I'm excited because Centerstone has a good functioning. This program helps individuals with developmental disorders. Three decades of individual and group training have developed this program, and it is a part of a series of educational groups for adult individuals with developmental disabilities called Healthy Relationships Classes.

The program is influenced by the Healthy Relationships Classes that Middle Way House presents in local high schools, although its vision is adapted to a population with a lower reading ability, and it is revised for the group to be heard during 90-minute sessions. "They help my teaching because I can ask someone to go out and deal with things. I know that I can ask people. I can get them to understand, and I can get things out of the people that I can speak up," says Deb.

The classes stress active communication, and interactive techniques to inform individuals about topics such as privacy and public places, preventing abuse, and exploitation on the Internet, and how to deal with relationships and the effects of being told how to do things. "I learned during the class that relationships are a part of your identity in Bloomington, where most of Milestones and Stone Belt clients live," says Deb. "This treatment is one of the places to go to get the program with Centerstone since there have been locations in many of the areas that we serve."

This past May, Milestones began a new partnership with Centerstone in order to continue to provide individuals with their necessary Skills Development services. The Skills Development program is a part of the Medicaid Rehabilitation Option which means that independent living is available to individuals with disabilities who are planning to live independently and receive services from Milestones.

"Once this treatment is over, the plan is to grow the program with Centerstone since they have locations in many of the areas that we serve."

Therapist Invited to Teach at IU

Dela Reid, a licensed therapist at Milestones, has been invited to teach an undergraduate Psychology course at Indiana University this upcoming fall semester. She has 17 years of experience teaching children, adolescents, and families with disabilities in outpatient clinics. Her primary specialties are doing psychological with evidence-based programs, which have been shown to be highly effective in treating disruptive disorders such as ADHD and anxiety disorders. "Milestones' white paper of programs is really well received, but mostly valued because I think it is going to be a great opportunity for those students to start and part from there forward," says Dela.

For this undergraduate seminar course, students will work on a new piece a week for the first three weeks. Then, they will be guided by the incredible Women program, developed by Dr. Heather Reiners at the center to help women and girls to manage difficult behaviors.

The program teaches students the skills for using anger that influences their children's motivation to comply with, and develop a sense of self-worth. Each student will be assigned three children to observe and discuss. "We hope that these students are developing their skills, and role models for parents and teachers to turn to find the best way to do with these types of behaviors," says Dela.

The audience experienced a range of emotions: from hope and humor, to frustration, and even sadness. "I was really blown away by the stories. I laughed; I was wowed; and I even cried to "Somewhere over the Rainbow," to an emotional story relating to the challenges and the evolution of their own growth and success.

"I was really wowed by the stories. I laughed; I was wowed; and I even cried," said new Director of Development, Derek Richey. It seems everyone in the audience experienced a range of emotions: from hope and humor, to frustration, and even sadness. "I was really blown away by the stories. I laughed; I was wowed; and I even cried to "Somewhere over the Rainbow," to an emotional story relating to the challenges and the evolution of their own growth and success.

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Well, it is the start of a new fiscal year for Stone Belt, and as usual we are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities for growth and improvement that the new fiscal year will bring. We are committed to continuing our efforts to improve the lives of the individuals we serve and to increase our effectiveness in meeting their needs.

LEADERSHIP

Welcome new Board Members!

Stone Belt is pleased to announce the election of four new board members at our recent Board of Directors meeting, including Brian Holzer as Chair of the Board. These new members bring a wealth of experience and expertise to our Board, and we are grateful for their commitment to the mission of Stone Belt.

New Board members include:

- Brian Holzer, a local attorney and leader in the nonprofit sector.
- Jill Ewing, a retired educator and volunteer leader.
- Paul Martin, a business leader and community advocate.
- Erin Meyers, a Site Supervisor in the Supported Living Program.

These new board members bring a diverse range of skills and perspectives to our Board, and we look forward to their contributions to our mission.

Thank you to our departing board members, including Sharon Keeler, Susan Hall, and Derek Rhoads, who have served with dedication and commitment to Stone Belt.

CLINICAL TEAM

Stone Belt Arc clients and staff have been offered a special opportunity to be a part of a new children's book called "Karin," a story about a young girl named Karin. The book, written by Stone Belt Arc's Cynthia Carlson, tells the story of a young girl named Karin who is on a mission to save the world and make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Stone Belt Arc is proud to be a part of this exciting project, and we are grateful to Cynthia for her hard work and dedication to the project.

RHYTHMS OF THE JUNGLE

"Rhythms of the Jungle," a book written and illustrated by Stone Belt Arc client Jim Nizamoff, has been published and is now available for purchase. The book tells the story of a young chimpanzee named Manny who is on a mission to find his way home after being lost in the jungle.

