program spotlight

Play is an important means of communication for children

By Rosie Falls, LCSW

Milestones Therapists

Play is the most natural activity that best epitomizes spirit and brightness. It is an active reflection of emotions and bonds and connects people in a purpose and meaningful way, surpassing both conscious thinking and application. For children, play is especially important. It is a child’s language, and a place they can express their needs and fears without adult intervention.

An understanding of the effectiveness of play has led to the internationally-used clinical model of Play Therapy in the addressing of children’s emotional and behavioral needs. Play Therapy is a form of psychotherapy that accepts play and allows and needs to express themselves without adult intervention. Play Therapy is known to be most effective with children ages 2–10, but elements are available for people of all ages across a lifespan. Play Therapy helps children become aware of their thoughts, express feelings safely, gain a sense of control, help them to communicate their needs, increase their understanding of their behavior, improve problem-solving skills, and learn new ways of relating to a family and peers.

The Milestones School and Health Pavilion — a division of Milestones held a two-day conference in Los Angeles. This four-day event included sessions on “Play Therapy with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders,” and “Play Therapy Developmental Assessments.”

Milestones Therapists Bree Russo and Rosie Falls recently attended the National Association for Play Therapy conference in Los Angeles. This four-day event included sessions on “Play Therapy with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders,” and “Play Therapy Developmental Assessments.”

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Meet Dr. Lia Kettenis

Dr. Kettenis was born and raised in Indianapolis. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Brown University and her Medical Doctor degree from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. She completed her residency in both internal medicine and anesthesia at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City in 2016. Dr. Kettenis possesses expertise in neurology, evaluation and medication management of children, adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In October of this year, Dr. Kettenis hit the ground running along with the growing patient base and her family enjoys spending time with her husband and two young children. She also enjoys painting, drawing, pottery making, dancing, skiing, and volunteer activities.

Staff Spotlight

Meet Dr. Lia Kettenis

Dr. Kettenis was born and raised in Indianapolis. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Brown University and her Medical Doctor degree from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. She completed her residency in both internal medicine and anesthesia at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City in 2016. Dr. Kettenis possesses expertise in neurology, evaluation and medication management of children, adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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celebration

Milestones celebrated a renovated facility and introduced new psychiatrist Lia Kettenis, MD at an Open House on October 15.

For more information on Milestones' Play Therapy program visit their website at www.milestonesclinic.org.

Stone Belt • touchstone • Winter 2007 1
upcoming events

JANUARY 4 / 4 – 5 PM

JANUARY 21 / 5:30 – 7 PM

MONROE BANK GALLERY ART & CRAFT RECEPTION

February 17 / 6 – 8 PM

March 26 / 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

April 26 / 12 – 3:30 PM

Health Resources

MARCH 31 / 5:30 – 7 PM

JANUARY 31

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 know someone else who would, please contact Leslie Green at 812-332-2168, ext. 249 / lgreen@stonebelt.org

For more information about Stone Belt’s 10th Street, Main Conference Room Job Club kicks off its 2008 schedule with this first meeting of the year. Details some recent and possible responses to change — resistance, denial, acceptance, or charging forward as a change agent. It is usually an opportunity that can make or break your image and needs to be taken seriously.

Change: Threat or Opportunity?

It is usually an opportunity that can make or break your image and needs to be taken seriously.
Each year Stone Belt celebrates its Annual Awards ceremony to honor clients, volunteers, and staff who exemplify Stone Belt’s mission. The event is held in each of the four regions where Stone Belt operates: Owen County, East Region, Lawrence County, and Monroe County. The Awards are presented to individuals who demonstrate exceptional commitment to service and support to those they serve. These awards recognize individuals who embody Stone Belt’s values and vision. The ceremony is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of each person and to acknowledge their dedication to the mission of supporting individuals with disabilities.

### Owen County

**Client of the Year:**
- **Name:** Rose Dickerson
- **Achievement:** Volunteer at Elliott House

Rose Dickerson was selected as the Owen County Client of the Year. She has been a dedicated volunteer at Elliott House, a Stone Belt Group Home, for over two years. Despite facing challenges, Rose has remained committed to helping others and actively参与到 Elliott House's activities. Her work has inspired others around her.

