



United Friends Group Homes

United Friends empowers people with developmental disabilities to enjoy quality lives and experience the best of home, health, family and community

Presidents Message

By Earleen Linn, President

Greetings friends!

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far. Summer is always a busy time for our staff and residents. Our Board of Directors is in the midst of many activities as well this year. We are forming new committees to deal with our various special projects.

We have an application review committee awaiting referrals for a new resident at Lincoln Park Group Home. DDD makes referrals to our administrative staff. Once they have chosen a good match for our vacancy the review committee will meet with the potential guardian and review appropriate information and make a recommendation to the board regarding approval for this placement.

Another new committee is the search committee. Their task is to find a new Executive Director/Administrator for our agency. Anne Higbee-Owens, the Executive Director for the past 9 years, left our employ in May 2011. Debra Haraldson is our interim Executive Director while the search is being conducted. We hope to complete this process by this Fall.

Our newly formed activities committee arranged our Christmas party in 2010 and is busy working on the summer picnic right now. This committee would love to have more members, please let us know if you are interested.

Our final committee is the futures committee. They are looking at our options as we face a changing landscape. They are gathering information that will assist us in shaping our future.

In the midst of all this new work it is great to know that some things do not change. Our staff continue to provide excellent care of our residents and our residents continue to be a positive addition to their communities.

Earleen Linn, President
United Friends

Summer 2011 Edition

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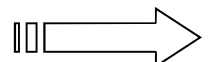
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Fundraising alert!!! Entertainment Books Are now Available



United Friends is once again participating in our annual Entertainment Book sales as a fund raising project. The books sell for \$25.00 each and we expect to have them for distribution in August. Thanks to all of you last year we raised over \$1,000!

Tell your family, friends and neighbors and take orders. The more we sell the more funds we raise! We need to finalize the sales by the end of October.

Please contact Earleen at 206-225-4245 to place an order.

We can sell books for other areas and states so be sure to contact all your friends and families that might be interested in this great money saving book.

Staff Appreciation Barbeque

On Wednesday June 15, 2011, Lincoln Park Group Home hosted a Staff Appreciation Barbeque!

Staff from Beverly Park and Crown Hill joined Lincoln Park staff on a nice sunny day for hot dogs, hamburgers and a lot of fun.

There was a wheel chair race, with Jerky from Beverly Park taking the Gold Prize. A four legged splint race in the back yard was divided into two groups of three women and three men, one from each house on each team. The men took the race by a mile as the women fell over within five feet of the start line and laughed rolling on the ground trying to stand back up. The women's team members were good sports though and once on their feet completed the race.

The final event was a water balloon toss. This event was a competition

between the houses. Two staff, mostly managers, from each house together carried a colored bucket down in the yard. Up above on the deck were eager staff tossing matching colored water balloons into their houses bucket.

Beverly Park again won the competition with the most balloons caught in their bucket when all of the balloons were gone. Chris of course was taking pictures, but I'm sure a water balloon or two made it his direction.

Needless to say, everyone down below was more than a little wet!

Everyone left having gotten the opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of their coworkers with wet clothing, smiles on their faces, bellies full of food, and funny dollar store gifts in hand.



Resident Spotlight – Janet Innes

Janet was born in 1953 and has lived at Lincoln Park Group Home since 1987. She is a very friendly individual with her own sense of style and independence.

Janet works Monday through Friday at Northwest Center in American Data Guard (ADG). She sorts paper for shredding and returns home daily telling staff of the different colors of papers she sorted that day.

In her spare time Janet enjoys doing puzzles, coloring and watching movies on Netflix. She has regularly scheduled weekly activities that she enjoys including South End Social, music lessons, and walks in the community. In addition to her routine

activities, Janet enjoys community outings such as concerts, plays, musicals, festivals and some sporting events. In April Janet got to see the Rat City Roller Girls with some of her roommates and had a great time.

She has a friend who lives at another group home whom she works with at Northwest Center. They have dinner together every few weeks, talk on the phone from time to time, and he never fails to send her postcards. Janet is personable and makes friends easily so she has friends within her home and in the other homes. She will be attending camp this year toward the end of the summer and is a favorite attendee among the counselors there.

New Roof @ Beverly Park Group Home

We celebrate the installation of a new roof at Beverly Park Group Home.

The old roof was the original from when the home was built in 1980. Once construction had begun, it was found that additional roof repairs were necessary due to inadequate venting. The roof is now up to modern standards including new venting and gutters and we expect it to last another 30 years!

The home was built with HUD funding and, as a continuing HUD client, we received considerable financial help for the roof from our HUD reserve funds.

We are grateful for the careful planning and stewardship of resources by our Board members, both past and present, which made this necessary improvement possible.

A special thanks to Board member Dan Spengler who provided invaluable oversight and advice during this project.



SAVE THE DATES

Oct. 25, 2011--

Annual Membership meeting to review our past year and look ahead to the future. The meeting will be at 3:00 in the meeting room of the Greenwood Public Library.

Dec. 17, 2011--

Plans are underway for our annual Christmas Party; watch for further information.



Zoo Trip 2011 with Clipped Wings®



On Thursday July 14th some residents and staff from all three homes visited the zoo generously hosted by the women of the Clipped Wings organization. The Clipped Wings members were all so welcoming and excited to show us around the zoo. They were also very patient with accommodating the special needs of our residents, running off to get a wheelchair or holding a resident's hand to guide them through the tour.

The residents met in the parking lot with the hosts and divided into groups headed by very informative guides of the zoo. They toured parts of the zoo seeing many animals. They saw the Gorillas, which were a favorite of Paul Gilly, and jaguars. Then away to the Tropical Rain Forest where they saw Poison Dart Frogs, Toucans, and Lemurs.



Join the Picnic Fun

Once again residents, staff, family and friends will gather for a summer picnic at one of our group homes.

This year the picnic will be at:

BEVERLY PARK GROUP HOME
150 SW 114TH ST.
SEATTLE, WA 98146.

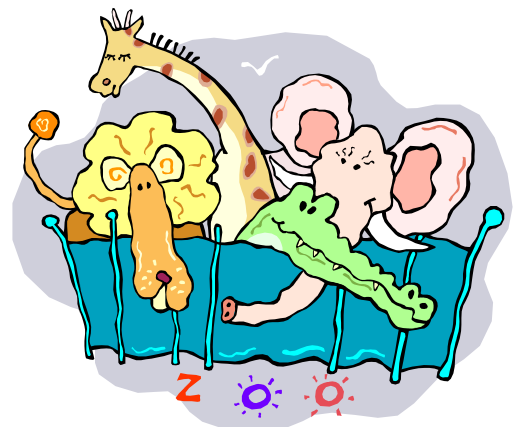
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2011
STARTING AT 12:30 PM.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, tableware and dessert will be provided. We invite guests to bring a SIDE DISH to serve 12 people, YOUR OWN DRINKS, and lawn chairs and card tables--if possible.

Join us for good food,
good fellowship,
and fun!

Once the tour was over, the attendees were treated to a delicious lunch; the sandwiches were very tasty. Although it rained that day, the residents and staff both had a really good time. It was a very special experience. Attending residents were: Marilyn, Floyd, Tracy, Molly, Mike, Janet, Russ, Deb N. and Paul.

Our thanks to our generous hosts, Clipped Wings, as well as the Zoo staff.



Have you visited our new web page yet?

www.unitedfriendsgrouphomes.org

