This Does Not Mean an End to a Well Traveled Journey……...

May 5th, 2010

Dear Gene, Carroll and KI BOIS Community Action Board Members:

I hereby resign my position as 1st vice chair of the KI BOIS Community Action Board of Directors effective May 27th, 2010. This does not mean an end to a well traveled journey, but only the beginning for things to come. Since I started my KI BOIS Community Action journey in 1968 this day has been long in coming, but my heart is happy and I rejoice in the accomplishments of my time served.

My experience with KI BOIS Community Action for the past forty-two years has been a fulfilling one and I leave knowing that together we have made a difference in the lives of those we serve. 


Farmer was born October 28, 1916 to Ben and Lula (Farmer) Wann near Booneville, AR. He was the 4th child to be born to the couple. Being the first son born, Farmer’s mother and father didn’t have a boy’s name picked out so the doctor named him Farmer James Wann. (Farmer for his mother’s maiden name and James for his dad’s father). The family moved just South of Wister on Farmer’s 12th birthday where Farmer received his education from the Wister school system. Farmer graduated from Wister School and received a degree in education from Northeastern State University. Farmer then met and married Wilka Dunham from Little Kansas, Oklahoma. Farmer and Wilka had one son, Ronnie, a pharmacist. Ronnie and his wife Debbie live in Siloam Springs, AR, and have two children, both of whom have received their college degrees.

Farmer’s first teaching job was in Underwood, Oklahoma, on a Cherokee Indian Reservation. Farmer’s teaching career was briefly interrupted as he served in the Army in World War II, battling in the Marshall Islands, Philippines, Okinawa and Iwo Jima. Wann was packing up to go into Japan when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. After the war ended, Farmer returned back to life in the States and to Pocola as superintendent of Schools where he continued in that position until his retirement in 1981. It was then that Farmer’s journey would take yet another turn that would lead him to KI BOIS Community Action.

Pocola was the first in the area to receive money for a program called Head Start. He called Washington, D.C. and spoke with Sergeant Shriver. Farmer was told that he needed a letter of operations and a certified teacher to start the program. After submitting the needed documentation, Farmer received a check in the mail for a little over $7,000 which he deposited into Merchant’s Bank of Ft. Smith, AR. Farmer paid his teacher $5,000, and had just over $132 left. When Farmer started work on his 2nd year of the Head Start Program, he found out that the superintendent of Cameron, (Continued on page 3)
From the Desk of the Executive Director / CEO

June 1, 2010

Public schools are out, KI BOIS Community Action Head Start is out, and summer is here! All KI BOIS Community Action Head Start staff members at the center level are on vacation for the month of June and the Head Start administrative staff is already planning for next year. They will return to work and begin their training and Center preparation for next school year.

The Oklahoma Legislature has ended their regular session. State appropriated funds for KI BOIS Community Action Head Start and other Community Action Programs will receive from a .5% to a 17% cut depending on the program. At the federal level we are not expecting cuts in our programs. Some of our Stimulus funding from the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act (ARRA) for Head Start, CSBG, Weatherization, Homeless, and Transit Program will end September 30, 2010.

Have a great summer!

R. Carroll Huggins, CCAP
Executive Director/CEO

The Oaks Rehabilitative Services Center

Below is an article submitted by Brooke Mason, The OAKS Clinical Director for Outpatient and Special Populations. Brooke has participated in the STAR-SI program since being appointed Clinical Director for Outpatient Services/Special Populations. She recently wrote a paper based on her improvement project. The paper was intended to apply for financial assistance to attend the NAITx/SAAS National Conference this summer. NAITx called a few days ago and asked her to do a presentation later this spring. Now, we find her writings in the NATIONAL NAITx E-News Update. Great job Brooke!

