

SAND CASTLE HAPPENINGS

Fall, 2011

The only thing constant is change...

New Executive Director

Tom Isakson, Executive Director of CCH since Dec., 2010, resigned effective Oct. 7, to move to Arizona for family concerns. He will manage the programs of Flagstaff Shelter Services. "CCH is a great organization with a promising future," he remarked, "and I will miss all the good people I worked with here." Judy Hanish is returning as Interim ED while the board decides on a replacement.

Maggie, a 20-something, personable single woman, was living with friends in Michigan City while in business college full-time. Those friends lost their apartment, and Melinda moved into her car. Carefully avoiding detection by the police, she slept in her car for two weeks, during which

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month. 2 to 3% of U.S. children will experience homelessness this year. Nationally, one-million schoolchildren are homeless annually. 40% of our county's homeless are children. The Wall Street Journal (Oct. 4) reports a sad sign of the recession: diaper sales are down, ointment sales are up! Proctor and Gamble estimates six diapers per day costs \$125/month. An incomeless single mother of one child receives from "Welfare" a cash benefit (TANF) — to cover diapers, rent, utilities, and all other non-food, non-medical needs — of \$229 per month. Without other help (often not available), Welfare does not prevent homelessness!

time she maintained her schooling and found a job, waitressing in a local restaurant. She was fortunate that Sand Castle Shelter had a room to offer her the day she called. Melinda is a cheerful addition to the house — when we see her! — and is diligently saving money well for her new home.

Abigail, a single-mom of 2 children under age 10, lost her job, then her apartment, and was living "friend to friend" for almost a month before Sand Castle could offer her a room. Like Melinda, she found a job while homeless, temp work in a factory, and is building savings steadily.



Grace Learning Center Grand Opening

Sept. 12, 2011: Kat Cope, CCH Board President, Judy Hanish, former CCH ED and GLC Administrator, Debbie Bonds, incoming GLC Program Director, and Tom Isakson, CCH ED cut the ribbon to welcome teens and adults seeking to complete their high school degrees. GLC will be a "sister program" to Sand Castle, both under the CCH umbrella. Call **879-6788** to inquire about being a learner or a volunteer tutor.

A program of **Citizens Concerned for the Homeless, Inc.**

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