



family **Matters!** of Wisconsin St. Coletta

A Newsletter for St. Coletta of Wisconsin - Illinois Program - May 2009

From the administrator's desk

Fight For No Budget Cuts!

St Coletta Friends and Family members, it has been quite a busy four months for the Illinois Program. As many of you know, the State of Illinois has been battling an \$11.5 deficit that has resulted in the Department of Human Services (DHS) being behind in payments, causing great concern for every agency in IL.

Governor Quinn has been slowly releasing funds back into the budget and payments are coming in slowly but it's not enough! Currently St. Coletta is owed for services provided in March and April amount to \$425,000.

With every new Governor comes the need for re-education on the system, funding and the hardships our loved ones face each and every day. We need to clearly let Governor Quinn know that it isn't okay with us that Illinois is "51st and Failing" with regard to its supports for persons with disabilities.

This is why it is so important that we work together during these trying times to ensure we are keeping abreast of what House and Senate Bills we need to get passed. Go to www.stcolettawi.org to see a synopsis of relevant bills. We also need to participate in Lobby Day coming up in Springfield, IL on May 21, 2009. There is no single more effective tool

than your voice and your personal experience.

Lobby Day is a time when your local legislators are in Springfield to listen, to your concerns. I encourage everyone to attend this event. We must fight to ensure we have no budget cuts and that we receive the funding necessary for organizations like St. Coletta to provide quality supports for your loved ones.

On a more upbeat note, we have Family Service Day coming up on May 16th. Karyn Odway is spearheading this event and we appreciate her efforts and willingness to serve in this capacity. This will be our fourth year and if you have any questions, please get in touch with Karyn or myself. Please see contact information in this edition of Family Matters.

I'd also like to thank those of you that participated in our recent electronic survey on the physical maintenance and cleanliness of our homes. Please know that your feedback will be used to continue to strengthen our program.



Michele O'Neil
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Bella Sera 2009 Illinois Dinner Dance "Beautiful Evening" at the Oakbrook Marriott a Success!

Nearly 230 family and friends gathered on March 28 to enjoy a Bella Sera, a beautiful evening, in support of St. Coletta programs and services.

Emceed by popular Chicago CBS nightly news anchor, Rob Johnson, the event raised over \$60,000! According to Mary Ann Vanaria, co-chair of the event, "Given our economy, we were really appreciative of the commitment demonstrated by St. Coletta family and friends!"

Over the past three years, the dinner dance has been the Illinois Friends for St. Coletta WI/IL biggest event raising nearly \$200,000.



The Schaefer Family



Emcee Rob Johnson of CBS Nightly News dances with Kathy



The Glader Family

Illinois Advocacy Participation

May 31st deadline for 2010 budget appropriations.

The 2010 budget is expected to be complete by May 31. This means that we must rally now for support of relevant DD legislation. You can view a full summary of all bills by going to www.ilga.gov, but here is a summary of the most important legislation:

- HB 4433 and SB 2450. These bills focus on 2010 appropriations for reimbursement increases and wages and benefits for workforce.
- SB2366 and HB 3841. These are fiscal bills asking for \$162.15 million in new funding for disability services.
- HB 2400 – Prompt Payment Bill. The bill recently passed out of the house and is now in the Senate!
- SJR0030 and HJR 0028 - The Blueprint Bills. As many of you know the Blueprint for System

Redesign is a comprehensive action plan for improvement of DD services and support in Illinois. Please review the Blueprint at www.realchoiceinillinois.org/documents/BlueprintSummary.

May 21, 2009 Lobby Day in Springfield

We are encouraging participation in the May 21 Lobby Day. Governor Quinn is expected to welcome everyone to the Capitol at 10:00 am and legislators will be on hand to meet with constituents. St. Coletta is planning on having representation in attendance. If you are planning to attend, please contact Michele O'Neil (moneil@stcolettawi.org or 847-358-3698 ext 202) so that we can coordinate our efforts and be as effective as possible. Talking points and other materials will be prepared in advance and will be available through Michele or by accessing the newsroom at www.stcolettawi.org.

Upcoming Summer Events:

- May 16, 2009 – St. Coletta Service Day
- June 20, 2009 – Summer Festival and Picnic - St. Coletta campus in Jefferson
- July 26, 2009 – Day at the Races - Arlington, Illinois
- August 3, 2009 – Illinois Friends Golf Outing – Bull Valley/Woodstock – IL
- August 22, 2009 – Illinois Friends Picnic – St. Marcel-line's



Avon Activity

Avon men are super excited for their brand new furniture that was delivered in April. It looks sharp at the house! Now we just have to work on keeping our feet off the couch and limiting food in the family room! The guys are excited to be back into the routine of things with their NWSRA classes: Bowling, Walk America, Dance Craze and Swim Class, And we can't forget Special Olympics Track and Field! They enjoyed planting flowers over the weekend in preparation for the Service Day. One of the men enjoyed going to the Davey Jones and David Cassidy Concert but thought David Cassidy talked too much. We have celebrated a couple of birthdays and are looking forward to more in May. A couple of the men really enjoyed attending the Annual Bucks Game and can't wait for the game next year.