The Oaks Rehabilitative Services Center provides addiction treatment services, operating five outpatient offices, two prison programs, residential programs, and a halfway house. Located in McAlester, Oklahoma, the Oaks is a program of the KI BOIS Community Action Foundation. Our mission is to “establish programs to provide education, prevention, and treatment, to families and individuals suffering from the ill-effects of substance abuse and mental health issues within a multi-county services area in Oklahoma.” Our outpatient services offer patients the opportunity to break the cycle of chemical dependency while remaining in the community.

Promising Practice

Reminder phone calls:

Aim: to reduce no shows at the McAlester Outpatient office by reducing the number of clients who do not keep a scheduled appointment

Changes

The first change we made during this process was to send a release to Probation and Parole and to Department of Human Services. This improved communication between agencies. We were able to reduce no shows from 30% to 25% in one month.

The second change the team made was to make reminder calls one day in advance of a client’s scheduled appointment, to either confirm attendance or reschedule the appointment.

Results

The change team believes the greatest success of this project was that we were able to provide treatment for 47% more families and individuals in our service area.

Implementing the promising practice also had a positive impact on our financial bottom line.

(The Continued on page 4)
Herbert Branon, and the superintendent of Panama, Baysul Balentine, had also requested the funds. It was at this point that Washington thought it would be better to have the program located at Poteau, have the children from surrounding areas bused to Poteau, and have board members to oversee the program. Wann, Branon and Balentine were appointed to serve on the board of directors and this started Farmer’s passion for community care. In 1968, the board members serving in LeFlore, Latimer and Haskell County agreed to form one single agency known as KI BOIS Community Action, Inc. Farmer has since that day served as board member in many capacities, where he has utilized his much valued time, energy and expertise to a cause he believes in and loves.

Life has been good to Wann. He married the woman of his dreams, had a successful career in education, a fine son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. He has survived wars and his own battle with cancer and the loss of his wife, Wilka, but as Wann states, “life does go on,” and he proved that by writing a new chapter in his life. Wann found a new love and a companion that loved church, gardening and life as much as he does. Dorothy Allison and Farmer were married on Saturday, March 1st, 2008.

Farmer has never waivered in his commitment to KI BOIS Community Action, witnessing many changes in technology, trends and everyday life experiences. As farmer stated, “I’ve seen a lot of good and bad things happen in life and lots and lots of changes.” Wann had spent countless hours in his service to KI BOIS Community Action and in September 2003, he was awarded the Fred Tucker Award by the Oklahoma State Association of Community Action Agencies. Tucker was a Community Action Executive Director at Little Dixie Community Action Agency, who had pioneered many programs in Oklahoma.

Although Farmer Wann has resigned as board member he now holds the title of Board Member Emeritus. Mr. Wann can take pride in the fact that his direct involvement has been extremely valuable in the development of KI BOIS Community Action from an agency that began with a few programs to the expansion of an agency that provides a broad range of services covering 27 counties across South-eastern Oklahoma.

There are no words to describe what Farmer has done for KI BOIS Community Action and we wish you the best!

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**FLAG DAY**

On June 14th, the United States will observe Flag Day, an annual tribute to the American flag, the ideals it stands for and the sacrifices made to preserve them.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in 1949, President Harry S. Truman officially recognized June 14 as Flag Day by signing the National Flag Day Bill.

"The lines of red are lines of blood, nobly and unselfishly shed by men who loved the liberty of their fellowship more than they loved their own lives and fortunes," President Wilson said, "God forbid that we should have to use the blood of America to freshen the color of the flag."

But American blood has spilled time and time again to preserve American liberties, as those in uniform defend the liberties for which it stands.

On Flag Day, please remember those in uniform whose courage and sacrifice inspire us here at home. Also remember the rich history of one of our oldest national symbols and reflect on our duty to carry our heritage of freedom into the future.

Summer begins on June 21st
Wedding Bells
LeFlore County KATS driver Lisa Montgomery married Dean Noah on Monday, April 5, 2010. Montgomery has worked for KATS as a driver since August 1997. Dean works for Wyatt Field Services out of Deer Park, Texas. Congratulations Lisa and Dean!

