



# Beyond Welfare Leader Letter



October 5, 2006

## IMPORTANT DATES

October 6, 2006	Gospel Music Extravaganza Benefit for Beyond Welfare at Iowa State University
October 14, 2006	Ally Orientation at BW Office, 130 South Sheldon, Suite 302
October 15, 2006	Participant Orientation at BW Office, 130 South Sheldon, Suite 302
October 16, 2006	Immersion Training at Trinity Christian Reformed Church, Ames

**NOTE: There will be no CLTm meal or meeting on Thursday, October 26, 2006, due to the Collegiate Presbyterian Church rummage sale. Please join us on Thursday, November 2, 2006, for our regularly scheduled meal and gathering!**

## Scheduled Events

**October 6, 2006:** New Birth Baptist Church will be hosting a gospel music extravaganza on Friday, October 6, at 7pm the Great Hall of the Memorial Union. There will be choirs singing from Ames, Des Moines, and Waterloo. **A free will offering will be taken to support BW!** Please make an effort to show your support and enjoy some great music at the same time!

**October 14, 2006:** There will be an Ally Orientation from 9am-noon at the Beyond Welfare Office, 130 South Sheldon, Suite 302. This is a chance for people interested in becoming involved with Circles of Support and other programs to learn about the responsibilities of an Ally. If you are interested in attending and/or need childcare, please call the BW office at 292-5992 no later than Thursday, October 12, 2006.

**October 15, 2006:** There will be a Participant Orientation from 1-4pm at the Beyond Welfare office, 130 South Sheldon, Suite 302. This is a chance for people interested in becoming involved with Beyond Welfare and its programs to learn more information. If you are interested in attending and/or need childcare, please call the BW office at 292-5992 no later than Thursday, October 12, 2006.

**October 16, 2006:** The next Immersion Training will be held the week of October 16, 2006. Beyond Welfare is always looking for volunteers to donate food and their other gifts and talents! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the BW office at 292-5992. If you are interested in participating in Immersion as a learner, please contact the office for registration information and fee for attending this 5-day event.

**October 19, 2006:** The Affordable Housing Taskforce will meet on Thursday, October 19, from 4-5:30pm at Collegiate United Methodist Church. The purpose of this meeting is to have community members who are concerned about increasing affordable housing opportunities meet with and understand those who are in search of affordable housing. Community members are interested in hearing about your "story," including what affordable housing means to you, your need for affordable housing, the barriers you have encountered in securing affordable housing, and what would make your search

easier to secure affordable housing. If you need childcare, please call the office at 292-5992.

**October 28, 2006:** SPREE is back to give single parents a much-needed break and to give kids a chance to play together! Our first meeting will be Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3pm. Bring your kids to Blinks, 323-5th Street, and drop them off for a few hours. You can then join us at Cafe Diem for a relaxing time of conversation, or take a few hours for yourself! Questions? Call Laura (708-5511) or Heidi (291-1673).

**November 3-4, 2006:** Beyond Welfare will be having its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual rummage sale at The Lighthouse (across the parking lot). There will also be a bake sale. Donations will be accepted on November 1-2. Look for more details in the next Leader Letter!

**November 13, 2006:** Beyond Welfare, together with Worldly Goods, cordially invites you to join us for our Holiday Shopping Night on Monday, November 13, 2006, from 5-8pm, at 223 Main Street, in Ames. 20% of proceeds from the night's sales will benefit Beyond Welfare to help Story County families struggling to achieve long-term economic sufficiency find a meaningful path towards their goals.

## Board and Staff Meetings

\*Beyond Welfare Board Meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month from 5:30-7pm in the BW office. The Fall meeting dates are still being determined and will be announced at a later date. These meetings are always open to allies and participants if you have questions, concerns, and/or suggestions. There will also be a BW Board Retreat on Saturday, December 16, 2006.

\*The BW staff also has their weekly meeting from noon-4pm every Tuesday. During this time, please be patient and leave a message and someone will return your call.

