



Easter Seals Posey County

Serving Posey County since 1984



Fall 2015 Newsletter

News and information for persons with disabilities and their families, friends and employers



2015 Schedule

October 2015

- Down Syndrome Awareness Month
- October 24 - National Make a Difference Day
- October 30 - ESPC Halloween Party!
- October 31 - Halloween

November 2015

- November 1 - Daylight Savings Time Ends - Fall Back 1 Hour!
- November 11 - Veteran's Day
- November 7 - Fall Party & Dance - St. Matthews Gym, 5 - 8pm
- November 21 - PC Pound Puppies Art & Craft Show
- November 26 - Thanksgiving Day - WORKSHOP CLOSED
- November 27 - Thanksgiving Holiday - WORKSHOP CLOSED

December 2015

- National Human Rights Month
- December 6 - St. Nicholas Day
- December 7 - Peal Harbor Remembrance Day
- December 10 - Special Olympics Banquet
- December 15 - ESPC CHRISTMAS PARTY!!
- December 24 - Christmas Eve - WORKSHOP CLOSED
- December 25 - Christmas Day - WORKSHOP CLOSED
- December 31 - New Year's Eve - WORKSHOP CLOSED
- January 1, 2016 - New Year's Day - WORKSHOP CLOSED

The United Way Campaign 2015

The slogan for the United Way of Posey County is "local people helping local people." Our United Way supports 21 local agencies that provide vital services to meet the needs of individuals living in this community. Agencies funded by the United Way include: Albion Fellows Bacon Center, Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Buffalo Trace Council Boy Scouts, Catholic Charities, Children's Learning Center of Posey County, Christian Church Day Care, Community Emergency Assistance, ECHO Community Health Care, Family Matters, Homeless Shelter of Mt. Vernon, Indiana Legal Services, Lampion Center, New Harmony Ministry Association, Posey County Council on Aging, Posey County Red Cross, Easter Seals Posey County, Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center, The Salvation Army, Deaconess VNA Plus, WNIN Radio Reading Service, and Willow Tree of Posey County.

Every year at this time the United Way of Posey County gives us the opportunity to do our fair share to help others. The campaign goal for the United Way of Posey County this year is **\$730,000**. Please consider how you can participate in this community wide effort. Your support is greatly needed and greatly appreciated!

Contributions can be sent to:
 United Way of Posey County
 128 W. 3rd St
 P.O. Box 562



Kunstfest 2015

On September 19 & 20, Easter Seals Posey County participated in the 2015 Kunstfest offering our client and staff made craft items for sale. Below are a few of our wares that were on display. We still have plenty of items available, come in and see us!



Easter Seals Posey County
 5525 Industrial Road
 Mt. Vernon IN, 47620

www.poseycountyrehab.org
 Phone: (812) 838-0636
 Fax: (812) 838-0571

N.F.E.S. Information
 Worker of the Month
 ESPC Activities

Page 2
 Page 3
 Page 3

New Frontiers Employment Services (NFES) News



Kendra's Success Story

New Frontiers Employment Services (NFES) staff began working with Kendra Kirkwood in December 2012. She had no work experience when she first started services, but participated in a job trial that showed she had the initiative and abilities to work in an integrated community work setting. She was first placed in March 2013 as a Substitute Kitchen Helper. That position was uncertain since the possibility existed that she would be called in at the last minute when a full time employee could not come in. Because of the uncertainty, she did not do well in this first work opportunity. In the fall of 2013, with continued assistance from NFES staff, she obtained a position as a Utility/Dishwasher employed by Sodexo at the University of Southern Indiana (USI). NFES staff worked closely with Kendra and with Sodexo staff to ensure that Kendra understood her job duties and the work environment. Staff also kept in close contact with Sodexo staff to ensure that any issues or concerns were addressed quickly. As a result of these efforts, Kendra is still employed today at Sodexo during the regular school year. During the summers, Kendra works at Holiday World. Her job coach also works with Kendra and the Holiday World staff to ensure that, this too, is a positive work experience for Kendra.

In the beginning, Kendra was very unsure of herself and very anxious about work. It took many months and a great amount of job coaching to get her to the point where she is now more self-confident and is an asset to Sodexo. This fall 2015 semester she moved from her Utility/Dishwashing position to working the front counter, serving food to the USI students. She now earns \$9.69 per hour and gets a discount on food, something she truly enjoys. She has blossomed and is happy and smiling every day at work. Her self-confidence increases every week. Her family and her employer are very pleased with her positive strides and so is she.

This semester Kendra was nominated for, and received, "An Exceptional Award" for service above and beyond expectation to USI employees, staff and students. She will also be nominated for a November Employee of the Month award with the hope that she will go on to the regional level for this distinction. Kendra is the first employee with special needs to be nominated for these awards.

