

Stone Belt presents news & information for individuals with disabilities, families, friends and our community

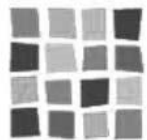
April 5th 2014

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Team
Stone Belt

preparing, empowering and supporting individuals with disabilities



Two of our clients, (left to right) Terry Simpson and Bob Smith represent the very best of Stone Belt and have been here almost from the agency's founding. Learn more about their journey on page 5.

Q & A with Columbus Mayor Brown

Read about the city's new advisory council. **page 1**

Stone Belt Celebrates 55 Years

A look back with stories from three original clients. **pages 4-5**

2014 sponsorship opportunities

Celebrate excellence in the community with Stone Belt **page 7**

Our Mission

We believe in the uniqueness, worth and right to self-determination of every individual. Therefore, it is our mission, in partnership with the community, to prepare, empower and support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to participate fully in the life of the community.



east region

Getting to know Columbus Mayor Kristen Brown

Mayor Kristen Brown discusses The Mayor's Advisory Council on Disability & Awareness (MACDA). Find out more about the great work of this group.

Describe the Mayor's Advisory Council on Disability & Awareness (MACDA) and its importance.

The Mayor's Advisory Council on Disability and Accessibility began with my vision to create greater awareness and understanding in our community about the issues facing people with disabilities. Persons with disabilities account for 18 percent of our county's population, making it imperative to work together with these residents, their parents and caregivers on issues that affect them. MACDA provides us with an excellent forum to listen to concerns, partner with our residents in finding solutions and work proactively to make Columbus a welcoming and livable community for persons of all abilities.

How does the council function and what are its primary objectives?

MACDA meets every two months and has nine voting members. The council is purposely designed to have more than 50 percent of its members be persons with disabilities or caregivers of persons with disabilities. Our mission is to work toward inclusion and empowerment of people with disabilities by promoting coordination, communication and cooperation within the Columbus community. The main purpose of MACDA is to provide the means to strengthen public understanding of the needs of persons with disabilities and to ensure that all citizens with disabilities have equal access to resources and opportunities offered by the City of Columbus.

City departments are also represented on the council, including Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Planning, Transit and the Human Rights Commission. These representatives are non-voting members who can create efficiencies to directly address concerns.

What initiatives are you working on now to address access and inclusion for folks with disabilities?

One of our major accomplishments is implementing a training program specifically for the Columbus Police Department to improve officer interactions with persons with disabilities. The Community Awareness subcommittee has led this program and already has provided four sessions as an integrated part of this year's police department training for its officers.

The vital feedback and dialogue that is happening at MACDA meetings is another major accomplishment. Issues can be discussed directly with City departments that can address the issue or work with other partners to find solutions. For example, a MACDA member voiced a concern about a bridge in which the sidewalks were disconnected. Although not a City responsibility, the City Engineer contacted the Indiana Department of Transportation, and sidewalk connections were installed.

"We view 2014 as the year in which we begin to see substantial improvements for persons with disabilities in our community, making Columbus a welcoming and livable place for persons of all abilities."

- Mayor Brown



What is the role of the subcommittees?

Three active subcommittees are making significant progress on important issues to our residents with disabilities. These subcommittees are Sidewalk Committee, Community Awareness and Business/Corporate Awareness. Subcommittee meetings meet more frequently than the main council to continue the partnerships and work that addresses concerns and issues.



Kim Craig, who receives Stone Belt supports, participates with her colleagues on the Sidewalk Committee. What's their role?

The Sidewalk Committee is tackling two major projects to make our city's sidewalks more accessible, "Adopt a Sidewalk" and "Sidewalk Access." The Adopt a Sidewalk project is patterned after a program in Chicago which enlists a corps of volunteers to remove snow from walkways for persons with disabilities. By doing so, we can create more access for people with disabilities during inclement weather.

The Sidewalk Access project is an upcoming review of the inventory of sidewalks within the city. We hope to capitalize on the City's WalkWorks program to get residents interested in repairing and maintaining their sidewalks to enable us to continue creating more access and mobility for people with disabilities.

