



From the President's Desk—

Detroit Area Kids Go To College



Jeri Fisher signs in young participants for the bus trip to MSU.

Early on the morning of August 5th approximately eighty Detroit area young people and over twenty adult chaperons boarded buses for a three-day trip to Michigan State University. The purpose of this trip was for the young people to participate in the first Positive Youth Development Academy, which is part of the Positive Youth Development Initiative launched earlier this year.

This remarkable opportunity for our young people was the result of a collaborative effort between area care management organizations, neighborhood organizations, Wayne County, the Mayor's office for the city of Detroit, Michigan State University and numerous others. StarrVista served as the coordinating agency for this major undertaking and not enough praise can be given to Ms. Jeri Fisher, Manager of the Provider Network/Community Relations Department, for her tireless efforts and the numerous hours she spent planning and making arrangements. Ms. Fisher managed all aspects of communicating with the numerous agencies and families involved.

Early on the morning of departure dozens of anxious smiling young people began arriving at StarrVista to complete their final check in and board the buses. Once aboard, the buses de-

parted for the hour-long trip to the Michigan State University campus.



Anxious program participants prepare to board the buses to East Lansing.

During the bus trip the young people from throughout the metropolitan area had the opportunity to get acquainted with each other. By the time the buses arrived at the Breslin Center new friends happily got off the buses in excited anticipation of the coming activities and experiences.

After lunch and a brief orientation activities began with the young people being assigned to three separate groups. Perhaps the most amusing incident was the look of surprise on the faces of the young people when

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they discovered that their mode of transportation for most activities was “foot power”. Startled eyes were evident as each participant became aware of the incredible size of the sprawling campus... and the fact that (like most students) they’d be walking most of it.

Mike Williams (President of StarrVista and designated Dad for the trip) lead the charge heading the first group on their walking journey through the campus, (he’s yet to admit that he was exhausted at the end of the first day). Parents, kids and tour leaders from MSU toured numerous facilities on the campus including the Cyclotron, the farms, computer workshops and others. As the evening of the first day approached everyone headed to Snyder Hall (the dormitory and home for the next two days). After claiming their luggage each person was given their room assignments and the process of “musical rooms” began. Needless to say after a day together new friends were determined to room together and this process caused “settling in” to be a little longer than expected. Once settled in everyone headed to dinner in the dormitory cafeteria.

Of course the day was far from over, after dinner everyone headed to the Student Union for an evening of bowling, pool and video games... rumor has it that the excited kids closed the Union. Finally after a long day it was time for everyone to get to their rooms and relax for the evening... at least that’s what was planned, rumor has it that like any new freshman away from home for the first night most of the crew stayed up until the wee hours of the morning. Another amusing moment was 8:00AM when everyone was awakened for breakfast and the start

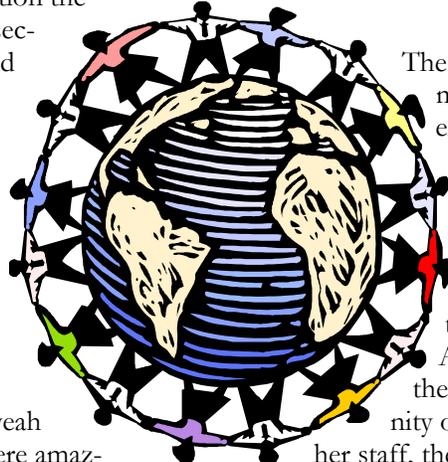
of another long, busy day. More than one little head was seen bobbing during the orientation for the second day... first taste of what it’s like to be a freshman student facing the first day of classes after being “independent” the night before.

After the orientation the activities for the second day began and most of the kids discovered their second wind, not all, but most... we were now confident that they’d be much more ready to sleep when the time came on the second night... yeah right! The kids were amazing, they adapted quickly to the rigors of campus life and soon the adults were fighting to keep pace with the enthusiastic youngsters that were full of wonder and awe at the things they were being exposed to.

When the end of the second day finally came all of the youngsters were anxious to get the party started and that’s exactly what they did. Under the watchful eyes of the chaperons the kids danced the night away at their first campus party. Finally the party came to a close and “Big Daddy” aka Mike Williams ordered pizza for everyone... finally, time to turn in for the second night.

On the final day there was a group discussion about the experience and a chance for the participants to hear from students at the university, student athletes and coaches. After lunch each group departed for their final activities and then it was time to head back

to the dorms to check out and board the buses for the trip back home. After the ride back (where most everyone seemed to be asleep) tired but very happy kids and adults chatted with each other about the trip with many inquiring about when the next opportunity to visit the campus would be made available... we’re shooting for next summer for another academy.