**Outstanding Supported Living Employee:**
- **Name:** Boby Warren

Boby Warren was selected as the Outstanding Supported Living Employee. He has been a dedicated employee at Elliott House, providing support and assistance to residents. His commitment to excellence has been recognized.

**Client-Selected Staff:**
- **Name:** Miriam Budarz

Miriam Budarz was chosen by a client to receive the Client-Selected Staff award. She has been a valuable resource for residents, providing care and support as needed.

### East Region

**Client of the Year:**
- **Name:** Kelly Draus

Kelly Draus was chosen from winners in all counties. She has worked very hard over the past two years to increase her overall independence. Her efforts have been significant, and she continues to pursue her goals with determination.

**Outstanding Supported Living Employee:**
- **Name:** David Furr

David Furr was selected as the Outstanding Supported Living Employee. His dedication and commitment to his job have been instrumental in providing quality care to residents.

**Client-Selected Staff:**
- **Name:** Lisa Hackney

Lisa Hackney was selected by a client to receive the Client-Selected Staff award. She has been a consistent presence, offering support and guidance to those in need.

### Lawrence County

**Client of the Year:**
- **Name:** Richelle Hartman

Richelle Hartman was selected as the Lawrence County Client of the Year. Her dedication and commitment to her community have been recognized.

**Outstanding Supported Living Employee:**
- **Name:** Melissa Bishop

Melissa Bishop was selected as the Outstanding Supported Living Employee. Her exceptional care and support have been crucial in ensuring the well-being of residents.

**Client-Selected Staff:**
- **Name:** Babette Hall

Babette Hall was chosen by a client to receive the Client-Selected Staff award. She has been a consistent resource, offering assistance and guidance.

### Monroe County

**Client of the Year:**
- **Name:** Becky Smith

Becky Smith was selected as the Monroe County Client of the Year. Her contributions to her community have been significant.

**Outstanding Supported Living Employee:**
- **Name:** Matthew Holland & Darlene Erwin

Matthew Holland and Darlene Erwin were selected as the Outstanding Supported Living Employee. Their commitment to excellence has been instrumental in providing quality care.

**Client-Selected Staff:**
- **Name:** Steve Warren

Steve Warren was chosen by a client to receive the Client-Selected Staff award. He has been a consistent presence, offering support and guidance.

### Celebrations

The next celebration will be held in the East Region in April, followed by the Lawrence County celebration in early September. The agency-wide celebration will conclude by the end of September with the agency-wide celebration, which will be held in Bloomington Convention Center. There were several highlights of this year’s awards ceremony. At the Lawrence County celebration, a mother and daughter team were honored for their work for Stone Belt. They are married to each other, have children, and have been involved with Stone Belt for over ten years. Their dedication to the agency and their work as volunteers has been recognized.

All the Lawrence County celebrations, teaching together as a team to use her mini-van, parked under a shade tree, as an office for several months until we established an office in Columbus.

### Visionary Leadership Award

A goal leads builds trust, inspires and enables others to join in efforts. Boby Warren, Founding Board Member, is a mentor and leader, always seeking new directions and solutions, and aligns with the agency’s mission. Stone Belt recognizes Boby Warren for his outstanding contribution as an active leader over 10+ years. The organization is a better place for Boby Warren’s leadership.

### Employee of the Year

Randy McCarty was selected from among all other employee award winners in all counties for his outstanding employee in the Lawrence County. He has made significant contributions to the agency, working hard to ensure the success of the Stone Belt Group Home.

### Outst anding Supported Living Employee

Debra Barnes was selected as the Outstanding Supported Living Employee. Her dedication and commitment to the residents have been instrumental in ensuring their well-being.

### Outstanding Group Living Employee

Josh Jackson was selected as the Outstanding Group Living Employee. His dedication and commitment to the residents have been instrumental in ensuring their well-being.

### School of Life and Relationships Award

Social Life and Relationships Help Create Quality of Life: Indiana Institute on Disability and Community;

### Education Award

Educator of the Year: Faith Thomas (staff)

### Community Partner Awards

World Arts Printing & Plywood King, Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services, District 4 Field Office.