What are the council's future endeavors?

One of this year's ambitious goals is to rollout a general awareness campaign in Columbus to remind the public that people with disabilities are part of this community. The campaign's concept is "Living Differently Able." We want to take the focus off of the disability and highlight our residents' abilities.

The campaign will include public service announcements on the radio, informational posters throughout the city, and the distribution of "Access Tip Sheets" on a variety of subjects, such as tips on office accessibility, what to do in the event of an emergency and other information. We are also working on producing a video for local companies on how employing persons with disabilities can be successful.

To learn more about the council, or to get involved contact The Columbus Human Rights Commission at 812-376-2532.

Advocating for positive change in 2014

As one of south central Indiana's largest nonprofit organizations, we employ more than 450 people who provide numerous resources and supports to hundreds of people with developmental disabilities across three counties. This year we celebrate our 55th anniversary. We honor our cultural history as a grassroots organization started by visionary families that saw and fought for brighter futures for their sons and daughters and other community citizens with disabilities.

Throughout our history, we have been driven by our mission to prepare, empower, and support persons with developmental disabilities and their families to participate fully in the life of the community. We continue to achieve our mission through the dedication of our employees and support from our friends, even though we're challenged by significant and sustained rate reductions.

Our major funding comes from Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration through Medicaid. In 2009, the State cut our Medicaid waiver reimbursement rate by 7 percent returning to the same rate as in 2002 where it remains today. Our highest priority is to provide quality services that promote outcomes through employment, community living and optimal health.

We'd like to see a reimbursement system that recognizes rising costs and is tied directly to outcomes. And that's what we'll be advocating for now and in the future.

Our dedicated staff is essential to the success of people we serve and they deserve to make livable wages. In order for us to pay equitable wages, and provide the best care to our clients, policymakers must establish a rate methodology that recognizes costs and regularly accounts for inflation. The current administration seems open to discussing these issues, and there are some positive indications that they recognize the stress on our staff and the stress on the people we serve who often have nowhere to turn and are unable to care for themselves.

We received a partial rate restoration this year, however that alone will not be sufficient for us to operate at optimal levels. We need support that helps build staff stability, because high turnover directly impacts clients who need consistency and support each day.

This important issue impacts not only Stone Belt employees and similar service providers, but also the communities where we operate.

As one of the area's largest employers, the ability of our clients and staff to fully participate in the life of the community is at risk.

This is a human issue, one of equality and opportunity. We hope to inspire people to speak up and advocate for positive change in 2014 so we can continue to provide quality programs and services to people with developmental disabilities and fairly compensate our devoted staff. In May, we will host a community forum to raise awareness on this issue. See details below for more.

We are sure this issue of Touchstone, which includes a feature on our 55 year history, will inform and inspire you. As always, thank you for your support. It emboldens us to persevere through challenges and to maintain a strong focus on achieving our mission.

All the Best,



Leslie Green, Chief Executive Officer



Stone Belt staff met with several key policymakers including (left to right) Rep. Matt Pierce, Rep. Matt Uebelhor, and Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann.

Stone Belt Visits the Statehouse

On Feb. 13, several clients and staff visited with state lawmakers and handed out valentines as part of The Arc of Indiana's annual Valentine's Day at the Statehouse event.

The Care Gap Crisis: A Community Discussion

On Wednesday, May 21 Stone Belt will host a panel discussion of community leaders, legislators and advocates to discuss the state of affairs in our organization and the disability services field generally. In 2007, the State cut our reimbursement rate back to the same level as in 2002 where it remains. The rate cut coupled with rising costs has created an unsustainable rate structure leaving the agency unable to grow and pay direct care staff livable wages. Plan to attend this important community event geared to solving The Care Gap Crisis.

When: Wednesday, May 21
Time: 7 pm
Location: First United Church (2420 East Third Street, Bloomington)

news

Columbus clients prepare and host chili supper

In January, the clients and staff in Columbus came together to host a chili supper where the clients showcased their culinary skills!

