

# HealthVisions Update

HealthVisions Midwest, Inc.—Lake County, IN  
Health Ministry Partnership— St. Joseph, Marshall, Elkhart County, IN  
HealthVisions Fort Wayne—Allen County, IN  
Living for Life—Starke County, IN  
Healthy Communities of LaPorte County, IN  
HealthVisions East St. Louis, IL

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This issue features: HealthVisions Fort Wayne  
2135 S. Hanna St. Fort Wayne, IN 46803



## Allen County Health Disparity Coalition

The Allen County Health Disparity Coalition, sponsored by HealthVisions of Fort Wayne, began in the winter of 2003. The mission is to eliminate Health Disparities in Allen County. The coalition is composed of 65 member organizations that contribute about 150 people dedicated to this mission.

One of the goals of the Allen County Health Disparity Coalition is to meet the needs of vulnerable populations. The Fort Wayne African-American Cancer Alliance, with the assistance of member organizations, started the Prevention Clinic, January 17, 2006. The clinic operates 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. each Wednesday, and has already performed over 1,200 preventive screenings and served 293 clients.

The clinic relies on volunteers from member organizations of the coalition, as well as healthcare organizations in the community, to provide services. We use space donated by the Lafayette Medical Center, which houses the Northeast Indiana Health Education Center (AHEC), a federated funded cooperative striving to increase diversity in the medical professions. Lafayette Medical Center is owned by Dr. Alford Stovall. The space for FW African American Cancer Alliance is donated by St Joseph Medical Center.

In each of our newsletters we will be featuring an article that reflects how someone is living one or more of the PHJC values.



Mrs. Salonie Hill

On a rainy morning in late August, 2006, five employees from Omni Source came out to participate in the "Day of Caring." When Mrs. Salonie Hill opened her doors, the clean up began. As I walked in the door the ladies were doing the vacuuming, dusting and telling Mrs. Hill how beautiful her home was. Mrs. Hill just smiled saying, "I just thank the Lord for you coming out on this rainy day to help with the cleaning and the doing of windows which I am no longer able to do." →

## Zenaida Velez, Health Prevention Program Coordinator



HealthVisions of Fort Wayne welcome Zenaida Velez to our team. She was a community volunteer for the Prevention Clinic serving the interpreting needs of the Latino Community. Zenaida will serve as a liaison to the Latino Community to recruit partners to the Minority Health Coalition, Promote Health Education Programs, Health Fairs, Focus Groups on gap in services and referrals to other organizations.

Faith in Action Fort Wayne partnered with the United Way "Day of Caring" and Omni Source provided the service for the day to Mrs. Hill.

# FAITH IN ACTION

## “Prayer Breakfast”



## BRAG DAY BRAG DAY

Staff Day at Lindenwood in Donaldson is often referred to as “Brag Day.” The HV Fort Wayne staff came to Donaldson to talk about their projects and share ideas with staff from all other HVM sites. Pictured above, Peggy Hayes and Joan Baines rejoicing over the loaves of bread they received from Earthworks.

The bread was used as a symbol during the prayer reminding us of Catherine Kasper’s simplicity and generosity.



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On February 21, 2007, Faith in Action (FIA) celebrated five years of service to the Fort Wayne Community. The annual Valentine Prayer Breakfast, sponsored by Sam’s Club was a wonderful success. We netted a total of \$2,991.00. Our speaker for the event was Ruby Cain, Director of the IN-AHEC.

FIA is a National Program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The program offers non-medical services to seniors and disabled individuals in Central and Southeast Fort Wayne. The following services are offered: minor repairs, light house cleaning, friendly visits, visit to the doctor, and telephone reassurance. Presently, we have 50 volunteers and 50 Care Receivers.

Pictured above: *Mrs. Lillie Caldwell & speaker Ruby Cain (seated)*

As winter slowly comes to a close, the trees will soon begin to bud and the grass will start to grow, and *that* means we are gearing up for our lawn program, “**Adopt-A-Senior-Lawn.**” This program helps seniors maintain their lawn according to city ordinance, live independently in their own homes, decrease the worry of being assessed an ordinance fee for non-compliance, and adds beauty and safety to the community and for the seniors.

At the Prayer Breakfast, Mrs. Mattie Van Pelt, spoke of the wonderful lawn services provided to her by *Faith in Action* volunteers during the past year. Peggy Hayes is the FIA Coordinator.



*Mattie Van Pelt and Peggy Hayes  
Director of FIA*



*At left: FIA supporters enjoying the  
Prayer Breakfast!*