### Final Awards

Employee of the Year: Carol Coldworth

Employee of the Year: Sabrina Remick

Client of the Year: Cara Grinage

Client of the Year: Dave King

Employee of the Year: Aerin Canfield

Employee of the Year: Pat Morneanu

Employee of the Year: Melinda Loy

Employee of the Year: Greg Cline

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Grants awarded, donors appreciated

Recent grants awarded

Stone Belt has come to know several grants that recognize the outstanding contributions made by their customers to key programming. The United Way of Monroe County gave $10,000 to Stone Belt to fund the final 30 customers of the ‘Making It Happen’ grant, an additional $20,000 for the final 30 customers of the ‘Making It Happen’ grant, and an additional $25,000 for the final 30 customers of the ‘Making It Happen’ grant. These grants are awarded to individuals who have made a significant impact on their communities.

The Joan Burton Memorial Fund

Stone Belt is pleased to announce a recent gift of $10,000 given by Mr. Robert Burton to the Joan Burton Memorial Fund. The fund is named in honor of Joan Burton, who served as the first Executive Director of Stone Belt from 1965 to 1985.

Get to know Marcella Eller

Marcella Eller has been employed at Stone Belt for six years. She currently serves as a Direct Support Professional in the Whitmore Lake program. Marcella is known for her positive attitude and her commitment to helping others.

Jennings County services relocated

In part of an effort of the quality of services for both clients and providers, the difficult task was made to relocate the service to Jennings County. Many communities came in to the meeting and the design meeting was to review the tasks, and to provide support to services in Jennings County as a part of the new model.

human resources

Two new staff training programs begin

By Brad Gallin

Senior Director of Human Resources and}

It is said that in order to be truly successful in a job, you need to be part of an organization or a team. That is certainly true for Stone Belt, which employs over 500 people throughout the state of Indiana. Stone Belt is pleased to announce the development of two new staff training programs designed for employees in the community service division. These two new programs will afford them even greater vocational and leisure opportunities. The change in service location began to be implemented in November and will continue over the next few months. The Jennings County office closed on December 1, and all administrative staff and functions were moved to Stone Belt’s Columbus (Bartholomew County) office.

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In part of an effort of the quality of services for both clients and providers, the difficult task was made to relocate the service to Jennings County. Many communities came in to the meeting and the design meeting was to review the tasks, and to provide support to services in Jennings County as a part of the new model. The agency’s leadership board (the direct service providers and consumers) was given the responsibility of designing the new organizational structure to achieve the most positive outcomes for the individuals served.

The foundations of the agency-wide restructuring— to be implemented beginning in January of 2009— is a broad- based, model approach to providing supports for clients. Rather than offering services to individual consumers through separate departments such as residential, day programming, and employment services to meet each client’s needs, the agency will take a comprehensive approach to providing the broadest range of supports.

Additionally, the new agency structure includes new day programs with skills that specific staff members are equipped with to encourage the development of the highest levels of independence and social skills (including meal prepping, laundry and household management, and transportation skills). The Jennings County office will become part of a service delivery center (Clayton, White, Owen, and Monroe counties). The Jennings County office will continue to provide services to consumers in the White County service area.

The Board of Directors and executive staff of Stone Belt greatly appreciate the continued support of our organization’s stakeholders, which fully complement Stone Belt’s mission to provide a range of quality supports to individuals with developmental disabilities in order to fully participate in life of the community.

services to be organized by location

Stone Belt is dedicated to providing companionship services to our clients, the agency strives to support clients experience great quality of life in a variety of environments and the highest quality of life. The agency-wide restructuring will provide clients with a variety of services in the following areas:

restructure

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Stone Belt presents news and information for persons with disabilities, families and friends

PLAY TIME
Milestones’ Play Therapy program helps children communicate. page 1

ART ROUNDUP
Artists complete set for WTIU show, display mosaics at local restaurant. page 2

CELEBRATING STONE BELT
Events recognize clients, staff and community members. pages 4-5

STAFF EXCELLENCE
Stone Belt launches two new leadership development programs. 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 persons with developmental disabilities and their families to participate fully in the life of the community.

Fall-o-ween
Clients, staff and their families celebrated at Stone Belt’s annual Fall-o-ween festivities on October 19 at the Lawrence County Fairgrounds where there was food, games and dancing.