

Summit View's Memory Garden Project Completed

Written by Administrator

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It is said where a garden is planted, love grows. And even in the dead of winter, the new Memory Garden, constructed and completed by the youth at BRS' Summit View Youth Shelter is already blooming with love. The Garden, located at the Harrison Township Fire Department on Old Hwy 135 in Corydon, is dedicated to the memory of all abused, neglected and orphaned children. The project was made possible through a grant from the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana and the Youth Philanthropy Council in 2009. The youth chose the theme in hopes the Memory Garden (pictured to the right) will continue to remind us of the need to pray for and reach out to all children who are suffering everyday through neglect and abuse.

Along with designing, purchasing the flowers and figurines and building the garden, the youth also presented the Harrison Township Firemen with tokens of appreciation for their dedication and service to the community. Concrete figurines of a fireman saving a young child, a red fire hydrant and a Fireman's Bench along with a wind chime featuring the Fireman's symbol were presented to Fireman J. McKim in honor of the firemen's service. The fireman

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figurine was painted by the youth as well, complete with the Harrison Township badge on the sleeve and fireman's hat.

"It is really important for our youth to be involved in their community. And with this philanthropic act of kindness and dedication, they have acknowledged those who serve our community everyday while also leaving a legacy of remembrance for those less fortunate children," comments Tara Gootee-Allen, Director of BRS Youth Services. "The youth really got engaged in this project. There were even some tears from the girls as they dedicated the garden and presented the gifts to the firemen."

The youth would like to thank Mitch Wise and MJM Landscaping & Nursery of Corydon for tremendous support through their volunteer assistance in the design and construction of the Memory Garden. And to the boys from Wyandotte House who assisted the Summit View girls with the 'heavy lifting' and other aspects of the garden.

This youth project was made possible through the generous support of the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana and the Youth Philanthropy Council. The youth would like to thank the organization for their continued support of Blue River Services and its mission of 'People Serving People'.

For more information on the Blue River Services Youth Services Department's programs and services, please contact the Department Director Tara Gootee-Allen at 812-738-2408 or email www.bryouthdir@brsinc.org.