

PORTER COUNTY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OFFICE

BOONE: (219) 996-5412
CENTER: (219) 462-0810
JACKSON: (219) 926-8270
LIBERTY: (219) 241-2484
MORGAN: (219) 733-9965
PINE: (219) 874-6531
PLEASANT: (219) 766-3216
PORTAGE: (219) 762-1623
UNION: (219) 789-0687
WASHINGTON: (219) 531-0050
WESTCHESTER: (219) 926-1405

ALICE'S HALFWAY HOUSE FOR WOMEN (219) 462-7600

Alice's House engages in educational, charitable, and social welfare activities connected with the habilitation and rehabilitation of women suffering from chemical dependency and related disorders. The core of this program is a 24 hour, staffed, 12-step recovery program for women who wish to recover from alcoholism and drug addictions, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

CONTACT INFO

Phone: 219-462-7600

Email: alice@alicesvalpo.org

Mailing Address:

PO Box 124

Valparaiso, IN 46384

Address:

Alice's Halfway House for Women

606 Brown Street

Valparaiso, IN 46383

MEETING TIMES

Tuesday

12-Step Discussion Meeting

8:00 PM

Wednesday

Women's 12-Step Discussion Meeting

6:15 PM

12-Step Discussion Meeting

8:00 PM

Friday

12&12 Text Study

5:00 PM

Saturday

12-Step Women's Meeting

Step Study

10:00 AM

SERVICES

SAFE HOUSING

Drug Free

24-hour Supervision

Screened Guests

LIFE SKILLS

Time Management

Financial Planning

Healthy Diet

Social Skills

Parenting

CAREER COUNSELING

Application Skills

Writing Resumes

Located near job opportunities

Work is healthy!

ENHANCE YOUR PROGRAM

AA and NA Meetings

Family Programs

12 Step Education

Counseling

AMERICAN RED CROSS – PORTER COUNTY CHAPTER (219) 462-8543

The American Red Cross serves members of the United States Armed forces and their families both at home and overseas. They help the service man and his family face critical problems. In addition, the Red Cross provides immediate emergency assistance, including food for disaster victims, shelter, clothing, medical and nursing aid, etc. The American Red Cross Blood Program collects and processes blood from volunteer donors and makes it available for the care of the sick and injured. There are nursing programs which provide volunteer nursing services in the blood programs and disaster relief, and courses taught in first aid, water safety and AIDS education.

CONTACT INFO

755 W. Lincolnway
Valparaiso, IN 46385

Phone: 219-462-8543

Emergency: 800-696-3873

Fax: 219-464-8189

E-mail: Porter.General@redcross.org

BONNER SENIOR CENTER (219) 762-3591

This is a branch of the Porter County Aging & Community Services.

- Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.
- (Optional) donation per meal: \$1.50.
- Saturday pinochle is from 10:00-2:00

If you need a ride to any of the Porter County senior centers, CALL Transportation 48 hours before your visit: 462-4302.

CONTACT INFO

5800 LEXINGTON AVE
PORTAGE, IN 46368

Site Telephone: (219) 762-3591

Hours: 8:00-4:00 Monday – Friday

BOONE GROVE FOOD PANTRIES

BOONE GROVE PANTRY AT SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Tues 10 - 11:30am 6 - 7:30pm

CONTACT INFO

756 West 350 South
Boone Grove, IN – 46302

PROJECT LOVE FOOD PANTRY / CEDAR LAKE UNITED METHODIST CURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Weds 9am - 11:30am

CONTACT INFO

7124 W 137th Place
Cedar Lake, IN 46303-9646
Phone: (219) 374-7312

BOY SCOUTS – CALUMET COUNCIL (219) 836-1720

Scouting is an educational program dedicated to character development, citizenship training, mental and physical fitness. Its aim is to develop healthy participating citizens of moral integrity and worth. Some of the services of the local council are professional staff guidance, service center operation, camps, activities and training. The local council's main objective is to provide the scouting program to all who wish to use it.

CONTACT INFO

Calumet Council
Boy Scouts of America
8751 Calumet Avenue
Munster, IN 46321-2593

Phone: (219) 836-1720 (Temporary Main Number 219-228-4879)
(800) 513-2343

Fax: (219) 836-7973

E-mail: join.scouting152@gmail.com

BOY SCOUTS – LASALLE COUNCIL (219) 822-3867

Scouting is an educational program dedicated to character development, citizenship training, mental and physical fitness. Its aim is to develop healthy participating citizens of moral integrity and worth. Some of the services of the local council are professional staff guidance, service center operation, camps, activities and training. The local council's main objective is to provide the scouting program to all who wish to use it.

CONTACT INFO

LaSalle Council BSA

Morris - 1st Source Scout Center
1340 South Bend Ave. (SR 23)
South Bend, IN 46617

Phone: (574) 289-0337
(800) 822-3867

Fax: (574) 289-0336

Website: www.lasallecouncilbsa.org

E-mail: info@lasallecouncilbsa.org

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF PORTER COUNTY

The Boys & Girls Clubs is a guidance based organization. It serves boys and girls ranging in age from 6-18. Programs offer services in seven core areas: citizenship and leadership development, personal adjustment, social recreation, outdoor education, physical education, cultural enrichment, and child care.

CONTACT INFO

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Boys & Girls Clubs of Porter County

354 W Jefferson St
P.O. Box 254
Valparaiso, IN 46384
(219) 464-7282 (phone)
(219) 462-1081 (fax)

Valparaiso Unit

354 W Jefferson St
P.O. Box 254
Valparaiso, IN 46384
(219) 462-2182 (phone)
(219) 462-1081 (fax)

Dusty Rhode (Portage) Unit

5895 Evergreen Ave (Portage)
P.O. Box 254
Valparaiso, IN 46384
(219) 762-4613 (phone)
(219) 762-5638 (fax)

Kidstop Child Care

P.O. Box 254
Valparaiso, IN 46384
(219) 464-7282 (phone)
(219) 462-1081 (fax)

South Haven Unit

723 Long Run Rd
P.O. Box 254
Valparaiso, IN 46384
(219)-759-2565 (phone)
(219)-759-2566 (fax)

Duneland (Chesterton) Unit

521 W. 1100 N. (Chesterton)
P.O. Box 254
Valparaiso, IN 46384
(219) 926-9770 (phone)
(219) 462-1081 (fax)

CARING PLACE (219) 464-0840

The Caring Place, Inc. provides short-term emergency shelter and crisis intervention, as well as community-based support groups, community education, counseling, social service and entitlement systems for victims of domestic violence/sexual assault and their dependents.

CONTACT INFO

150 Lincolnway Suite #3002
Valparaiso, IN 46383-5570

**For help – Call The Caring Place
24-HOUR CRISIS LINE:**

Local: 219.464.2128
Toll-free Long Distance: 1.800.933.0466

CATHOLIC CHARITIES (219) 762-1177

Catholic Charities provides counseling for family, individuals, and couples management skills. They provide material assistance, financial assistance and advocacy for qualifying families. Program availability may vary. They provide adoption services and assistance to families interested in adoption of infants, children with special needs and international adoptions.

CONTACT INFO

940 Broadway
Gary, IN 46402

Phone: 219-886-3549

Fax: 219-886-2428

E-mail: info@catholic-charities.org

CHESTERTON ADULT LEARNING CENTER

The Chesterton Adult Learning Center has assisted adults from all walks of life in the Porter County area for over 20 years. Located in the Service Center of Westchester Public Library, it offers a convenient schedule of operating hours that allows students to attend either days or evenings. If you or someone you know need to improve your skills or learn new skills, call or visit the center today. If you are at least 16 years old and not attending a regular school, the doors of the Learning Center are open to you. There is a small registration fee. As of this writing it's \$20.

What do you want to learn? Each student works with the Center's director, Kathy Schroeder, a certified teacher, to create his or her own learning plan according to his or her needs. It's all up to you.

At the Chesterton Adult Learning Center you can:

- Work on basic reading, writing and math skills
- Brush up on your grammar and punctuation
- Prepare for tests:
 - Vocational test
 - Civil service test
 - GED test (high school equivalency)
 - U. S. citizenship exam
 - Millitary test
- Prepare for college
- Learn English

HOURS:

- Monday** 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday** 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday** 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- The Adult Learning Center is closed Friday – Sunday.**

CONTACT INFO

Westchester Library Service Center
100 West Indiana Ave.
Chesterton, IN 46304
Phone: (219) 921-0567

- GED Preparation / Adult Basic Education
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Arithmetic
- English as a Second Language
- College Preparation
- Citizenship Preparation

CHESTERTON FOOD PANTRIES

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTER FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry, belonging to the Food Bank of NWI. Provides food products to the low-income people of Chesterton, Indiana, and Duneland School System. Regular distributions are the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, from 4PM-6PM.

CONTACT INFO

521 W 1100 N
Chesterton, IN – 46304
Phone: (219) 299-2478

WESTCHESTER NEIGHBORS FOOD

The Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry serves almost 9,000 individual units each year. The Food Pantry is located in the old Wiseway building, corner of 8th and Broadway St. You can donate non-perishable food items as well as other personal and household supplies at the following businesses:

Fifth Third Bank, 302 Broadway, Chesterton
First State Bank of Porter, 230 Lincoln St., Porter
LaPorte Savings Bank, 851 Indian Boundary Rd., Chesterton
Anton Insurance, 155 S. Calumet Ave, Chesterton

You can also send monetary donations to:

Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry, P.O. Box 902, Chesterton, IN 46304

If needed, items can be picked up by contacting Joan Knibbs at 926-4278, Dawn Ruge 787-8475, or Julie Richardson at 926-7001.

CONTACT INFO

810 Broadway
Chesterton, IN 46304
Phone: (219) 926-7805

COMPUTER EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Computer Education Institute, Inc. is a full service computer training organization specializing in hands-on learning. Growing for more than 22 years, CEI is the largest training center in Northwest Indiana.

Our Mission statement is to provide a quality product/service that exceeds the expectations of our students, no exceptions. We teach a range of classes that start with the very basic computer user and extend to the very advanced MCSE student.

At CEI, each student learns using their own state of the art computer with no more than 12 students in a class. Our well experienced/certified trainers “lead” the students through the classes without the use of in class manuals. We use the manual as a post-training tool, not as a training substitute!

All of CEI classes are 100% guaranteed and, as usual at CEI, all of our students receive **post-training telephone support at no charge . . . forever.**

CLASSES:

Access, Excel, Excel Visual Basic, Expression Web, Front Page, Internet, Internet, Parasite Removal, Outlook, PowerPoint, Project, Publisher, Quickbooks, SQL Server, Troubleshooting, Visual Basic.net, Windows, Word, Certifications: A+, Network+, Security+, MCITP / MCTS, MOS

CONTACT INFO

100 W US Highway 20
Porter, IN 46304

Phone: 219-926-5740

Fax: 219-929-1930

Online: www.cei-edu.com

E-mail: cei@cei-edu.com.

CRISIS CENTER (800) 519-0469

Crisis Center is a telephone emergency crisis help-line and referral service. Calls are received by trained volunteers. Through volunteers, the Crisis Center provides a listening ear for anyone experiencing a crisis and makes calls to the elderly and shut-ins.

**Call us, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at (219) 938-7070
with your questions, or to learn more.**

PROGRAMS

Safe Place/Safely Home

Safe Place provides outreach to youth in crisis. The Crisis Center program began in 1987. The program combines non-profit and profit business cooperation to help youth. Businesses display a Safe Place sign and provide a safe location. Youth are transported to safety at Alternative House where their program is addressed. Area law enforcement also cooperates by transporting youth to Alternative House through Safe Place/Safely Home.

Alternative House

Started in 1976, Alternative House is an emergency, short-term shelter for runaway, homeless, pushed out, abused or neglected youth. Professional counseling staff act as advocated to help youth deal with personal or family conflicts, preventing family deterioration.

Teen Court

Teen Court is a prevention and early intervention, youth development program. Teens who have committed an offense that has brought them to the attention of police have an opportunity to appear before a court of their peers rather than referral to juvenile authorities. Youth, trained to serve in the roles of prosecution, defense, bailiff, clerk, and jurors; hear cases and determine the sentence.

Crisis Contact Hotline

In 1971, volunteers responded to a teenage suicide by initiating a crisis line. "Rap Line" was merged in 2003 with another hotline services and is known as Crisis Contact. The line provides someone to talk through problems, referrals and is a suicide prevention service.

A 7 day a week hotline is reached at 219-938-0900 (toll free: 1-800-519-0469).

Counseling Services

Counseling Services responds to the need for low cost, quick and easily accessible professional services.

Appointments may be scheduled on evening and weekends with a quick response to client's needs by calling the Crisis Center at 938-7070. There is a \$30 initial assessment fee.

CONTACT INFO

(219) 938-0900 Crisis Line
(800) 519-0469 Toll free in Indiana
(800) SUICIDE (784-2433)

CROWN POINT FOOD PANTRIES

CROWN POINT COMMUNITY CARE CUPBOARD

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Weds & Thurs 9:30AM - 11:00AM; **Appointment Required**

CONTACT INFO

495 S Indiana Ave
Crown Point, IN 46307
Phone: 219-663-1853

GOD'S GROCERIES

God's Groceries is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

3RD Saturday 9 - 11 AM CT.

CONTACT INFO

321 East Joliet
Crown Point, IN 46307
Phone: [219-663-0044](tel:219-663-0044)

DEAF SERVICES (219) 769-6506

DEAF SERVICES

Deaf Services, Inc. is a community service agency serving adult deaf residents. Primary services provided to hearing impaired people are: interpreters, community education, telephone relay, referrals, and advocacy. To hearing residents, deaf awareness programs are provided for the community.

CONTACT INFO

6 E 67th Ave Ste. 3
Merrillville, IN 46410-3563
Phone: [\(219\) 769-6506](tel:2197696506)

DUNEBROOK (219) 874-0007

The mission of this organization is to advocate for children and provide positive family support and education. Dunebrook works to increase community awareness of child abuse and neglect and coordinates services for child abuse victims and their families. Dunebrook works collaboratively with many agencies to provide parenting education and support programs.

DUNEBROOK SITES

LaPorte County
7451 W. Johnson Rd.
Michigan City, IN 46360
Phone: 219-874-0007

Porter County
502 Wall St. Suite 105
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-510-6007

DUNELAND FAMILY YMCA (219) 926-4204

The Duneland YMCA, in Chesterton, serves Northeast Porter County with a variety of programs and activities for the development of the individual physically, socially and mentally. The programs are conducted in a Christian atmosphere with trained staff. The Duneland YMCA facilities include an outdoor swimming pool, baseball and soccer field, gymnasium, racquetball courts, day care, after school care, and Nautilus facility.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Friday 5:30 AM-9:00 PM
Saturday 7:00 AM-6:00 PM
Sunday 12:00 PM-4:00 PM

CONTACT INFO

215 Roosevelt St.
Chesterton, IN 46304
Phone: (219) 926-4204
Fax: (219) 926-2603

EAST CHICAGO FOOD PANTRIES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES FAMILY SERVICE

Catholic Charities Family Service is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Mon, Weds, Thurs & Fri - 8:30AM- 4:30PM

CONTACT INFO

3901 Fir St.
East Chicago, IN 46312
Phone: 219-397-5803

HOUSE OF GLORY CARE KITCHEN

Food bank, care kitchen, referrals

CONTACT INFO

4009 Fir Street
East Chicago, IN 46312
Phone: 219-392-1457

**FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU OF PORTER COUNTY
(219) 464-9585**

The Family & Youth Services Bureau offers 17 counseling programs and services to families and individual people from infancy to seniors. Programs are designed to help Porter County residents create and establish new paths for their lives, which in turn has a positive impact on the community.

Neiquist Center for Residential Care - Located on State Road 2, a residential treatment programs for emotionally disturbed children. Serves male and female children between the ages of 13 and 17. Cost is \$172.00 per day. Contact Karen Joppek at 219.464.4641 for additional information or referral.

The Learning Place - Located on State Road 2, a school-like day treatment program, which operates during the school year, serving expelled students and others referred by schools or the Juvenile Court. Cost is based on a sliding scale. Insurance and Medicaid accepted. Contact Karen Joppek at 219.464.4641 for additional information or referral.

Risk Management Program - Court-ordered treatment program for juvenile offenders ages 14-17. Includes an intensive day treatment phase and a 28-week follow up phase. Eligible individuals are court-ordered upon being identified as high-risk or very high-risk to re-offend, and/or juvenile offenders with a suspended commitment to the Department of Corrections. Three phase sessions offered per year. Sliding scale fee ranges from \$400-\$1,600. Contact Dan Rau for additional information or referral.

Out-Client Services - A wide variety of individual, family, and group counseling activities offered after school, in school, or at the Porter County Juvenile Detention Center. Includes an Independent Living Program and mentoring. Families, adults, and children ages 5-17 are eligible. Program hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:00am-9:00pm and Friday from 8:00am-6:00pm. Cost is based on a sliding scale. Insurance and Medicaid accepted. Contact Nancy Van Volkenburgh for additional information or referral.

Prevention and Early Intervention Services - Housed in Portage, provides services to address the chronic abuse and/or neglect of children. Programs include Healthy Families, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate), Fathering, Nurturing, and other parent education programs. Available to adults and children. Programs are free of charge. Contact Claudia Clark at 219.763.6623 for additional information or referral.

Administrative Offices, Clinical Services, Parent and Family Support, Outreach Services
253 W. Lincolnway – Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: (219) 464-9585
Monday – Thursday 8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Friday 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M

Healthy Families, Family Connections, Clinical Services, Outreach Services
6469 Central Avenue – Portage, IN 46368
Phone: (219) 763-6623

CASA Program, Tot Shop Program
257 W. Lincolnway, Valparaiso 46383
Phone: (219) 464-9585
Tot Shop Hours/Valparaiso:
Monday 1:00 – 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.
Friday 10:00 A.M.– 12:00 noon
Saturday 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 noon

Risk Management Program
1660 S. State Rd. 2, Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: (219) 464-4641

FAMILY HOUSE, INC. (219) 464-4160

Family House, Inc. has as its purpose, to provide a homelike setting for children under the jurisdiction of the Division of Family and Children or those involved in custody or visitation disputes to visit with their non-custodial parent(s). In addition, Family House provides informative and supportive services to parents and children to aid in rehabilitating, strengthening, and preserving families and in preventing child abuse.

CONTACT INFO

610 Glendale Blvd.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: (219) 464-4160
Fax: (219) 477-5469
E-Mail: familyhouse@verizon.net

GABRIEL’S HORN SHELTER (219) 364-1448

Gabriel’s Horn is a non-profit emergency shelter established for the residents of Porter County. Its main purpose is to provide emergency housing assistance to individuals or families in times of economic hardships.

Referral process for our shelter services:

Gabriel's Horn serves single women and women with children of Porter County. If you are seeking our services, please contact your local Township Trustee's office and ask for a referral for Gabriel's Horn.

