



# HEARTLAND INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER

**October-  
December  
2011**

The non-residential Independent Living Center serving Franklin, Gasconade & Maries Counties.

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## **The Director's View!**

Is it just me, or did the year 2011 come and go in the blink of an eye? It hardly seems possible that it has already been 12 months since I was recapping a whirlwind 2010 in this newsletter. 2011 was highlighted by a number of accomplishments for the Center.

In July, HILC received the long-anticipated news that our application to provide in-home care services had been approved by the Department of Health and Senior Services. As a result, HILC In-Home Care began services to area clients on August 1st, joining Heartland's Consumer Directed Services (CDS) program in providing in-home attendant care services. HILC In-Home Care allows the Center to provide services to Veterans or their surviving spouse, provide a number of respite care programs, and also serve youth under the age of 18, private pay and private insurance clients. These are all areas not available through the CDS program.

In May, the Center created a much needed nursing home transition program. This program will partner with nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the area to assist individuals who have the desire and ability to return to their own home with the resources to do so. A new contract through DHSS will allow Heartland to work with nursing home residents in determining if returning to their own home is feasible.

In April, our office in Union was dedicated in the name of long time HILC board member Chris Manhart. Chris, his mom Marge and dad Charles, have been involved in Heartland since our creation. Sadly, Chris was hospitalized just before the ceremonies and he died in early June. Chris was able to see a video of the dedication ceremonies before he passed and was overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and respect given him during the ceremony. The Manhart office celebrated its first anniversary on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Those were the major highlights of another eventful year. All of these and many other milestones were part of a challenging, successful year for Heartland Independent Living Center!

*Pat Chambers*

Executive Director

# Consumer Stories

The following letters were submitted by **Heartland Independent Living Center** consumers



Pictured above are Kim Krekel and her Mom Deanna.

*My name is Kim Krekel. I have been with Heartland for several years. I rely on Heartland to take care of my needs with just a phone call to them. Over the years, I have been able to remain living on my own, which makes me very happy. Heartland has a caretaker for me who cleans my apartment. She also takes me places when I need to shop. Heartland has allowed me to stay living on my own, by myself and I am very happy to be with them.*

**Shop**



**And support Heartland**

You can lend financial support to your local Independent Living Center when you shop at your local or area Schnucks Supermarket!

Heartland Independent Living Center has joined Schnucks eScrip Community Card fundraising program. It's very easy to get involved. Just pick up a Schnucks eScrip Community Card on your next visit to your local or area Schnucks and register your card for Heartland Independent Living Center. Pay for your groceries any way you chose. Schnucks will contribute up to three percent of your purchases to HILC every time you shop and swipe your card. It's free, it's easy, it's powerful and it supports Heartland. Your participation and support will be greatly appreciated!

## **Beware of the Sharks Baiting the Desperate & Disabled in Missouri**

(Contributed)

SHARKS prey on the desperate and disabled in our state! Loan Sharks lure them in with a quick fix to their immediate cash shortfall. Many have fallen on hard times due to temporary loss of income and turned to payday loans and title loans to pay rent and utilities. They take out loan after loan with several payday loan businesses, borrowing from Peter to pay Paul.

These predatory lenders charge 443% to 1900% interest from a mother with a sick child in the hospital, seniors on fixed income needing home repair, developmentally disabled that cannot understand what they are signing. What has happened in our state? We once had usury laws that prohibited what was considered the game of organized crime. Would anyone except the desperate and developmentally disabled take out a loan at these rates?

Taking advantage of our neighbors when they are down is immoral, even if not illegal. These businesses say a lot about who we are in Missouri. Speak for those that cannot speak up for themselves because of desperation or lack of knowledge. Call, write or email your State Representative and State Senator in Jefferson City and let them know your stand on predatory lending. These "Sharks" may attack your college student, parents or other family members that may fall on hard times if they have not been lured in already.

***Heartland will be closed Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Day.***

# **Your State Lawmakers May be Changing!**

## **From the Associated Press**

JEFFERSON CITY: A panel of Missouri appeals court judges released new boundaries for Missouri House and Senate districts Wednesday (November 30<sup>th</sup>) based on the 2010 census, saying some "significant changes" were necessary to account for population shifts during the past decade. The new maps that reshaped districts across the state will take effect for 2012 elections.

State legislative districts are redrawn each decade after the census. Missouri's population grew by about 7 percent, but the growth was not equally distributed. The southwest corner of the state and the outer St. Louis suburbs were among the fastest-growing areas, while St. Louis City and St. Louis County each lost population since 2000.

The new districts for the 34-member Senate and 163-member House were developed by a commission of six appeals court judges because state redistricting commissions with an equal number of Republicans and Democrats deadlocked this summer.