## Welcomes/New and Goods/Thank You(s)

Thank you to Sheila Rose, Tyler Barrett, Gabriel Arato-Smith, Indigo Egli, Terry Egli-Davis, and Jackie Clark who involve our children in fun activities every Thursday night and during other BW functions. Your willingness to spend time with our children is greatly appreciated!

## Phoenix Leadership Team in Nevada

The Phoenix Leadership Team in Nevada is still going strong on Tuesday nights! The group meets at Memorial Lutheran

Church, 701-11<sup>th</sup> Street, from 6-8pm. A meal is provided at no cost and childcare is only available with advanced notice. Please call Noumoua at 292-5992 to make reservations for childcare the Friday before the meeting you are wanting to attend. Let us show our sister group support! Hope to see all Nevada and eastern Story County families there!

**Community Resources**

The Story County Medical Center in Nevada offers a “Free Care Program” which provides necessary medical care to Story County residents who meet income eligibility guidelines. Residents must also not have adequate insurance coverage available to them or are Medicare insured, but are unable to pay deductibles and co-payments. This program covers services at Story County Medical Center and its clinics located in Maxwell, Nevada, and Zearing. Out-patient prescription medications and any physician specialty services provided within the Medical Center or at its clinics are not covered under the program. For more information, please call the Story County Medical Center at 515-382-2111.

**For Your Information...**

\*Beyond Welfare is announcing the engagement of Ralene Lewis to Daryl Watkins of Springfield, Missouri. The wedding is planned for October 27, 2006 in Springfield and will be just a small affair. There will be a reception in the spring. Ralene is the daughter of Karen & Terry Lewis.

\*Are you interested in obtaining your GED? Fall adult basic education/GED preparation classes start Tuesday, August 29 from 6:30-8pm until Thursday, December 14. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights. You do not need to attend both nights to be enrolled in the classes. There is also a possibility that classes could be available at other times. This is a non-credit class. The class time will consist of study time, a question and answer session, and group activities. People are asked to fill out an enrollment form, take a pre-test and post-test, which not only measures progress, but is how the program is funded. There is no charge for people to attend these classes. There will be a charge to take the actual GED test. The test can be taken in Ames, but is also available at the DMACC campuses in Boone, Ankeny, and Des Moines. For more information, please contact Melinda Thach at mlthach@dmacc.edu

**Reciprocity Opportunities**

**\*MOVING VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!** Beyond Welfare is creating a list of **volunteers** that would be willing to **help participants and/or allies** move. Helping someone move is a much-needed source of energy, and it also directly helps to eliminate isolation of individuals who may not have anyone else to help with a big transition like this. This is an ideal opportunity for reciprocity. If you have ever moved, you know a little help goes a long way! Please remember that this is a

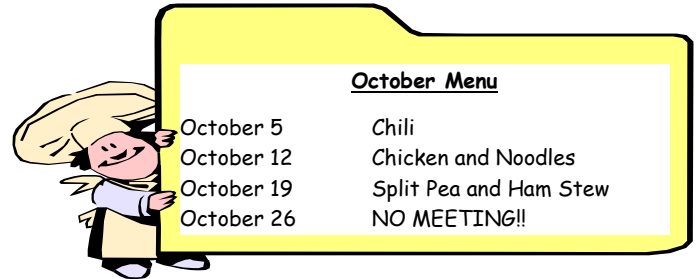
general notification, not a commitment. Call or e-mail Jessica with your contact information.

\*Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA) is looking for volunteers to facilitate children’s activities during their Head Start parent meetings. The meetings are usually held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. If you are interested, please call Shelly Dilks at 956-3333.

**Thought of the Month**

“People will often rise to heights greater than their expectations if you expect that of them.”

~Maya Angelou



The *Beyond Welfare Leader Letter* is a free monthly publication of Beyond Welfare, a 501c3 non-profit corporation.

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Welcomes and New and Goods are written with the expressed consent of the person or people featured.

**If you are interested in submitting something for the Leader Letter, please send to Alissa Stoehr at astoehr@iastate.edu by the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month. Submissions are always welcome!**