CONTACT INFO

Office: (219)-364-8018

Fax: (219) 364-0507

Cell: (219)-242-2799

E-mail: mignon.kennedy@gabriels-horn.org

GARY FOOD PANTRIES

ADVANCING CHRIST'S KINGDOM MINISTRIES

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Mon and Fri 11AM - 12:30PM

CONTACT INFO

901 W 47TH Ave

Gary, IN 46408

Phone: 219-887-9547

AL AMIN MASJID

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Sat & Sun Noon - 2 PM

CONTACT INFO

3702 W 11th Ave.

Gary, Indiana 46404

Phone: 219-949-1854

ALL NATIONS HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

2nd and 4th Weds Noon – 2PM

CONTACT INFO

2248 Garfield St

Gary, IN 46408

Phone: 219-944-2445

**AMERICA'S SECOND HARVEST OF NORTHWEST INDIANA
DBA: THE FOODBANK OF NORTHWEST INDIANA**

CONTACT INFO

2248 W 35th St

Gary, IN 46308

Phone: 219-581-5115

BEACON LIGHT CHURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Sat 10AM – Noon

CONTACT INFO

3770 Burr St.

Gary, IN 46408

Phone: 219-838-0586

BETHEL TEMPLE OUT REACH FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Last Sat. of month 8AM – 11AM

CONTACT INFO

110 W 47th Ave

Gary, IN 46408

Phone: 219-980-0076

BLACK OAK BAPTIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

First Tues. 9:00 AM

CONTACT INFO

6502 W 25th Ave

Gary, IN 46408

Phone: 219-844-4328

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

First Tues. 9:00 AM

CONTACT INFO

201 W Ridge Rd

Gary, IN 46408

Phone: 219-884-8312

FIFTH AVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Sun 9 am - 1 pm; Tue 10 am - 2 pm; Fri 3 - 7 pm

CONTACT INFO

2600 W 5th Ave
Gary, IN 46404
Phone: 219-882-7920

FIRST AME CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Fourth Thurs. of month 9 AM - 12 PM

CONTACT INFO

2005 Massachusetts St
Gary, IN 46407
Phone: 219-886-7561

GARY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN – RAINBOW SHELTER

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Food Pantry: Mon - Fri 9 AM – 3PM; Shelter: 24/7

CONTACT INFO

839 Broadway 3rd Floor
Gary, IN 46402
Phone: 219-883-4155

GETHSEMANE MISSIONARY BAPTIST

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

3rd Sat. monthly 10AM – 1PM / take referrals

CONTACT INFO

1095 Jackson St
Gary, IN 46402
Phone: 219-881-1811

HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORT PROVIDER, INC.

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

First Monday of the Month

CONTACT INFO

730 Clinton St
Gary, IN 46406
Phone: 219-944-0094

LIVING WATERS BAPTIST CHURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Second and Fourth Sat. 9:30 AM - 12 PM

CONACT INFO

7221 Oak Ave

Gary, IN 46403
Phone: 219-938-1280

MOVING IN THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Tues 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

CONTACT INFO

1150 Wright Street
Gary, IN 46404
Phone: 219-949-7512

SS MONICA AND LUKE CHURCH

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

3rd Sat. 10 AM – Noon

CONTACT INFO

645 Rhode Island St
Gary, IN 46403
Phone: 219-883-1861

SOJURNER TRUTH HOUSE

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

9:00-11:00am and 1:00-2:00pm Monday through Thursday

CONTACT INFO

410 W. 13th Ave
Gary, IN 46407
Phone: 219-885-2282

GIRL SCOUTS OF GREATER CHICAGO AND NW INDIANA
(219) 795-9640

The Girl Scouts inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy resourceful citizens. The Girl Scout Council provides an informal educational program designed to meet the developmental, educational, emotional and social needs and interests of girls ages 5-17.

CONTACT INFO

Phone: 219-795-9640

Fax: 219-795-9644

Email: mthompson@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Web: www.jgirlscoutsgcnwi.org

GRIFFITH FOOD PANTRIES

OPERATION CARE

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Mon & Weds 9 AM - 1:30 AM; Fri 9 AM - 12:00 Noon

CONTACT INFO

1300 N Broad St

Griffith, IN 46307

Phone: 219-838-2295

HEALTHINC (219) 462-7173

Hilltop Community Health Center meets the primary and preventive medical and dental care needs of those low-income Porter County residents who are uninsured or underinsured; also children, pregnant women and the disabled who lack adequate access to medical care within their home county.

HealthLinc Community Health Centers are located in Valparaiso, Michigan City, Knox, Mishawaka, and East Chicago Indiana.

VALPARAISO

1001 North Sturdy Rd.
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Toll Free: (888) 580-1060
Local Phone: (219) 462-7173
Fax: (219) 462-7504

Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

MICHIGAN CITY

710 Franklin St., Suite 200
Michigan City, IN 46360

Toll Free: (888) 580-1060
Local Phone: (219) 872-6200
Fax: (219) 879-2915

Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

KNOX

104 East Culver Rd., Suite 101
Knox, IN 46534

Toll Free: (888) 580-1060
Local Phone: (574) 772-7400
Fax: (574) 772-0299

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 am – 1:00 p.m.

AT PORTER - STARKE

601 Wall St.
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Toll Free: (888) 580-1060
Local Phone: (219) 299-8419, x2715
Fax: (219) 462-1180

Hours:

Mon.-Wed. – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thurs. – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri. – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Sat. and Sun.

MISHAWAKA

420 West 4th St., Suite 100
Mishawaka, IN 46544

Toll Free: (888) 580-1060
Local Phone: (574) 307-7673
Fax: (574) 307-7692

Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

EAST CHICAGO

1313 West Chicago Ave.
East Chicago, IN 46312

Toll Free: (888) 580-1060
Local Phone: (219) 398-9685
Fax: (219) 398-9695

Hours:

Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: Closed

HEBRON FOOD PANRIES**CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY OF PORTER TOWNSHIP**

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Tues. 10AM - 11:30AM and 6PM - 7:30PM

CONTACT INFO

756 W. 350 S.
Hebron, IN 46341
Phone: 219-988-4700

HEBRON SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER (219) 996-5892

This is a branch of the Porter County Aging & Community Services.

- Lunch served at 11:30 AM
- (Optional) Donation per meal: \$1.50

CALL 996-5892 by 12 PM the Friday or Tuesday before your visit to reserve your meal.

If you need a ride to any of the Porter County senior centers, CALL Transportation 48 hours before your visit: 462-4302

CONTACT INFO

611 Main St.
Hebron, IN 46341
Phone: 219-996-5892
Hours: 8:00-4:00 Monday – Friday

HILLTOP NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE (219) 477-4222

Hilltop Neighborhood House provides a full time, year round child care program with scholarships and subsidies for children of low-income families. Children from ages 6 weeks through kindergarten are cared for. After-school programs for school-age students provide homework help along with other supervised activities in the Reiner Community Center. A food pantry and clothing distribution called the Village Market provides assistance to low-income families in the Hilltop Neighborhood area.

VILLAGE FOOD PANTRY

604 E. Monroe St.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Ph: (219) 531-1991

Hilltop's Village Food Pantry has been in operation since 1996 and has used the inside of three different locations as its home over the years. The Village Food Pantry is a neighborhood food pantry that serves approximately 400 individuals every month, year round. In July of 2012, we hit a record high of serving 1,100 individuals! At holidays, food baskets are prepared for needy families to provide meals for family gatherings. Coat drives provide warm clothing during the cold winter months. School supplies and vouchers for new shoes are provided in September for children going back to school.

Donations:

Donations are always needed and appreciated. Our food pantry accepts perishable and non-perishable food items. If you wish to make a donation to Hilltop's Food Pantry, please call the number listed above and ask to speak to Amy.

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

CONTACT INFO

460 S. College Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-477-4222

HILLTOP TOO: WALT'S PLACE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

554 South Locust Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Hilltop Too – Walt's Place is home to our ever-growing After School Program. Children from the community come to Walt's Place directly from school to participate in various projects and activities.

Walt's Place is open during the school year from 3:30 to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday. All school-age kids are welcome. Our after school program allows parents to keep working or go to school.

Daily: snack provided, homework help with tutors, and social recreation time.

Some of the things we have:

- Many, many table games
- A computer lab
- Foosball
- Basketball
- Air hockey
- Wii
- Books
- Craft projects
- Four-square
- Many more outdoor games

All receive adult mentorship from trained staff and volunteers. We are staffed with work-study students from VU and many great volunteers from the community. (Everyone has their background checked.) With many adults and high school students, children have the opportunity to get more one-on-one help with homework. It also allows us to have more areas of our building open each day. (members allowed only in supervised areas)

Hilltop Too – Walt’s Place also offers Summer Program and Summer Food Program from June – August.

For more information about the Summer Program, please contact Sue Clemens at (219) 464-9997.

Hilltop Too – Walt’s Place Rules:

- Be kind to everyone and everything!
- Be safe and have lots of fun!
- Come check us out!

For more information, please contact:

Sue Clemens

sclemens@hilltophouse.org

CHILDCARE

Hilltop’s early childhood education program provides full-time, year-round care and education to children ages 6 weeks through 5 years. Our Paths to Quality participating program is unique in the fact that we not only encourage diversity, we thrive on it. Sixty-five percent of our children are from low-income households, twenty percent are exposed to multiple languages, thirty-two percent are from a racial minority group and forty-five percent are from a single-parent home. By offering tuition scholarships to children and families that qualify, parents can change their direction in life by enrolling in college or maintaining employment within the community.

Sixty-five percent of our children were able to receive the funding needed to be enrolled at Hilltop last year due to donations from Porter County Community Foundation, United Way of Porter County, Anderson Foundation and other local businesses and individuals. All families have selected Hilltop as their facility of choice for many reasons including our diverse population, our qualified staff, and our reputation in the community as being “the place to be.”

In addition to our diversity, we promote kindergarten readiness by giving our children the tools to succeed. One-hundred percent of our children, regardless of background, tested in the ninety-fifth percentile or higher on kindergarten entrance testing.

At Hilltop, you will find warm, individualized care for each child enrolled. To us, childcare is not a product to be sold for profit, rather an environment for all children to grow and learn in a way that encourages acceptance and appreciation for others.

SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

Scholarships are available based on family size and income. For more information, please contact Amy Osburn at aosburn@hilltophouse.org.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM

The Kindergarten Readiness Program is designed to prepare children with the exact tools for a successful start to their school career. The Kindergarten Readiness Program provides children with opportunities to develop social skills, listening skills, and the concept that we all follow rules to function in a school and community. These skills are imperative for success in their future.

Hilltop’s Kindergarten Readiness Program will provide an unyielding foundation for success in school.

Each child by nature is curious, active, and eager to learn and by careful selection of appropriate curriculum children gain the primary knowledge of specific state standard content in all areas of development.

Developmental domains of focus are motor skills, cognitive development, social/emotional development, and language development.

Our passion is children and our mission is to help each child succeed as an individual. The Kindergarten Readiness Program supplies the children with the precise tools to encourage and motivate them to learn and to build life skills for the future.

STAFF

Eighty-Five percent of Hilltop's teachers have been with our facility for five years or more and in some cases, more than ten years. All teachers have an educational background in early childhood education. By retaining a consistent, caring, qualified staff, the children enrolled feel a sense of security in knowing that a familiar face will be greeting them each day. In addition to our qualified teaching staff, Hilltop employees volunteers and Valparaiso University work study students to supplement in our classrooms, providing better than state ratios in all areas. This allows each child to have more individualized attention and to explore, grow and learn at their own pace.

VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION

Because quality in early childhood education is paramount, Hilltop participates in the voluntary certification program (VCP) through the State of Indiana. The key factor in this is that Hilltop must follow all of the state regulations that licensed centers do with the exception of lunch which is provided from home. Hilltop is the first and only Registered Ministry in Porter County to earn this certification. By obtaining our VCP, we are able to participate in the state initiative Paths to Quality which recognizes centers that achieve quality standards.

VOLUNTEERS

Hilltop is blessed to have a diverse pool of volunteers in age, experience and background. Hilltop has several volunteers who work in our childcare classrooms in various capacities. Some of our volunteers have been with us since we opened in 1996 and we even have multi-generational volunteers to help with all our children! Each week, our volunteers come in to donate their gift of time and the children are delighted to see them.

WORK STUDY

Each year, Hilltop is lucky enough to employ 50+ Valparaiso University Work Study students in all areas of our programming. By working at Hilltop, these students gain real work experience and life skills that will benefit them in their future careers. Because of the student staff, Hilltop is able to provide more individualized attention to the children in our programs adding to the quality and quantity of the education and care received by the children.

UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

Throughout the year, Hilltop has the pleasure of working with several regional Universities. In addition to our Work Study employees, several Valparaiso University groups donate their time and talent to the children, enhancing our program. Included in the list of participating student groups are VU Music students, VU Nursing students, VU Social Work students, and various philanthropic organizations.

Hilltop also partners with Purdue North Central's Early Childhood Education Department by offering our facility as a host site for their students. Once again, this partnership enhances our programs by allowing the children to benefit from the emerging skills these students bring to the classrooms.

Ivy Tech Community College has deemed Hilltop as one of its facilities of choice for their Early Childhood Education interns. Each semester, these interns work directly with Hilltop teachers to gain exposure to curriculum, developmental milestones and classroom management skills. The children and staff of Hilltop enjoy the fresh ideas and new excitement that the interns bring with them!

CIVIC GROUPS

Each month, members of Tri Kappa and Kiwanis add to the literacy development of our children by donating their time to read to the children. The members carefully select their book choice based on the age of the children and the monthly curriculum theme of the classroom.

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

The Child and Adult Care Food Program is a federally funded program that provides healthy meals and snacks to children receiving childcare services. By participating in this program, the children of Hilltop's Early Childhood Education program receive quality, nutritious meals approved by the USDA. The Department of Education provides guidelines to follow with regard to food preparation and sanitation, food service, and meal patterns. By following the meal pattern requirements, we are able to ensure the children have balanced meals throughout the day. In return for providing USDA approved meals, the State of Indiana reimburses Hilltop a portion of the monies that are spent on the meals that we provide, offsetting some of the incurred cost.

WEATHER-RELATED INFORMATION

Hilltop will follow the judgment of the Valparaiso Public Schools regarding delayed opening or closing for inclement weather. If the Valpo Public Schools are on a scheduled break, Hilltop will make an independent decision. Announcements regarding weather related delayed openings and closures may be accessed by calling Hilltop at 219-477-4222 extension 5. Additionally, look on cancellations.com or become our fan on Facebook to check for posts.

ADULT EDUCATION

Are you a high school graduate looking for a place to brush up on basic subjects like math and English for college or work? We have Basic Adult Ed classes that can help you prepare for entrance exams.

Looking to take the GED test soon? Our GED Prep classes provide guidance and assistance on the subjects and types of questions presented on the GED exam.

A onetime registration \$20.00 fee applies to new students that is good for life!

Basic Adult Ed and GED Prep Classes are held at Walt's place, located at 554 Locust St., in the upstairs computer lab Wednesday and Thursday, 6:15pm – 9:15pm., starting September 3rd. For more information please contact Danni Mancusi-Shreve at (219) 462-4230.

Beginning Adult Computer Classes are offered for free on Tuesdays, 6:00pm – 7:30pm, at 554 Locust St., in the upstairs computer lab. For more information, please contact Sue Clemens at (219) 464-9997.

To register or obtain more information on these programs please contact:

Danni Mancusi-Shreve
(219) 462-4230

valparaisoalc@innovativeworkforce.com

VOLUNTEER INFO

Volunteer Opportunities at HNH Child Care Center

- Front Desk Volunteers
Greet everyone that walks through our building, buzz the families through our security doors, answer the phone and transfer calls, receive and document donations and also help by completing simple office tasks.
- Infant Room Volunteers
Help by rocking, feeding, cuddling and playing with the infants.
- Toddler Room Volunteers
Help by supervising and joining in on playtime, indoors and outdoors. Our helpers also aide in preparing meals, helping with nap time and hand washing with all the children.
- Preschool Room Volunteers
Help by supervising and helping with projects, crafts and assignments. Our helpers also aide in preparing and serving meals, help in clean up, and supervising playtime outdoors.

* Our volunteers are subject to state mandated tests and background checks in order to work with children under the age of 6 years. All volunteers need to be at least 18 years of age.

For information or to sign up to be a volunteer, contact:

Rosa Munguia-Arias
Office Coordinator

Hilltop Neighborhood House

(219) 477-4222 ext. 247

Hilltop Too: Walt's Place

Sue Clemens
Youth Development Director
Hours: Mon.-Fri., 3:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
(219) 464-9997

Volunteers at Walt's place help by offering homework help, supervise children at play, lead art and craft projects, share hobbies, teach and play various games, and overall, mentor and help them grow and learn.

Village Food Pantry

Amy Osburn
Hours: Tues.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
(219) 531-1991

Volunteers at the Pantry help by waiting on the consumers, making sure everyone receives their groceries. They help to unload foods and goods from trucks and from local community members' vehicles. Volunteers also help maintain stocked shelves.

We also need help in taking in donations from the community, by recording and reporting the donations. Help is also needed in maintaining a clean pantry at all times

HOBART FOOD PANTRIES

LIGHT OF LIFE WORSHIP CENTER

Light of Life Worship Center is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

SAT. 11AM – 1PM

CONTACT INFO

697 W 700 N
Hobart, IN 46342
Phone: 219-364-1270

SOUTHLAKE WORSHIP CENTER

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

As needed

CONTACT INFO

3440 W 61st Ave.
Hobart, IN 46342
Phone: 219-942-8777

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES (219) 548-2800

2001 Calumet Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
219-548-2800

Housing Opportunities serves the community through the development and provision of safe, decent, and affordable housing and customized support services to program participants. They break the cycle of homelessness by providing preventative services and crisis intervention for low income working families, disabled individuals, families in economic crisis, and those transitioning from a homeless crisis. Homeless individuals and families as well as those at high risk of homelessness can obtain and sustain housing, become financially independent, and become contributing members of our community.

HOME OWNERSHIP

There's nothing like the excitement and pride of owning your very own home, and our clients have reason to be proud of what they accomplish. To help them take this important step, we offer education and support. We also offer continuing education and support once you have made that step and already own your home. Here are some of the programs we offer for those looking to purchase a home for the first time or for those who already own their home.

- **Pre-Purchase Education/Counseling**—Education and preparation are two proven keys to successful home ownership. Housing Opportunities provides both one-on-one counseling and group classes.
- **Individual Development Accounts**—Housing Opportunities can help you establish a savings account and, if you qualify, we can even provide access to state programs that could provide matching deposits.
- **Reverse Mortgage** - We provide education and assistance to help senior homeowners (age 62 or older) access the equity in their homes to meet challenging financial situations. A reverse mortgage works like a loan against your home that you do not have to pay back for as long as you live there.
- **Post-Purchase Education** - Successful home ownership depends on your ability to maintain both the financial and the physical upkeep of your property. Housing Opportunities offers both group classes and one-on-one counseling in budgeting, maintaining good credit, home repair and other important skills to help homeowners succeed.

For more information on any of these programs please contact Housing Counselor, Debbie Kardos, at **219-548-2800 x 200** or dkardos@housing-opportunities.com

LOW INCOME HOUSING

Housing Opportunities offers one, two and three bedroom units in Porter and LaPorte County. Units are available to applicants who meet the income guidelines set by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – see eligibility requirements below.

- **Low Income Housing Program** – This program helps people get off the streets and is the first step in breaking the cycle of homelessness. Through funds received from the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, Housing Opportunities also provides permanent, affordable rentals, with 1, 2, and 3 bedroom units in Portage, Valparaiso, and Michigan City, Indiana.
- **Program Eligibility Requirements** :
Applicants must be at or below 60% of the area median income.
For a family of two, the annual household income must be below \$30,180.00
- **Rents and Responsibilities**:
Tenant pays for rent and electric.
Housing Opportunities pays for water, sewer, and trash pick-up.

For more information on this program please contact the Housing Solutions Coordinator, Alora Johnson, at **219-548-2800 x 220**.

HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS

Housing Opportunities has several housing programs designed to help encourage people who are ready to move from inhabitable conditions. Our housing for the homeless programs provide affordable, safe

apartments where individuals and families gain the personal and economic empowerment needed to break the cycle of homelessness.

