Jacob's Village
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www.jacobsvillage.org
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OTTERS BENEFIT GAME
JUNE 6TH!

Events Calendar

OTTERS GAME
THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10TH

TRIVIA NIGHT
SATURDAY, NOV. 9TH

2023-2024 Tributes

IN MEMORY OF:

PATTY AMAN
Francis and Sandra Hertel

MARILYN BEGLE
Paul and Susie Ficker

BEN BROUGHAM
Charmie Guagenti

SUE DEWIG
Dan and Karen Grunow

DR. VICTOR L. FISHER, JR.
Neola, INC.

BETTY HIECHELBACH
Paul and Susie Ficker

KADDY HURLEY
Barbara Miller
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Dan and Emilie Wilkinson
Dan and Karen Grunow
Jacqueline Pauls
Kay Giles

JOE KELLER
Steve and Jennifer Keller

SUZANNE KIEFER
Dan and Karen Grunow

WILLIAM JOSEPH KOESTER
Evelyn Schickel

DICK AND JUNE MACPHERSON
Carolyn Champagne

JUDY MCCUTCHAN
Dan and Karen Grunow

ALVIN MCINTOSH, SR.
Ruth McIntosh

JOE MOREHEAD
Kathy Knapp

BARB RENSHAW
Anonymous

DEBBIE ROBERTS
Daniel and Linda Hostettler

KURTIS SCHNEIDER
Kent and Missy Rexing
Nancy Sexton
Ronald and Connie Donahoo

ALBERTHA SCOTT
Maizell Kloke

MICHAEL SCHWEIZER
Dan and Karen Grunow

DEACON JOE STOFLETH
Margaret Stofleth

ALBERT UMBACH
Tom and Sandi Burmeister

GILBERT VERCAMP
Paul and Susie Ficker

IN HONOR OF:

KARLA FICKER
Greg and Julie Streicher
Kenneth and Sheila Traenkle

CHARMIE AND ANDY GUAGENTI
John Chaney

SCOTT HUCK
Ann Baldwin

Donnie and Diana Mathews
Karen Wollin
Leslie Osborn
Richard and Margaret Diemer
Ron Weatherford

MIKE HUFNAGEL
David and Elizabeth Hollander

JACOB'S VILLAGE RESIDENTS & EMPLOYEES
Darrell and Vickie Harris

MEGAN JEWELL
Kay Gilles

ADAM KINCHELOE
Judy Deig

LAURA MIKOLASEK
Doug and Audrey Mikolasek

EMMA MORIARTY
Joanne Artz

MICHAEL WESTFALL
Joe and Susan Weiss

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jay Adams
Kyle Anslinger
Holli Jewell-Bame
Dan & Karen Grunow
Charmie Guagenti
David Haire
Randy Hartley
Ashlynn Johnson
Kathy Knapp
Tom Parker
Eric Reffett
Lindsay Schmitt
Matt Snodgrass
Steven M. Theising
Margie Tomes
Phil Wells

SPRING 2024

Celebrating 25 Years of Impact: A Grateful Thank You to Our Donors!

Jacob's Village is honored to mark a significant milestone: 25 years of dedicated service to individuals with disabilities. Since our inception, your unwavering support has been the cornerstone of our success. As we reflect on our journey, we are filled with gratitude for the countless lives you've helped transform.

Established in 1999, Jacob's Village set out to create a nurturing community for adults with disabilities, offering accessible housing, daily living support, skill-building programs, and social opportunities. Guided by the inspiration of individuals with special needs, our founder Andrew Guagenti, along with his family - including grandson Jacob, who has Down's Syndrome - laid the groundwork. This vision stemmed from the universal concern of parents and caregivers: what will happen to my child (or sibling) when I'm gone?

Our community has been providing tailored support to residents, continuously expanding our reach through collaboration with community partners, and engaging donors who have a heart for our mission. Thanks to your generosity, Jacob's Village has been empowering individuals with disabilities to thrive in our safe, walkable neighborhood community for years.

As we celebrate our milestone, we extend heartfelt gratitude to our donors. We hope you'll join us for our 25th Anniversary Open House on Thursday, Sept. 12th, as we honor our past and celebrate our growth. More details to come. Thank you for being an important part of our journey, embodying 25 years of growth, independence, and joy!

Thank you!

25 years

Charting the Future of Jacob's Village - Executive Director Jamie Espenlaub

As I sat among some of the kindest, most generous, and intelligent staff and board members during our strategic planning and growth retreat, I was continuously reminded and humbled by what an honor it is to serve this mission. This year marks the 25th anniversary since Jacob's Village was incorporated, and after reflecting on our meeting, I was inspired and excited about the next 25 years. Some of the recurring words that our team kept circling back to were advocacy, support, knowledge, and respite. We understand the privilege it is to serve our 35 residents, and I believe we all left committed to understanding that our work isn't finished and determining our next call to action. I asked one of our residents to share a few words at the meeting describing why life was so special at Jacob's Village. The resident ended with tears in his eyes, saying, "he wished everyone had Jacob's Village to go home to". He mentioned it wasn't just one thing he could pinpoint; it was the residents and the staff, the nature trails with wildlife and sunsets in the woods, the activities in the community center, and neighbors sharing leftovers. He expressed that it's hard to explain, but that's what makes Jacob's Village home for him. I believe our entire board and staff departed the meeting deeply moved by the resident's heartfelt words, our resolve strengthened more than ever to pursue our ambitious goals and continue supporting this special place so many call *home*.

Invitation to the 17th Annual Jacob's Village Benefit Game featuring the Evansville Otters!

