



The Update



December 02°/January 03°

**Pennsylvania's Independent Living (IL)
Project Newsletter**

02-03 Bulletin Review

Review of your 2002-2003 9month IL Applications was completed November 21 & 22, 2002 by the IL Project Management Team. By now, everyone should have received some form of correspondence from William Wilson at the Department of Public Welfare. Most of the applications that were not approved had to submit budgets, clarify Program Description Forms, add a Limited English Proficiency policy or revise stipend policies. If you have any questions about your letter or changes that you need to make to your application, please feel free to contact William Wilson at 717- 214-3810 or Lenore Moton at 717-795-9048 ext 207.

IL Staff Directories

Enclosed with this edition of the IL Update you will find 2 directories. The first is a listing of all the county IL Programs in the state. The second is a listing of the contracted private providers many of these counties utilize to provide IL services for adolescents in PA. Please use these directories as resources and for networking purposes. If, after reviewing the directory you notice something about your county information that needs modified, please contact Sally Logan at 717-795-9048 ext 231 for revision.

University of Pittsburg ILP new staff

On December 1, 2002 the U of Pitt ILP gained its final member, Jennifer Mariani. Jennifer, will be an IL Specialist and completes the staff by bringing experience from her previous employment at the Philadelphia Regional Training Center. Jennifer has already scheduled site visits with many of the counties which she will have primary responsibility. Below is a county break down of which Specialist is responsible for providing site visits and TA.

Staff Responsible	COUNTY
Idotress Joseph	Armstrong, Indiana, Clearfield, Cambria, Lycoming, Tioga, Clinton, Erie, Crawford, Warren, Forest, Jefferson, Clarion, Beaver, Butler, Lawrence, Allegheny, Westmoreland, Mercer, Venango, McKean, Potter, Somerset, Fayette, Greene, Washington
TBA/ Lenore Moton	Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Lancaster, Berks, Lehigh, Bucks, Northampton
Jennifer Mariani	Cumberland, Huntingdon, Union, Northumberland, Snyder, Adams, Lancaster, York, Schuylkill, Centre, Mifflin, Dauphin, Luzerne, Monroe, Bradford, Bedford, Blair, Lebanon, Fulton, Lackawanna, Perry, Pike, Susquehanna/Wayne/Wyoming

Now, that's a Good Question

Do males in ILPs need to register for the selective service?

Almost all male U.S. citizens, and male aliens living in the U.S., who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service. It's important to know that even though he is registered, a man will not automatically be inducted into the military. In a crisis requiring a draft, men would be called in sequence determined by random lottery number and year of birth. Then, they would be examined for mental, physical and moral fitness by the military before being deferred or exempted from military service or inducted into the Armed Forces. As found at <http://www.sss.gov/FSwho.htm>

IL Youth Retreat

The annual IL Youth Retreat will be held at Shippensburg University July 21-25. The theme for this year's retreat is "**Courage to Grow: Create a Legacy**". Submissions for the retreat logo contest based on this theme should be submitted to Valley Youth House, 103 West 4th Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015 by February 14, 2003. Prizes for the logo contest are \$200 for first place and \$100 each for two runners up.

Farewell to a friend

Robert Paul Diethorn, 58, of Camp Hill, died Friday November 22, in Holy Spirit Hospital.

He was a Planner for the Commonwealth of PA, Office of Children and Youth. Bob spent many years as Pennsylvania's IL Grant Coordinator at DPW/OCYF.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen M. Diethorn; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert A. Diethorn and Jennifer Wayne, of Charlottesville, VA; his father, Richard C. Diethorn, Pittsburgh; five brothers, Richard, Baden, PA, Thomas, Boca Raton, FL, William, James and John, all of Pittsburgh; two sisters, Diane Bogatay, Pittsburgh, and Kathleen Vallier, Hampton, NH; six sisters-in-law; two brothers-in-law; twenty nieces and nephews; and four great-nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Appalachian Audubon Society, 100 Wildwood Way, Harrisburg; the Sierra Club, 600 N. Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 or the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Competency Based Training & Certification Program Curriculum Development

All of the employees of the University of Pittsburgh ILP work under the Competency Based Training (CBT) umbrella. CBT is responsible for the development and implementation of all mandatory trainings provided to county Children & Youth workers. In attempts to strengthen the relationship between IL and Curriculum Development and CBT, University IL staff will be developing adolescent specific curriculum. Idotress and Jennifer will be working on developing curriculum specifically for county IL Programs to use when running various IL life skill groups. Idotress has called several counties to gather participants for a Quality Assurance Committee (QUAC) she will hold in late January. She will also be sending out a survey to all county and private providers of IL services to determine what specific curriculum needs they have. IL Youth input will also be solicited. Recipients of this survey are strongly encouraged to complete and return it so that the needs of all counties are addressed.

Independent Living Best Practice Standards

In Pennsylvania, IL Programs are given a great deal of flexibility in how their programs are structured. Frequently on site visits to county IL Programs reviewers are asked to provide samples of things like stipend policies, housing/R&B contracts, file table of contents, completed case plans and other forms/documents kept on youth. This fact lead the U of Pitt ILP staff and the IL staff of DPW to discussions as to how best to get information to counties on topics like: assessment tools, program structure, time frames for completing and revising various documents, required IL file components and other areas. The result of these discussions was that a Best Practice Standards manual should be developed. While this project is currently in it's infancy stages, you may be called upon for participation in a subcommittee, to complete questionnaires or for other resource information. When and if called upon, any assistance you can provide will be greatly appreciated and will help us to strengthen all the IL Programs in the state.

Check this out!



INTERNET:

www.teenwire.com teen oriented web site from Planned Parenthood
www.pcy.org Pennsylvania Children & Youth Administration
www.mentoring.org Find information on how to run an effective mentoring program

2003 CONFERENCES & Other Events:

May 8-10 Daniel Memorial Foster Care & Adoption Conference "Garden of Life: Establishing Roots and Cultivating Positive Growth", Orlando, FL
May 28-30 IL State Conference, State College, PA
July 21-25 IL Youth Retreat, Shippensburg, PA **Courage to Grow: Create a Legacy**
August 13-16, 16th Annual "GROWING PAINS" IL National Conference, Orlando, FL

CONTACT INFORMATION: U of Pitt ILP: 717-795-9048

2 Market Plaza Way, Suite 102, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Idotress: ext. 218 Jennifer: ext. 226 Sally: ext. 231 Lenore: ext. 207