- **Temporary Housing Program** – This program has 16 units located in Valparaiso. Individuals/families are able to reside here for 30-120 days. This program gives the individual/family a chance to get off the streets and receive customized support services that address the family needs at that time. This program is open to current Porter County residents who qualify. The first step in applying for this program is to call the office for an application and to check the status of the waiting list.
- **Permanent Housing Program** – This program has units in Portage and Michigan City. This provides individuals/families an affordable option while seeking assistance to improve their lives along with the training and skills necessary to succeed in the community. They are offered classes that focus on budgeting and credit repair classes. These classes are designed to help the families, based on their financial need. The permanent housing program allows the individuals/families that are a part of this program a chance to have holidays in their own home. Most importantly kids have a safe and friendly environment to play and entertain friends. This program is open to current Porter and LaPorte County residents who qualify.

With all programs, case management is offered. The case manager will work with them to enable their return to the community as self-reliant citizen. These programs also offer job preparation skills and training, money management training, self-help programs, support groups, individualized support services and treatment programs as deemed necessary.

To apply for these programs or if you have questions please call the Operations Coordinator, Jordan Stanfill at **548-2800 x 207**.

SAVE MY HOME

There are lots of reasons that people fall behind on mortgage payments. Maybe they have suffered a serious accident or illness or have lost their job and are unable to find a new one. Housing Opportunities is there with options that may assist you in saving your home and avoiding homelessness. Housing Opportunities is a HUD certified housing counseling agency and we provide these services to you at no charge. These programs include:

- **Foreclosure Prevention** - By analyzing each individual's situation, identifying available options and developing personalized foreclosure prevention plans, Housing Opportunities can help you formulate a strategy. Programs include, modifications, interest rate reduction or forbearance. Depending on your lender you might be eligible for an in-house program. Simply call our Foreclosure Prevention Coordinator, Bonnie Kennedy, at 888-401-2592 x 201 and a housing counselor will be there to discuss your personal situation and see what options might be available to you.
- **Hardest Hit Funds** – The Hardest Hit Fund helps Indiana homeowners who are struggling to make their mortgage payments due to job loss or temporary financial hardship. Qualified homeowners may receive mortgage payment assistance while they search or retrain for new employment. This program is a program through the Indiana Foreclosure Prevention Network.

Get Help – Get Hope – call **1-888-401-2592 x 201** or **219-548-2800 x 201**. Visit our Home Ownership page for information on Reverse Mortgage options as well.

FOOD PANTRY SERVICES

Food Pantry Change at Housing Opportunities Strengthens Mission –
-- Beginning July 1, 2013, Housing Opportunities realigned its food pantry operations with its mission to provide customized client support services that foster self-reliance in their clients. Since July 1st the pantry has focused on serving the needs of clients currently enrolled in Housing Opportunities homeless housing programs, including the temporary housing at our Spring Valley location.

Step in, step up, step forward is our motto, and is the foundation of our philosophy on how we can best meet the needs of our clients. Making this change to the pantry has allowed us to work with each individual client through case management. The case manager can assess their food needs, and provide assistance and tools. That is our goal!

Like many of our donors, we feel compelled to want to help those less fortunate with food assistance, and this change to our pantry will provide opportunities for our homeless clients to have the food they need & work on a plan for long-term sustainability on their own. For people not enrolled in Housing Opportunities homeless housing programs, they will likely seek assistance from other community organizations for their food needs. We will direct those in need to other resources in the community to use.

As an organization we need to focus our current resources on our homeless clients to be sure donor dollars are being invested in programs that will best provide opportunities for growth with our clients. We will continue to need support from our community, including food drives, paper product drives, and cash donations to support our clients with their food needs.

For more information, contact Caroline Shook at **(219) 548-2800, ext. 209**.

For ways to help support our food pantry services or to donate items for our pantry to help feed hungry families please view our wish list or visit the Donate on our website.

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS

PORTER COUNTY

Jim Atkinson
Administrative Building
155 Indiana, Room 103
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Louis Stanko - Assistant CVSO
Paulina Huffman – Assistant CVSO

Peg Lieber – Administrative Assistant
plieber@porterco.org
M T W T H F
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Phone: 219-465-3587
Fax: 219-465-3345

IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE (219) 464-8514

Public Post-Secondary Institution

Bookkeeper, Fundamental Payroll, Manufacturing Operations, Mechatronics, Alternating Fuels, Automotive Electrical / Electronics, Brakes & Suspensions, Diesel Electronic Controls, Electrics & Hybrid Vehicle, Engine

Performance, Power Train, Truck Chassis Systems, Human Resources, PC Support & Administration, Routing & Systems Security, Construction Technician, Culinarian Hospitality Management, Pastry Culinarian, Child Development Associate (CDA), Indiana Youth Development, Automation Controls, Electrocardiography, Management, Database, Java Programming, Visual Programming, Web Management, Network Administration, PC Support & Administration, Routing and Switching, Pharmacy Technician, Patient Care, Phlebotomy Technician, Therapeutic Massage, Direct Support Professional, Substance Abuse, HVAC, Fluid Power, Heating & Air Conditioning, Industrial Electrician, Machine Tool, Welding, Network Security, Microsoft Office Specialist, Basic Emergency Medical Studies, Driver / Operator, Fire Prevention & Investigation, Fire Service Administration, Hazardous Materials, Polysomnography, Fire Science, Medical Assisting, Electric Line Technology, Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning, Machining, Maintenance, Natural Gas Technology, Power Plant Technology, Process Operations, Alternative Fuel Technician, Auto Body Repair, Automotive Service, Automotive Service Management, Dealer Co-op, Heavy Truck/Diesel, High Performance Motor Sports, Motor Sports Fabrication

CONTACT INFO

3100 Ivy Tech Drive
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-464-8514
www.ivytech.edu

Contact: N. Felder, Admissions Office, nfelder@ivytech.edu

LAPORTE FOOD PANTRIES

CALVARY LIGHTHOUSE

Calvary Lighthouse is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Thurs 8PM – 10PM

CONTACT INFO

2468 North State Rd. 39
Laporte, IN 46350
Phone: 219-325-3058

GOOD SHEPARD FOOD PANTRY

Good Shepherd Food Pantry is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Mon, Tues, Weds 10AM – 2PM

CONTACT INFO

6006 Fail Rd.
La Porte, IN 46350
Phone: 219-778-9444

SALVATION ARMY – LAPORTE

Salvation Army - Laporte is a food pantry.

The Food Pantry Hours are:

Monday 9 AM - 12PM

Tuesday 1 PM - 3 PM

Thursday 5 PM - 7 PM

CONTACT INFO

3240 Monroe Street
LaPorte, IN 46350
Phone: 219-326-5342

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

Springfield Township is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Mon Thurs 8am - 11am; or by appointment.

CONTACT INFO

227 W 650 N
LaPorte, IN 46350
Phone: 219-325-0809

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA OF PORTER COUNTY (219) 462-6267

The association is an advocacy and education organization whose purpose is to promote mental wellness through education and information. They strive to raise the standard of care and to preserve the dignity of those suffering from mental illness. Programs include health financial aid and support groups.

CONTACT INFO

402 E. Indiana
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Office Hours: 9 AM - 4 PM M _ F
Contact: Diana Adkins
Contact Title: Volunteer/Office Coordinator
Phone: 219-462-6267
Fax: 219-464-7483 call before
Email: volunteerc@mhapc.org

MERRILLVILLE FOOD PANTRIES

ALIVENESS PROJECT OF NWI

Aliveness Project of NWI is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

M – Fri. 10AM – 2PM

CONTACT INFO

5490 Broadway
Merrillville, IN 46410
Phone: 219-985-6170

FAITH TEMPLE OF CHRIST
Faith Temple of Christ is a food pantry
Food pantry service hours:
Mon - Fri 9AM - 1:30PM

CONTACT INFO
7601 Whitcomb Ave.
Merrillville, IN 46410
Phone: 219 945-2555

ROSS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE
Ross Township Trustee is a food pantry.
Food pantry service hours:
Fri 9AM – noon

CONTACT INFO
24 W 73rd Ave
Merrillville, IN 46410
Phone: 219-769-2111

MICHIGAN CITY FOOD PANTRIES

CHANTESE
Provides a food pantry.

CONTACT INFO
1513 Springland Ave
Michigan City, IN 46360
Phone: 219-221-6304

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Provides a food pantry.
Pantry hours:
3RD Thurs 8:15AM – Noon

CONTACT INFO
7056 W 450 N
Michigan City, IN 46360
Phone: 219-879-4416

FAITH CITY FOOD PANTRY
Provides a food pantry.
Pantry hours:
Tues & Weds 9:30AM – Noon

CONTACT INFO
1314 S. Woodland Ave
Michigan City, IN 46360
Phone: 219-872-6235

NEW DISCIPLE LOVE FELLOWSHIP

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Tues 11:30AM – 1PM

CONTACT INFO

1411 Pine St
Michigan City, IN - 46360
Phone: 219-879-3268

SACRED HEART FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Mon 9 – 11AM

Summer: Mon 10 - 11:45AM

CONTACT INFO

411 W 11th St.
Michigan City, IN 46360
Phone: 219-874-7231

MORaine HOUSE, INC (219) 464-9983

Moraine House, Inc. is a half-way house for recovering substance abusers. They provide a family-like environment to enable men to learn and practice the 12 steps of recovery. They also provide an information and referral service and an educational service available to the community.

CONTACT INFO

353 W. Lincolnway
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-464-9983
Fax: 219-531-4809
info@MoraineHouse.org

NEW CREATION MEN’S CENTER (219) 548-3548

The New Creation Men’s Center is a Christian-based daytime center open to homeless men of Porter County, providing an oasis for struggling homeless men when the burden of being homeless becomes too much, and they desire a change. The Men’s Center provides fundamental, day-to-day services that would otherwise seem impossible and out of reach, such as employment assistance, case management, counseling, group therapy/life skills sessions, laundry and shower facilities.

CONTACT INFO

653 Axe Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-548-3548
Fax: 219-465-0429
Email: Contact@ncbai.org
260 S. Campbell Street
Resale Phone: 219-286-7061

NEW VISTAS CHARTER SCHOOL (219) 850-4448

Neighbors' New Vistas High School (NNVHS) is a free, public charter high school that is open to any high school student who is an Indiana resident. NNVHS offers students of all ages a true alternative pathway to earning a high-quality education and a Core-40 or general high school diploma. NNVHS highly-qualified teachers work closely with students to support individual needs and circumstances.

Neighbors' Portage Adult Learning Center (PALC) is a free comprehensive adult education program that is open to any Indiana resident who is 16 years of age or older who is not currently enrolled in school. The PALC's highly-qualified teachers support students' efforts to pass Indiana's High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma Exam (previous GED), complete high school credits, prepare for high school End of Course Assessments or college entrance exams, learn English as a second language, or study for the US Citizenship test.

NEO is an official testing site for the TASC (Test Assessing Secondary Completion), Indiana's new High School Equivalency (HSE) exam. The two-day test is offered twice a month.

CONTACT INFO

5391 Central Avenue
Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-850-4448
Fax: 219-850-4445
<http://www.neoadulted.org>;
Rebecca Reiner Director, reiner@neoadulted.org

NORTHSHORE HEALTH CENTER (219) 763-8112

The goal of Northshore Health Center is to offer affordable health care to income eligible Portage Township residents. In addition to medical services, the clinic will focus on prevention and wellness education, and serve as a referral agency, when appropriate, to meet additional patient needs.

STACY MCKAY HEALTH CENTER

6450 U.S. Highway 6
Portage, IN 46368

Phone: 219-763-8112

Services Available At This Location:

Family Practice
Pediatrics
Dental
Teen Clinic

Stacy McKay Center Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:30am - 3:00pm

Stacy McKay DENTAL Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 8:00am - 7:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

The clinic is attached to the east side of Portage High School East, near the intersection of Highway 6 and Airport Road. Enter school property off of Airport Road just north of the student parking lot. Head west, then turn left (south) at the school building. Watch for clinic parking signs.

Student Care

Portage Township School children who are sick in school can get appropriate care at our Stacy McKay Facility and often return back to class... A valuable service that has significantly reduced absenteeism. River Forest and Lake Station school children can come to our Lake Station Health Care Center. Lake Station will have their own teen health center located at Colison High School for the 2011/2012 school year.

High School Academy (Stacy McKay Health & Education Center)

High school students across Porter County can obtain college credit through IU Northwest and Ivy Tech and graduate high school with professional certification by attending classes in medical and dental care, and working along side our staff. Students graduate with job ready skills enabling them to pursue employment opportunities and attend college. Professional certifications include Dental Assistant, Certified Nursing Assistant, and Phlebotomist (just needing to get the Phlebotomy Certificate from the State).

SCOTTSDALE NORTSHORE CENTER

3564 Scottsdale Street
Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-763-8112

Services Available At This Location:

Family Practice
Urgent Care
OB/GYN

Pediatrics
XRay
Ultrasound

Scottsdale Center Hours:

Family Practice:

Monday & Tuesday: 8:00am - 7:00pm
Wednesday & Thursday: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm

Pediatrics:

Monday - Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm
OB/GYN:
Monday: 8:30am - 7:00pm
Tuesday - Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm

Urgent Care:

Monday-Friday: 5:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am - 12:00pm
The Scottsdale location is one block South of Route 6, behind Firestone, and just East of Lowe's

LAKE STATION NORTH SHORE CENTER

2490 Central Avenue
Lake Station, IN 46405
Phone: 219-763-8112

Services Available At This Location:

Lake Station Medical:

Family Practice
Urgent Care
OB/GYN
Pediatrics
XRay
Ultrasound
3D/4D Ultrasound

Lake Station Center Hours:

Family Practice:

Monday - Wednesday: 8:30am - 7:00pm
Thursday & Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm

Pediatrics:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:30am - 5:00pm
Wednesday: 10:30am - 7:00pm

OB/GYN:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:30am - 5:00pm
Wednesday: 10:30am - 7:00pm

Urgent Care:

Monday-Friday: 5:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am - 12:00pm

It is located on Central Avenue approximately .7 miles west of Hwy 51.

DR. FERNANDO RIVERA DENTAL CENTER

3099 Central Avenue
Lake Station, IN 46405
Phone: 219-763-8112

Dr. Fernando Rivera Dental Center Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 8:00am - 7:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

The Lake Station facility is the home of Dr. Fernando Rivera.

It's located Central Ave approximately .3 miles west of Hwy 51.

Dental Services

Dental services are available with a emphasis on children and prevention.

Dental services are offered at the Stacy McKay Health & Education Center located at Portage High School East and our new Rivera Dental Center in Lake Station.

All staff members are excellent clinicians with outstanding credentials and extensive experience in family dentistry.

THOMAS A EDISON JUNIOR – SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

3304 Parkside Avenue
Lake Station, IN 46405

NorthShore Health Centers has opened a School Based Health Center at Thomas A. Edison Jr./Sr. High School. NorthShore's school-based health center provides comprehensive preventive and primary healthcare services to students for Lake Station Schools during the school day.

NorthShore/Edison High School Health Center will provide services to students throughout the Lake Station School District. Students who are ill during the school day, need immunizations, sports physicals, or have other health concerns, can be treated during the school day. Shelly Surber, FNP, a Family Nurse Practitioner is available to provide medical care, minor lab testing and medications as required to treat the Lake Station students who may need these services. In addition, teachers or other school staff who need to be seen during work hours will have access to health care. This service does not replace the school nurse, but allows the Nurse Practitioner, School Nurse, coaches, counselors, classroom teachers, and school principals and their staff to ensure the best possible services are provided to each and every student at Lake Station Schools.

Written consents signed by parents are required for students before services can be provided by NorthShore/Edison High School Health Center. Some of the services include rapid strep testing, treatment for pink eye, head lice, acne treatment, sports physicals, assessing and treating injuries and illnesses.

The employees of Lake Station and their families are also able to utilize NorthShore's School Based Health Center during Edison's school hours.

If a patient needs a prescription, the Nurse Practitioner can electronically prescribe the medication to NorthShore Pharmacy for quick pharmacy service.

The Health Center will also provide services to River Forest School Children if they are brought to the health center by a parent.

MERRILLVILLE NORTHSORE CENTER

6091 Broadway
Merrillville, IN 46410
(888) 313-8557

Services Available At This Location:

Family Practice
OB/GYN
Pediatrics
Dental

Merrillville Center Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:30am - 5pm
Wednesday: 8:30am - 7pm

The Merrillville Location is located on 61st Street in the same strip mall as Pay Low and Cricket Wireless.

NEW HAMMOND LOCATION

6920 Indianapolis Blvd
Hammond, IN 46324

Our New Hammond Location is Scheduled to Open January 6th, 2014! Join us for our Grand Opening Celebration January 16th at 4pm.

Services Available At This Location:

Family Practice
OB/GYN
Pediatrics
Dental

Hammond Center Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:30am - 5pm
Wednesday: 8:30am - 7pm

Our Hammond Center is located just south of 169th and Indianapolis Blvd.

NORTHWEST INDIANA COMMUNITY ACTION CORP. (219) 794-1829

(800) 826-7871 Toll-Free

The Northwest Indiana Community Action Corp. is the 211 helpline call center for the counties of Jasper, Lake, Newton, Porter, Pulaski, and Starke. 211 is the national abbreviated dialing code for access to health and human services information and referral. Free and confidential help is available for many needs, including housing, employment, legal aid, counseling, and more. They also carry out a variety of programs that serve the unique needs of low-income families, seniors and disabled individuals throughout Northwest Indiana, including housing, energy assistance, outreach, and family development services.

Help for Seniors

We provide services for older adults, those with physical disabilities, and those at risk of nursing facility placement.

What is an Aging & Disability Resource Center?

- Aging and Disability Resource Centers, or ADRCs, offer the general public a single entry point for information and assistance on issues affecting older people, and people with disabilities regardless of their income. These resource centers are welcoming and convenient places for you and your family to get information and access to a wide variety of services. Services can be provided through the telephone, in the resource center, or in your own home.
- A goal of NWICA's Aging and Disability Resource Center is to provide a simple way for individuals in our community to access information and get assistance for their long-term care needs.
- NWICA is dedicated to help you work through the long-term care services process by providing you with choices and support when making decisions for your future.
- We can help through Options Counseling, Information & Referral and ongoing Case Management.
- NWICA serves residents in our Lake, Porter, Jasper, Newton, Pulaski, and Starke Counties.

If you are an older adult or a caregiver, check out our list of services to discover how we might help you...Help for Seniors

- In-Home Services
- Wellness Programs
- Meals / Nutrition Education
- Nursing Home Pre-Admission
- Caregiver Support
- Advocate Services
- Medicaid Waiver

Help for Families

How can we help you?

Through many direct programs and community partnerships across our region, NWICA provides a network of support that empowers, educates, and improves the lives of people living with lower incomes. Our community services help over 50,000 people each year in Lake, Porter, Jasper, and Newton Counties in Northwest Indiana.

Our programs can help families and individuals handle emergencies. They can help people become more self-sufficient and less dependent on public assistance.

NWICA is the place to turn in times of need. (To receive support through the following programs you must meet that program's eligibility requirements).

Through many direct programs and community partnerships across our region, NWICA provides a network of support that has the ability to empower, educate, and improve the lives of people living with lower incomes. Our community services help over 50,000 people each year in Lake, Porter, Jasper, and Newton Counties in Northwest Indiana. For more information on services, contact NWICA at 219-794-1829 or dial 2-1-1.Help with:

- **Utility Costs**

NWICA can provide assistance with utility bills through several different programs.

- **Home Weatherization**
Professional energy auditors and licensed contractors can improve the comfort and efficiency of your home.
- **Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)**
Rental assistance vouchers in a seven-county region of Northwest Indiana.
- **Tax Preparation & Financial Literacy**
Free Volunteer Income Tax preparation assistance and financial literacy in Lake County.
- **Family Development**
Personalized coaching, counseling and motivating for families to work through barriers of poverty.
- **Individual Development Accounts**
Matching funds help families multiply their savings by 3 to 4 times and prepare for purchasing a home, business, or education.
- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC)**
Providing access to health screenings and assessments; nutrition screenings, education and counseling; breastfeeding support and promotion; referrals to other existing Indiana health, family and social services; and supplemental healthy foods designed to meet special nutritional needs.