The Oaks... continued from page 2
Baseline data collected from December 2008 to February 2009 indicates that we billed $42,627.92 for outpatient services. From the start of our change project in April 2009 to June 2009, we billed $62,289.46 at the McAlester Outpatient Office. Within four months of implementing the first change, we increased billing by over $23,000.00 in the McAlester office, a 47% increase compared to the other Oaks outpatient offices.
The other result our team noticed was improved collaboration with our outside referral sources.

Lessons Learned
Our agency learned that notifying clients prior to scheduled appointment benefits both the client and the agency. We also determined quickly that shortages and change of staff make it difficult to keep up this task.

We improved communication with referral sources and prospective clients through this change project. Improved communication allows us to reach out more effectively and provide services to more individuals and families in the surrounding area.

Next Steps
To sustain this improvement, our change team will meet weekly to monitor the no-show rate. The administrative assistant will be responsible for updating the change team about any issues or problems related to scheduling during the weekly meetings. The change team will intervene to get the project back on track if no shows increase by more than 5%.

You could be living in one of the above homes in just a matter of days .......

- $20,000 down-payment/closing cost assistance provided in form of a second mortgage
- Buyers must meet certain income eligibility requirements
- 1500 sq ft, two car garage, energy efficient homes
- Financing available thru BancFirst and Rural Development

Contact Housing Director John Jones at 918-967-3325 for more details.
**A Family Affair...** In the late 1960’s, there was a popular television series called “A Family Affair.” It was about a rich bachelor who is raising his brother’s orphaned children. The KI BOIS Community Action Latimer County office has a family affair of its own. LeAnn and A.C. Marlow have over thirty years of combined service to KI BOIS Community Action. The Marlows were married on December 1, 1977. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

LeAnn came onboard in 1985. She is currently the office assistant in the Latimer County office, helping with the VITA and Rx for Oklahoma programs among other things. She says that KI BOIS Community Action has defined her life. She’s always proud to say that she works for KI BOIS Community Action and feels the programs help the people who need to be helped.

A.C. started in 2005 as a volunteer KATS driver and has been there ever since. He enjoys seeing the faces of people who need transportation to dialysis or doctors’ appointments. He says this all goes back to people helping people. Although he’s only been an employee for five years, he says LeAnn has been an employee for 25 years and he has too! Their entire family has been involved.

LeAnn relates that over the years, there have been many changes. She likes the fact that we now have the SoonerRide program and that there is always a driver and monitor on a Head Start bus to secure the children and keep them safe. She also reflects on changes in employees. She feels that each new group is a little more friendly and compassionate. In 1992, LeAnn became the only woman to win the state Bus Roadeo and was the first KI BOIS Community Action employee to win. Later that year, she placed 7th in Nationals in Kansas City, MO.

A.C. and LeAnn both want to make people feel as comfortable as they can when they come into the office asking for help, especially the senior citizens. They have made friends with some of the clients served and enjoy them tremendously.

For A.C. and LeAnn there have been good times, and there have been bad. LeAnn struggles with a health condition called gastroperesis. Her stomach and digestive system is paralyzed and she can no longer eat solid food. She has a feeding tube and uses Ensure as her nutrition. Has this slowed her down? The answer is NO! Since she can no longer bend over and deal with wheelchairs, she transferred to her current position. Although it is much different, she has grown to love it as much as she did her old position with KATS. She is still helping people. A.C. is very sensitive to LeAnn’s situation and is certainly her help-mate.

The Marlows are not only involved with KI BOIS Community Action, they are very active in their home church, Cambria Baptist Church. There LeAnn serves as piano player and A.C. is the song leader. For fun, they like southern gospel music, playing dominos and being with their grandchildren. A.C. has taken on remodeling the old schoolhouse at Gowen so that it can be used for funeral dinners, parties and domino games.