Each week the clients have been learning to prep, cook and place set a meal during culinary class. Friends and family attended and were able to participate alongside the clients as they prepped and cooked. The clients served their guests homemade chili, cornbread muffins and drinks. The clients were incredibly proud to show off what they'd achieved through the culinary program!

The event was created by Deb Federman, direct support specialist, and carried out with the help of JT Patterson, direct support specialist, and Pat Baker, lifelong learning coordinator.



Nick realizing that stoves are not always the same, and that cornbread muffins are easy to burn!



Angie explaining to her family the intricate process of making chili.



A delicious meal with family and friends is well deserved after following recipes, scooping, measuring and mixing.

Stone Belt Welcomes New Staff



Jennifer Hammond - Director of Supported Group Living

Jennifer may be new to her position, but she isn't new to Stone Belt. Before leading the Supported Group Living program, Jennifer spent three years as a social worker supporting Stone Belt clients across Bloomington and Bedford. Prior to joining the agency, she did social work and direct care in Indianapolis serving adults with developmental disabilities. Jennifer earned her bachelor's in social work from Ball State University and her master's in the same field from Indiana University. In her free time, she enjoys crafts and gardening.



Creonn Harper - Hiring Assistant

Creonn hails from East Chicago, Ind. and is a proud Indiana University alum where he recently earned a bachelor's degree in psychology. He currently serves as the hiring assistant within the human resources department. Soon, he plans to attend graduate school in pursuit of a master's degree in industrial organizational psychology. He enjoys hanging out with family, friends, and spending time with his new puppy, Coby!

Hanlon Wins IN-APSE Award



In December, the Indiana Association of People Supporting Employment First (IN-APSE) awarded John Hanlon, employment consultant, with their Professional Award for his exemplary commitment and performance placing clients in community employment.

upcoming events

Hoosier Half Marathon

Stone Belt will participate in one of its most anticipated annual events, the Hoosier Half Marathon and 5K, presented by Indiana Running Company. Marathon participants brave 13.1 miles of rolling hills and are rewarded with amazing views of campus, downtown, and spring blooms. Registrants may also choose to run or walk a 5K course. A portion of the proceeds from each race entry can go to Stone Belt. Join Team Stone Belt today, or sign up to volunteer alongside clients and staff. Learn more at hoosierhalf.com.

When: Saturday, April 5
Time: 8 am - 12 pm
Location: IU Memorial Stadium

Awards of Excellence

Each year, we recognize five exceptional staff members during Stone Belt's 2014 Awards for Excellence event. Award recipients are chosen for meritorious service in five categories: *Quality of Service, Positive Client Outcomes, Community Outreach, Operational Excellence, and Resource Efficiency*. Recipients receive a \$1,000 cash award and are presented with an award during the event. Join us in recognizing the hard work and daily contributions of some of our most exceptional staff. Leslie Green, CEO, and Trish Terino, board president, will officiate the award ceremony and luncheon. Limited seats available.

When: Wednesday, April 9
Time: 11:30 am - 2 pm
Location: St. Mark's Church (100 Indiana 46, Bloomington)
RSVP: Adam Hamel at ahamel@stonebelt.org

Annual Business Meeting & 55th Anniversary Celebration

Join us on June 16 for our annual business meeting and a celebration of our 55th anniversary. We'll provide refreshments and take a look back over our long, storied history. We hope to see you there.

When: Monday, June 16
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Stone Belt Gymnasium (2815 E. 10th Street, Bloomington)

Dancing with The Celebrities

We're back! After a two year hiatus, Stone Belt will once again participate in Dancing with The Celebrities, an annual event presented by Arthur Murray Dance Company. Local leaders in business, media, education, the arts, and politics are preparing their foxtrots and swing steps for the eighth annual event. Modeled on the wildly popular television series "Dancing with the Stars," the program matches six well-known Monroe County personalities with Arthur Murray Instructors. The duos perform for the public, with the profits going to six different local organizations. Each pair represents one of the charities, and attendees will be able to cast votes with contributions. In addition to votes cast by audience members, dancers will also be evaluated by certified examiners and choreographers. You won't want to miss the excitement and community pride this anticipated event brings to Bloomington.

