



STARRVISTA NEWS

STARRVISTA IS NOW ACCREDITED!

After many months of planning and preparation, StarrVista successfully gained accreditation.



Picture left to right: Cameron Hosner, President & C.E.O. (Vista Maria); Wm. Chuck Jackson, Exec. V.P. & Chief Program Officer (Starr Commonwealth/ StarrVista); Marty Mitchell, President & C.E.O.; Juanita Bass, Board Member (Greater Grace Church); Steve Finch, Financial Consultant (StarrVista); Patrick Zur-linden, V.P. & C.F.O. (Vista Maria); Herman McCall, Exec. V.P. & Chief H.R. Officer.



StarrVista

Volume 1, Issue 2

Fall 2008

Kids Sound Off on Friendship...

- Your best friends are the ones that don't believe the rumors about you.
- Old friends are like old sneakers—always comfortable
- If you give your enemy a second chance, she might turn out to be your best friend
- No matter how many friends you have, there's always room for one more
- When you are sick, friends can sometimes be better medicine than the kind the doctor gives you.
- When you buy a car for the first time, your number of friends increases dramatically.
- My REAL friends aren't the ones I go out with, but the ones who listen to me when I need an ear and the ones I can cry to when I need a shoulder

Inside this issue:

Accreditation	1
Fresh Initiatives	1
Human Resources	2
Quality Assurance	2
Wraparound Program	3
Staff Recognition	4



StarrVista's School Readiness Initiative

A back to school kick off designed to change the way that clients and their families approach traditional learning. This event introduced StarrVista's Strengthening Families & Check and Connect Programs, in addition to offering workshops targeted in improve school success, decrease substance use, increase financial literacy, and promote conflict avoidance. Families were provided a fashion show during lunch, and back packs full of school help start the school year off right.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Daren Jones
Quality Manager



The past fiscal year StarrVista's Quality Assurance department has been responsible for submitting monthly data to Wayne County Child and Family Services (WCCAFS). The Managing for Results (MFR) data is submitted by all the CMO's and is then aggregated by WCCAFS and submitted to Wayne County. WCCAFS is one of many departments within the Wayne County government. Each of these departments has specific MFR data to submit. The MFR data

Description	Target	Actuals
65% of youth and families serviced will receive their initial treatment at the indicated level of care.	65%	75.7%
75% of juveniles will not re-offend within two years of Court termination of wardship.	75%	92.3%
75% of juvenile offenders with special needs, i.e., medical, MH, sex offenders, substance abusers will be transferred within 30 calendar days of admission and placed in appropriate care.	75%	72.9%
75% of special needs offenders, referred to CAFS supervised programming, juvenile and adult, will successfully complete treatment without re-offending and admission to a detention facility or jail during their Court supervision.	75%	70.6%
No more than 5% of County facilities will hold a provisional license.	5%	6.2%
90% of juveniles will not be absent without leave (AWOL). (A juvenile is considered AWOL when a petition is filed with the Court.	90%	81.9%
75% of juveniles on Court Probation will be terminated from Probation at six months.	75%	33.9%

EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY

Phyllis Chandler
H.R. Manager



If you're looking to increase employee productivity, you might want to start with offering healthier options in your vending machines and cafeterias. Employees with balanced diets have 10 times more energy than those with poor dietary habits, reports ComPsych Corp., a Chicago-based provider of employee assistance and employee wellness programs. Key findings from their recent survey of more than 1,000 employees across the country include:

- * Fifty percent of workers with a balanced diet have high energy, while only 5 percent of workers with an unbalanced diet had high energy.
- * Seventy-three percent of employees with healthy diets have high levels of productivity, while only 24 percent of employees with an unhealthy diet have high productivity.
- Fifty-one percent of employees at their ideal weight have high morale, while only 25 percent of very overweight employees have high morale.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROGRAM: Teach a Girl to Sew



Sewing is a skill that may help young women obtain jobs in the future; but more than that, sewing can help develop imagination and hope that the sky could be the limit. Sharing a hand-crafted item with family and friends can improve self-esteem and in turn, can help improve interpersonal relationships. Sewing a well-fitted garment will not matter what size or shape a person is; well-made garments can make all of us look and feel good. With these ideas in mind and a chance meeting between two women who wanted to contribute and make a difference, “Teach a Girl to Sew” was born.

