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FEEDBACK & COMMENTS

If you would like more information or you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Elissa at 574.236.8899 or email info@rosie.org. Visit us at rosieplace.com. Thank you for your support!

It is O'Hana's vision to create a community in which families of medically fragile children are supported and empowered. From that vision our mission is to provide fiscal support, and promote community awareness and involvement in order to fulfill the mission of A Rosie Place.

O'HANA Heritage Foundation P.O. Box 186, South Bend, IN 46624
Empowering Families of Medically Fragile Children

everything ROSIE

JUNE 2011 — Everything Rosie Issue:2

rosieplace.com

ESTABLISHING OUR ROOTS & BRANCHING OUT

"It really is Rosie!" and "A hotel for kids!" are just a few of the comments fitting to begin this edition of our newsletter, as these are the praises of our guests.

We have agreed there are no better compliments than those that justify all of the time, passion, and expense that have gone into creating this special environment to serve these fragile children and their families. With no reservation I state, it is **your** gifts that have affected so many and so many more to come.

To greet our first overnight guest brought tears to many of our eyes. I especially remember the sense that we were witnessing our most significant milestone of O'Hana's journey. Many of you have been with us since the beginning, and you know how many significant milestones we have reached. Well, this was THE one. A few years back a mother had made the statement, "Will the home be built in her lifetime I don't know... but we hope." That one statement challenged us every day, every month, and every year that went by, and always posed the real question, could we

get it done in time for her? We did. She was our first guest.

A Rosie Place is open and fulfilling the mission we set out to accomplish more than 8 years ago — to empower families of medically fragile children and provide a safe and welcoming place for them to call their own. The variety of services for families that have been implemented at A Rosie Place this year are skilled weekend respite, quarterly family conferences (H.A.V.E.N) that focus on networking and education, "More Than Just Play" developmental play groups being offered three times a week, formal internship and volunteer programs, and specific need support groups.

To date we remain dependent on your charitable contributions while our teams negotiate several options for foundational funding that will support us through the years to come. Children have established friendships for the very first time, marriages* have been given the gift of time, a mother had a needed surgery, and "our" fragile children left A Rosie Place not only healthy, but with a sense of belonging and a smile. O'Hana means family, ours continues to grow. With much work ahead...sending you all my best...

—Teal



Internship Program Developed

Available in many areas such as... Business Development & Administration, Grant Writing, Public Outreach & Communication, Horticulture, Research & Data Collection, and Nursing! There are multiple needs that the foundation and facility currently have and much to accomplish in order to fulfill our mission to empower families of fragile children. Contact Executive Director, Teal Bishop at 574-315-6283 to learn more about our Internship Programs.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Served over 13 children from overnight stays.
- Obtained License as Specialty Care Hospital
- Hired 15 Nurses and 3 Support Staff, with over 100 years of experience.
- Senator Broden to visit this month.

7th Annual Rosie Golf Classic Scheduled for August 1

- 1st Annual Dodge Ball Tournament and Christmas Festival
- Developmental Playgroup meeting three days a week, "More Than Just Play"
- Served over 200

children and families through our services

- Our president, Dr. Bummi Okanlami named "Woman of Vision" by YWCA!
- O'Hana Heritage—Hometown Hero Award given by Gurley Leep.
- First Ladies Luncheon held & 50 Community leaders at A Rosie Place.

KIDS ONLY



MEET DARREN...



has cerebral palsy and a fragile respiratory status. We did not know about his condition until after he was born. His head was misshaped a bit which led to testing and that led to his diagnosis.

Darren is a sweet boy who brings delight to our family. He has taught us compassion and patience. He is a strong fighter with an amazing will to live for each day. His smile melts your heart and his giggles make you laugh.

Some of the biggest struggles we have are finding care for him so we can provide normal family activities to our other two boys. He needs nursing care, so calling the babysitter next door isn't really an option. Arrangements for things such as trips, going out to dinner or out with friends must be planned in advance. Last minute plans must often be turned down.