When: Saturday, Aug. 9
Time: TBA
Location: Buskirk Chumley Theater

touchstone

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Stone Belt
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Touchstone is distributed free of charge to families, friends, businesses and community partners of Stone Belt.

If you would like to receive our newsletter or request it in an accessible format contact Kim Clements-Johnson at 812-332-2168, ext. 273 / kclements@stonebelt.org.

55 YEARS

celebration

Happy Anniversary!

The Stone Belt Council for *Retarded Children was organized in November 1958 and became incorporated the following year. The founders believed that people with developmental disabilities should have the same rights and privileges as any other community member. As proof of their commitment to support children with developmental disabilities, the council formed the first school for children with disabilities in Bloomington.

Stone Belt's founders could not have dreamed that their efforts would result in the growth that the organization has experienced over the past 55 years. Today, opportunities for individuals with disabilities are countless. Perhaps one of the most important advances in the field during this half decade is reflected in how our society perceives individuals with disabilities. Institutions have disappeared and new doors to community inclusion have opened.

In the years following its humble beginnings, Stone Belt has become a leader in the field of supporting individuals with disabilities. The oldest and largest agency of its kind in south central Indiana, Stone Belt today offers a full-range of programs and resources for over 2,000 clients in Monroe, Lawrence, Bartholomew and surrounding counties. Fifty-five years after its inception, Stone Belt continues to fulfill its mission to empower and support individuals and their families to fully participate in the life of the community.

Stone Belt has established itself as an agency of excellence, enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities, their families, friends and larger community. As we celebrate our 55th Anniversary we remember the past, and we also look toward a bright future of innovation and inspiration.

Happy Anniversary Stone Belt!



anniversary

A Look Back: The stories of three original Stone Belt Clients

It's 1955 and a mother of five in Bloomington, Ind. receives a call from her oldest daughter's teacher. The teacher said she can no longer teach her daughter because she is a slow learner. So she brings her home and while her other children happily participate in school and other activities, her oldest daughter is excluded. Later she learns that her dentist's son also is not in school because of his learning and communication problems. She meets with the dentist's wife and learns that several parents have had similar experiences with their children. She is excited to learn that these parents are working to start a school program for children with special needs. This mother is Venus Abbitt, who along with her husband and several other families in the Bloomington community, worked together to create the Stone Belt Council for *Retarded Children.

By 1959, nine children were participating in a school program held in a local church basement. Carolyn Abbitt was one of those children reporting for the first day for school – an experience she hadn't had for a few years. Now, 55 years later, Carolyn and at least two other of those original students are still served by Stone Belt.

Hundreds of clients and their families have benefited by the work that a few families started in the late 1950's. Stone Belt's founders envisioned a better future for people with disabilities. Terry, Bob and Carolyn are living examples of their vision (stories below). Today Stone Belt supports thousands of individuals, helps them to positively impact the community in myriad ways and serves as a leader in the field. We are grateful that those families and their community supporters took those first steps to making Stone Belt Arc, Inc. a reality.

**Terminology has changed since the 1950's. Because of the stigmatizing effects of the words "retarded" and "mental retardation" both have been eliminated from our vocabulary. Learn more about person first language at www.stonebelt.org/files/personfirstlanguage.pdf.*

Robert "Bob" Smith



Bob Smith, son of Dr. Roscoe Russell and Mary Ann Smith, lived at home with his parents and attended Stone Belt. Like the Abbitts, Bob's family was instrumental in helping form Stone Belt. When his parents died, Bob moved into one of Stone Belt's early group homes located in what is now the Indiana Institute for Disability and Community, near our 10th Street location in Bloomington.

When Stone Belt opened Hite House in 1986, Bob and his five other housemates moved into their beautiful tri-level house in Danny Smith addition. After Bob completed his school years, he participated in Stone Belt's adult programs. Highlights of his adult years include volunteer work, such as with Meals on Wheels food delivery, and a job doing lot maintenance at the Crosstown shopping center. Recently Bob moved to Miller House, which is a single level house that can accommodate Bob's physical needs in his senior years. He enjoys spending time with peers in his Lifelong Learning classroom and in the community.

