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PORTER COUNTY

The Family & Youth Services Bureau provides

18 programs and services for the community

at the following locations

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Reaching Out is the newsletter of the

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FYSB Clinical Services – Helping Kids in Crisis

According to the Journal of **Pediatrics, from** 2008 to 2015, suicide-related diagnoses for children and adolescents tripled. Those who actually committed suicide rose 31% during this same period.

Mental health issues such as depression and anxiety are a growing problem for the youth population in Porter County and across the country. It is clear that kids need someone who will listen to them and take their concerns seriously.

While parents can fulfill this role in many instances, there are times when the help of a professional is required. That is when the skills of the Licensed Clinical Services team at FYSB come into play. These dedicated counselors are available to teach the tools needed to face the challenges in their lives.

While many Porter County families have the financial resources to pay for mental health counseling there are also many that do not. In Porter County, over one third of school-age children qualify for free or reduced lunches. That's where FYSB steps in, by offering clinical services on a sliding scale to as many youth and families as possible.

Unfortunately, as the client base has grown, including a trend towards more and younger clients, the resources to ensure treatment for everyone have remained the same. This is a less than ideal situation for kids in crisis but we are reaching as many young people as our resources allow.

services program.

Annual Replenishing of The Tot Shop



Once again, October will be Pick & Treat for Tots month in order to replenish the FYSB Tot Shop with essential baby items. The following businesses are putting bins in their offices for the month to gather supplies:

Avalon Springs Health Campus · Berkshire Hathaway Home Services · Century 21 Alliance Group · Express Employment Professionals · Meridian Title · Pines Village Retirement Communities · Task Force Tips · Thorgren Tool & Molding Co.

We're so grateful for their cooperation and support! You can support the cause too by donating items on the 'picking' list on page 3 or sending a donation.

You can help our impact by visiting our website and donating to our clinical



Reaching Out Page 2

Our Mission is to assist youth and families through supportive services that create a positive change for Porter County.

The Family & Youth Services Bureau will ensure that no person shall be excluded from or denied participation in services based on the grounds of race, age, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, protected class, or any other protected class as defined by current law, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that directly or indirectly receives state or federal support.

A Fond Farewell to FYSB President and CEO Lisa Jordan

After 23 years of service to FYSB, Lisa Jordan, President and CEO, will retire in December. In those years, Lisa directed several programs, served as Vice President, and then as CEO. As CEO, Lisa coordinated over 20 different programs that have served over 4,000 families annually. As Lisa moves on, she will continue to stay active on her ranch that she shares with her husband and enjoy her life-long passion for horses.

Current FYSB Vice President, BeLinda Georgeff has been selected by the FYSB Board of Directors to become the next CEO. Lisa and BeLinda have worked closely together for the last eight years. Lisa shares, "BeLinda's dedication to children spans her career. BeLinda joined FYSB when she took leadership of the agency's Risk Management Program. BeLinda then moved completely into FYSB's administrative management assuming supervision of clinical staff and grants management. BeLinda possesses the unique combination of therapeutic insight and solid leadership skills."

We thank Lisa for her leadership, wish her well in her retirement, and look forward to working with BeLinda.

Lisa with her horses Khrystal Khrome (black) and Prized Jewel (brown).



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Republican Party of Porter County · To-

Cleaners · Duffy's Place · Hoeppner,

bacco Education and Prevention of

Porter County

Chalk the Walk Update



FYSB is so happy that so many people came back for Chalk the Walk this year as sponsors, artists, or just interested community members, and that there were so many new faces as well! Thank you to the many new sponsors as well as those that continue to support this event year after year! Our biggest thanks goes to our Perseverance- and Determination-level sponsors:



Jack & Carol Ronneau

We look forward to seeing everyone again next June!

CASA Corner

CASA volunteers are some of the best people in Porter County. They respond to a need in the community that belongs at the top of any priority list. Though they may come from different backgrounds and be drawn to CASA work for varying reasons they all share one thing in common: they are dedicated and caring individuals committed to advocating for children who have been abused and neglected.

Porter County CASA volunteers come from all walks of life including professionals from the fields of education, social service, medicine, engineering, IT, manufacturing, sales, management, finance, and law as well as students and entrepreneurs. Most work full time, some are retired, some are raising families, and some don't have children. Some have been volunteering for years and many are new, but they all participate in a meaningful volunteer activity that positively impacts children in need.

Contact



casainfo@fysb.org or 219.464.9585 to learn more.

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Let's Innovate! - A Panel Discussion on October 5th

In honor of National Diversity Day this October, FYSB is proud to partner with Each Life is Precious and Mango Networx to offer a free panel and workshop to the community that will work to discuss the ways diversity adds to innovation.

Panelists will include community members from the public and private sectors working to highlight the benefits of a diverse community and how Porter County can achieve that objective. The event will include open discussion, prepared questions, and a Q &A session from the audience. Light snacks and drinks will follow the program.

This event will take place on Friday, October 5th, 2018 from 10am to 12pm at the Porter County Community Foundation located at 1401 Calumet Ave. in Valparaiso.

RSVP to www.eachlifeisprecious.org or info@eachlifeisprecious.org or 219.464.9585 by September 28th. Space is limited.

Are you considering giving back in your estate planning? Talk to FYSB about how you can make a long-term positive impact for future generations of Porter County children.

'Picking' List for

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Donations can be dropped off at the FYSB offices in Valparaiso or Portage or at one of the participating businesses listed on page 1.



A community effort to replenish the Tot Shop

Educational toys Car carrier tovs Crib sheets Outfits for 18-month boys Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6 **Donations or Walmart gift cards** for cribs, high chairs, and strollers that are bought in bulk

We are grateful for the generous support for our Pick & Treat for Tots kickoff event from:



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Staff

Lisa Jordan President & CFO 219.464.9585 ljordan@fysb.org

BeLinda Georgeff Vice President/Grants Manager 219.464.9585 bgeorgeff@fysb.org

Melanie Dooley Director of Prevention and Early Intervention Services 219.763.6623 mdooley@fysb.org

Sarah Fink Director of Porter County CASA Program

219.464.9585 sfink@fysb.org

Kate Flannery Director of Development and Community Relations 219.464.9585 kflannery@fysb.org

Carrie Honeycutt Office Operations Manager 219 464 9585 choneycutt@fysb.org

Jessica White Director of Clinical Services 219.464.9585 jwhite@fysb.org