The thanks owed are so many and there’s not enough space to thank everyone that helped make this special event possible but we would be remiss if we failed to mention Ms. Annette Abrams, Director of the university’s community outreach program and her staff, the volunteers from StarrVista and Dr. Carl Taylor. It must be mentioned here also that our kids were amazing, each behaved in a fashion that was admirable and each is to be commended. One of the brightest moments for those of us involved in arranging this trip was when we were complimented by the MSU staff on the behavior of our kids... this was truly a wonderful experience for everyone and a shining example of what can happen when we give our kids a chance.

*Michael E. Williams,
President
StarrVista*



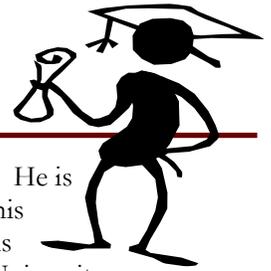
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***Solutions through youth & family
partnerships***

Youth Spotlight



The Agency's business is invested in the lives of the children and families we serve. This month we are spotlighting Jonathan N.; his case worker was Lori Linsday.

Jonathan came into our care in January, 2001. Since being with StarrVista, Jonathan had many accomplishments. He graduated from the Ennis program and from Murray Wright High School and received several awards for doing so well. Jonathan was not only a good student; he was also an accomplished

athlete. He won the city league championship singles tennis match.

He was actively involved in the community and his father's church, and served as a roll model to the younger children in the community and in his church. Jonathan is now attending Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he is a recipient of several tennis scholarships and has plans of becoming a social worker. In a recent conversation with his former case worker, Lori Linsday, Jonathan reported that

he is doing great. He is getting to know his roommate and his way around the University, however he does not like the cafeteria food and can not get used to eating breakfast so early. His parents are very proud of their son and continue to offer him support and encouragement; and his StarrVista family supports him in his achievements and wishes him Godspeed. Keep the up the good work!

Achievements



Theron Beaver, former Training and Program Development Administrator, has been promoted to the post of Director of Operations. Theron began employment with StarrVista in June,

2001. Prior to coming to StarrVista, Theron was Intake Supervisor for the court JAC. In this new role, Mr. Beaver is responsible for all internal operations. He will have authority over all systems of operations including 1) Case Management, 2) Information Technology, 3) Finance, and 4) Provider Network. The position

reports directly to the President. Theron obtained his B.A. from Marygrove College and his M.A. in Counseling from the University of Detroit/Mercy. Congratulations Theron!

Employee Spotlight—Francine Stitt



This month Starr Vision is proud to shine it's spotlight on YIC Francine Stitt.

Francine came to StarrVista in October 2000 as a Youth Liaison. With a Bachelors Degree in Psychology from the University of Detroit, she eagerly began working with the youth on her caseload. Within one year she had moved into the position of Youth Investment Counselor.

During her time as a YIC she has

had many successes with the youth in her care. She has had youth graduate or take their GED and go on to greater things such as the Air Force or College. She has also had her share of grief as with the death of one of her youth to a long time illness. But, she says that every minute of the time she spends with the youth in her care is worth it. She states, "All case managers have the opportunity to mold a child, don't miss your chance. It is important to set standards and never to allow a youth to give up on themselves." And she has remained true to that philosophy during her tenure

here at StarrVista.

Throughout her life Francine has considered her mother to be her mentor and states that she still is even though she is an adult.

Francine says that she likes to "eat, sleep and spend time with my family watching movies." She is also in to health and nutrition. She believes in following a holistic approach to personal health. She is also plans to pursue her Masters Degree in counseling at the University of Detroit. Francine is truly one of StarrVista's shining stars.

HAP Corner: *(Excerpted from HAP Member Health News)*

Emergency Care (ER)

Let's define ER care. An emergency condition is one where medical care is necessary to screen and stabilize someone when a person with no medical training, acting reasonably, believes that an emergency medical condition exists. Some examples of an emergency include chest pains, trouble breathing, excessive bleeding and loss of consciousness. **In an emergency, you should:**

Go to a HAP-affiliated ER facility. If possible, please go to your assigned medical center/physician network's ER.

If you cannot get to a HAP-affiliated ER facility, go the nearest ER facility or call 911.

If you are admitted to a hospital, please **contact HAP within 48 hours at (313)664-8971** to notify them of your admission. If you do not notify HAP, your claim may be denied.

