

Inside this issue:

Volume I, Issue VII

Newsletter Date: September 2010

President's Report	2
Director's Notes	2
Family Care Audit	3
Upcoming Events	3
HearthStone Respite	4
Summer Picnic	4
Caught on Camera	4
Help HearthStone	5
Donate Now!	6

HearthStone Receives Donation

Elkhart/Crystal "Ladies of the Lakes" donates to HearthStone

The "Ladies of the Lakes" is comprised of nearly 100 ladies from Sheboygan County's lake area. Members can propose non-profit charitable organizations for the "Ladies" to make an annual financial contribution. Carol Rost, founding member and Advisory Board Member of HearthStone made two presentations to the service group in Elkhart Lake this spring. Organizations are screened and then members vote for the organization they would like to support. Hearthstone received the majority of the votes and received over \$3,200 from the group. The donation will be targeted to funding the HearthStone Respite program. We thank Carol for taking the time and energy to present to the group and we thank all the "Ladies of the Lakes" for their generosity.



Carol Rost (HearthStone Advisory Board Member) and Peggy Fieder (HearthStone Board Member and Secretary) receive a check for \$3,200 from the Crystal/Elkhart area Ladies of the Lakes service group. The funds have been earmarked to support HearthStone's Respite Program.

9th Annual Employer Recognition Luncheon

On Thursday, October 14th, 2010 HearthStone with co-sponsors RCS Empowers, Inc and the State of Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will be celebrating the 9th Annual Sheboygan County Employer Recognition Luncheon at the American Club in Kohler. Over one hundred and twenty employers will be honored for their efforts in employing individuals with disabilities. Special guests Craig Culver of Culver's Butterburgers and Frozen Custard and Dinah Chaudoir-Federer, author of her book "Chasing Normal" will be speaking. Culver's will be honored as this year's exemplary employer by the State of Wisconsin for their efforts in employing individuals with disabilities. October is National Employment Awareness Month.



President's Report

Encourage Friends, Family and Colleagues to Join HearthStone

By Jon Rost

Join for the support, the learning, the friends, and the fun! Having had the pleasure of sharing a beautiful afternoon picnic and boat ride with a dozen of our young people and their families, friends and caregivers, reminded me of how fortunate we are to have HearthStone as a resource. Lots of smiles, a few pizzas, some ice cream – even a birthday cake – made for a very special afternoon. All because HearthStone brought us together.

And in a few weeks we'll be getting together again for a great learning experience on Thursday September 9 (from 6-7:30 pm at Paragon in Plymouth) for a Panel Discussion on Disability Resources. And then for another social outing in late September or early October – our first ever "Fall Fest". Watch for more information.

We will also be sponsoring our Annual Legislative Bowling & Pizza Party in October. It could be the only event ever that mixes politics and partying! We will again be inviting our local governmental officials to join us in order to "put some faces" on our advocacy efforts on behalf of the people we care for.

So, whether the serious side of accessing information, finding others to share experiences and mutual support, or simply having fun together, there are lots of reasons to join and GET INVOLVED in HearthStone.

Thanks to all of you for building and supporting a strong and vital organization.

Regards,

Jon Rost, President
HearthStone of Wisconsin



Director's Notes

By Thomas Gierke

As Summer slowly slips away and the beauty of Fall replaces it, I am left to ponder what this next season has in store for us. Too often, we concentrate on the season ending, not a new one beginning or on the things we cannot do, instead of the things we can. A positive attitude and a simple smile can turn an obstacle into an adventure, a storm into nature's wonders or the end of something into the opportunity to try something new.

We hope that you will support HearthStone and enable us to continue to work together to keep the smiles shining.

Regards,

Thomas Gierke, Executive Director
HearthStone of Wisconsin

The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.

Chinese Proverb

Family Care Audit

At the urging of Family Care service recipients, service providers, advocates, and concerned State legislators and after three hours of testimony at a public hearing on July 14 the State Joint Legislative Committee on Audit unanimously approved a comprehensive audit of Family Care. The final scope of the audit has been approved by the Audit Committee, the extensive review of the Family Care program will include:

- A review of program participation, by county;
- A review of program expenditures, by funding source;
- A review of administrative costs;
- An analysis to determine the program's short- and long-term financial solvency;
- An analysis of provider payments, including the process of setting capitation rates for MCOs;
- An analysis of the timeliness of provider payments;
- A review of the role of and funding for MCOs and ADRCs in Family Care;
- A review of program coordination and management, including a review of potential duplication of services;
- A comparison of actual Family Care program costs with budgeted amounts and the costs of providing similar services on a fee-for-service basis; and
- A review of quality care indicators, including a survey of the degree of satisfaction recipients and their family members have had with the availability of program services.

