

**MARATHON YOUTH SERVICES
NEWSLETTER
October 1, 2006
Volume 6, Issue 10**



The past 6 months or so have been a very interesting and challenging time for Marathon Youth Services. We have gone through a period of changing leadership at several key positions. Back in March, the MYS Board of Directors named Sue Midlikowski as acting director and set about a search for a permanent Executive Director. After consideration of over 40 applicants for the position, it was unanimously agreed that Sue was the best choice to continue leading Marathon Youth Services into the future. Effective September 1, 2006, Sue was named the permanent Executive Director of Marathon Youth Services.

Sue joined Marathon Youth Services in October, 1998 as a staff member at the Reynolds Group Home. She quickly demonstrated a keen interest in performing her job responsibilities well beyond expectations. When MYS decided to pursue services for young adult clients, Sue became a logical choice to lead such a program. Prior to her employment with MYS, Sue had gained experience working with developmentally disabled clients with a previous employer. Because of the knowledge she brought with her and her enthusiasm to learn, Sue was given primary responsibility for developing our Adult Services Programs. She has since become expert in the intricacies of the State Administrative Codes as they govern not only adult community living programs, but juvenile residential programs as well. Sue has been a leader in developing a very sophisticated system of case planning and management for our clients, and promises to bring more innovations to the services we provide.



During the 8 years that Sue has been with Marathon Youth Services, she has earned the respect of all who have known and interacted with her. She demonstrates a sincere concern for not only all our clientele, but also for the many employees of MYS. In the months and years to come, the Board of Directors and employees of MYS are confident that our future is in good hands. Please join us in congratulating Sue on her appointment.

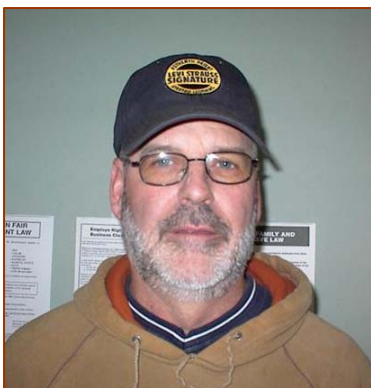
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1. With Sue's appointment to the position of Executive Director, it became necessary to find someone to fill her shoes as the **Adult Services Program Coordinator**. During the past months of transition, **Caryn Toschner** has been acting in that capacity and has now been officially named to fill that position permanently.

Caryn joined the staff of Marathon Youth Services 31/2 years ago as a Residential Care Worker at Prospect Place. She quickly impressed us with her enthusiasm and desire to exceed the expectations of her position. When it became necessary to appoint a manager for the Prospect Place facility, Caryn was a logical choice. She has functioned admirably in that position and once again demonstrated a willingness and desire to take on more responsibility. In the past year she has taken on the task of scheduling, a very difficult and time consuming job. Caryn also began to take responsibility for insuring compliance with State Codes in the adult programs. As her expertise in these areas has increased, she was once again a logical choice to fill the position of Adult Services Program Coordinator. Congratulations Caryn!



With Caryn taking on a new assignment it became necessary to chose someone to fill the position of manager at Prospect Place. **Dwight Eik** had joined our staff as a Residential Care Worker and was interested in taking on additional responsibilities. He has demonstrated the kind of good judgment and rapport with our clients that made him an excellent choice to become the new manager at Prospect Place. Congratulations Dwight!

2. It continues to be the case that **Reynolds Group Home** is without a vacancy! While we recently experienced a discharge, a new placement was received on September 28th. We were joined by Soua X just 2 days ago, and have no currently anticipated discharges in the immediate future. However, being the dynamic business that we're all in, please stay in touch with Chris and Mike about any future placement needs you may see on the horizon.

With school back in full swing the boys are once again as busy as ever. In addition to the program expectations of RGH, the guys are juggling their school responsibilities, jobs and family activities. Matt, Mike and Steve have also joined a flag football league at Wausau East and had their first game this past week. Some of the guys also helped out with the Festival of Arts early in September.



