



**Harborcreek Youth Services**  
5712 Iroquois Avenue • Harborcreek, PA 16421

# Harborcreek Happenings

## Computer Lab Encourages Skill-Building

### TAKE NOTE

#### Easter Observance

In observance of the Easter holiday, administrative offices will be closed on Friday, April 6 and Monday, April 9.

#### HYS Open House

Harborcreek Youth Services will be hosting an Open House on Friday, May 4. Additional details will be released as plans are finalized. Save the date!

We are accredited by



Clients at Harborcreek Youth Services are building new skills – including researching, writing, and critical thinking – using the 13 computers that comprise the computer lab at our Main Campus school. Transitional Living students use the computers to write their resumes. Another class searched the Internet for information about the life and work of Martin Luther King, then used the results of their efforts to create biography posters for Black History Month.

Clients are proud of their work in the lab and are eager to expand their on-line expertise. The lab boosts self-esteem and builds technical skills that en-

hance employability. In addition, computer time is a popular reward for good behavior and has proved to be an excellent incentive for meeting treatment goals.

To ensure the clients' on-line safety, HYS has installed an Internet filter that prohibits

access to sites that promote violence, drug and alcohol use, sexual activity, and other prohibited behaviors. In addition, students are always closely supervised while using computers, and are not permitted to send or receive communications via e-mail.



### Questions?

For more information about our treatment programs and services, visit our Web site at [www.hys-erie.org](http://www.hys-erie.org) or call Amy Daley, Director of Intake and Case Management, at (814) 899-7664, Extension 411.

## MST Program Yields Positive Outcomes

Harborcreek Youth Services' new Multisystemic Therapy (MST) program is now serving 20 clients and has already successfully discharged seven others. MST is an intensive, in-home, evidence-based treatment

program that addresses the needs of chronically delinquent and/or emotionally troubled adolescents and their families. Recent "graduates" of our MST program have demonstrated a very low rate of recidivism and are func-

tioning well in their communities. For more information, call Joe Ropelewski, MST Project Director, at (814) 434-4665 or visit our Web site at [www.hys-erie.org/mst.htm](http://www.hys-erie.org/mst.htm).



The FISH! philosophy is simple:  
Work can — and should! — be fun



## Something's FISH!-y at HYS

A new incentive program is underway at Harborcreek Youth Services. It's called FISH! and it's based on a morale-building philosophy that originated at Seattle's Pike Place Fish Market. The program is built on four basic ideas:

1. Choose your attitude
2. Play (be serious about your work, but not yourself)
3. Be present (focus on the task at hand)
4. Make someone else's day.

Many different types of businesses and organizations around the world have made the FISH! philosophy a part of their corporate cultures, with the result of better team-

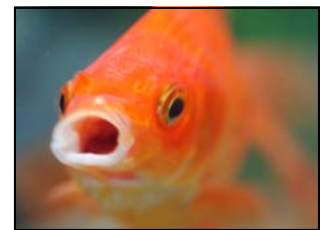
work and efficiency and lower employee turnover. We're introducing FISH! to HYS in several ways:

- Posters that explain the core FISH! concepts have been placed throughout the agency
- Forms entitled "Catch and Release the Potential: Encouraging One Another to Achieve!" are readily available. Employees are invited to recognize co-workers who are living out FISH! principles at work by using the form to describe an exemplary action, then submitting the form to the HYS Incentive Committee. The committee reviews the forms and passes out FISH! rewards – fishy

pens, buttons, and lanyards – to the nominees

- The names of FISH! award winners are published each month in the employee newsletter, *Kaleidoscope*
- The FISH! philosophy is regularly promoted at agency-wide employee meetings.

And on a not entirely unrelated note, our Annual Trout Derby is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9. Happy fishing!



## Specialist Teaches Social Skills and Self-Respect

Part of Davina Knight's job as Specialist in the Army National Guard involves educating Harborcreek Youth Services' clients about the dangers of smoking and drug abuse, and conducting after-school activities that encourage cooperation, self-improvement, and communication.

Davina works for the Pennsyl-

vania National Guard's Counterdrug Program in northwestern Pennsylvania. She receives no pay from HYS for the work she does at our agency, but her services are invaluable. As a mentor, instructor, and team



*Davina Knight*

builder, Davina inspires our clients to respect themselves and others.

Among the very popular activities that Davina recently designed

and implemented were an Egg Drop Activity, which required

clients to work in teams to find a way to prevent an egg from breaking when dropped down a stairwell, and a Tallest Tower Activity, which involved collecting cardboard boxes and plastic bottles, then using these items to construct the highest possible freestanding structure.

Thanks, Davina, for your dedication to our youth!