

## Upcoming Events

**Kosciusko REMC Operation Round Up Grant Deadlines**  
**08/15/2009, 10/15/2009, 12/15/2009**  
Go to [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org) to download an application

**2nd Annual Get on Board!**  
**09/09/2009**

**3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**  
**Rodeheavor Auditorium**  
For more information, call Brenda Rigdon at 574-267-1901 or email her at [brenda@kcfoundation.org](mailto:brenda@kcfoundation.org)

**Community Grant Deadline**  
**09/15/2009**

Go to [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org) to download guidelines and an application

**KEYS Grant Deadline**  
**10/01/2009**

Go to [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org) to download an application

### Get on Board!

What:

An opportunity for people with time and talent to share to meet with local charities who need volunteers to serve on their boards.

When & Where:

September 9, 2009, 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Rodeheavor Auditorium, Winona Lake

For More Info:

Contact Brenda Rigdon at 574-267-1901 or by email at [brenda@kcfoundation.org](mailto:brenda@kcfoundation.org)

### OUR MISSION:

By bringing caring people and charitable endeavors together, we make donor dreams shine for the good of our community.

We do this by:

Serving as the vehicle for donors' charitable dreams

Awarding grants to charitable projects and organizations

Addressing community needs as a catalyst and convener

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Summer 2009

# CATALYST

*A Spark. A Change. A Beginning...For Good Things.*

## Home Sober Home

By Stephanie Overbey, Communication & Program Director

I met "Rick" on a recent sunny afternoon at Serenity House, a local drug and alcohol recovery house for men.

Rick agreed to meet with me to share his story with the many donors, whose gifts through the Community Foundation's Community Fund, generated a \$25,000 grant to Serenity House's Phase II house in Warsaw.

A couple of years ago, Rick was released from jail after serving 30 days for an alcohol-related charge. If not for his release day being a Sunday, Rick said he would have walked to the nearest liquor store and used the \$12 he had in his pocket to help him "not care" that he was living a miserable existence.

Fortunately for Rick, he was aware of Serenity House, and having nowhere else to go, he walked there from jail that day.

Just like his father, Rick struggled with alcoholism from the time he was a young adult. He experienced 11 years of sobriety beginning in the early 1980s, but could not maintain his sobriety by "doing it my way," which lacked a structured accountability program.

"I was miserable, confused and angry. I didn't like being as old as I was without having accomplished anything," Rick said.

His self-proclaimed lack of accomplishments left Rick feeling like his life wasn't worth much.



*Home sweet home. Serenity House Phase II offers hope and sobriety.*

### Foundation Website Offers New Tools for Donors and Professional Advisors

*Washington Hotline, Savvy Senior, Bequest Language, Deduction Calculator, and much more offered at [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org).*

### Estate Planning Up to Date?

*Discuss your charitable goals with your legal advisor when you update your will. What will be your legacy?*



Kosciusko County  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

*Where Donor Dreams Shine.*

Sign up for the eNewsletter at [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org)

Kosciusko County  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
*Where Donor Dreams Shine*  
102 East Market Street  
Warsaw, IN 46580



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## Endowment Challenge Opened Doors

Imagine your arms are full with a large and important package. You approach the door you need to go through in order to deliver the package to someone who is in desperate need of its contents. Someone opens the door for you, making your passage and the delivery of your important package possible. That image demonstrates what endowment funds mean for charitable projects and agencies. Endowments open the door for the delivery of important services to those who need them.

In January 2009, the Community Foundation launched its Agency Operating Endowment Challenge, inviting area agencies to create new or build existing endowments held by the Foundation. For every \$1 raised by the agency for endowment, up to \$4,000, the Community Foundation matched with a \$1.50. The challenge ended in June.

Twenty-four agencies participated, including nine that created new funds. More than \$141,000 was donated by the agencies and their supporters during the challenge!

One agency's board member, experienced in dealing with several nonprofit boards and foundations, said this was a great return on their agency's investment!

For more information on supporting your favorite charity through a fund at the Community Foundation, contact Brenda Rigdon at 574-267-1901 or at [brenda@kcfoundation.org](mailto:brenda@kcfoundation.org)

## Home Sober Home (continued from page 1)

"I didn't know who I was," Rick said of that time.

Once at Serenity House, Rick admitted that if he didn't get help, he was going to die drunk and alone.

More than two years later, Rick is a "senior resident" at the Phase II house in Warsaw. Senior residency means Rick acts as a manager of the house, mentoring men who are just beginning their path to sobriety. His ability to encourage other men has given Rick a new found sense of purpose and worth.

The Phase II house opened earlier this year, and was an important step for Serenity House to offer men who were making great strides in their sobriety, but who were not yet ready to return to life outside a structured residential program. The men in Phase II have typically been in the program for at least four months, have secured employment, and consistently follow the rules of the program.

The goal of the Phase II program is to graduate men

back into the community and back to their families as sober, productive, responsible members.

Since opening its first house in Warsaw in 2006, Serenity House has been consistently full – with a waiting list, thus the need for a second house.

Area Judges and Probation Department officials have lauded the Serenity House program, with one Judge proclaiming the program to be "more promising than any other asset that has been available to this Court or our community in recent years."

Rick thinks so. When asked, "Who did you find out you were through the program," he responded, "a pretty decent guy who is caring, loving and honest...when I'm sober."

For more information about Community Grants or to make a gift online, visit our website at [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org). The Community Foundation is a public charity and gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

## Area Adults Return to School

Some are already working in the medical field and want to advance in nursing. Some are former stay-at-home moms whose children are now grown. Some are laid off from jobs they held for years and are now trying to learn new skills for a job market that has changed drastically since the last time they were searching for a job.

They all have one thing in common. They are adults beginning or returning to school to improve their education, skills and opportunities.

Investing in the education of non-traditional students is an investment in our community. Adult students who are starting or finishing their degrees are already established in the community. They live here, work here, and are raising their families here. And dollars invested in their education, most often stay here.

Numerous Community Foundation donors realized the value of offering financial assistance to non-traditional students; and through their generosity, we were able to award scholarships totaling over \$31,000 to 21 students this July.

Non-traditional Scholarship Funds include:

- American Association of University Women Scholarship Fund
- Mary Elsbury Memorial Scholarship
- Mary (Leedy) Hand Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- K21 Health Scholarship Endowment
- McDonald Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Shirley A. Sadler Memorial Scholarship
- George & Gertrude Schiff Charitable Endowment Scholarship Fund

For more information about applying for scholarships through the Community Foundation, visit our website at [www.kcfoundation.org](http://www.kcfoundation.org), or call Dee Anna Muraski at 574-267-1901 or email at [deeanna@kcfoundation.org](mailto:deeanna@kcfoundation.org).

## July 2009 Non-traditional Scholarship Recipients



Yulia Abair



Jacqueline Anders



Samantha Barth



Cheryl Bowyer



Stephanie Ducheteau



Toni Hopper



Misty McGillem



Tamara Miller



Jerry Richardson



Dina Ritter



Timothy Sammons



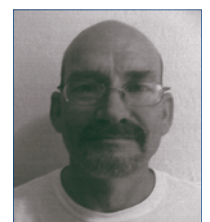
Janice Scoles



Corey Stokes



Carolyn Strunk



Michael Stutzman



Deanna Warren

**Not Pictured:**  
Bobbie Butler  
Angela Hillery  
Lindsey Hurt  
Young-Suh Kuester  
Brandi Shepherd