

News

LINE

SUMMER 2009

A PUBLICATION OF LIFELINE YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

Two years ago, when Bernice King, Project Incentive Director, met Iris, she was impressed by this mother who puts her children first. Her home has the necessary rules and structure, but also the complementing love and support. Yet this mom faces real financial struggles which have brought her to government-subsidized living at Brookmill Court Apartments in Fort Wayne. So what does Iris' story have to do with lasting change? We're pleased to share that her youngest son, Dyavonte, just "graduated" from Project Incentive's preschool—one of two sons successfully completing the program.

(continued on page 3)



CERTAINTY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

 by Mark Terrell, CEO

With the state of our economy, it's likely that your family is either feeling the impact or bracing for what the future holds. The fact that you can't watch a television show, listen to the radio, or pick up a newspaper without being bombarded with the demise of the stock market, housing market, or economy doesn't help. If that weren't enough, almost every conversation that I have with someone begins or ends with a question about our future.

I have done my best to listen, read, and consider what others (much smarter than me!) think about the subject and am amazed by the contrast of information. One might say this is but a mere financial hiccup, while another says this is the beginning of the next Great Depression. I personally don't believe that our financial state lies in either one of these extremes, but to say I have the answer to these questions would also be incorrect.

What I do know, and take solace in, is that we serve a great and holy God. My devotions

in the past months have been in the Old Testament. In these Scriptures I have found some great comfort that I would like to pass on. In Leviticus and Deuteronomy, Moses is preparing the people of Israel to finally take possession of the Promised Land.

He describes the land that they are about to enter to be a "land of giants." Not just land of a giant, but a *land of giants*. Moses goes on to tell them that the number of people in the Promised Land are more numerous than they are and that—oh, by the way—the walls of their castles go to the sky!

I think that Moses could have used some help in finding a way to encourage his people. They are about to conquer a land they waited forty years to get, and this is their pep talk?! However, what it says next is what I hold onto in the times we are facing: "Fear not, for I am God." We serve that same God and we can lay our concerns and our fears at his feet today.

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HOME-BASED SERVICES HITS 1,000

In 2000, Lifeline began bringing counseling, education and training to families in their own home, through its Home-Based Services program, thanks to a merger with New Frontiers of Warsaw, Indiana. In less than a decade we've gone from having a handful of families in a couple of Northeast Indiana counties to serving 1,000 families a week in 67 counties throughout the state!

Why is this important? Consider that each family we serve represents a child who is at risk from being removed from their home. Consider that not only would this tear a family apart, but the cost of one child's out-of-home care would be more than three times what it would cost to bring services to the whole family! Our trained Family Consultants and Therapists are meeting with families on a weekly basis (sometimes more!) to teach them practical things like how to discipline a two-year-old or what to do with that pent-up anger toward your spouse. And it's working. Last year, 74% of our families were safely together—including those at high risk—and more than 90% achieved at least half of



their treatment goals! With results like these it's no wonder we're being asked to work with more and more cases throughout the state.

To find out more or how you can help, please contact us at (800) 509-6884 or visit us at www.lifelineyouth.org.

THANK YOU

Our thanks to the individuals and corporations who have supported us so far in 2009

Alliance of Isaac Knapp District
American Table Restaurant
Terry Armstrong
B-Mac's on Buffalo
Bart's Water Sports
Dave Baumgartner
Best Western (Kendallville)
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Teri Jarrette
Tom & Deb Johnson
KCH Health & Wellness Center
Kaleidoscope Interiors
Tony & Kate Kemp
David Kinnee
Kosciusko Community Hospital
Kroger / Owen's

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Lakeside Chevrolet
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Redwood Information Technology
Reed & Earhart Attorneys
Reinholt's Furniture
Roberts Signs & Apparel
Ot Schroeder - State Farm

Phil & Angie Sheets
Schradler Auction
Sherwin Williams (Warsaw)
The Shop Upstairs
Signature Studio
Sonrise at Aboite
Stephan Baby
Stonehenge Country Club
Chip & Tammy Strawbridge
Target Printing
Dr. Michael Thompson
Trailhouse
Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian
Barb Umber
Umber's Do-It Best
Amanda Walker
Weckmuller Fine Chocolates
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Woodward Realty
YMCA of Kosciusko County
Yamaha
Michelle Yantz

We attempt to properly recognize all of our supporters. If you feel your name should be on the list and it does not appear, or it appears inaccurately, please accept our apologies. Please contact us at (800) 509-6884 and we will correct the error in future publications.

