

# THE HIGHLIGHTER

A publication of the Hancock County ADAMHS Board and Community Partnership

## Volume 16, Issue 1

### *Hancock County Receives Grant from Governors Office of Faith Based Initiatives*

How can we strengthen families in our community?

How can we help adolescents make a successful journey into adulthood, especially those vulnerable young adults who may be struggling in school, using alcohol or drugs, or who are experiencing emotional difficulties?

If only there was a way to help families... well, ...

Actually, there is!

Hancock County's commitment to the Power of Assets ([Copyright © Search Institute](#)) provides the way. The 40 Developmental Assets represent everyday wisdom about positive experiences and characteristics for young people. In addition, the Search Institute research has found that these assets are powerful influences on adolescent behavior both protecting young people from many different problem behaviors and promoting positive attitudes and behaviors.

Now, if only we had the resources to increase the Assets of all our youth, especially our most vulnerable youth.

Actually, we do! Thanks to a \$475,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Faith Based Initiatives, **FamilyWorks** will act as our engine to address prevention and the transitional needs of our vulnerable youth with creativity and vigor. **FamilyWorks** is a comprehensive approach to working with thousands of area youth to increase assets and decrease at-risk factors affecting healthy development through offering interventions. The umbrella of providers and programs that make up **FamilyWorks** includes the YMCA's **Leaders Club**, the ECLIPSe program's **Youth Trainers for**



**Healthy Choices**, Youth For Christ's **Making our Relationships Exceptional**, Northwest Ohio Camp Fire USA's **Teen Center** and Ohio State University Extension Office **Real World, Real Money Program**. Collectively, these programs will focus on having adolescents engage in healthy behaviors.

Selected interventions will target at risk youth already identified in alternative education programs and city and county schools and will include: ECLIPSe's **Service Learning Approaches and Asset Course**, Northwest Ohio Campfire USA's **Teens In Action**, and The Ohio State University Extension Office's **Money Management classes**. These approaches will ensure that teens have what they need to succeed in school and work.

Finally, the majority of the grant funds will include **wraparound approaches and resources** (including the provision of mentors and tutors) for youth with multiple risk factors. Family Resource Centers (FRC) is not only the fiscal agent for the Grant but is also the implementing Agency for the wraparound approaches. Beth Sechrist will be joining the FRC team as the newly hired **FamilyWorks** Coordinator and she will oversee two wraparound facilitators who will work with adolescents to successfully transition to adulthood and allow expectant adolescent parents and adolescent parents thrive. For further questions, please call FRC at 419-422-8616.

*The key features of the wrap-around process that will be incorporated are: facilitators trained in preparing youths and facilitating person-centered planning, recruiting community resources, including intensive service coordination to actualize plans, and incorporation of "circles of support" -- family/friends and natural community resources in addition to formal services. In addition, individualized plans will be guided by the use of life domains to focus planning, and facilitators will have access to flexible funding to meet unique needs and positive youth development activities.*

## ADAMHS BOARD UPDATE

# Phyllis M. Putnam Board Room Dedicated

At its June 15, 2006 Board meeting the Hancock County Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS Board) dedicated its Conference Room as the Phyllis M. Putnam Board Room. The Board made the decision to dedicate the room to Ms. Putnam in honor of her many years of service and commitment to the Hancock County Community.

Ms. Putnam was the first Executive Director for the Hancock County ADAMHS Board which was established by State Statute in 1968. As Executive Director Ms. Putnam oversaw all functions of the Board which included the planning, funding and monitoring of mental health and substance abuse treatment, prevention and education services to Hancock County residents. Although Ms. Putnam retired from the Board in 1997, she continues to advocate serving on the Board of Directors for the Ohio Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Ms. Putnam is the wife of Leon and they have two children, Mark (Sherry) and Lee and two grandsons.



### *ADAMHS Board Elects New Chair and Vice Chair*

At the June 15th Board meeting the Hancock County ADAMHS Board elected George Milligan as Chair and Paul DeMoss as Vice Chair of the Board for Fiscal Year 2007.

### *Meet Our CIT Officer*

This month's spotlight is on Communications Officer Dominic M. Francis from the Hancock County Sheriff's Office. Dominic graduated with the 2005 Dispatcher CIT Class. Officer Francis has had three years of service.

Officer Dominic has used the CIT training to better understand the characteristics that a person might be experiencing in a time of crisis and to be able to better inform the responding deputies of the needed information prior to their arrival.

Recently Officer Francis used techniques that were taught at the training in a call received at the call center. A call came in from a young man stating that he wanted to kill himself by jumping in front of a moving vehicle. He was in crisis and unable to tell Officer Francis where he was. He did not know he was near a couple of businesses, which helped Dominic determine his location and send deputies to the scene. He was standing along side of a major highway in Hancock County with heavy traffic passing by. As they talked, the man told Dominic that he did not want to go on anymore. He had lost his job and his driver's license. By the time the deputies arrived, Officer Francis had been able to calm him and get him to sit down in the ditch away from the traffic. Officer Francis was able to assist this caller in his time of need.



## IT'S HERE!

# It's Paragon Approved!

Check out Paragon's new Website  
[www.paragonapproved.org](http://www.paragonapproved.org)

The website features upcoming events and initiatives as well as trainings being sponsored by the Community Partnership. All information on the website will be "Paragon Approved". Also included on the website is prevention and education resources for all ages. Bookmark the site and visit it often. To get to the website, type [www.paragonapproved.org](http://www.paragonapproved.org) in the address bar.



Paragon's Guide to  
Summer Adventures is here!

Log onto [www.paragonapproved.org](http://www.paragonapproved.org)  
for your copy of the guide.

## Come visit us at the FAIR!

Stop by and see us in the  
Merchants Building  
during the  
Hancock County Fair,  
August 30th-September  
4th!

### *Community Partnership Elects New Chair and Vice Chair*

At the June 20th Council meeting the Hancock County Community Partnership elected Pat Sudlow as Chair and Anne Shiple as Vice Chair of the Council for the next fiscal year.

## ***Why are the 40 Developmental Assets Important?***

The Search Institute has surveyed over two million youth across the United States and Canada since 1989. Results show that the greater the numbers of Developmental Assets experienced by young people, the more positive and successful their development. The fewer the number of assets present, the greater the possibility youth will engage in risky behaviors such as drug use, unsafe sex, and violence.

The reality is that the average young person surveyed in the United States experiences only 19 of the 40 assets. Overall, 59% of young people surveyed have 20 or fewer of the 40 assets. In short, the majority of young people in this country--from all walks of life--are lacking in sufficient Developmental Assets needed for healthy development. These statistics, as well as the role assets play in predicting both positive and negative outcomes for youth, underscore the importance of the developmental asset framework and its application. Below are some examples of Developmental Assets for young people.

*Family Support*

*Positive Family Communication*

*Caring Neighbors*

*Children Seen as Resources*

*Safety*

*Family Boundaries*

*Time at Home*

*Play & Creative Activities*

*Positive Expectations Out-of-Home & Community Programs*

If you would like further explanations for these and the rest of the 40 Developmental Assets please go to the Search Institute website at <http://www.search-institute.org/assets> or contact Family Resource Centers at 419-422-8616.

Information obtained from the Search Institute website.

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Have a Safe  
& Healthy Summer!



*Hancock County Crisis Hotline - 1-888-936-7116 (toll free)*