If you have experiences with Family Care that you would like to be considered in the audit send your input to:

Legislative Audit Bureau
22 E. Mifflin St., Suite 500
Madison, WI 53703
Tel: (608) 266-2818



Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 9th, 2010 - 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Disability Resources Panel

Discussion at Paragon Day Services in Plymouth

Friday, September 10th, 2010 - 7:00 a.m., HearthStone Monthly Meeting

Fountain Park Restaurant in Sheboygan

Friday, October 8th, 2010 - 7:00 a.m., HearthStone Monthly Meeting

Fountain Park Restaurant in Sheboygan

Thursday, October 14th, 2010 - 9th Annual Employer Recognition Luncheon

The American Club in Kohler

Friday, November 12th, 2010 - 7:00 a.m., HearthStone Monthly Meeting

Fountain Park Restaurant in Sheboygan



HearthStone Respite Update

The HearthStone Respite Program continues to offer much needed care to Sheboygan County families thanks to the generous support from:

- The Early Bird Rotary Club of Sheboygan
- The Ladies of the Lakes (Crystal and Elkhart Lakes)

For more information contact:

The Family Resource Centers of Sheboygan County 892-6706

Summer Picnic

By Carol Rost

Saturday, August 9 was beautiful and sunny for the HearthStone summer picnic. Twenty four members participated in the picnic lunch at Firemens Park in Elkhart Lake and then went on Captain Tom's pontoon boat for a tour of the lake. We celebrated Roseanna Griese's birthday with not one but TWO cakes as we all sang happy birthday to her!

We also welcomed Gary Zimmerman along for the ride and he took lots of pictures of the fun and celebrating. Thanks a million to Gary for doing that.

Alan Rudnick was very generous with a donation that paid for the cost of the boat ride so we thank him for helping us out.

See you next year!



Caught on Camera

Our new HearthStone friend Gary Zimmerman from Kiel, kindly volunteered his considerable photographic skills to document our picnic and boat trip. We caught Gary with his camera at the ready, as it was all afternoon. Look for Gary's work in this newsletter and shortly on our website and elsewhere. A BIG THANK YOU to Gary for donating his time and talents to HearthStone. What a guy!



“Hearth” to symbolize a loving, caring home; “Stone” to symbolize permanence”

Help HearthStone Help Others – Right Here in Sheboygan County

HearthStone has helped hundreds in our community, now HearthStone needs your help. Simply put, we need financial help to keep HearthStone a vital force that can continue to help and support people with developmental disabilities in our lakeshore area. For instance, the HearthStone Respite Care program uncovered the unmet needs for respite and has helped scores of families find much needed care-giving relief. But it costs HearthStone thousands of dollars a year. Fortunately, HearthStone recently received a \$2,500 grant from Sheboygan’s Early Bird Rotary Foundation and a \$3,200 grant from The Ladies of the Lakes (Elkhart Lake Women’s Service Club) to help fund our Respite Program. More is needed however.

Hearthstone gives much to the community, now we need some help, too. Historically, HearthStone has provided modest no interest loans that have enabled individuals and families to purchase their own home. We have helped with costly specialized care equipment. We hold quarterly educational meetings. And we provide social opportunities for our young people. All of these great efforts require funding, however, and our expenses are outstripping our current sources of income.

Would you consider a tax-deductible contribution of \$25? \$50? \$100? Or more?

It’s easy. Go to www.hearthstonewi.org and you can use your credit card to give instantly!

In addition to cash, could you provide some volunteer help?

HearthStone relies greatly on volunteers to provide much of our community services, however, our small, but loyal core of volunteers needs your help to take over some vital roles that support our organization. Could you volunteer to:

- Help produce our quarterly newsletter?
- Help maintain our growing database of members and supporters?
- Help organize and run social events for our young people?
- Help organize a quarterly educational meeting?
- Create a fund raising event to help us raise much needed funds?
- Help re-design our website to reflect the vital organization we are?
- Help maintain our website to keep it fresh and informative?

Please consider helping HearthStone help others. Whether you write a check or write in some time on your calendar to volunteer, we hope you’ll help us keep HearthStone a vital part of our community.

Sincerely,
The Board of Directors, HearthStone of Wisconsin.

Please help keep our vital mission alive. Your contribution is fully tax-deductible
(HearthStone of Wisconsin is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation)

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ other

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____
 email _____

Contribute on-line with your credit card:
www.hearthstonewi.org

Would you be interested in finding out more about volunteer opportunities?

- () Newsletter () Database maintenance () Social events
- () Educational meetings () Fund raising () website

Return Service Requested

HearthStone of WI
P.O. Box 1444
Sheboygan, WI 53082-1444

U.S. Postage
Paid
Sheboygan, WI
53081
Permit 122

Yes, I'd like to help HearthStone help our special population

Please help us help others right here at home. Your contribution is fully tax deductible
HearthStone of Wisconsin is a 501(C)3 non-profit corporation.

Yes, I'd like to donate:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

If you'd like to donate
securely on-line, visit:
www.hearthstonewi.org

You can make a difference. Volunteer for HearthStone

In addition to your financial support, you can help HearthStone with your
donation of time and energy. We are an entirely volunteer organization. With your help,
our expenses are minimized and more goes to the people we serve.

Volunteer opportunities

- Educational meetings Fundraising Maintain our growing database
- Website update Newsletter production Events for our young people

HEARTHSTONE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 1444 – SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN 53082-1444 - 920.451.3179 - WWW.HEARTHSTONEWI.ORG