



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

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

From the administrator's desk

Illinois Program Grows!

On January 12, 2009 St. Coletta of Wisconsin grew by one home! The Jenny Berg CILA home opened its doors to four new ladies. This home has been in the works for over a year and when the home finally opened, it made many wishes and dreams come true for those now living in the home as well as for their families.

Ultimately this will be a seven-person home for females. This is our first home in Illinois that is fully accessible consistent with the overall St. Coletta strategic vision to be operating homes that allow people to age in place.

The home has a wheelchair ramp which leads to the front door and a ramp leading out to the backyard. The home also has an accessible shower stall and wheelchair friendly kitchen.

Demographically, the Illinois program supports St. Coletta's youngest clients. Operating this home will help us pilot some of these accessibility concepts that can then be carried into our other homes.

The four Jenny Berg ladies are settling in the home very nicely and have

already begun to visit the other homes and introduce themselves to our current gang. Friendships are blossoming and it's hard to believe that the house has only been open for over a month with the amount of interaction that has already happened!

This beautiful new home was generously donated. The name Jenny Berg was chosen in honor of the donor's mother. We are forever grateful to these donors for their generosity in helping us extend the Mission of St. Coletta into the Elgin community.

While a house blessing will be held in early March, an open house will be planned for the summer so that everyone can come and welcome our new community members and see the home.

Sincerely,



Michele O'Neil
Administrator
847-358-3698 X202
moneil@stcolettawi.org

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.

Bella Sera 2009 Illinois Dinner Dance Join us for "Beautiful Evening" at the Oakbrook Marriott

Illinois consistently ranks last in the nation regarding the funding it provides for programs and services to support people with disabilities. This year those issues have been even more profound as the state deals with budget deficits.

In this economic climate, our efforts to fundraise are more critical than ever before! Please do all you can to participate in the upcoming Illinois Friends for St. Coletta-WI/IL dinner

dance to support our global organizational priorities.

The success of this event is dependent upon receiving a range of attractive items for our raffle and silent auction. We also need table and corporate sponsors! Finally, come to the event as a guest or a volunteer!

Please contact event chairs Mary Ann and Jim Vanaria at 847-394-8548 or e-mail at vanaria514@msn.com to learn more about how you can help!

Illinois Homes Survey Follow-Up Outcome Measurement Committee reviewing information.

This past April, many of you participated in an electronic survey regarding the physical maintenance and cleanliness of our Illinois homes.

The survey results went to the St. Coletta Outcome Measurement Committee. This committee has broad oversight for assuring that the organization is achieving desired program outcomes. One of primary outcomes reviewed by the group is customer satisfaction.

The Outcome Measurement Committee worked with Michele O'Neil to develop a plan to address your expressed concerns in the areas of home maintenance, and more urgently, cleanliness.

As a result of your feedback, a cleanliness checklist was developed and put into use. The checklist focuses energy

toward specific tasks for each day of the week. In addition, Michele works with Ed Finnerty, our maintenance person, to set project priorities and direction. Finally, the creation of the Home Coordinator position has provided additional support for our home staff.

With these changes, many home improvement projects also happened over the past year (check our Home Base section to hear more!). A sampling of those projects includes: new bedroom floors and a furnace at Garden St., new air conditioners at Suffield and Avon, driveway improvements at Brittany and Carpenter and many other projects. In 2008 \$55, 445 was spent in Illinois household maintenance, in 2009 \$29,022 has been spent to date.

The Illinois Friends Home Maintenance

Committee has also worked in cooperation with staff to provide valuable input regarding projects, preferred vendors, and other issues related to maintenance.

Be assured that we are all working toward the same goal --we want every one of our St. Coletta homes to epitomize quality and our overall commitment to program excellence!

We want to hear if our changes have made a difference, please take a moment to complete this simple five question electronic survey so we can hear your feedback and continue to work together to enhance our homes.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=9ExNblDVBjQZvmGgKldBVA_3d_3d

Hampton Happenings

We were very busy this past summer and fall. We went to many festivals and carnivals including a fireworks display in July. Many of us went out of state for vacations, which was fun.

We had a joint Halloween Ball with all nine of the St. Coletta homes. Everyone got costumes and dressed up for the event. We also went to Fright Fest at Great America.