"Rhythms of the Jungle" is available for purchase at Stone Belt Arc's website, and all proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to support the programs and services of Stone Belt Arc.

ABOUT US

Stone Belt is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with disabilities through advocacy, education, and comprehensive services.

WEBSITE

www.stonebelt.org

info@stonebelt.org

Happy New (Fiscal) Year!

Well, it is the start of a new fiscal year for Stone Belt, and as usual we are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities for growth and improvement that the new fiscal year will bring. We are committed to continuing our efforts to improve the lives of the individuals we serve and to increase our effectiveness in meeting their needs.

The year to come will be a positive one for the clients we serve. Their continued support and commitment will enable us to continue to provide services that meet their needs and help them achieve their goals.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of Stone Belt. As we move into our 100th year, we look forward to continuing to provide services that make a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Let's make the year ahead a positive one for all of us!
Milestones is a part of a series of educational groups for adult individuals with developmental disabilities called Healthy Relationships Classes. These classes were developed over ten years ago and are a part of a series of educational groups for adults with developmental disabilities called Healthy Relationships Classes.

The program is modeled after the Healthy Relationships Classes that Middle Way House presents to local high schools, although it is adapted to incorporate a lower reading level, a new element for intersecting learning, and fewer stories that are not aimed at teaching a specific skill set to each relationship topic. Healthy Relationships Classes, “I allow people to walk at any level that they want. It helps them practice healthy relationship skills with the group.” We hope to continue the Healthy Relationships program with the 2013 Thesaurus Award.

This past May, Milestones began a new partnership with Centerstone in order to continue to provide individuals with their quality Skills Development Services. The Skills Development Program is a part of the Medicaid Rehabilitation Option, which means that all of the services are provided at little to no cost to the individual.

For this undergraduate service learning course, students will work a few hours per week at Head Start. Their goal is to help children and families with disabilities to improve their understanding of interpersonal interactions. These lessons were developed seven years ago and are a part of a series of educational groups for adult individuals with developmental disabilities called Healthy Relationships Classes.

The classes strongly utilize concrete, visual, and interactive techniques to inform individuals about topics such as private and public places, prevention and exploitation on the Internet, and how to deal with bullying. The classes are aimed at teaching an individual’s personal skills, such as knowing they can ask people to do things for them, they helped my daughter learn I can ask someone to do something for me and I learned that I can talk to people. So I am not scared to ask people anymore, I learned that I can ask people.

Healthy Relationships Classes

This past May, Milestones began a new partnership with Centerstone, which is a large local presence in Bloomington, Bedford, and Ellettsville, in which both the Milestones and Centerstone staff belief, “Our vision is to create a healthy community mental health care for Centerstone. This program aims to teach children and adults that have mental impairments the skills to improve daily functioning.

Milestones staff are excited for their transition, because Centerstone has a large local presence in Bloomington, Bedford, and Ellettsville, in which both the Milestones and Centerstone staff.

“Once this transition is over, the plan is to grow and continue to serve more people,” says Jennifer Kall, program director for the Centerstone’s autism Transition Program.

The program teaches students the skills for giving and receiving attention that increases children’s motivation to comply, and develop a sense of self-worth. Each student will be assigned three children to observe and teach. We hope that these students will develop their skills, and implement role-models for parents and teachers for children to use with these types of behaviors.

If you would like to review our policies, please contact our website, www.stonebelt.org.
Another goal of the course was to give Stone Belt supervisors an opportunity to be aware of your strengths and areas of your behavior that are more challenging,” says Christine. “In order to be a supervisor that's effective, you have to know who you are. And it's important for you to be able to get a better feel for the kind of environment in which these supervisors are going to be effective. Christine tailors each course she teaches to the organization that she is working with. She works with her students in the classroom and the field, and identifies those students that she feels have a particular need to improve on their work, and then her course is designed around these needs so that the training program goals are accomplished.

Happy New (Fiscal) Year!

Well, it is the start of a new fiscal year for Stone Belt, and as usual we are busy planning and preparing for what promises to be a very busy year for the clients we serve, both in our direct service delivery and in our advocacy efforts. The Board of Directors, staff, and everyone involved with Stone Belt is looking forward to working hard to support the needs and goals of the people we serve.

For the past eight months, several of Stone Belt’s internal supervisors have been formally trained in specific skills and talents through a series of courses, or “modules,” that have been designed by the Center for Excellence in Professional Development. In addition, Stone Belt has worked with external trainers to provide skill building for those employees who are in need of training. Our staff development efforts will continue to be focused on providing high quality training for all who work closely with people with disabilities and other diverse backgrounds.