If you would like to learn more about these services and find out if you qualify, contact NWICA 2-1-1 Information and Assistance at 2-1-1 or 1-800-826-7871.

Information and Assistance

- Do you know where to find the help you need in northwest Indiana?
- Are you facing difficult times and do not know where to turn?
- Looking for help with everyday needs?

What is 2-1-1?

- Confidential telephone assistance provided by trained call specialists.
- Access for persons who have special needs.
- Accurate information about community resources.
- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Toll free telephone call from Lake, Porter, Newton, Jasper, Starke, and Pulaski counties

Dialing 2-1-1 is your your first step. 2-1-1 is a simple number to dial for information about health and human service organizations in your community.

Click "Find Help" on website or Dial 2-1-1 from your phone, to speak with a live Call Specialist. The Call Specilaist will empower the caller by referring and educating them about government programs, community-based organizations, support groups, and other local resources The Call Specialist will advocate on the behalf of those unable to help themselves.

Emergency & Disaster Response

Northwest Indiana 2- 1-1 relieves pressure on 9-1-1 and emergency response teams by providing a number for citizens to call for non-emergency needs, freeing up emergency responders to deal with true emergencies.

Northwest Indiana 2-1-1 provides citizens with critical non-emergency assistance such as:

- Information on evacuation and return routes
- Emergency shelter/housing
- Food

- Social services
- Traffic closures

Northwest Indiana 2- 1-1 played a critical role during the 2008 Flood in Northwest Indiana by providing information and support to the residents of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte.

Health & Safety

Northwest Indiana 2- 1-1 can serve as the central point to call for updated public health information, such as in the recent H1N1 scare.

Police and sheriff's deputies have an easy-to-remember number to give to at-risk populations as a resource.

OPPORTUNITY ENTERPRISES (219) 464-9621

**2801 Evans Ave.
Valparaiso, IN 46383**

Opportunity Enterprises Inc. provides employment, therapeutic, early intervention and residential services to individuals with mental and/or developmental disabilities, from birth through retirement. Their mission is to promote self-sufficiency and life choices for challenged individuals through the wide range of human services they provide.

CHILDREN

ALL ABOUT KIDS

The first three years of a child's life are an important period of growth and development. This is when infants and toddlers with a developmental delay or disability need special help to reach their full potential. The services and supports in OE's Early Intervention program, All About Kids, are based on clinically proven techniques that are designed to reduce or eliminate a child's need for supports later in life.

All About Kids seeks to promote a coordinated, family-focused service delivery system for infants and toddlers from birth to three years that have a significant developmental delay, a physical or developmental disability or have the risk factors for a delay or disability. We are dedicated to making sure children in our programs take the first steps they need in getting the specialized help they deserve. Their needs and desires are taken into consideration to help them reach their highest potential, in a loving and caring environment.

At All About Kids, there are four kinds of therapeutic programs offered: physical, developmental, occupational and speech. We also offer group activities (detailed below).

- **Physical Therapy** – therapists help strengthen your child's muscles, improve balance and help with coordination skills, and also address gross motor skills, large muscle movements and lower extremities.
- **Developmental Therapy** – helps to assess how children develop from birth through the age of 3, and focuses on activities that help to develop motor, cognitive, language, self-help and social skills.

- **Occupational Therapy** – focuses specifically on fine motor and adaptive skills. We teach families how important sensory processing is by explaining how their child may interpret touch, taste, sound, smell and sight throughout the day.
- **Speech Therapy** – addresses communication, language and feeding skills. Our Speech-Language Pathologists help children and families communicate through gestures, sounds, words, phrases and sentences, and support is provided to families with information relating to language developmental milestones and language development.
- **Toddler Group** – for children who are two years old. Children work together with instructors to develop different skill sets. The participants of the Toddler Group learn to make choices and establish their independence.
- **Threes Group** – for children who are three years old. Designed to stimulate creativity, imagination and critical thinking, the group learns math, science and reading skills.

For more information on our All About Kids program, if you are concerned about your child’s development or feel that they are not meeting their developmental milestones, please contact our team for an assessment.

CLUB WONDER

Club Wonder is a parent-facilitated education and support group that helps bridge the school-age gap in support, information and programming. In collaboration with Opportunity Enterprises, Porter County Special Olympics and other local resources, this group provides parents of those with developmental disabilities with the support and ideas for strategies that work with our loved ones.

Club Wonder is a safe place where parents can share their fears, hopes, strategies and resources. The group meets once per month at OE, and a supplementary social group meets twice per month at Liberty Bible Church in Chesterton. There is a group for teens and a group for younger kids, both of whom can participate in activities that involve music, crafts, snacks, etc. In each monthly meeting, Club Wonder provides information on a specific special needs issue by an expert speaker in a setting where parents can easily obtain answers and compare notes.

This group has also worked with Porter County Special Olympics to revive the Young Athletes program. Young Athletes allows children ages three and over in Northwest Indiana to participate in a sport and social program until that child is old enough to compete in Special Olympics. Young Athletes meets every other week at the SELF school gym. Special Olympics staff takes care of the activities, while parents network and relax.

For more information, please contact Leslie Nuss or Kristin Erdei, or check out the Facebook group for Club Wonder.

CLUB SHINING STARS

Club Shining Stars is a parent-facilitated education and support group for families and caregivers of children with disabilities living in Lake County. The group provides activities and events for families and their children with developmental delays, behavioral disorders, or special needs. A recognized affiliate program of Opportunity Enterprises, this club was founded in October 2012, formally under the name “Special Needs Social Club.” The club offers multiple ways to socialize, including:

- The Family Social Club Meetings- held once a month at Laurel Church in Merrillville, IN on a Friday, typically from 6pm-8pm
- Planning Meetings- as needed
- Mom’s or Dad’s Night Out- held once a month or as requested
- Activities and Events
- Pop-up Playdates

This group was created on the belief that everyone has a voice in how the group operates and what type of events are hosted. Club Shining Stars also prides itself on the way they integrate the siblings of families with a child with a disability. For more information, please contact Fawn M Poskin, Lake County Director of Club Shining Stars at fawn.poskin@oppent.org or Regina Wagoner, Event Coordinator of Club Shining Stars at regina.wagoner@oppent.org, “like” the Club Shining Stars Facebook page here, or join the Club Shining Stars Group here.

DAY SERVICES

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Opportunity Enterprises’ Enrichment Program provides participants with a variety of options to express their creative abilities and exercise their personal interests. Programs available include Art, Assistive Technology, Community Integration and Relaxation.

- **Art Enrichment** – Participants have the opportunity to paint canvas, create ceramic masterpieces, craft jewelry and learn the history and biographies of famous artists and their work. Artwork and ceramics by our participants are showcased throughout our buildings and are available for purchase in our Simply Amazing Market and at Bargain Barn in Valparaiso. The ARTability show is held each November, and it is attended by community members who get the chance to competitively bid on and purchase artwork created by those in the Art program. Proceeds from the show benefit all of our participants.
- **Assistive Technology** - Participants get hands-on experience with current technology and computer programs. Traditional hardware and software, track ball mice and hands-free computer operation systems are all included. The program also provides training and assessment for basic typing skills, Internet usage, Microsoft Office Suite, voice recognition and Quicken.
- **Community Integration** - Participants are invited to explore volunteer and recreational activities within the community under the supervision of a staff member. Our trained instructors work on skills, including parking lot and vehicle safety, appropriate social and public interactions, following directions while volunteering to help others, and many more.
- **Relaxation** - Instructors works one-on-one with participants in an effort to teach them stress reduction techniques and to help improve physical mobility.

For more information about our Enrichment programs, please contact us.

ENRICHING POSSIBILITIES

Located at our Lakeside Opportunities facility, Enriching Possibilities is a curriculum-based program designed to ensure that participants can continue to make consistent progress on their individual communication, socialization, community integration, academic, and self-sufficiency goals, regardless of their current skill level. Program participants are also partnered with a behavior therapists that focus on behavior intervention, behavior intervention plans and functional assessments to develop the skills necessary to reduce negative behaviors and increase positive behaviors.

Program activities also include sports, arts & crafts, computer, music and kitchen activities.

The opportunities in the Enriching Possibilities program are truly endless – skill acquisition happens in classrooms that are interactive and exciting. We offer seasonal activities in a safe environment, and have a garden, picnic area, Lake Eliza and a beautiful outdoor scene for participants to enjoy.

For more information about our Enriching Possibilities program, please contact us.

DAILY LIVING SKILLS

Daily Living Skills is geared toward individuals who have multiple or severe disabilities, where they work on improving the skills they need to function with ease on a day-to-day basis. Instructors work with participants to develop the following:

- Social interaction skills
- Communication skills
- Perceptual skills (visual, auditory, olfactory and tactile stimulation)
- Mobility and motor skills
- Recreational and leisure activities

For more information about our Daily Living Skills program, please contact us.

RENEWED HORIZONS

Renewed Horizons is an adult day care program located in our Lakeside facility. Our adults receive personal care and assistance, medical consultations by an agency nurse and social/recreational activities. Participants engage in socialization, exercise, arts & crafts, current events discussions and decision-making training. Transportation is available based on the pick-up location of the individual.

Renewed Horizons is a developmental program for individuals who are 50 years of age or older, are a Porter County resident (or a resident in a surrounding county), have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other physical/mental disorders, are able to be medically managed, are free of communicable diseases and are able to provide appropriate funding.

Connections is a component of curriculum in Renewed Horizons and its purpose is to help participants maintain as much cognitive and physical functioning as possible. This set of over 40 activities fosters cognition, socialization, communication and manual dexterity. Connections is scheduled twice a week, and since several are offered at a time, participant choice is once again a factor.

For more information about our Renewed Horizons program, please contact us.

AHA CLUB

After Hours Activities (AHA), is a program that takes place from 3:30-5:30 PM, Monday through Thursday. Individuals work towards goals that help sustain their self-sufficiency in day-to-day life, including learning how to cook, exercising with friends or working on artwork.

For more information about AHA Club, please contact us.

JOB PLACEMENT

JOBSOURCE

If you walk into a fast food restaurant, grocery store, local healthcare facility or university, you may find an Opportunity Enterprises JobSource participant at the checkout or helping a customer, patient, or student. Our JobSource staff has over 20 years of experience placing and supporting qualified individuals with disabilities in community employment in a wide range of careers, from entry-level to professional positions. With offices in Porter, Lake and Laporte Counties, JobSource serves all of Northwest Indiana and Chicagoland. JobSource's 97% placement retention rate has earned it the distinction of being the preferred employment agency for more than 100 businesses in our service area.

JobSource helps employers and ensures that the people that we place for employment are successful by providing:

- Pre-employment activities to ensure an employee is prepared for their first day of work, such as resume writing and mock interviewing
- A thorough screening process to ensure that an individual will apply for the position that best fits their skill sets and capabilities

- On-site support and job coaching from our staff that ensures ongoing employee success and productivity
- An assistive technology program that features computer adaptations for clients with physical, visual, developmental and/or learning disabilities

JobSource opens so many doors to careers for people with disabilities, finding employment that fits with individual vocational goals and aspirations. Examples of employment opportunities and our preferred supporters are as follows:

Example Positions

- Computer programmers
- Certified public accountants
- Nursing
- Nursing home aids
- Assembly/industrial workers
- Restaurant managers
- Food service
- Teaching
- Daycare assistants
- Custodial service
- Mechanics
- Dietary aids
- Information technology

Businesses who prefer us

- Burger King
- Courtyard by Marriot
- Cracker Barrel
- Fairfield Inn & Suites
- Family Express
- Hartsfield Village
- Help at Home – Michigan City
- McDonald’s
- Metro Recycling
- Sears
- Strack & Van Til
- Strongbow
- Target
- Valparaiso University
- Walgreens

For more information on our JobSource program, please contact us.

RESPITE

Opportunity Enterprises’ Respite program offers temporary care for families who need a break from the continuous demands of caring for a family member who is developmentally or physically disabled. Our modern family homes are located in Jackson Township and Merrillville. Families can be assured of a safe, comfortable, homelike and caring fully accessible environment for their loved one.

While at the Respite Program, participants receive:

- All meals and snacks
- A wide variety of regularly scheduled recreational activities
- Laundry services
- Bathing and personal care
- Routine administration of medications

The Respite program is operational 24-hours a day, seven days a week. The program is open year-round, except for major holidays.

Participants may stay at the residence for as little as four hours, up to fourteen days at a time, depending on availability. We recommend making reservations months in advance for holidays and the summer period when demand is greatest.

If you visited one of our Respite Homes on any given day, you might find a Wii tournament taking place, or on a summer day, you might find participants splashing in the pool. Or, staff and participants could be found working one-on-one towards daily goals. Our Respite program provides participants with entertaining, educational and comfortable care when their families or

guardians need a moment to sit back and relax or go on vacation.

Homes are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with Direct Support Professionals who have big hearts and open minds. DSPs are trained in CPR, First Aid and medication administration. They work hard to enrich the quality of a participant's life while their family or caregiver is away on vacation or taking a few hours to tend to personal affairs.

For more information about our Respite program, please contact us.

SUPPORTED LIVING

Opportunity Enterprise's Supported Living program provides individuals with disabilities residences within the community that include supervised care, customized to the needs of the individual. Homes range from a single studio apartment to houses shared with others. Our participants choose the living environment and services that best meet their needs, and are given the opportunity to live and thrive independently in our community. Our professional and caring staff provides ongoing assistance in coordinating living quarters, financial stability programs, menu planning, grocery shopping, sport participation and medical needs.

Through Supported Living, participants can live on their own and have staff interaction only 5 hours per week, or four participants can share an apartment and have 24-hour staff supervision. Activities during the week may include going to one of Opportunity Enterprises' Daily Programs or participating in our JobSource program.

Our staff also aids the participants in reaching daily goals, including health and safety, household and money management skills, recreation and leisure, social and daily living skills.

For more information on our Supported Living program, please contact us.

TRANSPORTATION

OE Express Transportation is a transit service provided by trained staff members to anyone who lives in and around Porter County. All that is required in order to request a ride includes:

- Full name, address & phone number
- Destination address
- Requested arrival and departure time
- If you will be traveling with a personal care attendant, need lift to board and Medicaid number (if applicable)

*Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 7:30am-4:30pm.

*Must call 2 hours in advance to cancel requested pick-up.

*Fares are \$7.50 one-way within Porter County and \$10 one-way outside of Porter County. Cash and checks are accepted for all trips. Medicaid is accepted only for medical appointment trips.

What are the driver's responsibilities?

- It is the responsibility of the driver to deliver you from your pick-up location to your destination. They will deploy the lift upon request; however, if you need assistance, a personal assistant may accompany you free of charge. The driver cannot enter your home or any other establishment.

Information on our transportation options is available in alternative formats upon request.

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

GROUP HOMES

Opportunity Enterprises currently operates seven group homes in Porter County. The homes, supporting six residents each, provide a warm, family-like, community \-based, non-clinical setting designed to encourage the residents to take ownership of their homes and become increasingly more self-sufficient and active in the community.

Each home provides 24-hour personalized assistance, medical and nutritional support and staff and medical monitoring. Residents are involved in personal medical training, and a registered dietician monitors the nutritional needs of individuals.

For more information about OE Group Homes, please contact us.

PARENTS AS TEACHERS OF PORTER COUNTY (219) 395-8412

Parents as Teachers is a parent education and family support program serving families throughout pregnancy until their children enter kindergarten. The program is designed to enhance child development and school achievement through parent education accessible to all families. Their mission is to provide the information, support, and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the critical early years of life.

CONTACT INFO

Parents As Teachers of Porter County
c/o Yost Elementary
100 Beam Street
Porter, IN 46304
Phone: 219-983-3640
Fax: 219-983-3649
Email: jills@patpc.org

PORTAGE ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

Public Secondary Institution.

Mon - Thu 8:30 AM - 11:30 PM, 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM, 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
GED Preparation; Adult Basic Education; English as a Second Language Instruction; College and Workplace Readiness, SAT, ASVAB, CDL Study. Public Secondary Institution

Portage Adult High School - Adults 16 years of age or older attend classes to earn a regular high school diploma. Students earn one high school credit per class. Students must be at least 16 years of age and not currently attending regular high school. Available Monday-Thursday from 9:00am-3:00pm or 6:00pm-9:30pm. Cost is \$15 per class. Payment plans are available, and payment is accepted from all agencies. Contact Linda Friedrich for additional information.

Adult Learning Centers - Preparation for the GED Test. Assistance with improving basic skills, and English As A Second Language instruction. Programs are for adults ages 16 and older not currently attending regular high school. Days and times vary by location, with day and evening classes offered. Centers located in Chesterton, Valparaiso, South Haven, Portage, and Hebron. Service is free of charge. Contact Linda Friedrich for additional information.

CAPABLE Family Literacy Program - Parent(s) and child(ren) attend at the Portage Adult Education Center. Parent participates in parenting education, adult academic improvement, and supervised parent-child interaction. Children 6 weeks to 6 years of age participate in age-appropriate activities and supervised parent-child interaction. Parent must be at least 16 years of age and not attending regular high school. Child must participate in program with parent. Available Monday-Thursday from 9:30am-1:00pm. Program, child care, and transportation provided free of charge. Contact Robbin White at (219) 764-6968 for additional information.

CONTACT INFO

5391 Central Ave.

Portage, IN 46368

Phone: 219-850-4448

Fax: 219-850-4445

www.neoadulted.org

Rebecca Reiner, Director, reiner@neoadulted.org

PORTAGE ADULT EDUCATION / NEIGHBORS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY (219) 850-4290

Portage Adult Education's mission is to provide educational opportunities for all adults, sixteen years of age and older. The organization provides the following program characteristics: family literacy, adult basic education/illiteracy elimination, adult secondary education, GED preparation and testing, English as a second language, homeless outreach, migrant outreach, customized programming.

CONTACT INFO

Portage High School
6450 US Highway 6
Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 763-8100

Neighbor's Educational Opportunity
NEO Learning Center
5391 Central Ave
Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-850-4448
PALC@neoadulted.org (HSE)
PALC-ESL@neoadulted.org

PORTAGE FOOD PANTRIES

NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOR FOOD PANTRY

Nativity of our Savior Food Pantry is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Last two Tues. 9 - 11 AM

CONTACT INFO

2949 Willowcreek
Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-762-4858

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Thu: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Fri: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

CONTACT INFO

5391 Central Ave
Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-299-6273

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP YMCA (219) 762-2012

Portage Township YMCA serves the community with programs for preschoolers through seniors. Toddler classes, preschool, fitness, swimming, gymnastics, karate/ju-jitso, lifestyle changing and aquasize classes are offered by trained professionals. The Y operates a Child Care and Development Center which offers all day child care with an educational component and a before and after school care program which offers child care for ages Kindergarten through middle school year round (K-Care & Y-Care). It also provides open sessions for recreational swimming, lap swims, basketball and volleyball. See website for details on programs an membership.

MON-FRI...4 AM to 10 PM
SATURDAY.6 AM to 6 PM
SUNDAY.....6 AM to 6 PM

CONTACT INFO

3100 Willowcreek Rd
Portage, IN 46368

Phone: 219-762-9622

Email: info@ymcaofportage.org

PORTER – STARKE SERVICES

Porter-Starke Services, Inc., is a comprehensive community mental health center that primarily serves residents of Porter and Starke Counties. Outpatient services for all ages, and consultation, education, 24-hour emergency, prevention, community support, chemical dependency, employee assistance, and residential services are provided through satellite offices in Chesterton, Knox, Portage, and Valparaiso.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Children & Adolescents

Together, we'll find out what works for you.