SHAPING THE FUTURE (continued from page 1)

When he started he was quiet and shy, but he quickly became interested in school and began to apply himself in both social and scholastic situations. Bernice shared, "He has the potential to be a great leader—he's able to solve problems and helps other children with their work ..."

Our program helped Iris provide something to her children that would have been otherwise out of reach. "To have this preschool program free of charge means my child can get a jump-start on learning, without me having to struggle to pay for classes," Iris says.

Iris continues to desire more for her family and Bernice sees her encourage other women in the community through the monthly women's meetings called, *Empowering Women Now*. "She's there on a regular basis, participating in discussions, sharing prayer concerns as well as testimonies, and making us all laugh at times." Thanks to our staff at Project Incentive and to Iris' dedication to her children, these young lives are lives that have truly been changed.



Iris' son, Dyavonte, was one of nine "graduates" at Project Incentive this May.

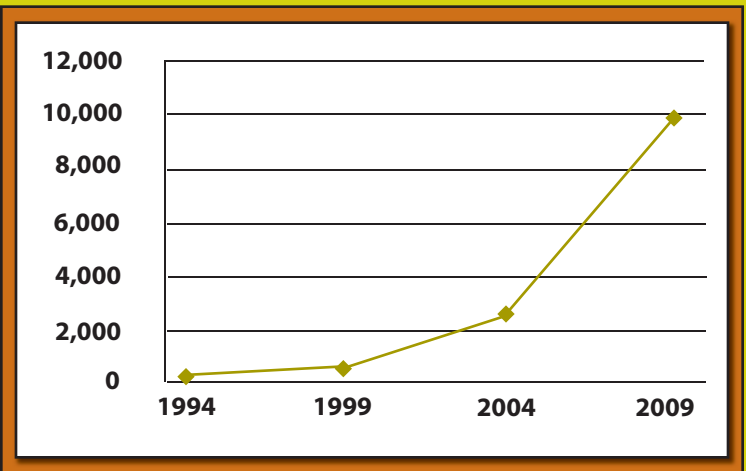
**Names used with permission. Thanks to Bernice King for her contribution to the writing of this story.*

FAST FACTS

Current Outcomes

Home-Based Services <i>Families intact at service conclusion</i>	74%
Residential Child Care <i>Children completing the majority of their treatment goals</i>	68%
Preschool Program <i>Children prepared for kindergarten</i>	88%
Responsible Thinking Classes <i>Participants with improved or high responsible thinking skills</i>	82%

of Clients Served Over Past 15 Years



FEELING INSPIRED?

This year, Lifeline is participating in a unique grant opportunity through the Foellinger Foundation. The goal? To give nonprofit leaders the chance to think, reflect and explore! As part of this process, Lifeline CEO Mark Terrell has been interviewing proven leaders in our region to gain insight into some of the lessons they've learned about building their team, facing challenges, and preparing for the future. Look for updates on our progress in future issues of *Newsline*.

If you know of a leader who would be willing to be interviewed by Mark, please let us know! Contact Becky Graham, Executive Assistant, at bgraham@lifelineyouth.org.



Lifeline's CEO, Mark Terrell

NEWS & EVENTS

- **Another Great Success!** Thanks to the Kosciusko County community, this year's annual Warsaw Dinner Auction raised more than \$20,000 for Lifeline's programs!
- **Did You Know** ... Since 1999, Lifeline Youth & Family Services has been gathering some of the top Bass Fishing Pros in the United States to spend two days fishing with amateur guests in the Great Lakes area of northern Michigan. Starting out as a small fundraising idea, "Fish with the Pros" has grown into a sought-after event by many fishing lovers as a chance to spend a weekend with their favorite bass pros ... all while raising money to support Lifeline! There's still room available for this year's trip, October 8-11, 2009. Contact Ann Hettig at ahettig@lifelineyouth.org or (231) 632-3535 to get details and reserve your spot today!
- **Backpack Collection Underway Now.** As we prepare to send the children of Lifeline back to school, we're collecting book bags with school supplies. You can help! Just bring a book bag and/or school supplies to our main office between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday by August 10, 2009. Call us at (800) 509-6884 to find out more.

Coming Up

August 13, 2008

Back-to-School Cookout at Brookmill Court Apartments in Fort Wayne

October 8-11, 2009

Fish with the Pros - Traverse City

November 5-8, 2009

Fish with the Pros - Texas

November 19-22, 2009

Hawks' Big League Bass Classic



**Call us at (800) 509-6884
for more information.**