After visiting an ER facility, contact your Primary Care Physician (PCP). This will allow your PCP to coordinate any follow-up care and keep abreast of your care history.

If you have an ER co-payment, you will be responsible for these charges. **You will not have to pay the ER co-payment if you are admitted to the hospital.**

September's Training Schedule:

September 10—Boysville, Holy Cross

September 17—Progress/Case Notes/Documentation

Happy Birthday

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to the following staff:

Rodrick Laster	September 4
Anemashaun Bomani	September 9
Kelly Ivie	September 21

In Memoriam

The staff of StarrVista wish to convey our deepest sympathies to the following:

The Linsday Family

The Ostrum Family

Your loss is truly felt by everyone at StarrVista.

Wedding Bells

It is with great pleasure that StarrVista, Inc. announces the marriage of LaShawnda Pearson and Clarence Bateman, which took place on Saturday, August 10, 2002 at the New Greater Zion Hill in Detroit. The ceremony was followed by dinner.

It is also our pleasure to announce the marriage of Charles Rosier and Lori Pugh, which took place on August 17, 2002 at the Greater Love Tabernacle in Detroit. A reception immediately followed at the VFW post in Southfield.

Those staff members who attended both stated that the ceremonies were not only beautiful, but fun as well.



Recipe Corner



Below are three recipes that should yield a wonderful evening of delightful tastes. Borrowed from the Copy Kat recipes web site, you should have no problem impressing your family and friends with this meal.

Bon Appetit!

Cheesecake Factory Bakery Oreo Cheesecake

Ingredients:

Crust

1 1/2 C. Oreo Cookie Crumbs (about 23 Oreo cookies finely chopped)

2 Tbsp. Melted Butter

9" Spring Form Pan (buttered on bottom and sides)

Filling

1 1/2 lb. Cream Cheese

1 C. Sugar

5 Large Eggs

1/4 tsp. Salt

2 tsp. Vanilla

1/4 C Flour

8 oz Sour Cream

5 Oreo Cookies (coarsely chopped for the batter)

10 Coarsely Chopped Oreo Cookies for the Top of Cheese Cake

Preparation:

Crust

Mix melted butter with Oreo crumbs and press in spring pan cover the bottom and 1 1/2" up the sides with crumbs, set aside.

Filling

All Ingredients need to be at room temperature before beginning. Beat cream cheese until light and fluffy. Keep mixer on a low setting during the mixing and beating process.

Add sugar gradually and continue beating cream cheese until mixed through. Add eggs one at a time and continue to beat until blended. Measure the vanilla, salt and flour, pour into cream cheese and egg mixture and beat until smooth.

Add the sour cream and beat well. Turn off the mixer and stir in the coarsely chopped oreo cookies with a spoon.

Pour cream cheese into the spring pan and place the nine coarsely chopped Oreo Cookies on top of the cream mixture. Place pan on the top rack and in the middle of a preheated oven at 325 degrees and bake for one hour and 15 minutes. When time is up prop the oven door open and let the cheese cake stay in the oven for one hour. Remove from oven and let cool enough to place in the refrigerator for 24 hours. It is worth the anticipation. A cheese cake should season. The flavor ripens and becomes enriched.

Taste of Texas Shrimp and Pasta Salad

Ingredients:

6 oz. dry Vermicelli, cooked

6 Green Onions, thinly chopped

4 tsp. Pickapeppa Sauce

1 lb. Cooked Bay Shrimp

3 Hard Cooked Eggs, chopped (optional)

1 C. Light Mayonnaise

Salt and Pepper to taste

Preparation:

Drain cooked Vermicelli, rinse with cool water and set aside to cool. Toss lightly with green onion. Add Pickapeppa sauce, shrimp, eggs, mayonnaise, salt, and pepper. Toss again lightly. Refrigerate for 24 hours before serving.

Red Lobster Cheddar Bay Biscuits

Ingredients:

2 C. Bisquick

1/2 C. cold water

3/4 C. grated, sharp cheddar cheese

1/4 C. butter

1 tsp. parsley flakes

1/2 tsp. garlic powder

1/2 tsp. Italian seasoning

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Mix together baking mix, cold water, and grated cheese. Roll out biscuits in a floured surface. Biscuits should be approximately one inch thick. Cut biscuits with a cutter, and place onto an ungreased baking dish. Melt butter and seasonings together. Brush with the butter and spices and bake for 8 to 10 minutes. However, you cannot make the EXACT biscuits, because they have a special butter/garlic sauce that is not available to the general public. See how they are!!