The majority of behavioral health issues present themselves in adolescence. Porter-Starke Services believes that early identification and treatment of these issues serves everyone's future.

Counseling

You can feel confident that your child will get what best fits his/her needs.

Porter-Starke Services has a team of masters-level, licensed therapists, each having their own unique specialties. When you and your child come to Porter-Starke Services, you can feel confident that you will be linked with the mental health clinician that best meets your family's needs. As a parent or guardian, you will have involvement in your child's treatment plan.

Medication / Psychiatric Services

We offer medication management for your child.

Porter-Starke Services offers medication management and psychiatric services for children and adolescents. Services can include psychiatric testing and careful care, review and management of all medications provided. Medication can complement counseling services and help manage symptoms.

School-based Programming

Providing on-site services in area schools.

Porter-Starke Services provides on-site group, individual and family therapy, as well as case management and psychiatric care at Porter County Educational Services. This program strengthens the overall continuum of care and offers improved access to local psychiatrists and treatment to eligible children and adolescents.

Porter-Starke Services provides alternative school services to students attending Boone Grove, Hebron, Kouts, Morgan Township, Washington Township and Wheeler High

Schools. These students must be referred to the alternative school by the student's home school principal. Students of the alternative school receive two hours of educational instruction provided by a licensed teacher and one hour of therapeutic social skill development facilitated by a Masters-level therapist.

Parents interested in these services should contact their home school in order to discuss eligibility.

Adults

Together, we'll find out what works for you.

Whether you are facing a temporary life challenge or you are living with chronic mental illness, Porter-Starke Services can help. With a large group of experienced specialists, we are able to offer a variety of mental health and addiction services to meet your specific needs.

Counseling

We will work with you to meet your needs.

Porter-Starke Services has a team of masters-level, licensed therapists, each having their own unique specialties. When you come to Porter-Starke Services, you can feel confident that you will be linked with the mental health clinician that best meets your needs.

Adult Day Treatment Program

Tailored to fit your needs.

In our adult day treatment program, clients learn to manage their symptoms, increase their social and vocational skills and learn to cope in a variety of situations. This program is tailored to fit the individual needs of each client and is highly structured. The program operates in the Valparaiso, Portage, and Knox offices on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Adult Residential Programs

Feeling at home.

Porter-Starke Services offers housing options for people living with severe mental illness or chronic addiction. Residents participate in supportive programming while living in the facilities.

Recovery Center

Hope for recovery from opiate addiction.

Recovering from opiate dependency and addiction often requires specialized treatment because of the severe withdrawal symptoms associated with this process.

Recovery Center provides methadone and counseling services for individuals 18 years and older who are dependent on opiates such as heroin, codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone and morphine. This opiate replacement treatment program is operated under the close supervision of a Program Director and a Medical Director. The Recovery Center's team of professionals provide methadone maintenance treatment, suboxone or counseling services to meet each individual's recovery needs.

Recovery Center is located at 2301 Cumberland Drive/Entrance E in Valparaiso, Indiana. For more information, please contact the Office at 219.476.4676 from 6:00am to 2:00pm Monday through Friday. Office hours allow for general contact with Recovery Center. Please plan accordingly, as the Office hours and Dosing hours (see below) are different. Dosing is limited to the stated times only.

Recovery Center Dosing Hours

Monday - Friday	6:00AM - 10:00AM
Saturday & Sunday	6:00AM - 8:00AM
Major Holidays	6:00AM - 8:00AM

Full-service Pharmacy

A full-service pharmacy for your convenience.

Porter-Starke Services partners with QoL Meds to provide a full-service pharmacy in our office at 601 Wall Street in Valparaiso. This on-site pharmacy provides added convenience for clients that manage symptoms with medication. QoL Meds matches the prices of any other pharmacy and provides convenient and private medication pick-up. For more information visit www.qolmeds.com.

During Crisis

Immediate and Careful Attention

The onset of a crisis may occur suddenly without warning or build slowly over a long period of time. No matter what the cause, a person in crisis needs immediate and careful attention.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, please call the 24-Hour Crisis Line at 219.531.3500. If this is a medical emergency, dial 911.

Crisis Team

Responding immediately to crisis situations.

The Porter-Starke Services Crisis Team responds immediately to crisis situations including emergency evaluations at area hospitals, on-site critical incident assistance and inpatient treatment referrals.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, please call the 24-Hour Crisis Line at 219.531.3500.

Inpatient Care Center

Compassionate care during a time of crisis.

Inpatient Care Center provides acute psychiatric and therapeutic care in a secured setting for adults experiencing a mental, emotional or behavioral episode or crisis. This includes compassionate and confidential stabilization, treatment and planning for treatment after discharge from the Inpatient Care Center. We offer 24-hour care, 365 days a year for adults 18 and older.

While the length of stay varies by individual, we are able to provide care to 16 people at any given time to ensure appropriate level of attention and care is offered to each individual.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, please call the 24-Hour Crisis Line at 219.531.3500.

Businesses and Other Groups

Beyond Boundaries

Strong relationships lay the groundwork for a powerful and productive environment.

Beyond Boundaries is a division of Porter-Starke Services that designs customized workshops, retreats and programs to help people of all ages in any group to strengthen their relationships by effectively communicating and problem-solving. You pick the time, topic and location, whether that is the board room, an office or the Beyond Boundaries Challenge Course.

Topics can include:

- Improving morale
- Building trust
- Managing stress
- Improving communication
- Conflict resolution
- Anger management
- Leadership development
- Team-building

For more information or to schedule your group contact us at (219) 476.4686.

Employee Assistance Program

Bring balance to your workplace.

Porter-Starke Services provides free assessment, counseling and referral services to help you or your employees resolve the problems that may be interfering with your work performance, health, relationships and well-being.

For Employers

Employee Assistance Program services are customizable for your business' unique needs. While services are entirely confidential, we do provide timely reporting of utilization. We can also assist you with the development of policy and procedures and train your supervisors to identify employees that could benefit from services.

For Employees

If you're an employee who believes you can benefit from our services, call Porter-Starke Services at 219.531.3500 to speak with an Admissions & Emergency Services Specialist. State that you are seeking EAP services and give the name of your organization. The specialist will collect basic information about your concerns and then schedule an appointment with a therapist to begin brief outpatient therapy or other services as needed. Appointments can be scheduled in Valparaiso, Portage and Knox.

Experiential Therapy

The Experiential Therapy Department of Porter-Starke Services, Inc. provides Experiential Therapy (ET) for all clinical programs in the organization. ET is primarily provided in a group therapy format and is easily adaptable to individual and family therapy as well. ET is provided to children, adolescents, and adults in outpatient, inpatient, residential and day treatment settings.

Experiential Therapy is the provision of psychotherapy in an individual, group, or family therapy context, using experiential techniques and methodologies to engage clients in working on their issues. Theoretical foundations of experiential work include: systems, solution focused, strategic, Ericksonian, and Gestalt theory and techniques. There is a strong holistic focus in experiential work, in which the therapist uses various mediums of experience to engage the physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual, and relational aspects

of an individual, group, and/or family.

ET differs from “activity therapy” or “recreational therapy” which more often tend to be focused on leisure education and the provision of diversional activities. ET is specifically designed to give clients opportunities to increase their awareness of their thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and spirit, and then make choices about their life from that state of awareness.

Media used in ET include: movement, artwork, music, film, story telling, journaling, problem-solving activities or initiatives, ropes course work, service learning projects, outdoor adventure experiences, and mindfulness-based meditation. Selected media is based on the client’s diagnosis, treatment setting, physical and cognitive ability and phase of treatment. ET staff utilizes psychiatric, psychological, and psychosocial assessments completed by those disciplines, and participate consistently in the treatment planning and staffing of the clients with whom they are working.

Experiential Therapy staff includes professionals from a variety of disciplines including art therapy, biology, drama, fine art, psychology, recreation, social work, and theology. Each staff member brings their unique perspective to their work with people, with the intention of creating opportunities for healing.

Workshops and training sessions are available and provided to clinical staff, teachers, clergy, and organizations. These professionals are educated about experiential techniques and processes that they can utilize with their clients, students, congregation members, and employees. **Additional information is available by contacting the Director of Experiential Therapy at 219.476.4686.**

ACT Day Treatment - Intensive therapeutic program offered for children having difficulty functioning in public school due to emotional and/or behavioral problems. We serve general and special education students and accept referrals from parents, schools, the Office of Family and Children, and Juvenile Probation. Program consists of three hours of daily academic instruction provided by a Licensed Teacher and four hours of daily group therapy provided by trained behavioral specialists and master's level therapists. Additional services include medication monitoring by supervising psychiatrists, family and individual therapy, case management, and experiential therapy. Serves children grades K-12. Offered year-round Monday-Friday from 8:00am-3:30pm. Cost is \$236 contract per day. Medicaid, private insurance, and contracts accepted. Contact Jennifer Reilly at 219.531.3610 in Porter County for additional information and referrals. Contact Todd Willis at 219.972.8585 in Lake County for additional information and referrals.

Bridges Residential - Intensive residential program providing education, case management, individual, group, and family therapy, psychiatric services, and 24-hour awake supervision. For children who need a high level of monitoring and require the structure provided by a residential program. The Bridges program has two tracks. Services for both tracks can include on or off-site schooling, case management, family therapy, and individual therapy. Both programs are supervised by a psychiatrist. Reunification Track is for males ages 11-18, focusing on assisting clients in improving functioning in community, school, and family setting with the goal of returning to a less restrictive setting and living with a guardian or family members. Emancipation Track is for males ages 14-21 who, due to age or lack of family support, require training and assistance in acquiring adult independent living skills. Assistance with vocational training skills and activities of daily living are emphasized. Cost of participation in program is \$175 per day. Medicaid, private insurance, and contracts accepted. Contact Chyrl Wilson at 219.462.0256 for additional information and referrals.

Passages - An intensive therapeutic program offered for two to four hours daily five days per week. Available for children having difficulty functioning in public school due to emotional and/or behavioral problems but do not require day treatment. These children are able to attend partial days in the public school setting but require therapeutic support to be successful at school. This program also accepts general and special education students referred by parents, schools, the Office of Family and Children, and Juvenile Probation. Group therapy is facilitated by behavioral specialists and master's-level therapists. Groups focus on developing interpersonal skills, anger management, conflict resolution, activities of daily living, experiential therapy, and process group therapy. Referrals to case management and individual and family therapy with program staff can be made on an individualized basis. Available to children in grades K-12. Days and times offered are flexible, for 2-4 hours per day, Monday-Friday year-round. Cost is \$150 per day. Medicaid, private insurance, and contracts accepted. Contact Jennifer Reilly at 219.531.3610 in Porter County for additional information and referrals. Contact Todd Willis at 219.972.8585 in Lake County for additional information and referral.

Child and Family Case Management - Support and interventions for families provided in the home, school, and community. Issues addressed can include parental training and education, development of discipline programs in the home, and linkage to community resources and benefits. Available Monday-Friday, by appointment. Medicaid, private insurance, and sliding scale self-pay accepted. Contact Farrah Mathas at 219.531.3665 for additional information and referral.

Adolescent Intensive Outpatient - 8-10 week substance abuse programming geared to adolescents ages 11-17. Client must be post-detox. Client must not be violent or have any history of charges of violent crimes. Offered Monday-Thursday from 5:00pm-8:00pm. Cost is based on a sliding scale. Medicaid, private insurance, and self-pay accepted. Contact Sarah Bernard or Claudia Moore at 219.531.3622 for additional information and referral.

Psychiatric Associates, Inc. - Psychiatrists and Clinical Nurse Specialist provide diagnosis, treatment, and consultation for clients and families. Medication management and education provided. Nurses assist with medication refills, education, and application for medication financial assistance. Services available for individuals ages 3 and older. Services available by appointment in Valparaiso and Portage locations. Cost varies depending on service requested. Medicare, Medicaid, most funding sources accepted, and most insurances filed. Sliding scale self-pay available based on income. Individualized payment plans available to qualified applicants. Contact Admissions/Emergency Services at 219.531.3544 for additional information and referral.

Outpatient Services - Full continuum of care including individual, group, and family therapy. Assessment process determines the best approach to help deal with the child's unique needs and concerns. Psychological testing is offered to provide a complete evaluation of any clinical issues, including ADHD and developmental issues. Ages 3 years and older, restrictions based on therapist chosen and their specialties. Offered Monday-Friday from 8:00am-6:00pm by appointment. Cost varies depending on service requested. Medicare, Medicaid, most funding sources accepted, and most insurances filed. Sliding scale self-pay available based on income. Individualized payment plans available to qualified applicants. Contact Admissions/Emergency Services at 219.531.3544 for additional information and referral.

CONTACT INFO

Porter Starke Services
Valparaiso Campus
 601 Wall Street
 Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-531-3500

Porter Starke Services
Knox Campus
 1003 Edgewood Drive
 Knox, IN 46534
Phone: 574-772-4040

Porter Starke Services
Portage Campus
 3176 Lancer Street
 Portage, IN 46368
Phone: 219-762-9557

PORTER COUNTY AGING & COMMUNITY SERVICE (219) 476-9736

The Porter County Council On Aging & Community Services distributes information about the aging population, acts as a coordinating body for services available for the aging, develops public awareness of the needs for older citizens and acts as a catalyst to implement volunteers. In direct program services the Council provides transportation and escort service for elderly and handicapped for shopping, trips to the doctor; newsletter publications and nutrition programs in Portage, Chesterton and Valparaiso, energy assistance program, lifeline and support groups.

PCACS MISION

PCACS extends a helping hand to seniors, the disabled, and the low income by providing compassionate services to improve their quality of life while maintaining their dignity and independence.

PCACS VISION

To be the recognized leader in providing exceptional services that assure improved quality of life and independence to those we serve.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Porter County Aging & Community Service Inc.
1005 Campbell Valparaiso, IN 46385

- (219)-464-9736 (Phone)
- (219)-462-6993 (Fax)
- Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- The office is closed from noon to 1 PM for lunch.

PCACS does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color or national origin.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Porter County Aging & Community Services administers several Energy Assistance Programs including *EAP*, *Gift of Warmth* and *NIPSCO Cares Hardship*. Through our Energy Assistance Program, we assist low-income households with winter heating expenses and summer cooling expenses. This program helps those in need avoid service disconnection, reconnection fees and deposits.

If You Need Energy Assistance

Call our main # (464-9736) to make an appointment. **You will need to bring the following items to your appointment:**

- Social Security Cards for all individuals in household
- Proof of Income for last 12 months for everyone in household over 18
- Most Current NIPSCO Bill
- Disconnect Bill (if you have one)

If you need assistance on obtaining some of these documents, [click here](#).

Contact

Carol or Valerie at 464-9736

RETIRED & SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Porter County engages persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs and to provide a high quality experience that will enrich the lives of the senior volunteers.

We have approximately 300 volunteers serving at over **50 not-for-profit partnering agencies** throughout Porter County. Some of these agencies include Porter County schools, libraries, nursing homes, National Lakeshore and many more.

RSVP of Porter County is also offering beginner computer classes to seniors. These classes are for seniors who have never used a computer before. The class consists of turning the computer on, moving the mouse, and basic email.

State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP)

The Porter County RSVP administers the SHIP program (State Health Insurance Assistance Programs) which provides free, unbiased assistance by trained volunteer counselors in choosing a Medicare supplement, Medicare prescription plan, long term care plans and much more.

Contact Person: **Joyce** Bolin (464-1028)

SECTION 8 HOUSING PROGRAM FOR PORTER COUNTY

Porter County Aging & Community Services administers the Section 8 Housing Program* for Porter County. This program allows low-income families to acquire adequate housing.

Contact

Barbara (464-9736)

**Section 8 is NOT currently accepting new applicants. If/when we are able to accept new applicants, it will be advertised in the local media.*

SENIOR NUTRITION

HEBRON SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER – JOSEPHINE, SITE MANAGER

611 MAIN ST
HEBRON, IN 46341

Site Telephone: (219) 996-5892

Hours: 8:00-4:00 Monday – Friday

- Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.
- (Optional) Donation per meal: \$1.50

CALL 996-5892 by 12 p.m. the Friday or Tuesday before your visit to reserve your meal.

If you need a ride to any of the Porter County senior centers, CALL Transportation 48 hours before your visit: 462-4302

VILLAGE PARK ENRICHMENT CENTER AT BANTA – ANNA ROGERS, DIRECTOR

605 BEECH ST
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

Site Telephone: (219) 462-1301

Hours: 8:30-4:00 Monday - Friday

- Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.
- (Optional) donation per meal: \$1.50.
- All meals prepared by Pines Village Retirement Communities staff.

- **For more information.**

If you need a ride to any of the Porter County senior centers, CALL Transportation 48 hours before your visit: 462-4302.

BONNER SENIOR CENTER – JANET CLEM, DIRECTOR

5800 LEXINGTON AVE
PORTAGE, IN 46368

Site Telephone: (219) 762-3591

Hours: 8:00-4:00 Monday – Friday

- Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.
- (Optional) donation per meal: \$1.50.
- Saturday pinochle is from 10:00-2:00.

If you need a ride to any of the Porter County senior centers, CALL Transportation 48 hours before your visit: 462-4302.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

To schedule a ride

- You MUST call **462-4302** between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday thru Friday at least **48 HOURS** prior to when the ride is needed.
- Intake Form [as a Word file](#) or [as a PDF file](#).
- Our buses run from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Cost

- One Way Trip: \$1.00 Round Trip: \$2.00
- Subsidies are available to seniors in need of assistance to cover cost of transportation.
- Subsidy Form [as a Word file](#) or [as a PDF file](#)

Rider's Guide and Responsibilities

Rider's Guide to Door-to-Door Demand Response Transportation as a [PDF file](#).

Contact

Flora, Transportation Director (219) 462-4302. View our Complaint/Compliment form as a [Word file](#) or as a [PDF file](#).

About the Transportation Program

For over 50 years, Porter County Aging & Community Services has been providing a relatively low cost demand response transportation service for the citizens of Porter County.

These services are open to the public and door to door, meaning clients can be picked up at their homes dropped off at their desired destination and returned to their homes.

We serve senior citizens and people with disabilities by providing door-to-door transportation. This enables them to have a more productive, independent, healthier and happier lifestyle. They rely on us to get them to life-sustaining dialysis treatments, doctor appointments, trips to the bank, grocery store, work, etc. Without our vans, many local seniors would go without necessary medical treatment. Others would go without groceries and many people with disabilities would not be able to sustain employment. Our transportation services are often the direct link between this population and the ability to be healthy, independent and productive citizens.

Drivers can help the elderly and those with disabilities get on the bus, carry groceries to their door and handle wheel chairs and car seats when needed.

<http://www.portercountyacs.org/transportation-program>

PORTER COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND ADULTS (219) 464-7382

The Porter County Association for Handicapped Children & Adults provides financial aid to handicapped residents in the following ways: assistance in purchase/rental of equipment, and lifelines; reimbursement for transportation to clinics or hospitals, etc., for treatment.

CONTACT INFO

53 Engel Dr.

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: 219-464-7382

<http://www.pcahca.org>

PORTER COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER (219) 531-3170

Public Secondary Institution.

Registered Nurse, Dental Technician, Phlebotomy Technician, Massage Therapist, Emergency Medical Tech, Veterinary Tech, Medical Transcriptionist, Certified Nursing Assistant, Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Nurse, Emergency Medical Technician, X-Ray Technician, Criminal Justice, Criminal Investigation, Industrial Mechanics, Modern Machining Technology, Welding Technology, Printing, Sports & Entertainment, Marketing & Business Ownership, Video Production & Media Studies, CISCO, Computer Aided Drafting & Animation, Electronics &

Computer Technology, Dental Assistant, Dental Hygienist, Product Representative, Dental Technician, Emergency Rescue Technology, Medical Terminology & Anatomy, Sports Medicine, Auto Technology, Construction Technology, Diesel Technology, Cosmetology, Culinary Science, Pre-school Teacher, Nanny, Elementary Teacher, Social Worker, Child Care Center Director. Public Secondary Institution

CONTACT INFO

1005 N. Franklin St.

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: 219-531-3170

Online: www.pccte.org

Contact: Debbie, Kelli, Kate or Jon
Locations vary depending on program.