Brittany Buzz

The Brittany Ladies are enjoying their routine for NWSRA but are involved in a few more Special Olympics Activities. NWSRA activities involve: swimming, bowling, Dance Craze, and Walk America. Special Olympics involves Swim Team, Basketball and Track and Field. The Ladies are all starting to plan their upcoming birthdays as they want them bigger and better than last year's events. They enjoyed planting flowers last weekend for Service Day. A couple of the ladies enjoyed the Annual Bucks Game and are looking forward the next years game!

Goebbert Goings-On

It's never a dull day at the Goebbert home! Whether it's going to the Bucks game, participating in NWSRA activities, preparing for Special Olympics, or going to a local dance, these guys do it all! Let's not forget a big "congrats" to Eric and Paul for celebrating 20 years with St. Coletta in March. You guys rock! Summertime is coming, which means Special Olympics is fast approaching. Good luck to our athletes! The guys are also looking forward to visiting Big Run Wolf Ranch, thanks to Kurt's mom, Nancy. It's going to be quite an adventure!

Nichols News

The Nichols Ladies love the new paint in the basement and are anxious to set up the downstairs family room as a game room/activity center/exercise area! If anyone has anything to donate to the area please contact Tawny Holtz, QMRP, we would love to add more to the room! We are ready to start having more BBQs but the weather won't stay nice for us instead we have been stuck inside dreaming of the nice weather! To keep us busy for now we are participating in NWSRA: bowling, swimming, Walk America and Dance Craze. We are doing Special Olympics Basketball, Swim Team and Track and Field. We have enjoyed all the new staff and hope that they will stick around.

Hampton Happenings

The guys over at Hampton have been busy, busy, busy! The Fremd High School volunteers have assisted the guys with the Bucks game, NWSRA activities, some Special Olympics practices, and have even hung out at the house to watch movies or sports with the guys. Thanks for lending a hand! The guys are really looking forward to Special Olympics, as well as their annual trip to see the Schaumburg Flyers. 'Tis the season for baseball and the guys are ready to dive in!!!

St. Coletta of Wisconsin Mission Statement

Inspired by the Franciscan Values of compassion, dignity and respect, we support persons with developmental and other challenges to achieve their highest quality of life, personal growth and spiritual awareness.

Suffield Stuff

All the Suffield guys are doing well since our last issue of Family Matters. I think they are all glad to be seeing the better weather and getting out a bit more. We have had some new staff join the team so please welcome Gordon who works the overnight shift and Jason who works on the weekends and Friday mornings. NWSRA has started the spring session so please check with the house staff if you are planning any visits during the week as most of the guys are busy either bowling, walking, or swimming. You can always inform your QMRP if you have any questions about the NWSRA programs or if you have any suggestions for other activities. The guys did go on a few big outings since our last issue; The Chicago Bulls and Milwaukee Bucks games. We are currently getting ready for another season of Special Olympics, which will start on May 3rd. The guys have been practicing and have been assigned to specific events. Please check with your RC or QMRP with any questions about Special Olympics. The guys are also looking forward to the 4th annual Service Day, which is coming up May 16th. Please plan on helping the guys spruce up the Suffield home with their family and friends. We also wanted to wish a happy Birthday to Ed, who celebrated in January and Dan who celebrated in March.

Carpenter Chatter

The Carpenter ladies have been getting out and enjoying the spring weather since our last issue of family matters. The ladies all continue to be active in their NWSRA, REACH, and SPREAD events. If families have any suggestions or questions about NWSRA programs or other community outings please contact your QMRP. Special Olympics is also fast approaching and will kick off in May. Carpenter has a history of gold medal athletes, which will hopefully continue this year. Please contact your RC or QMRP with any questions about Special Olympics events and watch your mail for notices. Despite all the changes that have been going on for the house, we do have a few more expected ones. The new bedroom should be in use

by the time you are reading this article. We are not adding any additional people to the house, but we are providing more personal space for the ladies that can benefit everyone. We celebrated Anne's birthday in February. The ladies would also like to encourage all their family and friends to attend the upcoming Service Day on May 16th. The ladies have always enjoyed and appreciated the help the families provide in caring for their home.

Vermont Vistas

The Vermont ladies have been doing well since our last issue of Family Matters. The ladies continue to enjoy their staff and all the activities and outings they plan together. The Spring

NWSRA season has started and the ladies have enrolled in the programs they love: bowling, dancing, art class, cooking class, and swimming. Please contact your QMRP if you have any questions or suggestions for

new NWSRA programs or community outings. The ladies are all looking forward to the Service Day on May 16th, and would like to encourage all their family and friends to help out on that day. Please contact your RC or QMRP if you have any questions regarding this event and we will put you in touch with the house team coordinator for this event. We are also looking forward to another Special Olympic season, which kicks off on May 3rd. Please watch your mail for information on this event or give us a call with any questions. We hope to see a lot of families at events to help cheer on the ladies to bring home the gold. We celebrated a few birthdays. Maureen and Katie added another year in January and Beth just had her birthday in March.