There are also a couple of possible pending activities being explored for later this month. Darwin is looking into a fun trip to Great America where they celebrate a Halloween theme each year. You may also recall that last month we reported on Mike McCabe's trip to Louisiana to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina. This month Mike is looking into the possibility of taking some of the guys to help with the Katrina Relief effort later this month. If that comes to pass, we will certainly have a detailed report and pictures for next month's newsletter.

Meantime the guys' activities and accomplishments continue...Cody will soon be working toward a life-guard certification so that he can work at the water park for his job at Cedar Creek Lodge. Also, another of our former residents is working on completing the requirements for a Certified Nursing Assistant. Dennis reports that he is enjoying his training and looks forward to employment as a nursing assistant as soon as his certification is complete.

Another note of interest...Chris got his first ever plane ride when he flew to New York this last month to visit his Dad. He enjoyed the experience, and the opportunity to visit his father.

3. At **Grand Place**, Dustin P and John F enjoyed bowling with Special Olympics this past month. When they bowl, Andy T often goes along for the camaraderie even though he is not on the team. Dustin and Andy also went to Tomahawk this past month to take part in celebrating the annual Fall Harley Ride.

John enjoyed helping out with the yard work at





Grand Place by mowing the lawn. He has been saving his money for an acoustic guitar and finally was able to make his purchase this month. He plans to take advantage of whatever nice weather we have left to sit outside on the grass playing songs.

John also went to Art in the Park and got to see the Budweiser Clydesdales at Marathon Park. He also started bible study this month.

4. The guys at **Prospect Place** had a typically active month again also. Adam, who is a long time supporter of DC Everest sports in general, but football in particular, cheered the Evergreens in their victorious Homecoming Game on September 22nd. In fact, he cheered so

long and hard that he lost most of his voice by the next day!

This past month Mike P enjoyed a trip with his mother to Wisconsin Dells where they shared a ride on the famous Wisconsin Dells Ducks for a trip up the river. Also this month, Sean went on a Boy Scout camping trip to Camp Phillips in Wausau with his mother. Fortunately they were able to use the cabins as it was a rainy weekend; fun though!

Dwight also shares the following little anecdote for September:

“John has been going deer hunting with his brother several times a week. He still gets out fishing but for the month of September fishing has taken a backseat to his hunting trips. They have not bagged one as of yet, but hey certainly have been putting in their time in the woods. On a sad note, a big raccoon got hit in front of Prospect Place this week. John didn’t show a lot of remorse for the poor critter as he was sure he was the culprit that got his pail of night crawlers. Gary looked to be eyeing up the tail but ended up passing on it. Maybe one too many cars had passed over it by the time he spotted it, but for whate3ver reason he let this one get away. ☺”

5. The big news around the **7th Street Suites** this month is the new paint, carpet and work/office area. Since we have occupied the apartments above our offices, the staff area has been less than optimal...to say the least. Once again thought, Trent is working his magic and providing a more efficient area for the

staff to conduct their daily chores. Additionally, the stairway has received a couple of coats of paint and new carpeting on the steps. Carl has even replaced some of the sub-flooring to insure a sound job. It's all coming together quite nicely and should be completed this week. (disregard the dates on the photos...they're actually from last week...)



Of course, the residents at 7th Street Suites also had their usual busy months as well. Between school and jobs, there's never much down time. This month Crystal also continued her involvement in Special Olympics bowling as well as her attendance at the AREH Church. In addition, all the residents enjoyed the stand-up comic, Dave Coulier at North Central Technical College.

So, as you see it was a busy and important month for all of us at Marathon Youth Services. We continue to look toward the future with a great deal of optimism and purpose. We continue to pledge our best efforts on behalf of our clientele, and our community. Thanks for your support!

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Produced by Jim Prozinski