PORTER COUNTY CAREER CENTER

Alternative High School - Enables students to complete a high school education using non-traditional methods. A work component is mandatory for enrollment. Interested students must get approval from their home school who will then make a referral. Students attend Monday through Friday from either 7:50am - 10:15am or 11:50am - 2:15pm. Cost is \$35 per semester. Contact Kathy Spears, Principal for more information.

Alternative Middle School - Small program for 7th or 8th grade students who need non-traditional approach to learning. Pro-social education and learning personal responsibility are major components of the program. Interested students must get approval from their home school who will then make the referral. Students attend Monday through Friday from 7:50am - 2:15pm. Cost is \$35 per semester. Contact Kathy Spears, Principal for more information.

After-School Options - Credit earning, computer program which is held after school hours. Referrals are made by the high schools. Students attend Monday through Thursday from 3:30pm-6:00pm but also has flexible hours. Cost is \$35 per credit. Call Kathy Spears for more information.

CONTACT INFO

1005 Franklin Street

Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

Phone: 219-531-3170

Fax: 219-531-3173

PORTER COUNTY DIVISION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN (219) 462-2112

Child Protection Services - Responsible for the investigation of child abuse/neglect allegations and provision of service referrals and crisis intervention (i.e. foster care, court involvement, non-court involved service referral agreements). To report a case of possible abuse or neglect call 462-7555 or 1-800-800-5556. Services provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Service is free of charge. Contact Kathleen Hannon at Ext. 239 for more information.

Foster Home Licensing - Responsible for overseeing licensing requirements (i.e. training, criminal history checks, home inspection, social summary, etc.) Responsible adults over the age of 21 are eligible to be foster parents.

Services offered Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm. This service is free of charge. Contact Janet Carlson at Ext. 244 for information.

Adoptive Home Licensing - Responsible for overseeing licensing requirements (i.e. training, criminal history checks, home inspection, social summary etc.) Provides post adoptive services and a support group. Services offered Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm. There is no charge for special needs adoptions. Other adoptions cost \$400 to \$600. Payment is required prior to the completion of the home study. Contact Janet Carlson at Ext. 244 for information.

Service Adoption/Stepparent Adoption Home Study - Non-agency sponsored court ordered studies for adoption. Services include home inspection, criminal history check, and social summary. Services offered Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm. The cost ranges from \$100 to \$200 and payment is required prior to the completion of the home study. Contact Steve Stofcik at Ext. 243 for more information.

Child Welfare (on-going) - Provides Case Management and Supervision to Children in Need of Services (CHINS) and their families. Provides permanency for children through reunification with parents or through adoption or other permanent plan. Provides case plans and court reviews to ensure appropriateness of the child's placement, the appropriateness of the services provided and the ability of the family to reintegrate the child safely back into the home. Services are provided Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm. Contact Peg Wisneski (until 5/1/03) at Ext. 277.

TANF: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families - Provides financial assistance to low income families with a dependent child under age 18 when that child is denied a parent due to the parent's absence, death, incapacity, unemployment or underemployment. Applications must be made at the DFC office in the county in which you live. Certain resource and income limits apply. Services offered Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm. Contact Jeanne Strupeck at Ext. 233 for information.

IMPACT: Indiana Manpower Placement and Comprehensive Training Program - Job related services provided to TANF and Food Stamps recipients to help them become economically self-sufficient. Eligible candidates must be recipients of TANF and/or Food Stamps.

Food Stamp Program - Federal program designed to raise the nutritional level of low income households by supplementing their available food purchasing dollars with food stamp benefits. Eligible households receive an EBT Card (Electronic Benefit Transfer), and they access their benefits using the EBT Card. Eligibility is based on the number of people in the household, resources, income and shelter expenses. Contact the local DFC office for specific information. The office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm. Contact Jeanne Strupeck at Ext. 233 for more information.

Hoosier Healthwise - A health insurance program offered by the State of Indiana for children from Birth until age 19. Health care benefits include hospital care, doctor visits, clinical services, prescription, lab and x-ray, mental health care, dental care, vision care, obstetrical, transportation and chiropractic care. Eligible children are ages Birth until 19, with family income is up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Most benefits are free, but those at the upper end of the eligibility income scale may be required to pay a monthly premium of up to \$24.75. Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm. Contact Jeanne Strupeck at Ext. 233 for more information.

Medicaid - Medical coverage for individual with a significant disability, the blind and those aged 65 and older. Resources must be under \$1500 for parents and children; coverage of bills is based on income of children and parents. Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm. Contact Jeanne Strupeck at Ext. 233 for more information.

CONTACT INFO

152 Indiana Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383-5514

Phone: 219-462-2112

Fax: 219-462-6817

PORTER COUNTY EDUCATION SERVICES (219) 464-9607

Special Education - PCEI provides special education and related services for with disabilities who reside within Porter County (Portage Township Schools, Valparaiso Community Schools, Duneland School Corporation, East Porter County School Corporation, M.S.D. of Boone Township, Porter Township School Corporation ad Union Township School Corporation) Upon referral by a school, parent or another party, an evaluation is conducted to determine if a student qualifies for and needs special education services based on Article 7 guidelines. There is no cost to students or their families for the evaluation or services. The contact person varies by school and district.

Preschool Child-Find Disability Screening and Evaluation - The screening and evaluation team includes a school psychologist, a special education teacher, and a speech pathologist. Will include parent interaction and child observation for preschoolers age 3 - 5. Screening may result in a recommendation and request for parental permission for a psycho-educational evaluation in order to determine eligibility for school based services. Eligibility is determined by the Article 7 Special Education Rule and the Indiana Department of Education. There is no fee for screenings, evaluations or services. Call Claudia Geise, SELF School Supervisor, for the schedule and questions.

Challenge Education - An Experiential Program designed to build and strengthen group relationships while emphasizing individual skills and personal development by raising an awareness of the dynamics of the class or organization. Participants learn to express needs while working toward a group goal. Both child and adult groups offered. Groups are scheduled according to availability of staff. Cost varies by group. Contact Dan Massa for availability and questions. Email - Dan_Massa@mail.pconet.k12.in.us.

CONTACT INFO

750 Ransom Road
Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: 219-464-9607
Fax: 219-462-0867

PORTER COUNTY FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER, INC (219) 364-2734

The Counseling Center provides counseling services to individuals and families in such areas as social adjustment, marital discord, pre-marriage counseling, problems of aging, unmarried parenthood, employment, school and adjustment. The Center also provides consultation services and community presentations.

PROGRAMS

Counseling Services

Clients are seen at PCFCC as individuals, couples or families for direct counseling. Unlike other larger public counseling centers, Porter County Family Counseling Center's intake procedure is

very streamlined. Each intake session generally lasts 50 (fifty) to 90 (ninety) minutes and if treatment is continued beyond this point, clients may be seen on a weekly or semi-weekly basis depending on their needs. Each client comes to the Center with different needs and goals and the intent is to see the client as often as needed to help them move toward improved functioning within their personal situations. The fee each client will pay is determined during the initial meeting with the therapist. The lowest sliding scale fee is \$10.00 a session. The initial intake session is \$15.00. No one is turned away because of an inability to pay our minimum fee. Clients unable to pay a minimum fee have the ability to schedule a Financial Review where they provide documented evidence of income and expenses. Some clients at PCFCC prefer to work in a group system for a determined period of time. Groups at PCFCC vary in topic and availability. Please visit our Courses/Training tab for more information on the group course material offered. Groups are offered on a sliding fee scale. Please call **219.364.2732** for information on which courses are currently available.

Courses/Training

PCFCC can tailor this training to your needs. These topics can be presented anywhere from a one hour speaking engagement, to a multi week course, to an ongoing class.

Anger Management

Keeping My Cool is a 13 week anger management group that teaches individuals the in's and out's of emotional regulation. This group provides a safe space for individuals to share their personal experiences with emotional regulation issues. This course will provide strategies to cope with a variety of emotions in constructive not destructive ways. Each week a new emotional management tool will be added to each participant's mental "toolbox."

Bridges Out of Poverty

In this training we will explore the mental models and hidden rules of social class. Learn about the psychological costs of poverty and learn constructs for change. Bridges Out of Poverty is a book and an approach that helps employers, community organizations, social-service agencies, and individuals address poverty in a comprehensive way. People from all economic classes come together to improve job retention rates, build resources, improve outcomes, and support those who are moving out of poverty.

Girl Power!

Girl Power! is an educational, skill-building and creative group designed to introduce girls to concepts and skills that promote a positive self-image. Girl Power assists girls to challenge social rules and media messages that diminish a girl's sense of self as they move toward adolescence. The group activities raise self-esteem, self-worth and increase abilities to cope with the upcoming teen challenges. Through a connection to inner resources girls will explore ways to claim a healthy connection to themselves, peers, and the community.

The Women's Empowerment Group

The Women's Empowerment Group is open to ALL women who would like to discuss various issues affecting women. The focus of the group is to provide education, information and support on a variety of topics which will be chosen by group members. It is held in a confidential, small setting and all levels of participation are supported.

Life Skills

Super 6 Life Skills! is a six month course that meets once a month to work on skills that enable participants to change and improve the skills necessary to move forward from homelessness, recovery from addiction or long term unemployment. The way individuals interact and perceive the world is integral to how much success they achieve. Learning new skills also keeps individuals competitive in the constantly changing world.

Safe Dates and Healthy Relationships

Safe Dates & Healthy Relationships is an educational, skill-building group for adolescent girls and boys where they learn to understand what constitutes a healthy relationship and an abusive relationship. Participants will identify and discuss dating abuse, its causes, and consequences and provide participants with the skills and resources to help themselves or friends in abusive dating relationships. Participants will learn to strengthen skills so they can continue to develop healthy dating relationships, that include positive communication, anger management, and conflict resolution.

Motivational Techniques

Progress Review/Motivational Techniques is a course designed for non-profit and for profit entities who are front end service providers. This training assists individuals in helping others to think differently about their behavior and ultimately to consider what might be gained through change. Motivational interviewing focuses on the present, and entails assisting others to access the motivation to change a particular behavior, that is not consistent with the individual's personal value or goal. Participants will also learn to roll with resistance, support self-efficacy, express empathy.

Funding

Make a Donation

PCFCC is a United Way funded partner. But as a not-for-profit, PCFCC is dependent on grants and contributions to remain open. Your individual support makes our mission possible.

PCFCC Undergraduate Internship Program

PCFCC Graduate Internship Program

TRAINING OVERVIEW

Porter County Family Counseling Center is committed to providing quality training to students in social work, counseling, PsyD programs and other mental health related fields. Internships are considered a mutual benefit to the student, the academic institution, and Porter County Family Counseling Center. Supervising students allows Porter County Family Counseling Center staff the opportunity to assist in the training of future professionals and, in return, providing well-trained students who make an invaluable contribution to the community and to their profession. Placement preference is given to academic institutions with well structured student training programs.

Placement of Interns will be at the discretion of the Clinical Director and the Executive Director, and will take into consideration the student's academic and field placement requirements, their current academic standing, as well as site and client availability.

Porter County Family Counseling Center has worked with master's and doctoral level students from Adler School of Professional Psychology, The Chicago School, Argosy, Roosevelt University, Indiana University Northwest and Valparaiso University. The center is open and welcomes any new relationships with schools and students from qualified graduate programs.

Our Collaborations

PCFCC and Moraine House

<http://www.morainehouse.org/>

Porter Family Counseling Center is collaborating with Moraine House to provide ongoing counseling services to Moraine House residents. The first of these is "Keeping My Cool Anger Management", which was developed with a Learn and Serve Fellowship grant.

PCFCC and Housing Opportunities

<http://www.housing-opportunities.com/>

Porter Family Counseling Center is collaborating with Housing Opportunities in Valparaiso to provide ongoing counseling services to Housing Opportunities residents.

PCFCC and Dayspring Women's Center

<http://www.dayspringvalpo.org/>

Porter Family Counseling Center is collaborating with Dayspring Women's Center in Valparaiso to provide ongoing counseling services to their clients.

CONTACT INFO

1005 N. Campbell Street
Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: 219-364-2734

PORTER COUNTY FAMILY COURT

A Division of the Porter County Juvenile Probation Department

Divorce and Paternity Mediation Services - Mediation services are provided to low income families going through a conflictual divorce or paternity case. Either an attorney or a non-attorney mediator provides services. May aid in issues surrounding a paternity or divorce action. Participants must have children and qualify as low-income. The Porter County Family Court pays for up to five hours of services. Appointments may be scheduled as needed.

Contact Alison Cox at (219) 465-3475 for additional information.

Paternity Facilitation Clinic - Mediation services are offered to families in paternity court through an action of the IV-D Prosecutor's Office. Mediation is performed prior to a hearing in the Juvenile Court. May aid in custody and visitation issues. Participants must have a pending paternity case in the Porter County Juvenile Court. Services are offered on Fridays from 9:00am-4:00pm. Program is free of charge.

Contact Alison Cox at (219) 465-3475 for additional information.

Project Attend - An early intervention truancy diversion program for children who are, or are becoming, chronically truant from school. Tutoring and support groups are offered as well as school and home monitoring. Services school age children with a focus on elementary age children. Participants must be referred by their school. Appointments are scheduled as needed. Program is free of charge.

Contact Julie Roytan at (219) 465-3475 for additional information.

Community Services Access Center - This program provides immediate service linkage for families going through a divorce, paternity action, or juvenile delinquency action. Center staff will meet with the family after the court hearing and link them to any court-ordered services or other services, which may be identified as needed.

Participants must have pending involvement in the Porter County Court System. Services are offered on Monday through Friday from 9:00am-4:00pm. This program is free of charge.

Contact Alison Cox at (219) 465-3475 for additional information.

Community Service Access Center Case Management - A program of in-home case management for families with pending court action in Porter County. May aid in service linkage and identification of services needs. Case management may be voluntary or court-ordered. Participants must have a pending court action in the Porter County Court System. Services are scheduled as needed. Program is free of charge to families. When applicable, Medicaid will be billed for services rendered by the case management staff.

Contact Alison Cox at (219) 465-3475 for additional information.

PORTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (219) 465-3525

HIV Counseling and Testing - Blood or oral specimen collection. Sent to ISDH for testing. All testing confidential. Allow 2 weeks for results. Risk behavior/reduction counseling also available. Must be Porter County resident at least 13 years of age. Does not have to be accompanied by parent/guardian. Available Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:30pm. Service is free of charge. Contact Karen Lain, RN for additional information or referral.

STD-Limited Testing/Treatment Program - Blood specimen collected for Hepatitis-B, syphilis. Sent to ISDH for testing. Treatment for other STD's available if previously examined and diagnosed by an M.D. Script can be brought to Porter County Health Department for treatment and counseling. Must be Porter County resident at least 14 years of age. Can be tested, counseled, and treated (syphilis) without parent present. Available Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:30pm, appointments preferred. Service is free of charge. Contact Karen Lain for additional information or appointment.

Childhood Immunizations - All childhood and adolescent immunizations offered for any child ages 1 month through the 18th year. Appointments required. Available Monday-Friday from 8:45am-11:30am and 1:30pm-3:45pm at several sites. Service is free of charge. Contact Ruth Ann Keilman for additional information or appointment.

Pregnancy Testing - Urine pregnancy testing and referrals for ages 13 and older. Service is free of charge. Available Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:30pm. Contact Lorraine Chango for additional information or appointment

CONTACT INFO

155 Indiana Ave. Suite 104

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: 219-465-3525

Fax: 219-465-3531

PORTER COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION (219) 465-3475

Juvenile Probation Department Serves under the Circuit Court Judge of Porter County. It is the duty of the Probation Department to review all complaints and allegations concerning matters covered by juvenile law. The Probation Department shall prepare and submit reports and recommendations as directed by statute and the Court, supervise and assist all juveniles and families as ordered by the Court, and maintain records of all matters within the Probation Department. Hours are Monday through Friday 8:30am-4:30pm. Closed on holidays.

Chronic Offender Response Team - A collaborative effort of the juvenile court system, schools, police agencies, and social service agencies to identify juveniles on probation who exhibit behaviors which would indicate that they may continue to commit delinquent acts without the intervention of additional attention and supervision. A case manager provides services to juveniles and their families in their homes during evening hours and weekends. Referrals are received from the Chronic Offender Response Team organizations.

CONTACT INFO

1660 South SR 2

Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: 219-465-3475
Fax: 219-465-3600

PORTER COUNTY P.A.C.T (219) 462-1127

Porter County PACT is concerned about assisting prisoners and ex-offenders to achieve personal and economic stability within the large community so that they do not have to revert to criminal activity. The services include counseling, social services, day reporting service, community service restitution program and a reconciliation program.

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH PROVEN PROGRAMS

Founded in 1977, Porter County PACT was one of seven, federally-sponsored, community service restitution pilot programs in the nation. The program created the first comprehensive day reporting center in Indiana and partnered in the development of Indiana's first certified Veterans Court program. Porter County PACT currently offers twelve programs and services for male and female, adult and juvenile victims and offenders.

Day Reporting Center (DRC): An evidence-based program that promotes community safety through services that engage participants in assessment, case management, cognitive behavioral classroom services, and drug testing. Staff members refer clients to appropriate treatment and help clients increase their motivation to change and participate in client advocacy.

Porter County Adult Drug Court: An enhancement of the DRC, this program is operated in partnership with the Honorable Julia Jent, and is certified through the Indiana Judicial Center as a Problem-Solving Court. Drug Court relies on team decision-making and employs evidence-based practices, including risk and need assessment, specialized assessment, case management, cognitive behavioral services, skill training with directed practice, client referral, and client advocacy. Adult Drug Court clients attend regularly scheduled court sessions throughout their participation in the program.

Veterans Court: Veterans Court is certified through the Indiana Judicial Center as a Problem-Solving Court and operated in partnership with the Honorable Julia Jent. The program employs team decision-making and relies on the principles of evidence-based practice. The Veterans Court also offers a mentoring component and services supported by the Veterans Administration and local treatment providers.

Electronic Monitoring Services (EMS): PACT offers both radio frequency and GPS monitoring to enhance community-based supervision of adults and juveniles referred by the Court. Individuals referred to Home Detention are required to adhere to strict schedules, and are to remain at their residence unless they are participating in an activity allowable by statute and authorized by program personnel, probation, and/or the sentencing Court.

Community Transition Program (CTP): Clients are engaged in assessment, case planning, case management, and other services designed to facilitate a successful transition from incarceration back into the community.

Porter County Alcohol & Drug Offender Services (PCADOS): PCADOS is certified through the Indiana Judicial Center to provide alcohol and drug services for individuals referred by the Court. The PCADOS program offers assessment and case management, as well as three levels of educational classes.

Stop Abuse and Violence Through Education (SAVE): Operated in conjunction with the local women's shelter, this program is designed for men charged with domestic battery and other offenses involving domestic violence. Individuals referred to the program must participate in weekly cognitive behavioral classes.

Constructive Anger Learning Methods (CALM): The CALM program provides cognitive behavioral services that challenge participants' attitudes and beliefs. This is accomplished through group processes, which include modeling of appropriate behaviors, skill building with role-playing activities, and real-life application through homework exercises.

Project Prevent Re-Occurring Offenses (Project PRO): Project PRO is designed to promote community safety through a containment team process. Individuals referred for placement have sexual offenses and participate in assessment, groups, meetings with their probation officers, and meetings with other providers as needed for polygraph testing.