Carolyn Abbitt



Carolyn Abbitt also lived at home with her family until 1987 when she moved to Kirkwood House, a Stone Belt group home. Her mother expressed her surprise that Carolyn was so ready to take her first steps toward independence when she was offered the opportunity to try group living. Later, Carolyn was one of the first Stone Belt clients to transition into supported living, where she would share her own leased apartment with another housemate.

Over the years, Carolyn worked in the community including a highly successful 11 year tenure at McDonalds. She currently works in Stone Belt's life science manufacturing facility part time, where she is a very productive worker. About 10 years ago, Stone Belt helped Carolyn discover her immense talent as a studio artist. Carolyn has become quite well known for her artistry. She is the number one selling artist in Stone Belt's successful art program and her works grace the community, in public art installations, as well as dozens of patrons' homes and offices.

Terry Simpson



Terry Simpson remembers going to the first facility Stone Belt operated and where the parents group often had chili suppers and rummage sales to support the school. Terry also remembers the classrooms moving into the Stone Belt Comprehensive Center, now simply Stone Belt, in 1971. Like Bob, Terry also lived at Hite House, but showed the ability to live more independently. He vividly remembers what Stone Belt used to look like recalling the childcare classrooms that lined the halls.

Today he lives on his own with intermittent support from Stone Belt staff. He has worked for the Crazy Horse restaurant for 14 years and has many friends throughout the community. Friendships that he's gained from his time at Stone Belt are what have been most meaningful to him.

Annual Business Meeting & 55th Anniversary Celebration

Join us for our annual business meeting and a celebration of our 55th anniversary. We'll provide refreshments and take a look back over our long, storied history. We hope to see you there!

When: Monday, June 16 • Time: 6:30 p.m. • Location: Stone Belt Gymnasium (2815 E. 10th St., Bloomington)

information technology

Q & A: Stone Belt Adopts Electronic Health Records:

Partners with HealthLINC for implementation

Kathy Church, Director of Operations, HealthLINC

What is an electronic health record?

EHR is the patient's chart in an electronic format allowing for better data storing and sharing. If you think of the content of a paper chart, you have much of the content of the electronic chart; it includes medications, allergies, problem list, reports, results, visit notes, communications, etc.

Sharing is controlled by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) standards but the rule of thumb generally allows sharing of patient health information between providers who are actively caring for the patient.

Tell us about HealthLINC and your role.

HealthLINC is a health information exchange (HIE) serving southern Indiana. Services include:

- Delivery of results and reports to offices electronically and directly into their electronic health records
- Assisting with meaningful use requirements for offices and critical access hospitals
- Setting up alerting process for offices so they can better serve their patients through their care at emergency departments
- Admissions and observation stays, community-based medication management to reduce medication errors
- Assist patients with safer medication usage and other methodologies related to improving quality for better patient care

I'm responsible for daily oversight of all our activities, engaging practices in new technologies that better serve patients and providers, advising on workflow process changes, and providing forums for community interacting.

How can exchanging health information help to improve quality of care?

Electronic sharing increases the level of security because paper and fax are not involved. Having information in a "standard computer readable" format allows us to move data from point A to B and land in the right place for the right person to get the right care from the right provider.

Susan Hoard, CIO, Stone Belt

Describe the partnership between Stone Belt and HealthLINC.

The partnership between Stone Belt and HealthLINC is collaborative. We share a vision. As our relationship has grown and strengthened, HealthLINC has demonstrated their commitment to helping us provide improved health outcomes for our clients and Milestones patients through the use of technology. Including Milestones and Stone Belt representation on HealthLINC's steering committee—working to put clear plans in place to electronically communicate across agencies, groups, practices and hospitals—gives us the ability to be a part of, and to influence how our medical community interacts electronically and provides better health outcomes for our clients.

How do the projects you have been working with HealthLINC affect Stone Belt clients and staff?

