



# Peak Community Services, Inc.

“The Back Page” for December 2006

## Stories to Tell

Thanks to all of those who completed the annual survey. Your information will be a critical part of our FY-2008 (begins in July of 2007) fiscal year.



At a recent new staff orientation meeting I mentioned the importance of stories. As we know from the recent breakfast meeting at which over \$130,000.00 was raised to help get people off of the waiting list, stories about those we serve are very effective. We can talk about buildings, services, and needs, but stories about those we serve and those waiting to be served are the most effective way of bringing our point home to the listener. Stories help people relate to situations many of them have not experienced. Stories make the information personal. Stories illustrate our own personal involvement with the people we serve and the way they have touched our lives. Whether we are speaking with legislators, potential consumers and their families, one another, or those who might donate, stories make the people we serve real to those who may not know them. Each of us has stories to tell, please do so.

In order to tell the kind of stories I refer to in the preceding paragraph, it is important to develop personal relationships with those we serve. Personal relationships should be based upon a partnership. We as staff are partnering with those we serve to enable them to achieve their dreams. We are not doing for or doing to; rather, we are doing things with the people we serve. As equal partners, we can share our personal stories with the consumers and encourage them to share theirs. We are engaged in the process of enabling personal change, and there is little else in life that is more personal, more important, or more satisfying.

*Don*

## Suggestion of the Month:

None this month.

Several wonderful suggestions were received this month. However, some of them were more appropriate to be handled in another way, and some needed to be referred to the soon-to-begin “Safety Suggestion of the Month.”

To make a long story short, the good suggestions presented were not appropriate for this forum.



## So What’s Up With That?

Each suggestion submitted was given to the appropriate person to take care of the issue. Thank you all for making Peak Community Services a better place to work and to receive support!

## WC Employee of the Month:

Kimberly Woodard-Haulcy



The Kokomo 24 hour house has been understaffed, but because of Kim’s dedication, there was never a time the consumers did not have the support they needed. Kim worked whenever it was necessary, going so far as to rearrange family plans to be there for the consumers. Kim has shown true devotion to the consumers.

## PDS Employee of the Month:

A Gaggle of Employees

A group of employees deserve thanks for their stellar work in making the Annual PDS Fall Dinner come to fruition for the consumers and their families. It took all of them to make sure that a fine time was had by all. They are: Deb Girton, Sandy Shedrow, Tonya Campbell, Kelly Reno, Kim Grogan, Tammy Nuss, Cletha Swartzell, Cara Berkshire, and Tammy McCann for her assistance after the dinner.

## Welcome New Employees!

Holly Brewer

Alicia Conner

Tiffany Grandstaff

Marcia Link

Theresa Petrowsky

Krista Rasier

Judy Rolewicz

## Safety Suggestion of the Month:

This feature is coming!

David Weber is working on a plan to bring a featured Safety Suggestion of the Month to the calendar.

## So What’s Up With That?

The suggestion chosen will have a follow-up action plan outlined the same month, just as we do with the “regular” suggestion of the month.

## WC Consumer of the Month:

Jane Nelson



Jane volunteers for Meals on Wheels, and she was the first person to approach Don to remind him that each year we have Christmas baskets set up where everyone can donate food to those in need. She wanted to be able to help those in our community. What a wonderful example she is setting for all of us.

## PDS Consumer of the Month:

Shirley Campbell



Shirley has become more productive in the workshop, taking more opportunities to assist whenever staff requests. Shirley was recently featured in the Newsletter. At the time of that writing, it was assumed she would not be able to work much longer. She is getting healthier and stronger, and is happy to be back to work!