Cognitive Behavioral Services: In addition to the above domestic violence, educational substance abuse groups and anger management curriculums, this department offers a gender responsive curriculum for criminal justice involved women ("Moving On"), and a thinking errors curriculum designed to help participants reduce their risk to reoffend ("Thinking For a Change").

Victim Impact Panel (VIP): A panel consisting of victims who have been injured by a drunk driver, or are friends/family members of someone injured or killed by a drunk driver, speaks about the impact of the accident on their lives to individuals with alcohol-related offenses.

Community Service Restitution (CSR): Individuals are ordered by the Court to perform a specified number of community service hours for nonprofit and governmental agencies.

CONTACT INFO

1356 W. Lincolnway
Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: 219-462-1127

PORTER COUNTY PROSECUTERS OFFICE (219) 465-3415

ADULT PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION PROGRAM

The diversion program is intended to give a second chance to offenders who commit a relatively minor criminal offense. Diversion is a privilege and not a right. There is no guarantee diversion will be granted in any given case. The needs of the offender are less important than those of public safety and the rights of the victim(s).

In determining whether or not to grant diversion, the prosecuting attorney will consider whether the defendant demonstrates a genuine sense of remorse and is prepared to acknowledge the act(s) charged and accountability for the consequences of their actions.

If you have further questions or need assistance with the adult diversion program, you may contact our office at 219-465-3415.

CHECK DECEPTION PROGRAM

Local merchants and private individuals in receipt of checks, returned for insufficient funds, or on a closed account are provided direction and assistance for collection. In the event payment is not received after notice, the case may be referred to a deputy prosecuting attorney for the filing of criminal charges.

Contact Check Collection Specialists Bonnie Smith at 219-465-3415.

CHILD SUPPORT DIVISION

Please view the Child Support Page.

This office is responsible for the enforcement of child support orders in divorce and paternity cases. In appropriate cases, blood tests are performed and paternity actions are filed.

Contact Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Laura Bernacki-Stafford, at 219-465-3405.

Child Support (IVD)

Payments

Effective immediately, Indiana Code Section 31-16-9-1 requires that child support payments be mailed to the Indiana State Central Collection Unit (INSCCU) at:

INSCCU
P.O. Box 7130
Indianapolis, IN 46207

Payments to INSCCU can be remitted in the form of personal check, money order, cashier's, or certified check made payable to "INSCCU". Do not send cash payments to the INSCCU address. Be certain that the Porter County cause number and payer's name are on all checks or money orders, and that they are legible.

A child support payment remittance form can be downloaded from the INSCCU's website

Child Support Annual Payer Fee

All persons paying child support payments through the Indiana child support system are assessed an annual processing fee by state law. The current fee is \$55.

Payment History

Payment histories can be obtained in the County Child Support Clerk's Office and cost \$1 per page. All payment history requests and case specific inquiries require a valid photo ID.

The telephone number for the County Child Support Clerk's Office is 219-465-3456.

Paternity Tests

This office is responsible for the enforcement of child support orders in divorce and paternity cases. In appropriate cases, blood tests are performed and paternity actions are filed.

Contact Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Laura Bernacki-Stafford, at 219-465-3405.

Support Recipient Address Change

- You may change your address to receive child support payments in person, or mail your notarized address change to the office. Please note all mailed address changes must be notarized.
- The Post Office will not forward child support checks even if you have changed your address at the Post Office.
- This process is for your protection, and will ensure the prompt and accurate handling of your support checks.

Support Payment Information

For additional information, contact the state helpline at 1-800-840-8757 or the prosecutor's child support at 219-465-3405.

CITIZENS COMPLAINT PROGRAM

The Prosecutor's Office receives and follows up on criminal complaints made by the public, which are not forwarded by local law enforcement agencies. A conscious effort is made toward mediation, often involving restitution and/or counseling. Other cases are referred to a deputy prosecuting attorney for the filing of criminal charges.

In Valparaiso and South County, contact Paula Toren at 219-465-3415.

In Portage and North County, contact Terri Olson at 219-759-8247.

CRIMINAL DIVISION

This division handles felony and misdemeanor prosecutions in the six Porter County courts. That includes everything from minor consuming to capital murder.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

Established in 1996 as part of the Violence Against Women Act, the Domestic Violence Unit includes two deputy prosecuting attorneys and a victim advocate whose mission is to handle all domestic violence cases filed by the Porter County prosecuting attorney.

Contact Victim Advocate Krystal Cano at 219-465-3422

For additional information please contact the **Caring Place at 219-464-0840** or the **Victim Assistance Unit at 219-465-3433**.

INFRACTION DEFERRAL PROGRAM

The Porter County Prosecutor's Office, in accordance with Indiana Code 34-4-32(f) has created the Infraction Deferral Program for the benefit of primarily law-abiding individuals who have been charged with a moving traffic offense.

Those who are eligible and successfully complete the program will have their violation dismissed and will avoid a conviction, possible points on a driving record and insurance ramifications.

For information contact Paula Toren at 219-465-3415.

JUVENILE DIVISION

Please view the Juvenile Justice page.

Indiana Law generally requires the crimes committed by those under the age of 18 years be treated differently. For any child under 18 years of age who commits a crime, or who is considered a truant, a runaway, incorrigible, or has committed a delinquent act a delinquency petition may be filed.

All delinquency petitions are filed in the Juvenile Court located at the Juvenile Services Center. All delinquency petitions are supervised by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Haraminac 219-465-3415.

PORTER COUNTY NARCOTICS UNIT (PCNU)

Please view the Drug Abuse page.

The Porter County Prosecutor's Office assumed responsibility for supervision of the PCNU in 1995. The Unit includes a Porter County prosecutor investigator who acts as coordinator for the officers from area law enforcement agencies who specialize in the investigation and prosecution of crimes relating to controlled substances and legend drugs.

Contact the Unit Coordinator and Porter County Investigator Robert Taylor at 219-465-3629.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Established in 1985, the Victim Assistance Program serves as an advocate for victims, keeping them informed on the progress of their case through the criminal justice system, assisting in the application for crime victim compensation, and acting as a liaison with other social service agencies.

Contact Victim Advocate Ona Torres at 219-465-3433. Or, for sexual assault victim issues contact Jaclyne Humphrey at 219-465-3408.

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

CONTACT INFO:

Victim Assistance

e-mail: va@porterco.org

Porter County Victim Assistance

16 Lincolnway

Suite 527

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: 219-465-3433

North County Victim Assistance

3560 Willowcreek Road

Portage, IN 46368

Phone: 219-759-8262

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sexual Assault

Phone: 219-465-3408

Domestic / Family Violence

Valparaiso

Phone: 219-465-3422

Portage

Phone: 219-759-8254

CONTACT INFO

16 Lincolnway

Suite 546

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: 219-465-3415

Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

PORTER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE (219) 465-3587

MISSION:

To assist veterans and their eligible family member to apply and receive all rightful veterans' state and federal entitlements. To provide veterans information or other assistance as required.

Who are County Veterans Service Officers?

CVSO's are veterans who stand ready to help you with your veteran-related needs. The County Veterans Service Officer have all the forms and other information you may need to obtain service from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as well as the forms for requesting State veterans' benefits. The Service Officers will assist you in finding the information and resources you need to solve your service-related problems. They are your liaison for all veteran issues. There is no charge for any of their services.

What types of services does the VSO offer?

We primarily focus on assisting veterans with:

- Claims for Disability Compensation
- Claims for Pensions (for limited income veterans/surviving spouses)
- Applications for VA Health Care

- Retrieving military documents such as discharge papers, service records, medical records
- Filing for eligibility benefits for Funeral/Burial

CONTACT INFO

Jim Atkinson, Director
Porter County Administration Center
 155 Indiana Ave, Suite 103
 Valparaiso, IN 46383

Hours

Monday – Friday
 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Phone: 219-465-3587

Fax: 219-465-3345

Veteran Service Officers:

Jim Atkinson – Accredited County Veterans Service Officer
 Louis Stanko – Assistant CVSO
 Paulina Huffman – Assistant CVSO
 Peg Lieber – Admin. Assitant

Satellite Location:

Porter County North County Complex
 3560 Willowcreek
 Portage, IN 46368

Hours:

Monday – Friday
 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Phone: 219-465-3587

PURDUE UNIVERSITY NORTH CENTRAL (219) 785-5200

Private, Post-Secondary.

Mon - Thu 8:00 am - 6:00 pm, Fri 8:00 am - 4:30pm

ASSOCIATE DEGREES: Building Construction Management, Business, Computer Information Technology, Concentrations in Networking, Information Systems, Electrical Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineer Technology, Organizational Leadership. BACHELOR DEGREES: Behavioral Science, Biology, Concentrations in Ecology, Microbiology, Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Veterinary Medicine, Business, Concentrations in Accounting, Economics, Law & Commerce, Management, Marketing, Communications, Computer Information Technology, Construction Engineering and Management, Technology, Early Childhood Education, Electrical Engineering, Elementary Education, Engineering Technology, Concentrations in Architectural Technology, Building Construction Management, Civil Engineering Technology, Electrical & Computer Engineering Technology, Industrial Engineering Technology, Interdisciplinary, English, General Liberal Arts, History, Human Resources, Liberal Studies, Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Nursing (BS 2 + 2), Nursing (BSN), Organizational Leadership, Concentrations in Accounting, Law & Commerce, Business, Industrial Engineering, Technology, Psychology, Secondary Education, Subject tracks in Chemistry, Life Sciences, Physical Science, Physics & Math, Social Work.

MASTER DEGREES: MBA, Elementary Education. Private Post-Secondary.

CONTACT INFO

1401 South U.S. 421
Westville, IN 46391
Phone: 219-785-5200
Fax: 219-785-5653
Online: www.pnc.edu

Contact: Admissions, admissions@pnc.edu

SPRING VALLEY HOMELESS SHELTER VALPARAISO (219) 548-2379

Provides transitional housing.

Transitional housing is affordable supportive housing designed to provide housing and appropriate support services to persons who are homeless or who are close to homelessness. The transition is to help them be more self sufficient to move towards independent living on their own. Transitional housing locations are oftentimes called Halfway Houses. The naming of the two (Halfway House OR Transitional House) is oftentimes interchangeable.

Many Transitional Housing programs are subsidized and are income based. Income based transitional housing generally charges 30% of your income for rent when you do have income. Contact the transitional housing facility to see if this applies.

Services provided at transitional housing facilities varies from substance abuse treatment, to psychological assistance, job training, domestic violence assistance, etc. The assistance provided varies, but it is generally affordable and low cost housing. Read the descriptions of each of the transitional living locations for more detailed information. Transitional housing facilities also may or may not assist with alcohol and/or drug substance abuse treatment. **Emergency Homeless Shelters** both provide short term relief for the homeless and low income persons. Usually there is a maximum stay of 3 months or less. Many of these shelters ask their clients to leave during the day. Meals and other supportive services are often offered. 3 times out of 5 these shelters offer their services free of charge.

CONTACT INFO

2001 Calumet Ave.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
219 548-2379

ST. AGNES ADULT DAY SERVICE CENTER (219) 464-1760

St. Agnes Adult Day Service Center provides daily care and socialization for adults with various infirmities associated with aging, including varying degrees of dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. This service also provides the Participant’s caregiver respite to pursue a job during the day or other needed activities away from the Participant. The center provides an environment in which all that occurs is directed toward improving the quality of each adult participant’s life. This is accomplished by treating every Participant with the highest level of dignity and respect – regardless of financial, physical, emotional, social, or mental impairments.

CONTACT INFO

1859 Harrison Blvd.
 Valparaiso, IN 46385
Phone: 219-477-5433

THE SALVATION ARMY (219) 762-9191

The Salvation Army provides emergency service needs to our community, such as rent and mortgage assistance, utility assistance, medical prescriptions, food, disaster relief, tutoring programs, women’s fellowship group, and after school character building activities for children.

<p>Porter County, IN Corps 799 Capitol Rd VALPARAISO</p> <p>Telephone: 219 762-9191 Email: EmiyEESmith@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://</p>	<p>Services Offered: Casework Services Character Building Programs Christian Education Community Recreation & Education Programs Emergency Financial Assistance Emergency Shelter Food & Nutrition Food & Nutrition Programs Men's Ministries Music & Arts</p>	<p>Programs Nutrition Programs Seasonal Services Women's Ministries Worship Services - Children's / Teen Worship Services - Church Worship Services - Sunday School Worship Services - Young Adult Worship Services - Youth Ministries</p>
<p>Merrillville (IN) Family Thrift Store & Donation Center 600 W 81st Avenue (US 30) MERRILLVILLE</p> <p>Telephone: 219-736-6240 Email: Robb_Buttrey@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://www.garyindiana.satruck.org</p>	<p>Services Offered: Salvation Army</p>	<p>Family Store</p>
<p>Gary-Merrillville 4800 Harrison St. GARY</p> <p>Telephone: (219) 887-9461 Email: Dale_Simmons@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://</p>	<p>Services Offered: Men's Ministries Music & Arts Programs Women's Ministries Worship Services - Children's / Teen Worship Services -</p>	<p>Church Worship Services - Sunday School Worship Services - Young Adult Worship Services - Youth Ministries</p>

Gary-Merrillville Worship & Service Center	Services Offered: Character Building Programs Christian Education Community Recreation & Education Programs Community Recreation Programs Disaster Services Emergency Financial Assistance Food & Nutrition Programs	Music & Arts Programs Seasonal Services Senior Citizens Residences Visitation Services Worship Services - Children's / Teen Worship Services - Church Worship Services - Sunday School Worship Services - Young Adult Worship Services - Youth Ministries
4800 Harrison Street MERRILLVILLE Telephone: (219) 887-6588 Email: Dale_Simmons@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://		
Gary(IN) Adult Rehabilitation Center & Administrative Offices	Services Offered: Christian Education Drop Box Men's Ministries	Rehabilitation Worship Services - Church
1351 Eleventh Avenue GARY Telephone: 219-882-9377 Email: Robert_Buttrey@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://www.garyindiana.satruck.org		
Gary (IN) Family Thrift Store & Donation Center	Services Offered: Salvation Army	Family Store
1351 W 11th Ave. GARY Telephone: 219-882-9377 ext. 110 Email: Robb_Buttrey@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://www.garyindiana.satruck.org		
Hammond (IN) Family Thrift Store & Donation Center	Services Offered: Salvation Army	Family Store
3438 169th St. HAMMOND Telephone: 219-844-8702 Email: Robb_Buttrey@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://www.garyindiana.satruck.org		
Michigan City (IN) Family Thrift Store & Donation Center	Services Offered: Salvation Army	Family Store
2309 Franklin St. MICHIGAN CITY Telephone: 219-872-8129 Email: Nelson_DeLaVergne@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://www.southbend.satruck.org		
Michigan City, IN Corps	Services Offered: Camping Activities Casework Services Character Building Programs Christian Education Community Recreation & Education Programs Community Recreation Programs Day Camp Activities Emergency Financial Assistance Emergency Shelter Food & Nutrition Food & Nutrition	Programs Men's Ministries Music & Arts Programs Residential Camping Activities Seasonal Services Visitation Services Women's Ministries Worship Services - Children's / Teen Worship Services - Church Worship Services - Sunday School Worship Services - Young Adult Worship Services - Youth Ministries
1202 S. Franklin St. MICHIGAN CITY Telephone: (219) 874-6885 Email: brian_burkett@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://		
Hammond-Munster, Indiana	Services Offered: Disaster Services Emergency Financial Assistance Food & Nutrition Food & Nutrition Programs Music & Arts Programs Seasonal Services	Women's Ministries Worship Services - Children's / Teen Worship Services - Church Worship Services - Sunday School
8225 Columbia Avenue MUNSTER Telephone: 219 838-0380 Email: Betsy_Clark@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: http://		

URBAN LEAGUE OF NORTHWEST INDIANA (219) 887-9621

The mission of the Urban League is to promote services in education, economic empowerment, health/wellness, civic leadership, civil rights, and social justice. They support and promote neighborhood community collaborations toward the improvement, capacity building, and awareness of citizens throughout Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties, which would encourage a better quality of life.

What We Do

The Urban League employs a five-point approach to provide economic empowerment, educational opportunities and the guarantee of civil rights for the citizens of Lake, Porter & LaPorte counties in the following areas:

- Education and Youth Empowerment
- Economic Empowerment
- Health and Wellness
- Civic Engagement and Leadership
- Civil Rights and Social Justice

CONTACT INFO

Urban League of NWI, Inc.

3101 Broadway

Gary, IN 46409

(219) 887-9621 Office

(219) 887-0020 Fax

info@urbanleagueofnwi.org

VALPARAISO FOOD PANTRIES

CHRISITIAN FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Mon & Weds 10 AM - Noon

CONTACT INFO

1507 Glendale Blvd

Valparaiso, IN 46383

Phone: 219-462-5615

FIRST CONTACT PORTER COUNTY

We are a conscientious, well-managed non-profit organization that can provide emergency food items, help with utility payment and emergency rent. Many Porter County churches provide financial support to us. All applicants are

screened to determine actual needs and provided with assistance for food, rent and utilities. Financial counseling is provided at no cost to the applicant. Vouchers for furniture and clothing are available to those in need.

Hours:

Monday - Friday 9AM-Noon

CONTACT INFO

61 Indiana Avenue, Suite D
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-462-8332

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES, INC

Housing Opportunities Inc. is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

Weds 9 AM - 11 AM & Thurs 1 PM - 3 PM.

CONTACT INFO

954 Eastport Centre Dr.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-548-2800

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Pantry hours:

Tues & Thurs 1PM – 3PM

CONTACT INFO

1700 Monticello Park Dr.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-462-8207

VILLAGE FOOD PANTRY

Provides a food pantry.

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Thursday: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

CONTACT INFO

604 E. Monroe St.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-531-1991

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY (219) 464-5011

Private, Post-Secondary.

BACHELOR DEGREES: Accounting, Actuarial Science, American Indian Studies, American Studies, Applied Statistics, Art, Astronomy, Biology, Biochemistry, Business Administration, Business (Liberal Arts), Chemistry, Chinese, Chinese and Japanese Studies, Civil Engineering, Classics (classical language and literature, classic civilization), Communication, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Criminology, Deaconess Plan, Digital Systems Design, Economics, Economics and Computer Analysis, Electrical, Engineering, Electronics, Elementary Education, Engineering, English, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Ethnic Studies, Exercise Science, Exploratory Program, Film Studies, Finance, French, Gender Studies, Geography, Geology, German, Health Care Leadership, Hebrew, History, Honors, Human Aging, International Economics and Cultural Affairs, International Business, International Service, Japanese, Latin, Management, Marketing, Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering, Mechanics and Materials, Meteorology, Middle-level Education, Modern European Studies, Music, Music Education, Nursing, Peace & Social Justice Studies, Philosophy, Physical Education, Physical Education Teacher,

Education, Physics, Political Communication, Political Science, Pre-Law, Pre-Med, Pre-Seminary, Preparation for Secondary Education Certification, Professional Chemistry, Psychology, Secondary Education Certification, Special Education, Social Work, Sociology and Criminology, Spanish, Sports Management, Sports Administration, TESOL, Theatre, Theatre Design, Theatre Production, Theology, Undecided, Urban Studies, Writing, Youth/Family/Education Ministry

MASTER DEGREES: Administration, Commerce, Economics, Technology & Media, Arts & Entertainment, Administration, Health Administration, Computational Science, Digital Media, Comparative Global Inquiry, Information Technology, International Commerce & Policy, International Economics & Finance, Sports Administration, Sports Media, Nursing & Business, BSN to Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP), Post-MSN Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP), Nursing Education, Nursing/Master of Business Administration, Business Administration, Engineering Management, Counseling & Education, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Education Specialist in School Counseling, Education Specialist in School Psychology, Initial Licensure, Initial Licensure (LEAPs Program), Initial Licensure (Teaching Chinese Track), Instructional Leadership, Humane Education, Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), Languages, Humanities, & Social Sciences, Chinese Studies, English Studies & Communication, Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), English, Ethics & Values, Gerontology, History, Humane Education, Human Behavior & Society, Theology, Theology & Ministry, Theology & Ministry-Deaconess Track, Individualized Concentration

DOCTORATE DEGREES: Nursing, Law POST-GRAD CERTIFICATE: Actuarial Science, Aeronautical Principles, Humane Education, Legal Studies & Principles, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), Sports Media, Management, Business Management, Engineering Management Management, Certificate for Counseling Students, Management Certificate for Nursing Students, English, Ethics & Values, Gerontology, History, Human Behavior & Society, Theology, Theology & Ministry CERTIFICATES: Information, Technology, and Communication, Geographic and Environmental Policy Systems (GEPS), Public Service and Leadership (PSL), Organizational Management, Fundamentals of Business Certificate; Private Post-Secondary.