Sharing health information electronically helps prevent errors by ensuring that everyone involved in a person's care has access to the same information. Each project's principal goal is to improve health outcomes for our clients using available, nationally standardized technology. We are constantly asked to do more with less. More efficient workflow processes, clinical decision support tools, and automated data flow reduce administrative burden and give staff more time and better information to coordinate the most effective care.

Describe the electronic lab results delivery interface and its importance.

The interface automatically delivers discrete, structured lab results, as well as radiology, X-ray and transcription directly into our electronic health record system for review by our physicians and nurses. This allows for faster reporting (we generally have the results in our system within minutes of the labs having the results) and simplifies the process of reviewing the results.

Each component of a laboratory test is sent as discrete data, abnormal results are flagged for urgent review within the EHR and acted upon immediately. Having the results electronically also allows us to compare them with previous values and see trends over time, which helps better manage medications, gauge progression of diseases and evaluate the effectiveness of protocols. The interface also makes our workflow much more efficient. Milestones patients can even view their own results through the patient portal.

Besides implementing an electronic lab results delivery interface between Stone Belt's EHR and HealthLINC, what are some of the other initiatives you're working on?

We currently have two other initiatives we are working on. The first is an alerts initiative, which will notify us when a patient or client is admitted for a hospital stay or observation, admitted to the emergency department, and upon discharge from a hospital stay. We control which patients and clients we want alerts on, and this will make sure we can plan transitions as necessary. The second initiative is putting care plans in place at IU Health Bloomington Hospital for our Monroe County residential clients. As our clients sometimes have complex health needs, having these care plans already in place when they arrive at the hospital will both enhance the care they receive and assist hospital personnel in understanding their needs.

To find out more about Stone Belt's Electronic Health Record system, please contact Chief Information Officer, Susan Hoard, at 812.332.2168, ext. 257 / shoard@stonebelt.org. If you have questions about Milestones contact Director, Maureen Gahan, at 812.333.6324 / mgahan@stonebelt.org.



(left to right) Kathy Church with HealthLINC and Susan Hoard with Stone Belt, led the effort to adopt and implement electronic health records.

thank you donors

Stone Belt extends appreciation to all our generous donors from July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. We are grateful for their continued support. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy of this listing. If you think there has been an omission, please accept our apology and call Lori Garraghty at 812-332-2168, ext. 314 / lgarraghty@stonebelt.org.

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development

Bill Bartley: Why I Give

Co-Owner, Indiana Running Co.
Board Member, Stone Belt

When I sat down to write this I thought to myself, this should be a breeze. Why I give is pretty simple, it's because there are people less fortunate than me that need help, because my parents raised me to treat others the way I would like to be treated, and because I can. Like I said, simple.

However, I would like to share with you a few more reasons. A few years ago I received an opportunity to give more than money – I was asked to join the Stone Belt Board of Directors and that's when I learned more about giving.

Board members have a window seat to see all of the wonderful ways clients benefit from Stone Belt programs and services. We see first-hand the dedication of the management and staff. After joining the board, the first thing I learned is Stone Belt's self imposed principals of service including:

"Social life and relationships help create quality of life;"
"Employment is a fundamental part of adult life;"
"All people have contributions to make."

I learned that pursuit of these principals is what drives the clients and staff every day under circumstances most people would consider unreasonable or impossible. I learned that the result of their pursuit of these principals is impressive by any standard.

- Through Stone Belt's Community Employment and Lifelong Learning programs, clients receive skills training like interviewing for a job or participating in performing arts that help them reach their personal goals.
- In-house manufacturing services give clients the opportunity



to not only receive paid employment but achieve industry awards for quality that recognize attention to detail at every level.

- The arts programs that continue to exceed expectations and transform clients into painters, actors, musicians and videographers.
- Project SEARCH clients complete internships helping them build skills and find permanent community employment. In 2013 there were a record number of folks moving into full time positions with benefits.
- Through outstanding psychiatric, behavioral, and health services provided at Stone Belt's Milestones health clinic, patients receive outstanding mental health services led by a team of psychiatrists, behaviorists, and therapists.
- Clients participate in Hand in Hand—a program started by a client collecting food donations from participating homes and delivering them to area food banks.