Thanks to the great team of Kendra and her Employment Specialist/Job Coach Donna Kohlmeyer, this young woman has blossomed into the exceptional employee for Sodexo at USI. Keep up the great work!

IN PREPARATION FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS...

We are in need of the following items for our Adult Program. Can you help us??

Large bags of rice ~ Canned fruits & vegetables ~ Containers of pudding, jello, applesauce ~ Individual bags of chips ~ Bags of candy, smartees, individually wrapped chocolate, sugar free candy

Glue Sticks ~ Crayons ~ Markers ~ Binding ~ Fiberfill ~ Pillow forms ~ Thread, any color ~ Felt ~ Tissue paper, bright colors ~ Foam sheets ~ Assorted buttons ~ Google eyes

If you would like to help us with any of these items please contact us at 812-838-0636 or drop items by our office at 5525 Industrial Road anytime Monday-Friday. Thank You!!

WORK CENTER ACTIVITIES

Outings

Solitude: On October 13, 2015 several of our clients made a trip up the road to Solitude to visit the Pioneer Village. There they experienced a little bit of what life was like for our early settlers. All the clients enjoyed feeding the chickens and petting the rabbits. Mr. King then treated them to



wonderful music while singing and playing his banjo. The clients are



always thrilled to visit the Pioneer Village and we thank Mr. and Mrs. King for providing such a fun filled experience!

Country Mark Pavilion: Friday October 16, 2015, our clients made our second visit to the recently

opened Country Mark Pavilion. Our first visit was in August and the



clients had so much fun that we scheduled additional dates. The



Pavilion features many interactive displays that give information on geology, oil production and oil refining. The displays are "hands-on", so the clients are able to explore at their own pace and learn about the different processes involved with oil production and refining. Country Mark Pavilion is an interesting and



exciting adventure for the clients and everyone enjoyed working with the displays!

Worker of the Month

Easter Seals Posey County

- May 2015 - Lori A.
- June 2015 - Michael S.
- July 2015 - Ralph L.
- August 2015 - Ronald R.
- September 2015 - John T.

Every month one of our workers is awarded the *Worker of the Month* award. Supervisors vote on who they believe is the *Worker of the Month*. The supervisors rate them on attendance, attitude, willingness to follow directions, working up to their abilities, relationships with others in the work center, number of injury reports, overall safety awareness, personal hygiene, and willingness to assume new responsibilities.



Christmas Party

Tuesday December 15, 2015 is the date set for the annual ESPC Christmas Party! If you would

like to donate items to be included in gift bags for our clients, please call Jerilyn Erwin at 812-838-0636. Donation suggestions include toiletry items, gloves, socks, puzzles, coloring books, story books, small gift items and candy.



ESPC is in need of a gently used electric stove. Our clients enjoy weekly cooking classes, but the temperature control on our current stove is becoming unreliable, in other words, it burns everything! If you have a stove in good working condition that you would like to donate, please contact Jerilyn Erwin at 812-838-0636.

Get on the List

Get on the email mailing list and receive important information about upcoming events, facility closings, schedule changes, and information about daily activities at Easter Seals Posey County.

Email Jerilyn Erwin at jerwin@pcrsinc.org or call 838-0636 to be added.

Easter Seals Posey County (formerly Posey County Rehab)

5525 Industrial Road
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620

Phone: 812-838-0636

Fax: 812-838-0571

Mission Statement

- ◆ Assist persons with disabilities to realize their goals of living, learning, and working in the community.



Board of Directors
2013-2015

Angela Wannemuehler - President
Donna Neufelder - Vice President
Kim Steele - Secretary/Treasurer
Stan Billman
Juli Collins
Karl Dorff
David Flanders
Denny Hargett
Tom Kopatich
Steve Mitchell
Keith Oeth
John Raisor
David Angermeier - Honorary Member
Vicki Campbell - Honorary Member
Frank Moll - Honorary Member
Bill Newman - Honorary Member

A United Way Agency

Accredited by CARF for 5 programs.

New Frontiers Employment Services

a division of
Easter Seals Posey County

Serving individuals in Posey,
Vanderburgh, & Warrick Counties

Our Mission

To help people with disabilities and disadvantages to realize their full potential and achieve their personal and vocational goals.

New Frontiers Employment Services has been accredited by CARF for the following Community Employment Services:

- Job Development
- Job Supports
- Job Site Training

ARE YOU READY TO WORK?

We accept



clients!



Easter Seals Posey County (formerly Posey County Rehab Services) has been providing job opportunities and meaningful day activities to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Posey County since 1984. We have a 7,000 square foot Production Area, warehouse space, a fleet of vehicles, and an amazing workforce that is ready and willing to serve you. In addition to paper shredding services, our capabilities include sorting, packaging, assembly of products, and performing recycling tasks.