

TRIBUTE



In this issue

Page 1

Living our vision

Page 2

A note from the president
of the board
Updates

Page 3

Thank you's

Page 4

A message from the
Foundation

Living our vision

by Greg W. Schnepf, vice president, organizational advancement

It is Oaklawn's vision "To help people live in harmony with self, others and God, through healing and growth of the whole person." We are all able to live this vision through concentrated, targeted acts of generosity manifested through the intentional gifts of our treasures.

A recent Oaklawn client clearly reflects the success of Oaklawn's programs for clients with serious and persistent mental illness. The purpose of our continuing support program is to assist those with long-term mental illness so that they can live and work in the community.

"Jane" is a 45 year old woman who currently receives mental health services at Oaklawn. Educated and well-read, she has a diagnosis of schizophrenia and a history of substance abuse.

Jane lived for more than 20 years "within the walls" of a state psychiatric hospital. But this changed a few years ago when she moved into her own apartment in Oaklawn's semi-

independent living program (SILP). In addition to now living "outside the walls" of a state hospital in the SILP program, Jane receives regular case management services through Oaklawn's Assertive Community Treatment Program (ACT).

As a child, Jane was exposed to an abusive alcoholic

Your financial support of Oaklawn enables us to affect lives in a powerful manner.

mother who often called her a "freak." She was adopted at the age of six by other family members when her parents no longer wanted her. She currently has no family who visits her, or even has contact. But she is not alone.

Through Oaklawn assistance, Jane has opportunities "to live in harmony with self, others and God, through healing and growth" as a whole person. By

next winter, she will celebrate her third year in our community, a place "without walls."

There are, of course, continued challenges in Jane's life. At times she relapses when her illness surfaces. And Oaklawn staff are working with her to find appropriate employment and/or volunteer opportunities. Jane has formed a special bond with the Oaklawn chaplain, who has provided support for her.

Much of Oaklawn's success is attributed to our friends and supporters. Your financial support of Oaklawn enables us to affect lives in a powerful manner. You are able to act with a huge heart each time you consider a gift. *Tribute* provides a means for Oaklawn to say thank you to its many partners, as well as suggestions on ways to make a contribution. Each gift, no matter what size, makes a difference in the lives of those who look to us for help. Thank you for taking the time to read this edition of *Tribute* and for your interest and commitment to Oaklawn.

UPDATES

A note from the president of the board

Dear Friends and Supporters,
The Oaklawn Foundation for Mental Health is fortunate to have the support and commitment from many volunteers and community members. It is through this generosity and support that the Foundation is able to touch so many aspects of Oaklawn and the individuals that we serve.

Your generosity has allowed Oaklawn to create the Harold C. Loewen Center for Education, build a new adult group home and adolescent group home, as well as assist Oaklawn in providing charity care and financial assistance for those who cannot afford services.

The Oaklawn Foundation raises funds through major gifts, planned giving initiatives, commemorative giving, our annual Spring Spectacular event, Women's Circle of Hope, and annual gifts. We encourage donors to be hands on, to learn and follow the impact of their gifts, to drive the future of philanthropic programs, and be partners with us in improving healthcare.

Your contribution can assist us in our continuing effort to improve the programs and services and facilities at Oaklawn. Please send your gift today for the Oaklawn Foundation for Mental Health to support the programs and services in which you have a special interest. A postage-paid envelope is enclosed for your tax-deductible gift to the Foundation.

Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,
Jeri L. Yoder-Gluck
President
Oaklawn Foundation for
Mental Health

Leaving a legacy

With a little planning, people of all ages and backgrounds can leave a legacy to the future. Here are some of the ways to do so:

Bequest: Providing a bequest to the Foundation in your will is an easy way to make a significant contribution to the future excellence of Oaklawn.

Insurance: Transferring ownership of an existing paid-up life insurance policy and making the Foundation the owner/beneficiary is a simple way to maximize your support.

Charitable gift annuities: Funding a charitable gift annuity with a contribution of \$10,000 or more in cash, stock or real estate can provide increased income to you (and another) for life and tax advantages for the gift, as well as benefit Oaklawn.

Charitable trusts: Establishing a charitable trust will provide the donor with the means of making a substantial contribution to the continued excellence of care at Oaklawn while providing tax benefits and lifetime income.

We encourage you to contact the Foundation for more information on making an estate gift. We will be happy to work with you and your attorney or financial advisor to facilitate these gifts.