The next time you are in Wilburton, stop by the KI BOIS Community Action office and tell A.C. and LeAnn how much you appreciate their service to the organization.
Head Start ends another school year!

Stigler Head Start students enjoying a day in the sun and waved goodbye as another school year closes.

Crazy hair day at Quinton Head Start

Pocola Head Start spells out the word “bye” as they finished the 2009 - 2010 school year.

Just a swingin’- Quinton Head Start

KI BOIS Community Action Employment Postings

**JOB TITLE: TRANSIT DRIVERS**
LOCATION: McAlester-1PT, Sallisaw-1PT/1FT, Poteau-1PT/1FT
JOB REQUIREMENTS: Maintain a valid driver’s license. Good driving record. Must be physically able to assist passengers and their belongings while entering and exiting the vehicles. Must be able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs and provide wheelchair assistance. Should have knowledge of area resources and live within convenient distance of city where job opening is available.

**JOB TITLE: HABILITATION TRAINING SPECIALIST**
LOCATIONS: Ada – 2PT, Poteau – 4FT, McAlester – 2PT (Weekends), Antlers - 1 PT
Krebs Group Home – 1FT Weekends and 1FT M-F/4-12
JOB REQUIREMENTS: Will serve as direct support staff for consumers. Ability to handle sensitive issues while protecting others’ welfare. Able to exercise patience, understanding, creativity and flexibility. HS Diploma/GED, maintain a valid driver’s license and auto insurance. Must complete Foundation, CPR and First Aid Training (and any other training as required/requested.) Must be able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs.

Job Postings continued on next page......
KI BOIS Community Action Employment Postings

| JOB TITLE: SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR – 1 FT | LOCATION: McAlester Oaks |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: Must have at a minimum a degree in counseling, psychology, social work, or an addiction relation field. Master’s Degree preferred. One year experience preferred. Will provide counseling in an outpatient setting. |

| JOB TITLE: SUBSTANCE ABUSE TECH – 1 FT and 1 PT | LOCATION: McAlester Oaks 4PM – Midnight Shift and Midnight to 8AM |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: Assist Clinical Staff by providing logistical and support services to residential clients. HS Diploma/GED |

| JOB TITLE: COOK – 2 FT | LOCATION: McAlester Oaks |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: Experience in an institutional setting. Flexible work schedule. HS Diploma/GED |

| JOB TITLE: CERTIFIED TEACHER – Full Time (3) | LOCATION: Spiro Head Start (2) Stigler HS (1) |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor’s Degree along with an Early Childhood Certification |

| JOB TITLE: ASSISTANT TEACHER – Full Time (2) | LOCATION: Fort Coffee Head Start and Kiowa Head Start |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma/GED |

| JOB TITLE: ASSISTANT TEACHER – Full Time | LOCATION: Spiro Head Start |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: AA, 48 Hours or Para Pro |

| JOB TITLE: TEACHER’S AIDES AND SUBS – Part Time | LOCATION: Multiple locations. |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: HS Diploma/GED |
| APPLICATION DEADLINE: Please contact your local Head Start Center to inquire about opening and pick up an application. |

| JOB TITLE: COOK – Full Time (Must be available for work June 1st) | LOCATION: Wilburton |
| JOB REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma/GED |

These positions are open to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation Staff as well as to the public. (ALL POSITIONS SUBJECT TO CONTINUED PROJECT FUNDING.) Deadline for all openings: Until Filled. Current employees – please submit a letter of interest to Human Resources. Applications may be picked up at any KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. office or printed from the website, www.kibois.org. Applications should be returned to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. P. O. Box 727 Stigler, OK 74462, Attention: Human Resources Phone: 800.299.4479 Fax: 918.967.9100

KI BOIS COMMUNITY ACTION FOUNDATION, INC.
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
Adult Day Care - Friday, May 7th

Hawaiian Luau

or posing for a photo…. everyone had fun!

Digging for free gifts

Doing the hula!

Doing the limbo