

Day Spring Happenings



Donna Williams' family at our 2nd Annual Remembrance Celebration hosted by the Mission & Spirituality Committee on April 7th. Left to right are: Gordon Williams (son), Lerie Williams (daughter-in-law), Avery Wells (grandson), and Antissa Wells (daughter)



Lori Skelton (Mechanical Contractors Association of KY) and Bruce Spear at the Metrobon Kiwanis Club meeting on January 17th at Day Spring.



UPS was presented a Spirit of Day Spring award on February 21st before the board meeting. Left to right are: Patrick Magill, Dan Thomas (UPS), Junyce Porter (UPS) and Sarah Trester

We Are On The Move!



Becky Wortham on the treadmill in the common area room at the Baxter Avenue apartments.



Christie Sheehan on the bike at the Women's home.

As we are all challenging ourselves to incorporate more fitness into our daily routines, this is no different for many of the Day Spring residents. Most have said in their annual comprehensive plans that they would like to exercise more often. Becky Wortham (above, left photo) walks on the treadmill at the Baxter Avenue apartments. "It makes me feel good. I also drink lots of water," said Becky. Cheryl Richter also spends a lot of time walking on the treadmill. At the Women's Home, Christie Sheehan (above, right photo) rides the stationary bike during the day to get her workout in.

The Woods residents often take outdoor walks on Saturday's when the weather is nice with staff member Tristan Pierce. "We always go to neat places like the Crescent Hill Reservoir and the new downtown walking bridge," said Richard King (see left photo below). There are also several other small walking groups that consistently meet throughout the year at Day Spring on our campuses that Anna Tanzilla leads at Baxter Avenue and Will Lee at Illinois Avenue.

For the 3rd year in a row Tristan Pierce and the Woods residents have led a World Health Day activity (see photo below). This year the theme was high blood pressure, which has a huge impact on the Day Spring community. Residents from both campuses participated on April 6th by walking laps around the Illinois Avenue campus and received a heart sticker to stick on a ribbon for every lap that they walked. The two top walkers were Doug Sheridan and Maddie Barnes (who ran most of her laps).



Above, the entire group of 2013 World Health Day participants cheered after their walk on April 6th.

Left: Alan Willoughby, Tristan Pierce, Jack Gollar and Cindy Cusick on a Saturday afternoon walk at the Crescent Hill Reservoir

The Day Spring community says goodbye to longtime staff member Donna Williams



Donna Williams with her point person at Day Spring Baxter Avenue, Kathy Miller.



Donna Williams with Debbie Seger holding Anna Sewell, Ellen Sewell's newborn baby.

The Day Spring community said farewell to an old friend, Donna Williams on March 15th at a funeral service at Pleasant View Baptist Church. Donna began working at the Baxter Avenue Apartments in the Summer of 2001 and quickly became close to staff, families, volunteers and residents. Everyone has their favorite Donna story, and a lot of staff and residents felt Donna was their "Day Spring mom".

Donna was as protective of her co-workers as she was of the Day Spring residents. As we met her own children, they shared they considered us to be a part of Donna's family too. Gail Rooney and Stephanie Hoben designed a Memory Tree of Love for Donna's family decorated with colorful notes from community members, crystals symbolizing Donna's beauty, loving heart and giving spirit.

“Donna always claimed Anna as one of her grandkids, which I loved! (see right photo above). Ellen Sewell, Social Services Manager

Where we dream of a world where ALL adults with intellectual disabilities live in caring communities.

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Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 18, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
13th Annual Concrete Ball at the
Downtown Louisville Marriott

Saturday, June 8, 12noon - 2:30 p.m.
Community Potluck Summer Picnic

Friday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Yard Sale Item Collection Day at
St. Gabriel Gym

Saturday, July 13, 8:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Yard Sale at St. Gabriel Gym

Thursday, July 25, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Raiser's Edge User Group Meeting



Visit our website at
www.DaySpringKy.org to view our
complete calendar listing.



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If so, please contact us at 502-636-5990
so that we can update your information.

