



# Giving Back G A Z E T T E

A Newsletter for the Volunteers of Damar Services | MAY 2010

## WellPoint Community Service Day – Building Healthy Communities

For WellPoint employees participating in the company's annual **Community Service Day**, giving was the order of the day at Damar Services and across the nation. More than 4,500 WellPoint associates, family and friends signed up to support over 200 volunteer projects in 150 cities across 29 states and the District of Columbia.

At Damar, projects volunteers worked on included assembling and staining 10 picnic tables, painting birdhouses to be used on campus, assembling ten trampolines and painting wall murals in one of the Autism Service Line residents. Also, volunteers were busy creating a hosta garden and worked on a new landscaped area, in addition to participating in a morning of recreation with clients.

**Angela Braly**, WellPoint CEO, rolled up her sleeves and worked alongside colleagues. Speaking of Damar, she said, "We are proud of the work you do to strengthen our community and appreciate your selfless dedication to others."

**Dorothy Stenger**, a WellPoint employee volunteered along with her husband and son. "I was very impressed with the facility and the quality of care the clients receive," she said. In addition to paying for tools, plants, trampolines and picnic tables, WellPoint gave Damar \$100 for each employee who worked at Community Service Day.

Having been influenced at an early age by a mentor, WellPoint volunteer **Susan Brunson** said



### One of several projects WellPoint volunteers completed was assembling picnic tables.

she knew from experience how important it was for a young person to have a positive influence. She saw Damar being that positive influence for many people. Susan said, "That's why I picked Damar to volunteer at. I wanted to pay it forward."

*Thank you, WellPoint for supporting Damar and your example of corporate volunteer leadership both locally and nationally.*

### Mark Your Calendar Upcoming Special Events

Monday, May 10, 2010 • 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Salvage Yard Christian Church – Scrapbooking  
Damar Family Services Building

Thursday, May 13, 2010 • 3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Volunteers prepare girls for Damar Prom  
Damar Gymnasium

Sunday, May 16, 2010 • 1 p.m.-3 p.m.  
Original Circle City Corvette Club Car Show  
Damar Parking Area

Saturday, May 22, 2010 • 10 a.m.-11 a.m.  
Heaven Sent Clowns Ministry  
Damar Cafeteria

*Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another. – Erma Brombeck*

## Why Volunteer...



Volunteers are the backbone of the nonprofit sector. Organizations depend on volunteers to staff telephones, provide mentoring, serve hot meals, organize

fundraising events, stuff envelopes and complete office related tasks.

The classic stereotype of a volunteer is that they have time to spare and is looking for something to do. Although this perception may have been true in the past, it no longer fits. Women still volunteer more than men, and people between the ages of 35 - 44 are most likely to volunteer.

People volunteer for a variety of reasons, including the desire to:

- **Help the community and others.**

Helping others usually comes first when people think of volunteers.

- **Increase self-esteem.** Volunteering makes people feel better about themselves.

- **Help out friends.** Friends are often the first people we turn to when we need help.

- **Make new friends.** Volunteering is usually a social activity.

- **Try out a new job.** People considering a job in the nonprofit sector often discover that volunteering is a good way to get a peek and a different profession.

- **Polish their resumes.** Adding volunteer experience to a resume shows a commitment to helping others or to work in a particular field.

- **Develop new skills.** A volunteer job often gives people an opportunity to learn something that they didn't know how to do.

- **Enjoy something that they love.**

Many volunteer jobs come with intrinsic benefits for their participation.

At Damar, we want to provide an environment in which volunteers can bring their friends, meet others who share their interests, and learn new skills. Thanks again for your energy, time and talents.

Sincerely,

**Donna Stutler**

Volunteer Resources Director



Volunteers from BKD spent a fun day giving service to Damar. Their work included helping assemble decorations that will be used at the Damar prom in May, moving prom clothes and mulching the campus grounds.

Groups large and small are encouraged to choose Damar as the place where they want to give back to the community. We need you! For more information contact Mike Kraft at 856-5201 or [mikek@damar.org](mailto:mikek@damar.org).