We have all been very active with NWSRA. We are attending Social Club North, Bowling, Happy Hour (cooking class) and have been taking golfing lessons. Duane has also been involved in horseback riding and art classes.

Gregg and Charlie went on flights home to Maryland, Missouri, and Florida over the holidays.

Spending time with our families over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays was something we had all been looking forward to.

Suffield Stuff

The Suffield guys have been doing well since the last issue of Family Matters. Please see the last page of this issue of family matters and see the names of new staff. We would like to thank Titi Taiwo for all her help as the Home Coordinator of the Suffield house. Titi has been promoted as the Residential Coordinator of the Elgin home.

Aleksandra Maharat is the Home Coordinator working with the Suffield house, and we enjoy her being apart of the Suffield staff.

The guys continue to attend the NWSRA outings for the current season. Swim class, bowling, walking class, and Social Club are ongoing programs during the week so please check with the house to see if any programs might be missed if you are planning to have your son on a home visit. We also had trips to the zoo, Great America, and a Chicago Wolves game. Please continue go check the activity calendars to see which events are coming up.



Mike and Mary Ann Vanaria take a moment from the Christmas Party to show their Christmas cheer.

We attended the Chicago Bulls game and a Chicago Black Hawks game in December and January. Another Chicago Wolves game was held in November for those who attended the game in October. We all looked forward to the Christmas party that was on December 10th.

We have had a few birthdays since the last issue of Family Matters. Please wish Joe a belated birthday from September, Craig a belated birthday from October and Keith a belated birthday from November.

The guys received new living room furniture, which was a result of the generous donations from the last Illinois Friends fundraiser. Thanks again to all the Suffield parents who helped in making the furniture possible. We should also be expecting our wood floors to get refinished soon, so we'll let you know when this will be coming up.

Nichols News

The Nichols House enjoyed the wonderful Halloween party held on October, 31. Everyone had a great time. The ladies are staying extremely busy with NWSRA dance class, bowling, swim class, and basketball practice. They enjoyed the campfire, parties, and the circus as well. The ladies couldn't wait for the Bulls game and of course the upcoming Annual Bucks game. The ladies were very excited for their ISPs and also looked forward to the painting of the downstairs. There have been a few new additions to the staff list at Nichols: Katie, Andrea, Jane and Evelyn. They are thankful for the staff that has been around for a while as well, Abigail and Temi.

Vermont Vistas

The Vermont home has had a few changes since our last issue of Family Matters. We needed to make a few room switches for the ladies. I am pleased to note that all the ladies have adjusted well to having new roommates or new rooms. We have added a few pieces of furniture to the home since our last issue, and would like to thank all the Vermont families who helped in making this donation possible.

We have a few new staff working at Vermont since the last issue of family matters so please check the staff listing in this issue. We would like to thank Titi Taiwo for all her help as the Home Coordinator of the Vermont house. Titi has been promoted to Residential Coordinator of the Elgin home. Aleksandra Maharat, who works the overnight weekends at Vermont, is the Home Coordinator for the house. Thank you Aleksandra for taking on your new responsibilities at the Vermont house.

NWSRA is in full swing this season. Art class, bowling, fitness and swim, supper club, and stepping out dance class are ongoing throughout the week. Please check with the house staff to let them know if any classes might be missed due to planned home visits.

The ladies have been on a few big community outings. Lincoln Park Zoo, Great America, and a Chicago Wolves game are just a few places that they have been to. All the ladies would like to thank Lakedia for all her help in making the big Halloween party happen this past year! The ladies enjoyed the annual St. Coletta Christmas party that was in December along with a Chicago Bulls game

Halloween Hijinks!



Getting cheered on, Ally Pate anticipates bobbing for the apple at this year's Halloween Party.



Anne takes an easier approach when it comes to bobbing for apples.

Vermont Vistas continued

and Chicago Black Hawks game. Another Chicago Wolves game was held in November for those who attended the game in October.

We missed a few birthdays since the last issue so here we go. Please wish a belated birthday to Trescia who had a birthday in September and Rose whose birthday was in December.

Garden Gang

The fall and winter have been good for all of us. We went on many visits to our homes and also on vacations with our families. During the fall months, we went to Great American and a Wolves game. We celebrated Halloween with a ball at Nichol's and everyone had a blast. Tisia made different things for us to touch, but we could not see what we were touching. It was a gross, but fun game!

