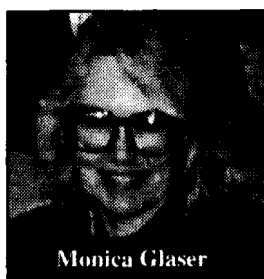


# What's Happening in Illinois?

## **New Chair for Chicago Intergenerational Network**

Monica Glaser is the Chair of the Chicago Intergenerational Network for 1998. Glaser is the Senior Services director for Hull House Association. She has been with Hull House for nearly ten years and started with the popular program, Grandma Please, a telephone program that gives children who are home alone the opportunity to call a caring older adults. Glaser said she "has a strong commitment to seniors, program development and intergenerational projects wherever we can make that link apply."



The Chicago Intergenerational Network (CIN) met at Literacy Volunteers of America on January 15. Dorothy Miaso and Dale Christensen from Literacy Volunteers of America discussed literacy with special emphasis on their intergenerational program. People asked the universal question **about recruiting volunteers especially older adults.**

### **The Chicago Intergenerational Network Schedule for 1998**

**April 2, 1998**

#### **Reminiscing about the Early Intergenerational Days in Illinois**

Helen Block Fields, Emerita **Oakton**; Carole **Aston**, AARP; and Carol **Tice**, Ann Arbor MI will lead a discussion on the Good old days of 1984 and earlier

12:00 to 1:00 Brown Bag and Networking

Program 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hosted by Illinois AARP, 222 North **LaSalle**, 7th Floor

**July 9, 1998**

Planning Meeting — all are welcome

12:00 to 1:30 Brown Bag and Planning

Hull House, 10 S. Riverside, Suite 1700

**October 8, 1998**

#### **Intergenerational Child Care**

Mary Crane Head Start and Lathrop Homes Senior Housing, Discuss the Pro's and Con's, 2717 N. Leavitt

12:00 to 1:00 Brown Bag and Networking

Program 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For further information, contact Monica Glaser, 773-525-0395

**Welcome**

## **Share the Magic becomes a tradition**

by Joan Wood, Pekin Public Library

We have held Share the Magic for 11 years and have been trying to think of ways to change/remodel it for several years now. Thing is, it has become a TRADITION and people don't like you to monkey around with those! I think it has continued to be popular because it is familiar, fun and lets the grandparents have a special time alone with their grandchildren. The grandparents also like the folders with the photo of them with the child, the child's handprint, and their magic wish. The kids, of course, like the magic show and getting to do something special with their grandparents.

## **Volunteer Fair features reading**

The Metro East Volunteer Committee sponsored a volunteer fair at St. Clair Square on Saturday January 31. Sponsors brought information about volunteer opportunities and **AmeriCorps** members captivated young children with their reading corner. Jerry Costello, D-Belleville, Elmer **Kichoff**, President of Belleville Area College, and David Werner, Chancellor Souther Illinois University at Edwrdsville provided enthusiastic remarks.

The volunteer fair was a collaborative effort organized by a planning committee comprised of Don **Baden**, SIUE; Todd Gober, Belleville **AmeriCorps**; Suzanne Kutterer-Seiburt, SIUE; Barbara Cempura, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Joan Kufski, Belleville Area College; Melinda **McAliney**, United Way of Greater St. Louis; Diana Padgett, St. Clair Square. For further information contact Suzanne Kutterer-Seiburt, 618-692-2686

## **New Coalition - VIP - links generations to prevent violence**

VIP, Violence intervention and prevention, evolved out of a White House Conference on Aging forum in 1995. Students, older adults, and professionals sat around tables and talked about the problems in their communities. They discovered that they were concerned about the same things and one of the important issues was safety. When the forum had finished, everyone wanted to continue their discussion, and they did.

Last fall 300 individuals of all ages met to begin strategic planning. They are fostering a **community** with multigenerational integrated approach to planning and goal setting, involving clergy, schools, public health, social services, and others.

According to Barbara Haley, board chair, "Youth and older adults are talking to each other. They don't always agree, just as a clergyman and policeman might not always agree, but they are finding common ground. Contact Barbara Haley, 847-360-6733.

# What's Happening in Illinois?

## **Chicago conference features "State of the Art" intergenerational workshops**

The Chicago Metro Association for the Education of Young Children featured an intergenerational theme during their January 29 to 31 meeting. The Intergenerational Commission, a subcommittee of the association, planned 16 workshops. According to Deborah Hampton, President of Chicago **Meto** AEYC, "Our keynote speakers introduced intergenerational approaches and gave conference participants new directions for working with families in the new millenium."

The keynoters, Barbara T. Bowman, president of the Erickson Institute, and Helen Block Fields, Emerita, **Oakton** Community College selected the title, "A grandparent-friendly classroom environment: Why and how." Helene Block noted that the keynote

answered the question, "Why should teachers include grandparent friendly themes and activities in their existing curricula?"

The Intergenerational Commission, a part of Chicago Metro AEYC, is co-chaired by Co-Chairs Shelley Levin, **Oakton** Community College and Robyn **McBroom**, Lifelink. They planned an extraordinary group of 16 workshops ranging from Winnie **McDuffie's**, "Intergenerational programming and the older adults-facilitating personal growth in the later years," to Dyke Turner's "The intergenerational environment-designing effective and appropriate spaces shared by children and the elderly." For further information contact Shelley Levin, 847-635- 1600

## **Santa's Cottage, A Popular Way of Giving and Receiving**

by Joy Paeth, Director  
Our World Adult and Child Care Center

Every December at Our World Adult and Child Care Center in **O'Fallon**, the children take part in Santa's Cottage. It is a common activity in many schools where children get to shop for inexpensive gifts for their family members. At Our World, what makes it special is that the items are made by the participants of Our World's adult day program.

The seniors spend the months of October, November and December working like Santa's elves on the items which range from candy wreaths to sock Santas and pine cone Christmas trees. Each item is labeled with a tag that reads hand crafted by the participants of Our World Senior Support Center so everyone who receives a craft will know it was made with loving care.

On the day of the cottage the "seniors" carefully display the items in the local Grange hall which is actually a log cabin, Santa arrives and then the children come to shop for the people on their list. Back at the center volunteers are busy helping the children wrap their gifts. The event not only raises funds but also raises awareness, spirits and the self esteem of the participants who see the children carefully choosing the crafts they took time to make. For more information contact Joy Paeth 618-632-3352



### **Intergenerational Week Planning Committee**

Students from Paddock School and Senior Exchange provided great input to the Intergenerational Week Steering Committee. They suggested several topics for essays and the things that students and seniors would enjoy. Intergenerational Week will have its "kick-off" in May with a year of intergenerational activities culminating in a **Mega** Intergenerational Conference in 1999. More information in the next newsletter.

### **Grant awarded for intergenerational project**

Metropolitan Family Services has received a \$200,000 grant from the Administration on Aging in Washington to develop and implement Family Friends, an intergenerational volunteer program targeted to families who have children with disabilities and chronic illnesses. Hope Children's Hospital, an affiliate of Christ Hospital, is collaborating with Metropolitan Family Services in replicating this national program that involves senior volunteers.

Family Friends was established by the National Council on the Aging in 1986 and has 35 projects operating throughout the country. For further information, contact, Dee **Spiech**, 773-298-5065 x 345