## Special Thanks Due

Thanks go to **Salvage Yard Christian Church** for their continued support of our scrapbooking program. We appreciate your help working with our girls who want to create a neat place to keep their memories.

Making sure Damar clients maintain healthy smiles were students from **IU School of Dentistry**. They held a dental fair that showed clients the importance of proper dental hygiene.

A super group from **Grace Church** played games with clients at Damar Game Night. Clients had fun playing cards, Battleship and Operation. Thanks for the treats, too!

**CYO** sponsored a special catered meal for several clients on campus. The meal

provided clients with the opportunity to have peer interaction with **CYO** members. The conversations were great and so was the food. Thanks **CYO**!

A special thank-you to **Chris Baire**, who played the role of **Easter Bunny**. The furry volunteer passed out treats following the Easter Service and helped young clients during the Easter egg hunt. Hoppy trails to you!

Lot's of decorating was going on at one the adolescent girls units. Volunteers from **Center United Methodist Church Lidia Circle** spent time planning, making decorations and installing their creations. Good work, ladies!

# Covenant Christian High School Gone Servin' Day



Learning the value of service to others can start early in one's life. The benefits of helping others can be far reaching too. In April, Damar was one of 20 worksites selected to participate in Covenant Christian High School's Gone Servin' Day. The purpose of this day of giving is two-fold. The first is for students to serve the community. The second is to serve each other.

Students participating in Gone Servin' ask people to sponsor them and their volunteer work. Monies raised go to the schools' scholarship

## Volunteers from Covenant Christian High School show off decorations made during their Gone Servin' Day at Damar.

program. Three out of four students attending Covenant Christian receive scholarships that help with their tuition. Last year, \$30,000 was raised through the Gone Servin' program.

The 16 volunteers who voted to have Damar as their worksite spent the day making decorations for one of the adolescent boys units. The boys chose old arcade games as their

decoration them. Volunteers ran with the idea and created decorations that will liven up our clients living area. They also participated in recreational activities.

Pretty cool idea. Helping others and helping yourself at the same time. Mission accomplished!

## GivingBack

Thank you to the following volunteers for "giving back" in MARCH 2010 by contributing, 2402 hours.

Chris Baire  
Sara Baldwin  
Kyrie Black  
Nicole Butler  
Hailee Carter  
Keshia Conner  
Emily Courtney  
Christine Crewse

Julie Davis  
Ashlyn DeWitt  
Nikki Disalvo  
Riley Fore  
Jeffrey Fox  
Ronald Gasdova  
Marta Hohman  
Jenell Holstead

Kim Jackson  
Tony Jay  
Jessica Kissel  
Pete Koers  
Karen Kroger  
Vince Logan  
Amanda Mackey  
Nathan Mahon

Danielle Montoney  
Jessica Mungro  
Nwamaka Onochie  
Kendra Orner  
Heather Reckerd  
Arbara Rogers  
Jennifer Sands  
Toni Schabel

Jeff Schabel  
Chauntee Spellman  
Donna Suttles  
Debbie Swinney  
Greg Swinney  
Christina Wood

### Groups

Eastern Michigan University  
CB Richard Ellis  
IUPUI Greeks on the Street

IUPUI Business-X103 Class  
Florida International University  
CYO

Baldwin-Wallace College  
Butler University Alpha Phi

**Remember . . .**  
If you have not used Volgistics to log your volunteer hours, please do so by **May 10, 2010**.

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



**Save the date!**



2010  
**DAMAR  
CLASSIC**

Golfing for better futures.

**Tuesday, July 20, 2010 • Golf Club of Indiana**

Contact Dave DeWitt at 317.856.5201 or  
daved@damar.org for more information

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**

17<sup>th</sup> Annual

**Wild West Fair Day**

**Saturday, June 19, 2010**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Elephant ears and lemon shake-ups**

To volunteer for Wild West Fair Day, 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.