CONTACT INFO

1700 Chapel Dr.
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-464-5011
Fax: 219-464-6898

www.valpo.edu

Contact: undergrad.admission@valpo.edu/
& Graduate.School@valpo.edu

VALPARAISO YMCA (219) 462-4185

The Valparaiso Family YMCA is an inclusive, inter-faith charitable organization founded in Christian principles and traditions, dedicated to instilling the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility, and providing for lifelong personal growth and the development of a healthy spirit, mind and body for all. As a part of the national and worldwide Y movement, the Valparaiso Family YMCA is all about promoting youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. The Valparaiso Family YMCA serves both Valparaiso, Indiana and the surrounding townships and has a membership of nearly 15,000 people. The Y's vision is to impact the community by expanding mission-driven programs through active collaboration with other organizations to influence positive decision-making that promotes healthy lifestyles while welcoming diversity and embracing inclusion. Facilities and programs available to the community include: Child Care and Preschool programs, wellness, sports, aquatics (two indoor pools), special needs and family enrichment programs. The Y also has an outdoor Pavilion and Community Room which are both available for special events and rentals.

CONTACT INFO

1201 Cumberland Crossing Drive
Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 462-4185

FACILITY HOURS:

Monday - Friday 5 AM - 10 PM

Saturday 7 AM - 6 PM

Sunday 12:30PM - 6 PM

Pool, Wellness and Gym Schedules may be found in DOWNLOADS (search "Schedules").

CHILD WATCH HOURS:

Monday - Friday 8 AM - 8 PM

Saturday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Youth Wellness Room hours may be found in DOWNLOADS.

THE VALPARAISO FAMILY Y

We are located at the Cumberland Development on the west side of North Calumet Avenue. Below is the address for your convenience.

1201 Cumberland Crossing Drive
Valparaiso, IN 46383
219/462-4185
FAX 219/477-4720

VALPO SKATES

Ben Franklin Middle School Gym Annex
605 Campbell Street
Valparaiso, IN 46385

For directions to Ben Franklin Annex/ Valpo Skates

SKATING HOURS:

Kindergarten-5th Grade Fridays, 6 - 9 p.m.

Family Skate Saturdays from 1 - 4 p.m.(for all ages)

For Skating Closings and other updates, please call (219) 462-4185 ext-3.

CHILD CARE AT THE Y

Located in the Childcare Wing of the Valparaiso Family YMCA. I.D. card must be presented to child care staff upon entering and exiting the child care wing.

464-9543 (464-YKID)

FACILITY HOURS:

Monday through Friday 6:00 am to 6:00 pm

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Y is closed on the following holidays. **Child Care programs may vary.**

- New Year's Day
- Easter
- Memorial Day
- July 4
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day (We are open regular hours the day after.)
- Christmas Day

Y PRESCHOOL DOWNTOWN

105 N. Washington Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383
219/462-0040

Located in BridgePoint Church (former YMCA facility) 2 blocks north of Lincolnway

VILLAGE PARK ENRICHMENT CENTER AT BANTA

ANNA ROGERS, DIRECTOR

- Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.
- (Optional) donation per meal: \$1.50.
- All meals prepared by Pines Village Retirement Communities staff.

If you need a ride to any of the Porter County senior centers, CALL Transportation 48 hours before your visit: 462-4302.

CONTACT INFO

605 BEECH ST
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

Phone: 219-462-1301

Hours: 8:30AM - 4:00PM Monday – Friday

VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION OF PORTER COUNTY

The Visiting Nurse Association of Porter County (VNA) is a nonprofit organization, providing home health care to patients in the community who are recovering, disabled, chronically or terminally ill and require medical treatment, pain control and symptom management, and/or assistance with the activities of daily living. The VNA's home care program includes: skilled nursing care; home health aide services; nutritional support; physical, occupational and speech therapies; home hospice and inpatient hospice care; telehealth; and medical social services. The VNA also provides supportive care including Meals on Wheels, Companion Homemaker and Lifeline. These programs allow our patients and clients to safely remain in their own home for as long as possible. The VNA also offers grief support for children, teens, young adults and families with age appropriate activities and support groups through the VNA Phoenix Center.

CONTACT INFO

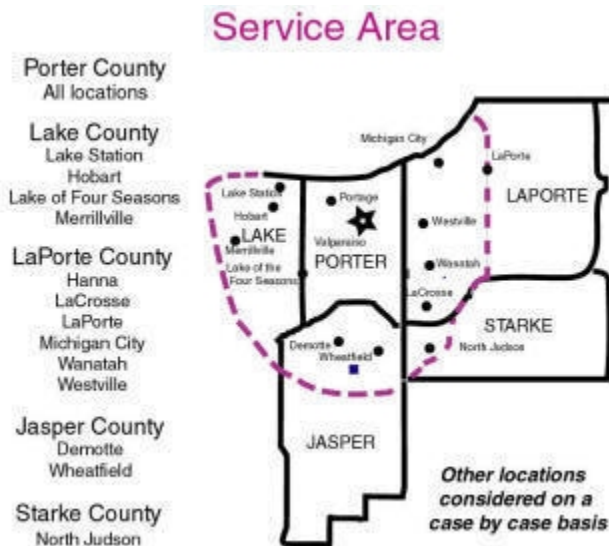
2401 Valley Drive
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

Phone: 219-462-5195

Fax: 219-462-6020

Email: webmaster@vnaportercounty.org

HOME CARE SERVICES...



VNA nurses, home health aides, medical social workers, therapists and other health care professionals work together with physicians as a team to provide a total health care plan for each patient.

A referral for care may be made by a physician, hospital discharge planner, friend or family member, or patient.

Our Referral Coordinator, a registered nurse, initiates a package of services, based on the current needs of the patient and the orders of the patient's physician. These services may include nursing, home health aides, therapies, medical social services, or hospice.

The patient's own physician is involved as a key member of the home care team. Contact between the VNA staff and the patient's physician is ongoing. Staff members provide feedback to the physician about the patient's progress and note changes in the patient's condition. They function as the "eyes and ears of the physician" outside the physician's office.

Our caregivers combine "high tech" medicine with "high touch," compassionate care, in the comfort of the patient's home. VNA staff stay abreast of the latest medical developments and broaden their areas of expertise through continuing education. Our team includes a certified wound care specialist, case managers, and nurses certified in hospice and palliative care. (Return to top)

Nursing Care

VNA nurses are central to the care provided in the home. They conduct patient and environmental assessments and coordinate the care provided by all team members. VNA nurses are available to patients 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for phone consultation or, when necessary, a home visit.

VNA nurses offer a wide range of specialized services including wound care, home infusion, and hospice care. VNA nurses keep the patient's own physician informed of significant changes in the patient's condition.

They also provide instruction and education to family, caregivers, and patients on the disease, treatment plan, medications, diet, injections, IV infusions, and dressing changes. (Return to top)

Social Services

During illness and recovery, patient and family are often faced with overwhelming emotional and financial issues. The social service staff provides support in dealing with these issues and acts as a patient advocate and resource person.

The social service staff:

Helps patients and families reorganize their own resources to best deal with their situation.

Helps patients make connections with other community resources

Helps patients with the long range planning and coordination of services.

Helps patients accept changes in lifestyle due to physical limitations

Has a thorough knowledge of Medicare/Medicaid insurance reimbursement policies that families may find bewildering.

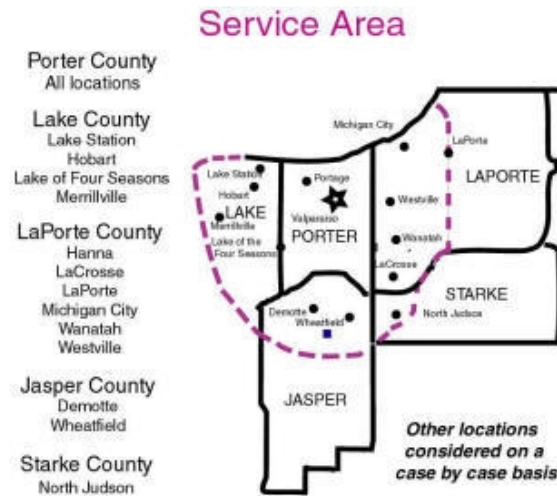
Therapy

The VNA offers a full spectrum of rehabilitation therapies to assess patients' abilities and disabilities and improve patients' activities of daily living, with the goal of restoring function and striving toward optimum performance.

Physical therapists work with patients to improve strength; to move safely within the home; and to gain independence in walking, climbing stairs; and moving from one location to another at home.

Occupational therapists work with patients to improve strength; to increase home safety; to bathe themselves; to prepare meals; to retain or regain fine motor coordination; and to provide instruction and adaptive equipment so that patients can improve their ability to care for themselves.

Speech therapists work with patients to provide treatment for speech and cognitive difficulties and swallowing disorders and to assist staff and family members in communicating effectively with the patient.



Hospice is a way of caring that brings comfort to persons living with a terminal illness, and gives support to them as well as to their families. Hospice neither hastens nor postpones death, but affirms life, emphasizing quality, not length. Patients live their final days with peace and dignity, either in the comfort of their own home, long term care facility, or the VNA Arthur B. and Ethel V. Horton Hospice Center.

Hospice care is provided by an interdisciplinary team consisting of the patient and family, the patient's physician, the VNA Hospice medical director, nurses, Hospice social workers, home health aides, the patient's clergy or VNA Hospice clergy, therapists, and specially trained Hospice volunteers.

The team provides pain management and symptom control, along with psychosocial, emotional and spiritual support. The Hospice team respects the patient and family unit's right to make decisions about his or her own care.

The goal of Hospice is to enable terminally ill patients to live life as fully as possible with a spirit of hope and a sense of personal satisfaction and worth.

Hospice Services

All Hospice patients receive a combination of services and support provided by the Hospice team:

- Scheduled visits by the interdisciplinary Hospice team members.
- Pain management and symptom control.
- Instruction, consultation and support for the family.
- Direction of care by the patient's physician.
- 24 hour, 7 day a week on-call availability of a Registered Nurse to answer questions, discuss concerns and visit patients when needed.
- Companionship and support provided by volunteers.
- Communication with patient's clergy or spiritual support provided by Hospice chaplain.
- Social services to assist with psychosocial, emotional and financial needs.
- Bereavement services including mailings, support groups, memorial services, and counseling for family and caregivers to assist in coping with the death of a loved one.

VNA Hospice Home Care and the VNA Arthur B. and Ethel V. Horton Hospice Center are certified providers of the Hospice Medicare Benefit and certified by the Indiana State Department of Health.

Admission Criteria for Hospice Care

There are several criteria for admission, such as:

- The patient has a limited life expectancy of six months or less.
- Curative medical intervention is no longer possible or desired.
- An attending physician is directing the patient's care.
- Patients receiving VNA Hospice Care in their home must have a plan to have caregivers who will provide care between Hospice staff visits, when needed.
- A patient must reside in Northwest Indiana, within the geographical coverage area of the agency.

Hospice Care is covered by Medicare and Medicaid, some private insurance programs, individual resources and donations.

VNA HOSPICE



WE HONOR VETERANS

VNA Honors Veterans

The VNA Hospice We Honor Veterans program focuses on respectful inquiry, compassionate listening and grateful acknowledgement of a veteran's service and sacrifice. Understanding that patients might have needs related to their military service, combat experience or other traumatic events, Hospice works to find the tools to help support our veteran patients and their families. Our goal is to give veterans an opportunity to tell their stories, to thank them for their service and to show appreciation to their families.

It is an honor to provide service to those who have served in our name.

VNA Hospice is proud to be a national partner of We Honor Veterans, a campaign developed by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

When a Veteran Enrolls in Hospice Care...

The veteran's specific needs related to military service are identified, so that optimal end of life care can be provided. By providing care specifically tailored to veterans and their families and meeting the veteran's goals for care in their preferred setting, Hospice is better able to accompany them toward a more peaceful end of life.

As a We Honor Veterans partner, the VNA provides ongoing Veteran-centered education for hospice staff and volunteers to help enhance the care Veterans receive to better meet their needs, as well as providing important resource information to Veterans about the tools and benefits available to them.

Allowing the Veteran and their family to lead the conversation, VNA hospice staff and volunteers listen with compassion, often learning about specific concerns or needs the patient or family faces. If the Veteran is willing, the VNA Hospice program gratefully acknowledges the Veteran and his or her service through a special ceremony, which includes presentation of a flag pin, certificate and handmade-made red, white, and blue afghan in honor of their service.

VNA PHOENIX CENTER

501 Marquette St. Valparaiso, IN

Thanks to Give Day for Kids donors, the VNA Phoenix Center raised more than \$11,000 to provide support for children grieving the loss of someone they love!

Mission

To provide support in a safe place where grieving children, teens, families and adults can share their experiences as they move through their grief process.

Guiding Principles

- Grief is a natural reaction to the loss of a loved one.
- Within each individual is the capacity to heal.
- The duration and intensity of grief is unique for each individual.
- Caring and acceptance assist in the healing process.

The VNA has provided compassionate care in the community for 40 years. Through our hospice program we are able to journey with families until their loved one passes away. Some of the children have asked “what about me, what happens to me?”

In answer to that question, and in response to the need demonstrated through the Community Needs Assessment Survey conducted in cooperation with Valparaiso University, the VNA has established the VNA Phoenix Center.

Through the needs assessment, we learned that there really aren't any programs for children in our community – but the need is great. Those who responded to the survey identified over 800 children with whom they had contact who might have benefitted from grief support. According to census reports, 1 in 20 children – that breaks down to 2,100 children in Porter County alone - may experience the loss of a parent by age 15. And 1 in 5 will lose a close friend or family member.

Program Information

The VNA Phoenix Center offers volunteer facilitated, age appropriate peer support groups and activities for children.

The groups begin in the “Talking Room” with an opening circle and activity. The children decide as a group at that time if they would like to move to the art room, play area with dress up clothing and a puppet theatre, Healing Garden or Volcano Room. The teens also have the option of moving to the teen room to talk or the Big Energy Room to play Wii or foosball.

All children, regardless of age must be accompanied by an adult. The adults will be offered a support group separate from the children to assist them in their grief and/or assist them to communicate with or understand what a child might be saying at home. If the adult chooses not to participate in group they may wait in the reception area or kitchen, but may not leave the building.

The Center does not provide therapy or individual counseling.

There is no mandatory time frame for attendance. Children may come to the Center for as long as they like. Some may only need to come a few times to help them realize they are not alone and not so different. Others may need a year or two. Some may leave and come back as they grow and change and have new feelings to deal with.

The program is offered free of charge to the community.

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Donations

While the program is offered free of charge, we rely on the support of individuals, businesses, organizations and foundations, as well as support from families who have benefitted from the program to help us continue to provide this much needed service. In addition, ongoing donations of much needed supplies are always welcome. (Click here for our printable Wish List) For more information on how you might support the VNA Phoenix Center, please contact the Development Office at (219) 531-8078 or by email at mgalka@vnaportercounty.org.

Contact Information

To learn more about the program, contact the children's bereavement program supervisor, Michele Murphy-Wise at (219) 531-8042. You may also email to mmurphy-wise@vnaportercounty.org
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The mission of the Visiting Nurse Association is to provide compassionate home and hospice care in an innovative and personalized manner to those in need, within the resources available, enabling them to preserve their dignity and maintain their highest level of independence.

SUPPORT SERVICES...

The Visiting Nurse Association understands that there's no place like home. And we're committed to providing services you or your family member need or want—in the comfort of your home.

Perhaps you have returned home from a recent hospital stay. You may need temporary help — someone to assist with bathing, dressing, or just getting around while you regain your strength and continue your recovery. Perhaps you need assistance with shopping, with meal preparation, or would prefer a meal delivered to your home.

If you are responsible for the care of another—a disabled spouse, elderly parent, or handicapped individual—you might find it a welcome relief to have assistance on an occasional or regular basis.

VNA Support Services provides the level of care tailored to meet the needs of you and your family and can be used to supplement the home health care services you may already receive through agencies such as the Visiting Nurse Association.

Fees charged for programs provided through VNA Support Services generally are paid by the client, the client's family, or private insurance. However, many programs are made affordable to those of limited income by government funding, United Way of Porter County, fund raising events donations, and the efforts of volunteers. (Return to top)

Companion Homemaker

Services provided by Companion homemakers may include: companionship, supervision for safety, general housecleaning (change bed linens, do laundry, vacuuming, dusting, clean kitchen and bathrooms, put out trash) meal preparation and clean up, grocery shopping, and errands.
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Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is a program that nourishes body and soul, bringing the community together to deliver nutritious meals to our clients in their homes. Diet specialists, VNA staff, Meals on Wheels volunteers, families, neighbors and friends—all work together to make sure that our clients' needs are met.

Five days a week, caring volunteers hop in their cars at midday and deliver meals to clients in Valparaiso, South Haven, Chesterton, Portage, Hebron and Kouts. Volunteers provide either one or two nutritious meals transported in special insulated carriers for maximum safety and temperature control. Every weekday, more than half of our clients receive two meals—a tasty hot lunch plus a light supper. The rest of our clients prefer the hot lunch only.

Meals are prepared with careful attention to any special dietary needs clients may have. This is especially important to assure promotion of health through proper nutrition.

The Meals on Wheels program is available Monday through Friday, 52 weeks a year, except on the six major holidays. (On weekends and holidays, families and friends are encouraged to share meals and quality time with their loved one.) (Return to top)

Lifeline

Lifeline is a Personal Response System that provides help at the touch of a button 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This vital safety net helps to ensure independence and well-being, enabling many people to remain in the familiar and comforting surroundings of their own homes despite illness or disability. It also provides reassurance that help is always near for those who live alone.

In case of an emergency, you just touch a button worn on a pendant around your wrist or neck and you are instantly in contact with the Lifeline Response Center. Depending on your need, Lifeline alerts a family member, friend or Emergency Response Team, and the help you need is on the way.

As well as providing immediate emergency contact, Lifeline can be programmed to remind you when it's time to take your medications. The system also automatically self-tests all of its components daily.

The Lifeline system connects easily into your own home phone line and wall outlet. In case of emergency, just press the water-proof button on the pendant worn around your neck or wrist and the system will automatically contact you to see what help you need.

The Lifeline system is installed by the Lifeline Coordinator or Lifeline volunteer, Monday through Friday. They will install the unit and take personal information, including names of your emergency contacts, so that our Lifeline operators can serve you promptly and efficiently. (Return to top)

Please call us at 462-5195 to discuss the services you need.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Fellowship Baptist Church is a food pantry.

Food pantry service hours:

S 9:30 AM- 8PM Weds 7PM – 9PM.

CONTACT INFO

453 W. Main St.

Westville, IN 46391

Phone: 219-785-6131