Just before noon on July 24, clients and staff gathered in the cafeteria for sloppy joes, baked beans, chips and candy bars generously provided by the ladies of Kappa Kappa Sigma for Stone Belt’s Fun Day. The annual event brings clients, staff and family members together for lunch, face painting, dancing and more.

The Kappa Kappa Sigma sorority has been involved with Stone Belt for decades. Each year several women visit Stone Belt to provide and serve lunch to clients and staff. This year’s event also coincided with Push American (Journey of Hope Trans America nationwide across 33 states) Members of Pi Kappa Phi, a national service fraternity, cycled from Seattle to Washington D.C. to raise awareness and awareness for people with developmental disabilities. Stone Belt was one stop on their 70 city journey, and we welcomed more than 20 riders on Fun Day.

The cyclists rode up the Stone Belt drive as clients and staff cheered and high-fived them giving them a warm welcome. The riders lined up alongside first signs, shook hands and high fived clients as they introduced themselves, where they were from and their universities. Members of the Stone Belt staff introduced the riders to the fun, dancing and bingo. The cyclists made their way to the gym where each introduced himself, his university and intended major. Afterwards, the organization presented Stone Belt with a check for $880 for use in our community employment program to help clients find and retain jobs.
One of the highlights of my year has been working with a group of visiting European students from the Indiana University Global Social Entrepreneurship Institute. I was fortunate enough to meet with the students, a young man from Ireland asked me how, even in his prince case with Down’s, Hill had managed to become so successful and devoted to his work.

The conversation and the great change in the philosophies and approaches to supporting people with disabilities. Hill told me, “I feel we have a system to help students and clients move into the workforce. The beginning of our programs was a movement to help clients achieve personal independence and focus on community-based living. Involving learning programs in business and other settings. We realized that there was a great need for more community-based educational programs. Seeking to reach the same goal, we started a new program, the Stone Belt Employment Program, to help individuals with disabilities find employment at the end of their program. In so many ways, our work can be challenging due to financial issues, but with our partners, we have developed and our principles and our mission is to help these people transition from school to work and to find their place in the workforce. In addition, we have continued to build our family and community programs, particularly for children.

In recent activities, we have been helping people with disabilities become more engaged in their home communities and to experience greater quality of life. More recently, self-advocacy movements have grown. We have seen people with disabilities and their families become much more empowered and more engaged with decision makers at all levels. Currently, the state is shifting its priorities to support adults and children. Thus, Hill has brought many of these families to the forefront, including individuals and their families. We have strength in the mission, and I’m excited about the future of our family and community programs.

We are working with families across the state to develop new partnerships and to bring resources to the families. This is an exciting time, and Hill and his team are committed to achieving our goal of helping all families throughout our existence, and currently has many partnerships with families through their development efforts, and our adult programs. We also have several new ideas from our European student groups, whom we asked to help us reach out to and design services to meet the needs of these participants. Over the last year, we will continue to build our family and community programs, particularly for children.

In addition, recent activities include starting the Stone Belt Fair, which includes family and community programs, and creating one of the premier art programs for people with disabilities in the region. Expanding our services to new communities, increasing our membership database to self-advocates that can meet a need for additional environmentally extended support and,屑ing a Project SEARCH site, where over the past three years 98 percent of the young adults have successfully found employment on the end of our programs.

To while many new areas we can work on challenging due to financial issues, there are still opportunities to expand our services and our mission. Our goal is to help these families transition from school to work and to find their place in the workforce. In addition, we have continued to build our family and community programs, particularly for children.

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The Indiana University Kelley School’s Institute for International Business Global Social Entrepreneurship Institute (GSEI), sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, brought 20 European undergraduates to the U.S. for a month-long program focused on social entrepreneurship. The inaugural program kicked off in July as the students flew from countries including Hungary, Sweden, Germany and others, arriving in Indiana to begin an intensive learning program that included a project designed around Stone Belt.

The students arrived at Stone Belt early on July 12 for an immersion into all that Stone Belt is and does. CEO Dale Green kicked off the morning with an introduction of Stone Belt and the project scope. The task: developing a strategy for Stone Belt to shift to the family support model.

The students met with clients and families in the family support model and the goal of delivering more intensive services, keeping people in their homes and doing it more efficiently. The students toured the building and learned about Stone Belt’s services, mission and vision. Much of Stone Belt’s primary services are geared toward adults with developmental disabilities. Stone Belt’s objective is to fill the gap for families and young people by diversifying Stone Belt’s programs and services to accommodate them.

The students visited as Michelle Gahan, director of Milestones, reflected on Stone Belt’s history and the complicated history of care for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities since the 19th century. CFO Ward Brown followed with an in-depth discussion on Stone Belt’s finances and how the organization is funded through Medicaid, donors, services and how those funds are allocated.

Leslie then walked the students through the categories of services: habilitation, employment, behavior management, and respite which is the most difficult to service to provide and is one of the most needed in the future.

In the challenge, Stone Belt and the students were to answer these questions:

- What do families want?
- What can Stone Belt provide?
- How do we let families know?