This past fall we have also had many home improvements. On Sibling Service Day everyone cleaned up the yard and made it look very nice. We also got new flooring in a lot of the bedrooms and many of the walls have been repainted. A new front door was installed just a few months ago.

Many of us visited home for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are also went to a Bulls game in December, and a Black Hawk's game in January after everyone got back.

The NWSRA activities have kept us very busy, but are very enjoyable. We are participating in the Social Club South, bowling, and an art program. We have also had a bonfire, a movie, and a circus with the Social Club South. Gary began skiing in December. He also had a big birthday in December and turned 40 with much fanfare!

Brittany Buzz

The Brittany ladies have had a busy couple of months this past year with changing of staff. We have added a few new staff: Sonya, Victoria and Karen who were a wonderful addition to the already incredible long-running staff, Latrease and Robin. The ladies have enjoyed getting to know all the new staff at the house. There have been some changes around the outside of the house as well such as widening of the driveways, taking out the large bushes, and adding a railing to the steps by the door.



Thank you for making my 40th birthday celebration on Dec. 20th so special! Whether it was a card, a call or a gift, it meant a lot to me. I had fun with my family at Pizzeria Uno in Schaumburg. Even though I like pizza, I chose steak as my birthday meal. I hope to see you a lot in 2009. Happy New Year!
Love, Gary

The ladies enjoyed having the family room and dining room painted and they love the new color. Special thanks to the families who participated in the 2008 Illinois Dinner Dance who provided the donations for these home repairs. We all enjoyed the holiday parties and celebrations of the New Year.

Carpenter Chatter

The Carpenter house continues to go through more changes since the last issue of Family Matters. We had a few rooms painted, and we have actually built a new bedroom for one of the ladies in the basement. New furniture arrived for the living room of the house. Thanks again to all the families who made the new furniture possible through the 2008 Illinois Friends dinner dance.

We have a few new staff working at Carpenter since the last issue of Family Matters, so please check the staff listing in this issue of Family Matters to see if there are any names you don't recognize. We would like to thank Titi Taiwo

Carpenter Chatter continued

for all her help as the Home Coordinator of the Carpenter house. Titi has been promoted as the Residential Coordinator of the Elgin home. Aleksandra Maharat will be the Home Coordinator working with the Carpenter house, and we enjoy her being apart of the Carpenter staff.

The NWSRA programs continue in full swing at the house. Social Club, bowling, art class, walking class, horseback riding, supper club, and dance class are all regular programs during the week. Please check with the house staff to see if any programs might be missed if you are planning a home visit.

The REACH and SPREAD programs started up this past fall. If you have any questions about events with these programs, please check with the staff as schedules are posted in the home.

The ladies have enjoyed some big outings in the community. We took trips to the zoo, Great America, and a Chicago Wolves hockey game. Everyone enjoyed the annual St. Coletta Christmas party that was held in December along with a Chicago Bulls game and Chicago Black Hawks game. Another Chicago Wolves game was held in November for those who attended the game in October.

Since our last issue of Family Matters we had a few birthdays at Carpenter. Please wish Beth a belated birthday for September, and Kris a belated birthday for December.

Avon Activity

The men have been busy going to the library, dance class and swimming. Luckily they haven't encountered many staff changes over the past few months. They still have the excellent staff of: Dan, Bonita, Christie, Chris and Tara. The men have been busy with birthday parties at the house or at friend's homes. A few of the men enjoyed the Bulls game and anticipate the Bucks game and seeing their old friends. They had a wonderful time at the Halloween party and dance. The men enjoyed the holiday party and were very excited about traveling to see their families.

Goebbert Goings- On

These past fall and winter months have been extremely busy for us! Home improvements have been happening all over! The entire outside of the house was painted and some of the inside was painted as well. Wayne assisted with the painting! A new ceiling was installed in the basement and a couple of the bathrooms were remodeled and are looking very good.

Wayne's finches had babies this summer. It was neat to watch them grow up. Wayne was able to find homes for all of them. He also has a couple of fish tanks, both upstairs and downstairs, that we all enjoy.