"We have worked collaboratively to draw maps that comply with the constitution, the Voting Rights Act and other legal requirements," said Judge Lisa White Hardwick, who was the chairwoman of the redistricting commission.

Candidate filing for the August political party primaries runs from Feb. 28 through March 27. Those winners then will face off in the November 2012 general elections.

Heartland Independent Living Center encourages you to find out if the new boundaries will result in a change of your particular State Representative and/or State Senator. That information can easily be obtained by contacting your County Clerk who is the Chief Elections Official for your respective county, or by contacting the office(s) of your current State Representative or State Senator.

## **Consumers Benefiting from HILC's AmeriCorps VISTA Program**

Heartland Independent Living Center programs and services are benefiting from the support being offered by AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) members who arrived last summer. Jeremy Kane and Laura Willhite are filling two of the three VISTA assignments given to HILC after they completed a Pre Service Orientation in New Mexico last June.

Kane, a New Jersey native, is a 2011 graduate of the University of Chicago, with a BA degree in English Language and Literature. Kane is working with the HILC grant writing and outreach programs. Willhite, an Owensville resident, is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. She has worked with Community Action agencies for the last six years. Center outreach will be her main focus at Heartland.

AmeriCorps VISTA provides full-time members to non-profit, faith-based, and other community organizations and public agencies to create and expand programs that ultimately bring low-income and disabled individuals and communities out of poverty.

The VISTA's efforts have enhanced HILC's programs and program goals by increasing outreach to the underserved populations of people living with disability.

Heartland was recently notified that they have been renewed for the second of a possible three year program. A third VISTA member, to assist with modifications and nursing home transition, is expected to join Heartland in late February or early March.

# HILC Hosts Vaccination Clinic

Heartland Independent Living Center partnered with the Gasconade County Health Department in early November to offer area residents a Free TDap injection. The shot vaccinates for Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis.

The one-day event was held at Heartland's Owensville office on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Those who took advantage of the vaccination were asked to bring a donation of canned goods which were given to the Helping Hands Food Pantry in Owensville.



## New Independent Living- Transition Specialist Joins HILC

Denise Greene joined the Heartland Independent Living Center staff in late November. She joins Debbie Skasick, Patty Gibson and Michael Miller as an Independent Living Specialist with additional responsibilities as Heartland's Nursing Home Transition Coordinator.

Denise is a native of the Chicago suburbs. She moved to Missouri in 2006. She has over twenty years' experience with children and adults with various disabilities. Denise is a certified Interpreter for the Deaf. She has taught American Sign Language classes for several school districts and communities.

She and her husband of four years, Charles, moved from St. Louis to Union last June. They hope to become foster parents this year.

## Is Someone pretending to be YOU? From the Clearview Times

The Federal Trade Commission received more than 275,000 complaints of identity theft in 2009. That's bad news. The good news is that the 2009 figure represents an 11.5% drop from the peak year of 2008, and a private study suggests there was a 28% decrease in 2010.

It's possible that cases of identity theft have dropped because consumers are becoming increasingly aware of it. How can you tell whether someone may be stealing your identity? Be alert to the following signs:

- Bills that do not arrive as expected.
- Unexpected credit cards or account statements.
- Denials of credit for no apparent reason.
- Calls or letters about purchases you did not make.
- Charges on your financial statements that you don't recognize.

It's also important to inspect your credit report regularly. The three major credit reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion, are required to give you a free copy of your report every 12 months, if you request it.

# Heartland Independent Living Center 2011 Staff



(Top row, L to R) Laura Willhite, Maggie Brooks, Judy Miller, Patty Gibson, Ann Cassidy, Michele Hartzell, Shirley Lindemeyer, Lynne Linhardt, Jeremy Kane. (lower row, L to R) Goldie Parrett, Pat Chambers, Lori Williams, Angie Jones, Joyce Wenzel, Kay Nicks, Mary Diestelkamp, Debbie Skasick, Dana Loughridge, Dana Koch and Brett Rolwes. Not pictured are Denise Greene and Michael Miller

## 2012 Holiday Schedule for Heartland Independent Living Center

Heartland Independent Living Center will be closed on the holidays (or observed holidays) listed below:

Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

Martin Luther King Day  
President's Day  
Good Friday  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Veteran's Day (observed)  
Thanksgiving  
Thanksgiving holiday  
Christmas

**Best Wishes  
For a Happy, Healthy &  
Prosperous  
2012**



Pictured above are several Heartland staff members enjoying the delicious food and great fun the Center's Blue Team provided at the Center's Christmas dinner and party last month

***Heartland ILC  
1010 Hwy 28 West  
Owensville, MO. 65066***



A group of area residents turned out to learn about the value of using coupons to stretch their shopping dollars during a free seminar at the HILC last October.

**From  
Heartland Independent  
Living Center &  
HILC In-Home Care!**

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