The instructors are currently looking into grant funds to lease a facility to bring the “sewing club” closer to Detroit. Currently, one of the instructors has volunteered her home for the twice a month meetings. Fabric and sewing machines are provided by the instructors. The “sewing club” has been meeting since early March and thus far, the girls have made purses and pajama bottoms. The next project was one chosen by the girls—a quilt to be given their Moms for Mother’s Day 2008. The “club” also met at JoAnn Fabrics so that the girls could pick the fabric with which to make their quilts. There, they learned about different fabrics and textures. Some of the girls have also sketched some clothing designs on loose leaf paper and hope that their creations will someday come to life, incidentally, the “club” started out with two girls and has now grown to five.

About the Instructors:

Ms. Marcy Thorpe is a part-time realtor and a part-time sewing instructor and seamstress. She has been designing patterns and presenting her creations in fashion shows and at Renaissance Festivals across the country. Ms. Thorpe is a former member of the Detroit News Design Board and General Motors Women’s Club. She has given symposiums on fashion and design at Eastern Michigan University.

Ms. Sammie Taylor is a retired nurse who admits that sewing is her “passion.” she has been sewing since she was 15 years of age. She designs and sews dolls’ clothing and garments for various Renaissance Festivals. She sells many of her creations at various fairs across the State but says that she gets the most satisfaction from sharing and giving her “stuff” away to family and friends during the holidays.

Contact Information:

If you have any girls between the ages of 1– to 16 who would be interested in becoming part of the “Teach a Girl to Sew” club, please contact Harriet Siddiqui, Wraparound Facilitator at (313) 244-2203.

Finally:

“Take your needle, my child, and work at your pattern; it will come out a rose by and by. Life is like that— one stitch at a time taken patiently and the pattern will come out alright just like the embroidery.”

- Oliver Wendell Holmes

Who is DAINA McGRUE?

In recent months one of StarrVista's case managers was promoted to a Senior Case Manager position. Daina McGrue arrived at StarrVista in the summer of 2006 and has been on a fast track towards excellence. We thought it a great idea to get to know a little more about her.

A graduate of Wayne State University, Daina holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. She has been married for 3 years and has one son, Dillon. In her own words, Daina has always had a passion for working with children because she believes they are today's future leaders and she wants to play a role in their success. Prior to working for StarrVista, Daina held positions with Lutheran Child and Family Services as well as Evergreen Children's Services. Mrs. McGrue is currently working on her Masters degree in counseling at the University of Phoenix. Her expected date of graduation is January 2010.

"My aspirations for StarrVista is that WE will assist our youth with learning that change is OK and can be beneficial in their futures. In my spare time I love to spend time with my husband, son and God children." - Daina

StarrVista

22390 W. Seven Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan 48219

Phone: 313-387-6000

Fax: 313-387-0760



With Open Arms

With open arms we welcome the following people to the StarrVista team. We hope your experience with this agency will be one of growth, challenge, and success.

Phillip Chandler

Janella Jemison

Eboni Randolph

Steven Williams

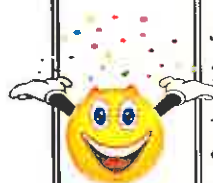
Jeannetta Porter

STAFF RECOGNITION

Happy Birthday!

Wishing you many more!

Margaret Banyai	Anemashaun Bomani
Phyllis Chandler	Kamaria Curtis
Dorothy Coney	Alana Davis
Joe George	Sarah Harris
Tenita Hedgespeth	Alan Hill
Bobbie Johnson	Keenan Johnson
Daren Jones	Rodrick Laster
Latania Lewis	Christina Marrocco
Marquise Mason	Orlando Rhea
Michelle Rowser	Kathleen Schultz
Sapria Smith	Dave Thiesmeyer
Juanita Tooges	Lynette Whitfield
Ishia Winston	



Happy Anniversary!

Thank you for your service and dedication!

Anemashuan Bomani (7 years)	Andrea DukeLow (7 years)
Frank Kozlowski (7 years)	Rodrick Laster (7 years)
Sapria Smith (6 years)	Alana Hill (7 years)
Keenan Johns (5 years)	Phyllis Chandler (4 years)
Lonnie Harvey (3 years)	Tenita Hedgespeth (3 years)
Daina McGrue (2 years)	Shekira Cooley (2 years)
Michelle Rowser (2 years)	Holly Sackett (2 years)
Ishia Winston (2 years)	Alana Davis (1 year)
Ebonne English (1 year)	LaTania Lewis (1 year)
Christine Marrocco (1 year)	