 Jessica Kissel, IUPUI

Interning in the recreation department, Jessica will graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in physical education. Jessica said, "I really enjoy working with the kids and I think it has given me a better idea of what I want to do in the future." Jessica wants to work with special populations in the future.

7 Terri Timbrook, Ivy Tech Community College

Terri is helping out in the Community Living and Support Services department, and spends most of her intern hours at the homes of adult clients served by Damar. She will graduate in May with a degree in human services. "My experience with Damar has taught me how to be more patient and understand the needs and wants of this population," Terri said. "I will always be grateful to Damar for allowing me to be a part of the team."

8 Amanda Mackey, IUPUI

Amanda says her experience as an intern in the recreation department has helped her learn a lot about her own capabilities while also helping children who need positive role models in their lives. She will graduate in May with a bachelor's in physical education with an emphasis in exercise science.

9 Nwamaka Onochie, Ivy Tech Community College

Nwamaka is assisting with administrative duties and working with clients as an intern in Damar's Community Living and Support Services program. "My internship experience has been wonderful, and it has given me the opportunity to learn about some of the administrative duties, she said. Nwamaka will graduate in August with an associate's degree in human services, and plans to attend IUPUI to pursue a bachelor's in social work.

10 Donna Suttles, IUPUI

Donna is interning in Damar's Community Support Services department. She said her intern experience is giving her a better understanding of family dynamics, and has helped her to further explore social work. Donna plans to graduate in May 2011 with a master's in social work. She hopes to earn a licensed clinical social worker certification and work with children in a healthcare setting.

11 Karen Kroger, not pictured Ivy Tech Community College

Graduating in December 2010 with an associate's degree in human services, Karen has been interning with the Camby group home. Karen said she has been learning to build trust and is making connections with the clients she works with. Her goal is to start a pet therapy day camp using horses and other animals to help people with physical and mental disabilities.

Remember us?

The following students began their internships last semester and were featured in the December 2009 edition of *Giving Back Gazette*:

Hailee Carter
Heather Reckerd
Arbara Rogers
Jennifer Sands
Chauntee Spellman

Remember . . .
If you have not used Volgistics to log your volunteer hours, please turn them in by MARCH 8, 2010.

Damar Services, Inc.
6067 Decatur Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46241



Wellness Fair Volunteers Needed

Your help is needed at Damar's Wellness Fair on Thursday, April 22. The fair is for Damar clients and staff. Volunteer duties will include assisting with health and fitness related activities for clients, handing out materials and helping with set up and tear down.

Volunteers are needed from 9:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. and 12:45 p.m.–4 p.m. Lots of fun activities are planned.

To sign up, contact Mike Kraft at 856-5201 or mikek@damar.org

SAVE THE DATE!

17th Annual
Wild West Fair Day
Saturday, June 19, 2010
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Activities • Food • Games

To RSVP for Wild West Fair Day or to volunteer, please contact Mike Kraft at 317.856.5201 ext. 238 or mikek@damar.org



If you are receiving this newsletter by mistake or no longer wish to receive it, please contact Mike Kraft at 317.856.5201 or mikek@damar.org.