The students broke into five teams, discussed the project, considered questions they had, and took a tour of the building. Over the next two weeks, the students would research, ask questions and prepare their presentations, which they successfully delivered to a group of Stone Belt executives and other staff on July 31 at the Kelley School of Business.

Each team developed creative solutions to Stone Belt’s needs, but only one team walked away a winner. The judges debated the merits of each team’s content, creativity and overall presentation skills before rating each team on a numbered scale.

The winning team developed an innovative idea for the Agency to develop a for-profit business in Bloomington, client-staffed with proceeds going to fund new programs designed to serve families and clients on the family supports waiver. While Stone Belt has no plans to start a side business, the Agency can use several ideas each team presented.

Three days following their presentations, the students flew to Washington D.C., where their program at the U.S. Department of State concluded. Designed around an issue in their home country, shortly after touring the city each student got a flight and headed home with hopeful new perspectives on people with developmental disabilities, insight into social entrepreneurship principles they’ll use in their home countries, and new friends across America and Europe.
thank you donors

Stone Belt extends appreciation to all our generous donors from February 1 to June 30, 2013. We are grateful for their continued support. Stone Belt’s efforts to make accurate and current records have been an ongoing process. Please accept our apologies and call Lori Garraghty at 812-332-2168, ext. 314 / lgarraghty@stonebelt.org.

FUNDRAISING ($1,000 – $2,499)
Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County
PLUMS SOCIETY ($1,000 – $5,000)
Kirk Landy

LIFELONG GIVING ($2,500 – $4,000)

RUGGED SOCIETY ($1,000 – $2,499)
Allied World Assurance Company; James & Christine Dorris; Dr. & Mrs. Gonzalez; Donald & Carol Ann Holmes; Mission of Star Ukiah

ADVOCATES ($500 – $999)
Joy & Steve Armstrong; William & Samantha Becker; Beth Gaydon & Gail Wesselingh; Barry & Heidi Graf; Catherine Gurney; Linda Hess & Ed Backman; Tish Jeter; Student Personalization Foundation

STRENGTHENERS ($100 – $499)
James & Bradley Allen; Albert & Marie Brundrett; Sarah & John Catherwood; Frank C extinct; Inc.; Don Converti, Cornerstone Music; Jack & Sherryl Crewdson; Richard & Gail Shiner; David Hamilton & Ewa Staszecki; Karla Hug, Monroe County Convention & Visitors Bureau; Matt & Carol Hwadi; HEA; The Hope Agency; Donald Jackson; Kappa Kappa Kappa Inc., Alpha Chapter; Leslie & Kathleen Lenkowsky; Carol Lewis; Franklin & Teresa Littlejohn; P.E.A.C.E. Meyer Family; Matt & Terry Skoczylas; Bonnie Smith; Nancy Smith; Philip & Gloria Walls; Michael & Carol Wimmenauer; Wayne & Vivian Winston; Anonymous (3).

IN KIND GIFTS

Stone Belt provides comprehensive and ongoing staff and client training to ensure client safety each day. The agency understands the trust and responsibility it has to each client, which is why safety training that emphasizes adherence to Stone Belt policies and procedures and training the health and safety process that follows.

Safety training provided to all Stone Belt staff, clients, and families.

- Regularized training for prevention of abuse and neglect, including enforcement of the responsibilities of all staff, volunteers, and support staff, and review and reporting of any incidents of abuse and neglect.
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Annual meeting

Award Recipients Embody Principles of Service

The following awards were presented: Stone Belt’s Principles of Service award; the Volunteer of the Year award; the Employee of the Year award; the Elbert Johns award; the Community Partner award; the Positive Supports award; the Self-Determination award; the Contributions award; the Quality of Life award; and the Empowered Learning award.

STONE BELT SHRINE CLUB

By Anne Higley, Stone Belt board member

Gotta give.
To support and celebrate differences.
To foster understanding and opportunities.
To lead by example.
To encourage the creativity that already exists.

Gotta give.
To turn ourselvess into productive, self-sufficient individuals.
To do as we say, and do the most we can.
To help others achieve our abilities.
To create opportunities when there aren’t none.

Gotta give.
To demand, on our behalf.
To resolve those who are teachers, no matter where the classroom.
To listen to the old and to the young.
To ensure that others can always hear when we need them.

To learn something from those who are older, and in the process of learning something from those who are younger.
To use the eyes we have been blessed with, and the ears we have.

Gotta give. Gotta keep on giving.
To build homes of warmth, color, caring, laughter and love, where you can always have hot chocolate—with 7 mini marshmallows.

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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.

Fun Day
Annual Events showcase community partners. page 1

Stone Belt Partners with IU's Kelley School
Learn about the International Business GSEI Institute. pages 4-5

Columbus Celebrates
East Region headquarters hosts Open House event. page 7

Why I work at Stone Belt, and why you should too!

“Stone Belt empowered me to become my best self - giving me the trust and autonomy to achieve more every day.”

Adam H., 5 years

Want to make a significant difference in someone’s life? Come work for us!

Check out our job opportunities at www.stonebelt.org/workingforus
For more information, email us at hireme@stonebelt.org