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Louisville, Kentucky 40213
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More than a place...a way of life.

Day Spring Sun Times

Volume 17. Issue 1

Spring 2013

Welcome Sarah Trester, New Executive Director



Sarah Trester, Executive Director

Day Spring is excited to welcome Sarah Trester as our New Executive Director! Sr. Debbie Kern was with Day Spring in this role for almost 18 years, leaving this past August after being elected to a leadership position with the Sisters of Mercy South Central Region. Sarah began work on February 4th, and has been visiting each of the homes, spending time with residents and staff, getting to know the families, and meeting with numerous community partners. Sarah has also led some introduction conversations at both Community and Family meetings this Spring.

"I think we were all 'collectively' holding our breath wondering who our new Executive Director would be. Now she is here and 'collectively' we have exhaled. The light is on again in the corner office. Welcome, Sarah," said Rita DeToma, founding parent and office volunteer.

Sarah is a native Kentuckian and brings over 35 years of experience working with adults with intellectual disabilities, including serving as Chief Operating Officer at Elderserve, Executive Director for Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, and working as Assistant Executive Director for The Council on Developmental Disabilities. Sarah also served on the board of Louisville Diversified Services (now named Zoom Group), served as a New Neighbors/Community Living Family for 14 years and as a Volunteer Citizen Advocate for children and adults needing representation.

Sarah holds a Masters of Divinity degree from the Southern Seminary here in Louisville and has a Sociology Major/Urban Studies minor from Indiana University. She also is the published author of *Agenda for Real Life: A Blueprint for Daily Living Programs in Our Communities* (Advocado Press, 1994).

Sarah is married to Chuck Trester, has 3 grown children and in her free time she enjoys working, swimming, reading, traveling and searching for treasures.

If you have not met Sarah yet and would like to set up a time to meet with her, she can be reached at the Day Spring offices in the Community Resource Center (CRC) at (502) 636-5990 x207 or via e-mail at sarah.trester@dayspringky.org.

Thank you to Brett Landow who worked as our Interim Executive Director before Sarah was hired. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Director Search Committee for their hard work this past year. They started the search process last August and finished up this past January. Former Board Chair, John B. Reisert, led his group and they spent several nights and weekends volunteering their time to help Day Spring find the right person for this job (see inset box for the full committee list). Thank you great folks for all of your hard work and commitment!



Sarah Trester with the Newton family at a recent family meeting on March 17. Top: Francis Newton; Left to right are: Paula Newton, Sarah Trester and Shannon Newton

THANK YOU!

We would like to give a special thank you to our Executive Director Search Committee who spent many tireless hours working this past fall in filling this position.

John B. Reisert, Chair
Beth Barrett
Lynne Fleming
Jack Ford
Ann Jirkovsky
Patrick Magill
Deborah Wade



Capital
Prize
\$15,000

One
Raffle Ticket
\$10⁰⁰

The 13th Annual Concrete Ball

Purchase your Day Spring Raffle tickets today at www.DaySpringKy.org! Buy as many as you like and stay tuned...the winner will be announced at the 13th Annual Concrete Ball event May 18, 2013 at 11:00 p.m. See inside for event details.



The 13th Annual Concrete Ball



Off to the Races!

Photography by John May

Above photos taken at the 2012 Concrete Ball. Left: Will Harrod and Brett Ruffing vie for the "Best Dressed Man" prize. Middle: Stacey Hourigan and Eileen Harrod compete for the "Best Hat" competition. Right: Debbie Herndon and a friend show off their hats as well.

Below: A beautiful Dan Dry horse racing print in our 2012 silent auction display



Mark your calendar for **Saturday, May 18th at the Downtown Louisville Marriott Hotel**, first Floor Kentucky Ballroom, and bring your friends to have the best time at the 13th Annual Day Spring Concrete Ball!

Off to the Races is our event theme again and we hope everyone will be as excited about this as they were last year. The ladies are encouraged to wear their Derby or Oaks dresses, hats and/or fascinators. We will have another contest for prizes for the "Best Hat" and "Best Dressed Man" title.