The other biggest struggle is balancing a normal schedule for everyone when Darren goes into the hospital. He usually goes in for 2-4 weeks at a time and it is usually at a children's hospital out of town. Darren has two brothers who adore him. They say goodbye to him before leaving for school and good night each night before bed. My oldest, Jacob, holds his hand in the car and often stretches his fingers out to help prevent contractures. My youngest, Owen, will read to him occasionally. They really love their brother and wish they could find a cure to make him normal like them.

— Cyndy

There are so many variables that factor in to how the day is going to be that sometimes it is difficult to plan what the whole day will be like. We are extremely flexible and often non-committal in our plans to be fair to others. We try to maintain as normal of a life as possible, minus the nurses, deliveries, therapists and teachers that visit on a regular if not daily basis. There is a constant dialogue of medical terminology when discussing Darren that would most often only take place in a hospital setting, but is normal in our home. We check his lung sounds, neurological state, tone, respiratory rate, oxygen and many other things on a regular basis as part of maintaining his condition and care.

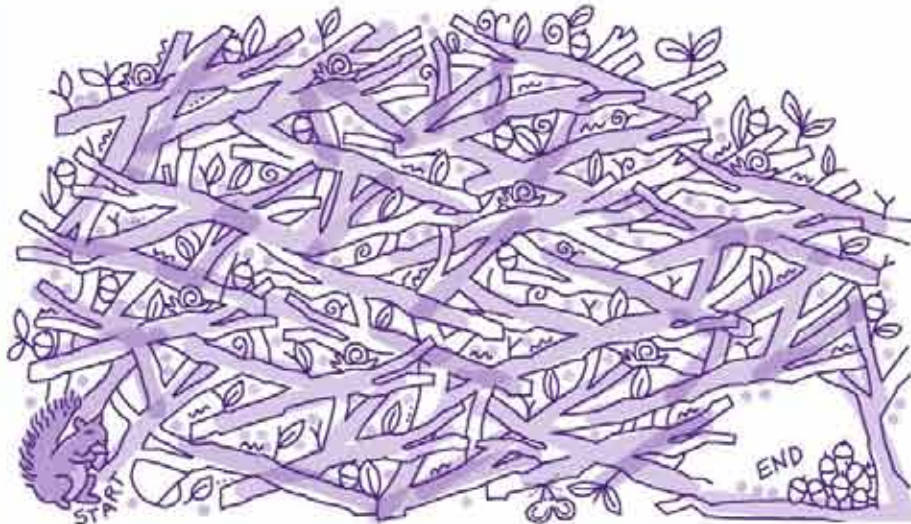
Darren was born with a rare, undiagnosed form of Severe Primary Microcephaly. He is developmentally compromised and will continue to be at a two to five month old development level. He also

If you want to be the publisher of our kid's page you can submit a story about you, a poem or artwork, along with puzzles or games, please email Elissa at INFO@4ROSIE.ORG

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THE SCAVENGER

A squirrel spends most of its life gathering food. What it doesn't eat immediately, it hides for later. First, find the squirrel's acorn stash by traveling from START to END. Then, see how many other acorns you can find hidden in the woodpile!



Y40 YOUTH FOR O'HANA

GRAB YOUR SHOVELS



Thanks to JAVA (John Adams Volunteer Association for helping beautify our property! A

local student led and student driven club, JAVA - John Adams Volunteer Association has been supporting A Rosie Place through ongoing volunteer opportunities since the fall of last year. Mark Wilson, the director of JAVA, contacted A Rosie Place

looking to get his students plugged in through service driven jobs. We lift our hands up to this wonderful program and hope that they will bring other youth to A Rosie Place for "a means to begin/continue helping others," as Mark states and "ultimately, a passion to never stop."

Join ARP for any outdoor workday held every month for an afternoon of spring cleaning at A Rosie Place. We are always in need of annuals, perennials, dirt, mulch and containers for anyone that is interested in fulfilling our spring wish list. If you have a group that is interested in having an outdoor work day or plugging your youth group in please give us a call any time at 574.315.6283.