Jenny Berg Bulletin

The Jenny Berg home has opened since our last issue of Family Matters, so naturally the ladies have had a lot going on at their new home. We currently have four ladies who are now part of the St. Coletta family. We also have new staff to welcome as part of the St. Coletta team: Kathy, Denise, and Victoria. Titi has assumed the role as the new Residential Coordinator for Jenny Berg and brings a lot of experience with her to help this home be successful. As the ladies are becoming accustomed to their new home they are making choices on all the new opportunities that have opened up. New vocational programs, community sites, places to shop or go banking are just a few of the experiences they are sharing. In the coming months the Jenny Berg home will continue to grow and develop with additional residents. We are hopeful that their adjustment to living at St. Coletta is a good one and that they will continue to feel at home with us. An open house will be scheduled this summer for all of you to meet the ladies and staff.

Garden Gang

The Garden guys have had a busy winter and spring. NWSRA activities, the annual Bucks game, and Special Olympics practices have kept them moving! We want to give a special "congrats" to Owen for celebrating his 25th year and to Kurt for celebrating his 35th year with St. Coletta. Our house and St. Coletta just wouldn't be the same without them!!! Nice weather is approaching and the guys are ready to get out and explore! There are many parks and paths in their community to take advantage of. It is so tempting to take a day off of work, enjoy the weather, and sit back and watch a Cubs or Sox game. In addition, Special Olympics is approaching and we are hoping for success. Go Garden!!!

Fourth Annual Illinois Friends for St. Coletta Service Day



Saturday, May 16, 2009 - 9am-6pm

Friends and siblings of St. Coletta unite with one purpose in mind: to beautify their loved ones homes. Join us for a day of connecting, landscaping and spring cleaning at the Illinois homes. All family members and friends are welcome to attend!

Let the laboring begin! Serve a two, four or all-day shift. Enjoy a lunchtime barbeque with clients at the homes and connect with other siblings. Team leaders have graciously volunteered for each of the homes. If you are interested in co-leading at any of the homes, extra help and manpower is always much needed and appreciated.

For more information and/or to confirm your volunteer spot, contact:

Karyn Odway

Sister to Gary Odway at Garden Home

(312) 588-1402 karynodway@sbcglobal.net

Important Numbers

Emergency Contacts for All Homes

For emergency situations that requires assistance (defined as a serious event that requires immediate attention), you may utilize any of the following:

Residential Coordinator Cell Phone Numbers

Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. (non-holidays)

Latisia Hefflin (Avon, Brittany, Nichols) (847) 804-3824

Iffy Okonkwo (Carpenter, Suffield, Vermont) (847) 804-3823

Tricia Saviano (Garden, Goebbert, Hampton) (847) 804-3826

After Hours Emergency On-Call Phone Number (847) 804-3870

We'd like to hear from you!

Staff from each individual home contributes the Home Base Section, with news shared about household happenings and activities. If you've got some news or a photo to share about your loved one's home, please contact your RC and we'll take care of the rest. We'd love to share your home's news!

Direct Support Professional (DSP) Staff Listing by Home

Avon Home

Ryan Lesnick
Jennifer Petrosky
Daniel Rzeznik
Bonita Silas
Andrea Phillips

Brittany Home

Sonya Henry
Dawn Duckworth
Robin Jones
Karen Lee-Smith

Carpenter Home

Adequnmi Adekunle
Beth Kerns
Tiffany Randell
Gigetia Ulmer
Edith Wilson

Garden Home

Matthew Ewuoso
Robert Hardaway
Alex Jami
Anthony Kimani
Eric Notarus
Larry Griffin

Goebbert Home

Charles Kioko
Bosa Okonkwo
Anthony Tapia
Christopher Wallace
Jane Wiorkowski
Renata Nakagawa

Hampton Home

Olukayode Alatise
Rokeeb Badmus
Martin Muisyo

Alfred Mwangi
Justyna Posiewala

Jenny Berg Home

Kathleen Collins
Victoria Viglietta
Lovice Younge-McCoy
Laura Patur
Denise Diessel

Nichols Home

Abigail Gaitu
Evelyn Mwangi
Katherine Odegard
Toya Range
Pamela Kemp
Maura Tendrick

Suffield Home

Jason Hamilton

Gordon Hill
Jeannine Kemp
Christina Macias
Margaret Mwangi
Olujobi Olutade

Vermont Home

Fauset Afuwape
Lakedia Hyde
Lucy Kasyoka
Emily Mooney
Jane Mukundi
Diana Salgado
Randi Wilson

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Please Post Near Your Telephone

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Avon Lane, Arlington Heights – (847) 590-8957
Brittany Drive, Arlington Heights – (847) 253-4760
Nichols Street, Arlington Heights – (847) 797-9813

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Garden, Goebbert, and Hampton

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Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights – 847-593-5916
Hampton Place, Palatine – 847-705-5720

Residential Coordinator – Tricia Saviano

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Lisa Wick - Registered Nurse (847) 358-3698, ext. 201

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Edward Finnerty, Maintenance - No office voicemail

St. Coletta of Wisconsin -

Illinois

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internationally
recognized
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HIPAA standards.

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