We have been involved in many NWSRA activities. We have been going to Social Club North, Bowling, and Happy Hour. Wayne and Eric also participated in horseback riding classes. Kurt was in a "Biking in the Burbs" class, which he really enjoyed. He and Frankie did a lot of biking this summer.

We also went to Great America's Fright Fest. We were there for the whole day and it was a lot of fun. We also had a lot of fun at the Bulls game in December and at the Black Hawk's game in January. We all went home to visit with our families over Thanksgiving and Christmas. With all of the activities that have been planned we have really been enjoying the winter months.



Yee-Haw! Joshua and Kiki Hyde pose for a picture with their cowboy and cowgirl hats.

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

Tara Jones
Christopher Johnson
Ryan Lesnick
Jennifer Petrosky
Daniel Rzeznik
Bonita Silas
Peter Wyton

Brittany Home

Sonya Henry
Latrease Jackson
Robin Jones
Karen Lee-Smith
Victoria Viglietta

Carpenter Home

Adequnmi Adekunle
Cecilee Barber
Beth Kerns

Aleksandra Mahrat

Tiffany Randell
Gigetta Ulmer
Edith Wilson

Garden Home

Matthew Ewuoso
Robert Hardaway
Alex Jami
Anthony Kimani
Eric Notarus
Justyna Posiewala

Goebbert Home

Raphael Duruzor
Charles Kioko
Bosa Okonkwo
Anthony Tapia
Christopher Wallace
Jane Wiorkowski

Hampton Home

Olukayode Alatisé
Rokeeb Badmus
Martin Muisyo
Alfred Mwangi

Jenny Berg Home

Linda Carson
Kathleen Collins
Renata Nakagawa
Tyia Silas

Nichols Home

Kena Carter
Jessica Fak
Abigail Gaitu
Evelyn Mwangi
Katherine Odegard
Temi Ogun
Andrea Phillips

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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An e-newsletter dedicated to communicating information and news about St. Coletta of Wisconsin-Illinois. Produced by the Marketing Office of St. Coletta of Wisconsin.

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Anthony S. LoDuca, President & Chief Executive Officer
Andrea Speth, Vice President of Marketing & Community Relations
Kim Ray, Vice President of Residential & Support Services

Please Post Near Your Telephone

Avon, Brittany, and Nichols

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

Residential Coordinator – Latisia Hefflin

Office: 847-797-0986 (Nichols Home)
Fax: 847-797-9814 (Nichols Home)
Cell: 847-804-3824
E-Mail: lhefflin@stcolettawi.org

Qualified Mental Retardation Professional – Tawny Holtz

Office: 847-253-3824 (Avon Home)
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E-Mail: tholtz@stcolettawi.org

Garden, Goebbert, and Hampton

Garden Street, Roselle - 630-529-0204
Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights – 847-593-5916
Hampton Place, Palatine – 847-705-5720

Residential Coordinator – Tricia Saviano

Office: 847-640-24916 (Goebbert Home)
Fax: 847-640-0349 (Goebbert Home)
Cell: 847-804-3826
E-Mail: tsaviano@stcolettawi.org

Qualified Mental Retardation Professional – Darlene Dahl

Office: 630-529-0461 (Garden Home)
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Carpenter, Suffield, and Vermont

Carpenter Drive, Palatine – 847-705-0892
Suffield Drive, Arlington Heights – 847-253-6299
Vermont Street, Palatine – 847-963-9320

Residential Coordinator – Iffy Okonkwo

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Fax: 847-705-1231 (Carpenter Home)
Cell: 847-804-3823
E-Mail: iokonkwo@stcolettawi.org

Qualified Mental Retardation Professional – Andrew Hancock

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Fax: 847-705-1231 (Carpenter Home)
E-Mail: ahancock@stcolettawi.org

Jenny Berg

Alison Drive, Elgin – 847-695-1345

Residential Coordinator – Titilayo Taiwo

E-Mail: ttaiwo@stcolettawi.org
Van Cell: 847-345-532
Fax: 847-695-1345

Qualified Mental Retardation Professional – Ryan Tejero

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Michele O'Neil - Administrator (847) 358-3698 ext. 202

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Brian Kriner - Staffing Coordinator (847) 358-3698 ext. 206

E-mail: bkriner@stcolettawi.org

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

E-mail: lwick@stcolettawi.org

Edward Finnerty, Maintenance - No office voicemail

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