I am grateful for my opportunity to have a window seat, to see and share the best in people and ultimately to learn the true reasons for "why I give."

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2014 sponsorship opportunities

Celebrating Excellence in the Community

2014 provides a variety of opportunities for your company to be part of the excitement as south central Indiana celebrates extraordinary achievements made in the lives of persons with developmental disabilities. To find out more about how you can be part of Stone Belt's 2014 events, email sponsorship@stonebelt.org. We look forward to partnering with you. Sponsored events include:

- AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE**
Celebrated March 19, in Disabilities Awareness Month, Stone Belt's Awards for Excellence recognize the outstanding achievements of five staff members who have truly excelled in their work supporting individuals with disabilities. This event is attended by Stone Belt staff, major donors, and community leaders. The Excellence Awards includes a catered luncheon and awards ceremony recognizing award winners and select corporate sponsors.
- EMPOWERED LEARNING SERIES**
The Empowered Learning Series is an on-going educational program in which experts in the field provide comprehensive information to the community. Held at the IU Innovation Center in Bloomington, Ind., with video conferencing to additional locations, the series reaches a considerable audience. Stone Belt hosts several of these seminars each year on current disabilities issues affecting the lives of people we serve and their families.
- ANNUAL AWARDS CELEBRATION**
Held at the Bloomington Convention Center in September, this annual event is attended by 500+ community members. This celebration recognizes the extraordinary achievements and contributions of Stone Belt clients, staff, community partners, and volunteers. Features include a catered buffet dinner, a special address by the Mayor of Bloomington, and the awards ceremony recognizing the award winners and select corporate sponsors.
- HOLIDAY ART SALE**
Each December, Stone Belt hosts a Holiday Art Sale in partnership with Global Gifts, a fair trade store that sells handmade goods from around the world. The event is held at the Stone Belt Art Gallery, located in the lobby of the Bloomington Playwrights Project, and draws holiday shoppers from near and far. Stone Belt items for sale include art print calendars, art print greeting cards, decorative ornaments, as well as framed and unframed original works.

2014 Sponsorship Benefits

Be part of something meaningful in 2014 and gain increased community awareness for your company at the same time! A Stone Belt annual sponsorship provides many unique and substantive marketing opportunities for sponsors. As south central Indiana's oldest and largest nonprofit organization serving people with developmental disabilities, our communications and events cover three counties including Bartholomew, Monroe, and Lawrence.

- Our events draw community leaders, policymakers, families, clients, employees, and a range of businesses
- Our website, stonebelt.org, enjoyed more than 23,000 unique visitors in 2013
- Our newsletter, Touchstone, is mailed to more than 3,000 people
- Our annual report is posted to our website and delivered to large donors

Check out the complete list of sponsorship benefits below and consider how meaningful a Stone Belt 2014 sponsorship could be for your organization.

Sponsor Benefits	Signature \$25,000	Platinum \$10,000	Gold \$5,000	Silver \$2,500	Bronze \$1,000	Friend \$500
Company logo on Stone Belt Website home page for one year	●					
Company ad printed in Stone Belt's Touchstone newsletter for one year	●	●				
Reserved table for 8 at Stone Belt's Annual Awards Celebration	●	●				
Company name and logo in Stone Belt's 2015 Art Calendar	●	●	●			
Company ad printed in one issue of Stone Belt's Touchstone newsletter	●	●	●			
Reserved seating at Stone Belt's Excellence Awards Luncheon	8	4	2	2		
Company name listed in Annual Awards Celebration slideshow	●	●	●	●		
Company name listed on signage at all Annual Events listed to the left	●	●	●	●	●	
Company literature at Annual Awards Celebration welcome table	●	●	●	●	●	
Company name listed in Stone Belt's Touchstone newsletter	●	●	●	●	●	●
Company name listed in Stone Belt's Annual Report	●	●	●	●	●	●
Company logo and link on Stone Belt Website sponsorship page for one year	●	●	●	●	●	●

To become a 2014 corporate sponsor please contact Director of Development, Lori Garraghty at 812-332-2168, ext. 314 / lgarraghty@stonebelt.org