Spring Spectacular

Oaklawn's 9th annual Spring Spectacular on May 9 featured Mr. Steven Ford, son of former president and Mrs. Gerald Ford. Net proceeds raised totaled more than \$50,000. Donations such as these assist Oaklawn in its vision of helping people live in harmony with self, others and God, through healing and growth of the whole person. Thank you to the many Spring Spectacular partners without whom such an event would not be as successful. Goshen Health System and Ancon Construction continue to lead a supportive group of donors in this event.

Volunteers recognized

A total of 6,371 hours were contributed to Oaklawn by our volunteers during 2007 by 77 active and caring individuals. Oaklawn volunteers were recognized during a special National Volunteer Week banquet held on May 1, 2008. Mr. Jim Barron, Christian illusionist, entertained guests. Special volunteer recognition was given to Jeannie Stuckey and Melvin Kauffman for their outstanding volunteer efforts in 2007.

Please write or email if you wish to have your name removed from the list to receive fundraising requests supporting Oaklawn.

Oaklawn receives \$142,000 grant

Oaklawn recently received a grant of \$142,015 from the U.S. Health and Human Services Department's Health Resources and Services Administration through the significant efforts of Congressman Mark Souder.

The grant, part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008, will be used to pay for furnishings purchased for three new facilities opened by Oaklawn in 2006 and 2007, including the Harold C. Loewen Center for Education, opened in the fall of 2006; a group home for adolescents located in Elkhart that opened in the spring of 2007; and an adult group home on Oaklawn's Goshen campus that opened in the fall of 2007.

Geranium fundraiser

Recently, the Oaklawn Auxiliary conducted its annual geranium sale. Thank you to those of you who purchased some of the 1600 geraniums that were sold in this fundraiser. A total of \$1400 was raised toward Oaklawn programs.

Volunteer at Oaklawn

Interested in helping Oaklawn? If so, you might consider becoming an Oaklawn Volunteer. Specific areas of need include mail delivery, lunch line, gift shop and mentoring/tutoring. Contact Olivia Rittenhouse at (574) 537-2646 if you can help.

THANK YOU'S

Supporting Health and Wholeness

Thank you to the following individuals, families, churches, businesses and foundations who contributed to Oaklawn Foundation for Mental Health. This list represents gifts made from September 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

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Blue River Church of the Brethren
DJ Construction Company, Inc.
Elkhart County Community Foundation
Laudick / Brown & Associates
Maple City Fire Protection, Inc.
Medical Records Department of Goshen General Hospital
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Northridge Area Swimming Association
Oaklawn Auxiliary
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The Great Race, Inc.

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Tribute is published twice a year to offer special recognition and appreciation to Oaklawn Foundation friends and provide information about giving opportunities. Oaklawn Psychiatric Center and Oaklawn Foundation for Mental Health are private, not-for-profit corporations. Sponsored by Mennonite Health Services Alliance, Oaklawn offers a broad range of mental health and addictions treatment programs. Greg W. Schnepf, vice president, organizational advancement
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A message from the Foundation

by *Greg W. Schnepf*



We cannot predict what lies beyond the next turn, but we can trust that once there, we will find skilled and compassionate caregivers to guide us back to good health and good fortune.

Having now been at Oaklawn nearly one year, I continue to be amazed by the dedication and professional

nature of those staff members I come in contact with on a daily basis. Indeed, the possibilities are unlimited when we work together to offer hope and healing to all in need.

At some point in life, we will undoubtedly be touched by a challenging situation—one in which we are needing help and guidance. On a personal level, within the past five years I have moved through the awful ordeal of the death of a spouse and have seen firsthand the suicide of a family member. Of course, I would never have predicted such a turn in life. As I reflect upon both of these occurrences, I am truly glad

that assistance was available.

As a supporter and friend of Oaklawn, you have a unique opportunity to assist in the continuation of care that will impact your community, friends, and even your loved ones, now and into the future. I invite you to generously consider being an ongoing contributor to the vision of Oaklawn: “To help people live in harmony with self, others and God, through healing and growth of the whole person.”

Greg W. Schnepf is vice president of organizational advancement at Oaklawn. He may be reached at (574) 537-2645. Please feel free to call with your questions or needs.

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OAKLAWN FOUNDATION
FOR MENTAL HEALTH



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