KIDS & YOUTH EVENTS

MONTHLY WORK DAYS

Y40-YOUTH FOR O'HANA JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR WORK DAY. TREATS FOR ALL WHO COME OUT AND HELP US BEAUTIFY A ROSIE

Why do golfers wear two sets of clothes?

Answer: In case they get a hole-in-one!



A QUARTER JOKE

OUR EAGLE SCOTT

Scott Howland is a freshman at Holy Cross College. Scott began scouting in the first grade and enjoyed many campouts, summer camp, and a special trip to Alaska. During this time, Scott also worked hard to advance in rank and earn merit badges leading to scouting's highest honor - becoming an Eagle Scout. The final step is the completion of a project that demonstrates leadership and is a benefit to the community. For his Eagle project, Scott constructed a pond at A Rosie Place. He chose this project because he felt the children would enjoy spending time outside near the pond.

In addition to scouting, Scott also enjoyed playing lacrosse and being part of the track and field team at St. Joseph High School. He enjoys hunting and shooting sports. Scott is currently majoring in psychology and is hoping to become a police officer after graduating from Holy Cross.

When you consider that only 3% of the boys who start scouting become Eagle Scouts, we are very proud of what he has accomplished.

— Scott's parents

WITH MUCH GRATITUDE

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FOR THOSE WHO MUST BE NAMED... Lynn, "Wanting to Make Rosie Flourish"

A Granger resident, Lynn Geoppinger has been named A Rosie Place's Volunteer of the quarter!

Lynn came to us at the beginning of the year, expressing a deep interest in getting involved. When asking Lynn why A Rosie Place tugged at the heart she stated so perfectly... "How many times do we get involved with an effort to give hope, and yet are humbled to receive so much more than we can possibly "give" It is inspiring to begin to understand the scope, support, and vision of the donors, and the love and energy of the staff and its core of volunteers,

who have made a commitment to helping this community of families to cope under the most extreme circumstances. However, to hear the actual stories, courage, and perseverance of our families is profound and life changing. Whether at birth, through disease, or an accident, we are reminded again how fragile each day is. Life can throw a curveball at any given moment... I am privileged to be a tiny part of A Rosie Place and see all of these dynamics come together to empower such a remarkable community of families to thrive as they make everyday court."

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! Whether you are a new/current family, a volunteer or a donor with something exciting to say we want to hear from you. If you have any stories or poems, or would like to submit any photos please email them to TIEAL@4ROSIE.ORG. We would all love to hear about how A Rosie Place has affected your life's story.

WHAT'S GROWIN ON?

ROCK-N-BOWL FUNDRAISER

May 21, 2 p.m. We had a great turn out for our first year of 25 bowlers. Expect to see this as an annual event.



7TH ANNUAL ROSIE GOLF CLASSIC

The Rosie Golf Classic will be held Monday, August 1. Call Tied at 574.315.6283 to reserve your team now or for more info.



NEXT H.A.V.E.N.- HERE AND VISIBLE -EDUCATIONAL NETWORKING

A day for families of fragile children July 30, at 11:30.

BLACK TOP GARAGE SALE

June 17 & 18 A special thanks to all those that donated their items to make this year's sale a huge success! Start donating your items for next year!



2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

coming in November!

ROSIE'S quote OF THE quarter
"He's still on his happy high."
-Response from family after their child stayed at A Rosie Place for the first time.



IN MEMORY OF

- Baby Lucas
- Eileen Baker
- Mary Breden
- Partick Carney
- Carol Carpenter
- Chloe Clark
- Mama Juliana Atinuke Johnson
- Marilyn Redmann
- Mary "Mickey" Smith
- Joey Spicher
- Andrea Stephen
- Tim Tomassoni
- *STAR*
- Jack Wilcke

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

- Stephanie E. 1.10
- Tyse I. 1.18
- Katie R. 2.16
- Morgan M. 2.17
- Chloe P. 3.11
- Cyndy H. 3.30
- Mickey D. 4.22
- Patrick R. 4.23
- Bunni O. 4.26
- Mary Mae 5.3
- Maria 5.6
- Greta 5.13
- Christopher B. 5.14
- Joshua A. 5.22
- Joey 5.28