

TRIBUTE



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Thank you's

System of care

by *Bonnie Raine, Ph.D., Elkhart County system of care coordinator*

Wraparound services are once again available to Elkhart County youth with significant emotional, behavioral and mental health needs and their families. This is thanks to the efforts of Oaklawn and other leaders of Elkhart County's child-serving community to re-energize the county's system of care.

A system of care is a comprehensive array of mental health and other necessary services organized into a coordinated network to meet the multiple and changing needs of children and families. Rather than addressing mental health treatment needs in isolation, the system of care concept promotes a holistic approach in which all dimensions of their lives and needs are considered.

The system of care framework is organized around eight overlapping areas of need for the child and family, including mental health, social services, education, health, substance abuse, vocational services, recreation and

juvenile justice. Without cross-system agency collaboration, there can be no system of care.

The wraparound process has become one of the most popular strategies for realizing the system of care philosophy. Wraparound is the term used to describe a team-based, collaborative process for

***Oaklawn is helping
to re-energize
Elkhart County's
system of care.***

developing and implementing individualized care plans for children with complex needs and their families.

Elkhart County, and Oaklawn specifically, are no strangers to the system of care or the wraparound process. Elkhart County was one of the first communities in Indiana to take advantage of grants available in the 90s to develop a system of care and the wraparound process. In 2005, however, unexpected and

rapidly changing funding vastly limited what could be done, undermining Elkhart County's ability to continue the program.

This reinvigorated project, housed at Oaklawn, challenges Oaklawn and its community partners to sustain their vision to develop a viable system of care that will exist in the community for the foreseeable future. We will work with community partners to integrate services to children and youth in a more robust way. This will include the wraparound work that Oaklawn is currently doing through two projects: its collaborative system of care project with Elkhart Community Schools and its state grant funded program called Community Alternative to Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (CA-PRTF). It's been said that there's nothing like a dream to create the future. The community has dreamt of a child serving system that is collaborative, innovative and smart about how its resources are deployed. Now it's creating that future. 🌱

Foundation Board notes

From the president

We are grateful for your continued support of Oaklawn through the Oaklawn Foundation for Mental Health. Your generosity touches many throughout our community.

The Oaklawn Foundation raises funds through major gifts, planned giving initiatives, commemorative giving, Women's Circle of Hope, annual gifts, and our annual Spring Spectacular fundraiser. We encourage you to be partners with us in improving the mental health of our community. Your gifts assist us in our efforts to improve the programs, services and facilities at Oaklawn.

Thanks for your generosity and support!

Sincerely,
Bradley Stewart

From the past president

Oaklawn Foundation has had many highlights during the past two years:

- A successful Capital Campaign allowed us to build and open three new facilities to meet the mental health needs of our community.
- We welcomed Greg Schnepf as vice president of Organizational Advancement.
- An excursion on the Lilly Pad on Lake Wawasee was a great way to introduce new folks to Oaklawn and also thank others for their loyal support.
- Jim Kelly (2007) and Steven Ford (2008) helped make the annual Spring Spectacular events successful. The community support of this fundraising event allows the Foundation to help those needing financial assistance with their mental health care.

Thank you for your past support of the Foundation and please continue to keep us in your prayers and plans as we begin 2009.

Sincerely,
Jeri Yoder-Gluck

UPDATES

Terry Bradshaw at Spring Spectacular

Oaklawn's 10th annual Spring Spectacular is scheduled for May 1, 2009, at the Matterhorn Banquet & Conference Center in Elkhart.

We are excited to announce that former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Terry Bradshaw will be the speaker for our event. Not only is Bradshaw one of the greatest quarterbacks

ever, he has also had a successful career in the entertainment industry and is seen each weekend on a variety of NFL sport shows.

Some of his achievements:

- The first player chosen in the 1970 football draft
- First quarterback to win four Super Bowl Championships
- Widely acknowledged as today's preeminent NFL studio personality

- Has appeared in several feature films, most recently Paramount's \$100 million hit *Failure to Launch*

- Has recorded four albums and authored five books

Please look for our mailings coming your way in the near future. If you have any questions or needs before then, call Greg Schnepf, vice president of organizational advancement, at (574) 537-2645. 🍇

Sacrificial giving

by Greg W. Schnepf, vice president of organizational advancement

Area companies closing their doors, multiple family members out of work, a less than stellar holiday season for retailers, financial intervention by the government for many ailing U.S. companies . . . we are all facing issues never before experienced by the vast majority of us—but needs still exist in our community. Let's look at one individual helped by Oaklawn.

Mary was raised in a home where there was very little drinking of alcohol. Despite this, at age 16, she began drinking with friends. She did well in school and enjoyed being with her friends at parties. Her social drinking continued until she was 19, when she experienced a traumatic event. While intoxicated, she was raped by

an acquaintance. Mary blamed herself and didn't tell anyone. She did decide to slow down the "partying."

About a year later, Mary married and started a family. By her late 30s, she was consuming alcohol on a regular basis, partly due to her tremendous stress and trouble sleeping.

Over a period of three years, she reached a point where she had to have several drinks at night to be able to go to sleep and prevent withdrawal.

Finally, a friend helped Mary enter a detoxification program. Despite some setbacks, she was able to stop drinking with the assistance of self-help groups and an Oaklawn intensive outpatient program for addicted women. She also sought treatment for her major depression.

Today, with several years of sobriety, Mary has taken college courses and continues to attend community support groups for herself and to help others.

Despite a lot of odds, she is staying sober one day at a time, has much better self-esteem, and enjoys improved relationships with her family.

Your consistent, heartfelt giving allows Oaklawn to carry on with its mission of working with those in need to help them achieve a life of health and wholeness.

Thank you for helping us change lives. We hope that you will consider a gift to Oaklawn that may even cause you to stretch a bit—it will be worth it. Thank you for your interest and commitment to Oaklawn! 🍇

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 January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

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