Get Ready! for an exciting evening on Thursday, June 6, as the Evansville Otters face off against the Lake Erie Crushers in the adrenaline-packed 17th Annual Jacob's Village Benefit game! With every game sponsorship and ticket purchase, you're directly impacting the lives of adults with disabilities in our community. There will be Evansville Otters baseball action, followed by a dazzling display of post-game fireworks. But that's not all – enter to win big in the half-pot raffle, enjoy $2.50 beer night, win exciting door prizes, and kids can get their faces painted by clowns. It's also First Responders Night, featuring fire trucks, police cars, K9 units, and SWAT trucks for the kids to explore and even sit inside!

Secure your $5 general admission tickets today at G.D. Ritzy's, Bosse Field, or by contacting Jacob's Village. 100% of advanced ticket sales, sponsorships, and $1 from each gate sale will directly support Jacob's Village's mission. To learn more about ticket options or how your company can sponsor this exciting, family-friendly event, reach out to Laura Hurt at 812.598.4122. Thank you for being part of this entertaining annual event and supporting Jacob's Village!

Jacob's Village Has a New Mailing Address!

Please make note of our new address. We are no longer using our PO Box.
- Thank you!

7200 Jacob's Village Dr.
Evansville, IN 47720-7891

WISH LIST ITEMS - CAN YOU HELP US?

- Make a basket for our Trivia Night fundraiser! (Food baskets, sports items, holiday themed baskets, tickets - get creative!)
- Water guns and squirters for resident water days this summer
- Gas grill for the community center (primarily for resident use and events)
- Small gift cards for bingo prizes

Our Mission:

Established in 2004, the mission of Jacob's Village is to develop a safe, walkable, neighborhood community where people with disabilities and older adults can find meaningful relationships, housing that is affordable and accessible, and activities that encourage active minds and bodies. More information can be found by visiting **www.jacobsvillage.org** or **facebook.com/JacobsVillage**

Jacob's Village Team Attends Evansville Disability Resource Fair

Executive Director, Jamie Espenlaub, and Resident Manager, Cassie Gerling, represented Jacob's Village at the recent Evansville Disability Resources Fair hosted at Ivy Tech Community College. The event, held in collaboration with Connections Case Management and Self-Advocates of Indiana, aimed to provide information and support to individuals and families living with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The fair welcomed over 40 vendors representing various waiver agencies, community organizations, employers, educational partners, and businesses. Attendees had the opportunity to explore a plethora of resources and services tailored to their specific needs.

Jamie and Cassie enjoyed their experience engaging with attendees, networking with other organizations, and sharing the mission and vision of Jacob's Village. They were particularly delighted to meet numerous individuals who were passionate about supporting their loved ones with disabilities, and fielded questions from those interested in one day calling Jacob's Village home. Events like the Evansville Disability Resources Fair play a crucial role in raising awareness about the abundance of resources available to individuals and families in need. Missed this one? Check out the Southern Indiana Disability Resource Fair at Ivy Tech on April 13, 2024 from 11AM-2PM.

Spring Extravaganza: Eclipse Party, Carnival, and Resident Prom

We have an exciting lineup of brand-new resident activities planned over the next few months!

April 8: Solar Eclipse Party (12:00 PM - 2:30 PM)
Join us for a Solar Eclipse Party! Bring your appetite as Jacob's Village will provide BBQ sandwiches. Residents are invited to bring a side dish or dessert to share. After lunch, we'll gather outside to watch the eclipse, where Evansville is in the path of totality. Eclipse glasses will be provided for everyone.

April 20: Reitz High School Chick-Fil-A Leadership Academy Carnival (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)
Get ready for a fun-filled afternoon at the Jacob's Village Carnival hosted by Reitz High School Chick-Fil-A Leadership Academy Students. Enjoy exciting games, carnival eats, and face painting for all!

May 18: Under the Stars Prom (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Hair & makeup stations at CC / 5:00 PM Doors open)
Get ready to dance the night away at our first-ever Jacob's Village prom, Under the Stars! Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with music, dancing, and delicious food provided by Chick-fil-A.

Celebrating Tom Burmeister's Retirement and Welcoming Gary Gansman as the New Site and Maintenance Director

With both sadness and joy, we announce the retirement of Tom Burmeister, our dedicated Site and Maintenance Director, and extend a warm welcome to Gary Gansman, who will be stepping into this important role.

Tom's journey with Jacob's Village began early when he joined us in 2003, just before our very first home was built in 2004. He has been an integral part of our community's growth and success. With a background at Bristol Meyers, Tom brought not only his expertise but also his warm smile and can-do attitude to every task. He has been supportive to our residents, a master of all trades, and a great resource for the countless volunteers who have helped our community over the years. Tom will be greatly missed by our Jacob's Village family; however, we are excited he will have the opportunity to enjoy well-deserved time with his beloved wife, Sandy, and his daughters. We wish him all the best in his retirement adventures, whether it's perfecting his golf swing or exploring new avenues like his potential side hustle as a DoorDash driver!

Stepping into Tom's shoes is Gary Gansman, whose impressive background at Toyota spans over 25 years. Gary began at Toyota in 1998 in diverse roles such as Team Leader and quality inspector. He also worked as a mechanic for some time. Gary brings a wealth of knowledge and a jack-of-all-trades mentality to Jacob's Village. He is married and has three loving daughters. Gary is eager to dive into his new role, get to know each of you, and continue the good work that Tom has established.

Please join us in thanking Tom for his tremendous dedication and welcoming Gary to our community.