A great evening is planned with the ever-popular Endless Summer Band, a \$15,000 raffle (see front page for details) live/silent auctions and many ways for you to go home a winner. A big thank you to Brown-Forman for returning as our beverage sponsor for the evening.

All proceeds from the Concrete Ball go straight to providing outstanding services provided to the residents of Day Spring. Your contributions to this event ensures the future of Day Spring as a caring, supportive, and empowering culture for all of our community members.

The fun and exciting Wheel of Chance is returning this year with many great items. You will be able to visit the Day Spring website (www.DaySpringKy.org) before the ball to have first choice on buying one of the 20 chances per item for your opportunity to win.

Event tickets are available at www.DaySpringKy.org for only \$175 each. Sponsorship opportunities are still available and include tables of as many as 12 guests. For more information, contact our Event Co-Chair, Beth Barrett at (502) 551-7571 or bethhbarrett@gmail.com.

Thank You!

Thank you to our current event sponsors, as of April 15th.

Join us as a sponsor this year! We have Gold, Silver and Bronze levels available and much, much more. Visit us at www.DaySpringKy.org to view all Sponsorship Opportunities.
-Eileen Harrod, Event Co-Chair

Gold



Bronze



Our Silent Auction Wish List

We are still in need of items. Below are some ideas:

- Condo/Vacation stays
- iPads
- Autographed sport memorabilia
- Bottles of wine & liquor
- Airline tickets
- Restaurant gift certificates
- Tickets to sporting events
- Golf Foursomes
- Churchill Downs box seats

Please contact our Silent Auction Chair, Karen Eberenz with questions or inquiries at (502) 609-7819 or kmom430@hotmail.com

Come in your Derby or Oaks Finery. We will have a "Best Hat" contest for the ladies and a "Best Dressed Man" contest.

Yolonda Sims - 12 Years of Service

By Alan Naslund, Direct Support Professional

Yolonda Sims is one of our outstanding multi-taskers at Day Spring and has been for a long time. In fact, Yolonda came on board before Baxter construction was complete, and she was there during the move-in process in that memorable spring of 2001. She helped residents and families ease through the trials and tribulations of those times. Yolonda worked the Saturday eight a.m. to four p.m. along with other shifts back then and is remembered for a very positive influence. Quickly becoming known as "Ms. Londa," she put a lot of productive structure into her well-known weekend routine. Everyone could look forward without fail to her leading residents in a morning fridge clean-out, followed by a great lunch she invariably cooked up from the left overs we always seem to have in abundance at Baxter.

On Thursday nights, Baxter saw the same efficient Ms. Londa, arriving in business clothes from her day job, but with tennis shoes in hand. According to Mary Ellen Howard, the tennis shoes kept her "prepared to round up some residents for a walk in the neighborhood."

So much for multi-tasking at Day Spring. Ms Londa goes way beyond that off campus. In the twelve years she has been with us at Day Spring, she has earned her Associates and Bachelors degrees from Indiana Wesleyan through classroom courses and also worked full time as an office manager for Family Health Care Center. Hard to imagine, isn't it.

Right now, Yolonda continues to work every other Friday overnight at Baxter along with a weekly Saturday and Sunday overnight at Homes. So she really remains a wonderful presence at Day Spring. Mary Ann Lewis says of Ms. Londa, "I feel like I've known her forever, since I knew her when I lived at Baxter, too. I like it when she works at Homes because she always talks to me before I go to bed. She always makes me feel better. Londa also makes me coffee in the morning, which I think is really sweet. She doesn't have to do that."

Yolonda has one son, Christopher, who is married to Marbe. The family lives in Atlanta, Georgia with their children, Maya, thirteen, Medina, two, and Christopher, who's one year old. Ms. Londa traveled with her son and his family to the Phillipines in May and June of last year, where they met their maternal grandparents. It was a time, too, to celebrate two-year-old Medina's birthday!

All of us at Day Spring are enriched to have Ms. Londa with us.