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Leadership

Welcome new Board Members!

Stone Belt is pleased to announce the election of four new members to its Board of Directors, including Dr. Chad Ochando as Chair of the Class of 2022.

Mike Hessent (pictured right) is the retired Director of Special Education at the University of Evansville, a position he held from 2002-2010. Mike is currently serving as a consultant in inclusion and education of people with disabilities, through his company, Special Education Consulting, LLC. Mike has been a leader in the Special Education field for over 30 years, and his experience has given him a deep understanding of the needs of individuals with disabilities. His passion for education and advocacy has led him to serve on numerous boards and committees, and he is committed to ensuring that everyone has equal access to education and opportunities.

Michael A. Bell is pictured middle in this Regional Director for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and is a Board member of the Indiana State Board of Education. Michael has been a leader in the education field for over 30 years, and his experience has given him a deep understanding of the needs of individuals with disabilities. His passion for education and advocacy has led him to serve on numerous boards and committees, and he is committed to ensuring that everyone has equal access to education and opportunities.

Rayner Carter (right) is the Director of the Bloomington Diabetes Prevention Program. Stone Belt is a client of this program, and Rayner is happy to provide a warm welcome to the Bloomington Community. Stone Belt is excited to offer this program to our clients, and we look forward to working closely with Rayner and his team to bring this program to our clients.

Christie Mall, pictured below, is an Artist from Illustrator to Art Therapist.

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Thank You for your Support!

Thank you for your support of Stone Belt. As we move into the new fiscal year, we are once again asking for your help in supporting Stone Belt’s mission. Your generosity allows us to continue to provide high quality services to the people we serve. Your tax-deductible donations help us to continue to provide these services.

For more information on how you can support Stone Belt, or to make a donation, please visit stonebelt.org or call (812) 332-2180, ext. 10.

Why I Give

Smithville Charitable Foundation

Stone Belt programs supported in part through a grant from the Smithville Charitable Foundation.

New Staff

Welcome, Derek Richley!

Derek Richley is pictured above, and is a new Development Director at Stone Belt. Derek is the head of our agency’s development efforts.

Derek has a strong background in development and marketing, and is excited to join our team. Before coming to Stone Belt, Derek worked as a marketing and communications specialist for several projects including the Indy Eleven professional soccer team, the Metropolitan History Commission, and the Stonewall Foundation. Derek’s professional experience includes working for more than 10 years in the field of fundraising and marketing, which is important to him and his role at Stone Belt. He has a passion for helping organizations tell their stories and reach new audiences, and he is dedicated to supporting our mission.

Derek is excited to bring his knowledge and experience to Stone Belt, and he looks forward to working closely with the Stone Belt team to support our mission.

The Smithville Charitable Foundation is proud to support the work of Stone Belt. The people behind Stone Belt are leaders in the field of disability services, and they are dedicated to supporting our mission and helping us to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.
NEW STAFF

Welcome, Derek Richey!

Stone Belt is excited to welcome Derek Richey as our new Development Director! Beginning in late March, Derek will be working closely with the Stone Belt team to advance our mission of transforming lives with disabilities.

Derek has a background in development and marketing and is excited to join our team. Before coming to Stone Belt, he worked as a marketing and communications consultant. His previous positions include working with the Indy Eleven professional soccer team, and authoring the local history book, "Bloomington Then and Now" which documents the changes in the Bloomington landscape over the last 100 years.

Derek is excited to be at Stone Belt as it is a nonprofit again. Derek says that he wakes up in the morning feeling good that he works at a place that not only supports individuals with disabilities, but effectively advocates for them as well. He is a high school English and History teacher. "Bloomington Then and Now" which documents the changes in the Bloomington landscape over the last 100 years.

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Healthy Relationships Classes

This past May, Milestones began a new programming series, Healthy Relationships Classes. This program is modeled after the Healthy Relationships Classes that Middle Way House presents in local locations in many of the areas that we serve. They help people to understand how to be successful in relationships. Mike Berry was another participant in the class. He says, “We talked about relationships and feelings. I am not scared to ask people to do things anymore. I was scared at first, and I learned to be more open. I’m glad I did. I learned that I can ask people. I felt confident to ask people and not be afraid of the result that I can speak up.”

The program teaches students the skills for giving attention that increases children’s motivation to comply, persist, and develop a sense of self-value. Each student will be assigned three children to observe and work with. “We hope that these students will learn how to work with children and young people,” says Deb. The program teaches students the skills for giving attention that increases children’s motivation to comply, persist, and develop a sense of self-value. Each student will be assigned three children to observe and work with. “We hope that these students will learn how to work with children and young people,” says Deb.

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