Regi Lewis, Christie Sheehan, Sherri Frank, Yolonda Sims and Donna Schultz (standing)



Londa having fun with Debbie Seger



Londa with Cathy Ford at the Baxter Avenue 10 year anniversary open house celebration, March 2010

We need You to make the Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round

In December, we kicked off this year's Annual Appeal with a goal of \$50,000. This year's appeal is specifically targeted to the purchase of a new 12 person handicap accessible bus with a wheelchair lift at a cost of \$50,000. While this may not sound very glamorous, this bus would mean the world to our community!

Today, when we have a group of people going somewhere, we typically climb into one of several mini vans to make the trip. Whether heading out for a special dinner, or to an out of town vacation destination, our community is aging, and a mini-van is not very easy for an older person to climb in and out of. In addition, they will also not accommodate someone in a wheelchair. **Thanks to the generosity of each individual who responded, we have raised over \$31,000, but we still need your help to purchase this bus!**



The Ford Starcraft E350 bus pictured above will accommodate up to 12 people, allowing residents to travel together, and with greater accessibility.

Having a bus, (like the one pictured at left), would mean that a group of up to 12 people, including two in wheelchairs, can all travel together. This includes ease of access in getting on and off of the vehicle, versus climbing into and out of a cramped space! **Your donation will make the purchase of this bus possible.**

To all who have already responded, thank you for your generosity!

If you have not yet made your gift, you may still do so. To help:

- visit our web site at DaySpringKy.org to make an online donation
- mail your check to 3430 Day Spring Court, Louisville, Kentucky, 40213
- make other payment arrangements, by calling us at 502-636-5990, or via e-mail at Michael.Erskine@DaySpringKy.org

Day Spring Launches New Web Site

By Anthony Sullivan, Community Relations Committee Chair

We're excited to announce an upcoming revamp to our website, DaySpringKy.org. In partnership with the phenomenal team at Louisville Geek, the Community Relations Committee, has modernized the look and appearance of our website, giving it a more appealing feel. "It's been about three years since we've updated the site, and we felt like we needed to offer visitors to the site information that would be more useful, and in a streamlined format that will make their search easier," said Michael Erskine, Community Advancement Director of Day Spring.

With this new layout we'll be able to better promote upcoming events and spotlight members of the Day Spring community. The site is now more of a resource to those who need to know about Day Spring, including our calendar of upcoming events and activities, as well as information that sets us apart from other agencies. Additionally, we've moved our hosting over to Louisville Geek which will allow us to make updates far more easily and quickly, as well as increase the site's reliability.

In addition to Anthony, we'd like to offer special thanks to Community Relations Committee members Dennis Miller and Jerry Weber for their contributions to the site revamp. They continue to provide the Day Spring community with strong commitment and support.



Day Spring Hosts User Group Meeting



Jennifer Wilcox and Danah Zimmerlee, both from the Kentuckiana Girl Scouts Development office

We hosted a Raiser's Edge Fundraising Software User Group meeting here at Day Spring on January 31st. Representatives from many non-profits around the Louisville area attended including: **The de Paul School, Kentuckiana Girl Scouts, Uspiritus (formerly Brooklawn and Bellewood), St. Joseph Children's Home, Bridgehaven, and Louisville Presbyterian Seminary.**

This group meets on a quarterly basis here at Day Spring to discuss and share ideas with the goal to maximize our use of the software. Our next meeting takes place on Thursday, July 25th, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at Day Spring. To attend our next meeting, RSVP to Mary Ellen Howard at (502) 636-5990 x209 or maryellen.howard@dayspringky.org. All are welcome!

Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

Our office volunteers were celebrated on February 12th over lunch at The Cafe. We are well aware that our office and campuses would not run smoothly without the help of these kind, generous people!



Ellen Sewell with Hank Harrison

Cindy Cusick
Frank Cusick
Mary Ann Cusick
Laverne Davis
Rita DeToma
Hank Harrison
Kim Hendrickson
Kathy Miller
Shannon Newton
Alan Willoughby



Stephanie Hoben, Kim Hendrickson and Samantha Cotton