



Around six years ago the AMIB Board of Trustees approved a Group Home Development plan to meet the needs of New Jersey blind and visually impaired developmentally disabled population with the goal of developing 10 additional group homes, two at a time approximately every 2 years or so.

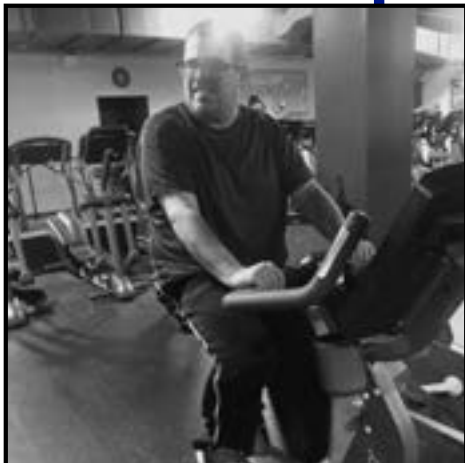
With the most recent Monmouth Project complete, AMIB is now in Phase III of the development plan.

Early March we have secured the first of two new residential sites to serve as AMIB future group homes #15 and #16.

The home is located on a lot slightly less than 1/2 acre in the Bramblewood section of Brick Township. This will be AMIB's second home in Brick and its 8th home in Ocean County.

The expanded ranch is 1,875 square feet. With the anticipated 25x25 addition it will be able to accommodate 4 bedrooms and two handicap accessible baths. Though we are still far off from move in, we are none the less excited to begin the creation of new community opportunities for people on the housing waiting list.

Group Home Residents in Action



Tim moved into our new Tinton Falls Group Home on September 26, 2018 from Matawan, NJ where he lived with his Mother, Joan. He has adjusted very well to his new home and housemates and enthusiastically participates in a variety of activities, including a Day Program, dances on Tuesday, bowling on Thursday and you'll find him in the gym on the weekends with AMIB staff.



Reggie moved into our new Howell Group Home on August 31, 2018. For the past 12 years he had resided in Nursing Homes after being attacked by a group of assailants, resulting in Traumatic Brain Injury and he was considered non-ambulatory. Today, even with glaucoma and cataracts, Reggie is up and walking with staff assistance. He is very happy and always smiling.



Virginia previously lived with her Mother, Judy, in Jersey City, NJ. She moved into our new Tinton Falls Group Home on September 26, 2018, and she has also adjusted very well to her new home and housemates. She attends a Day Program, dances on Tuesday, bowling on Thursday and gym on the weekends with AMIB staff.

From the President



Dear Friend

With the completion and opening of our two newest (13th & 14th) group homes located in Howell and Tinton Falls, NJ, eight more NJ blind/visually-

impaired adults with multiple disabilities have moved into these homes, become a part of a new family and settled into as active a routine as each is able. These include participation in: day programs, community activities, and even exercise programs.

We are proud of our dedicated AMIB staff and the quality care they provide to our group home residents. I direct your attention to one of them who is featured in this newsletter on page 3.

AMIB is working now on the purchase and renovation plans for what will be our 15th and 16th group homes, with the goal of completing these two homes over the next two years.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and especially those we serve who benefit from receiving life-long care in a homelike environment, I thank you for your generous gifts and grants that makes all our progress achievable. We ask for your continued support in our current project.

We could not do what we do without YOU.

Kenneth P. Carson

From the Executive Director



Greetings and I hope this finds you well.

Since our last news publishing we have opened our 14th Group Home in the Shrewsbury section of Tinton Falls. This is our

second home in Tinton Falls and is our most northern site for service provision for time being. Since then we have been actively seeking out two additional group homes to purchase and begin developing into the fully accessible homes AMIB is known for.

The first home has been secured and by the time this newsletter reaches you I am hopeful and confident that we will have closed on a second home. The residential sites go through significant redesign and upgrades to accommodate a most normalized living environment with all handicap accessibility features. Some of the major items we need that constituents like you can help with are new roofs, siding, guiderails throughout the interior and exterior of the home, nonslip flooring, indirect efficient interior illumination, door, windows, paint...If you would like to learn more about the ways your donations or donated products can help AMIB with the development plans please feel free to contact me at the main office.

Like us on Facebook to keep up to date with our progress.

Aaron Soto

Giftback.com: Another Way to Give Back

Are you looking for a birthday, get-well, thank you, house warming, or new baby gift to send to a friend, family member, employer or employee? Then consider going to **Giftback.com**. The site offers a wealth of items— from fresh flowers to fruit baskets to engraved items and electronics.

And better yet, after you have chosen your gift, you can select the **Association for the Multiple Impaired Blind** as the charity of your choice, and Giftback will donate 10 percent of the purchase price to us.

Association for the Multiple Impaired Blind is qualified by the IRS to receive contributions which are deductible for federal income tax purposes. This charitable organization is registered with the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey. Information may be obtained by calling 973-504-6215. Registration does not imply endorsement.



The Legacy Society

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following who have become members of The Legacy Society through a bequest or planned gift:

Janet Andruss*

David R. Bixel*

Elaine O. Behr*

Kenneth J. Carson, Jr.

Mary J. Carson*

Phil Cochran*

Albert R. Costa*

Joseph "Pat" Donohue*

Patricia A. Donohue*

Viola Ellison*

Peter & Mildred Galanti*

Richard F. Harries & Carol J. Harries

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Vera Monaghan*

Ann Pambello*

Edna Thorsen*

Polly Wilson*

** deceased*

Tristin Turrin

Tristin started with AMIB January 6th 2015 as a Substitute Residential Specialist. It didn't take long for AMIB to recognize that Tristin's prior relevant experience as a Manager could be an asset to the organization. Shortly thereafter she was assigned additional oversight responsibilities and quickly rose to the ranks of becoming a Group Home Manager for AMIB. With consistent performance and dedication to the individuals and her staff, we are proud to share that in October, 2018 Tristin was promoted to the position of Program Coordinator, overseeing multiple group homes for AMIB. We are so proud that she is one of the few employees who has been able to be promoted from direct care to managerial staff, to then be promoted to a Program Coordinator administrative position. Her growth in the organization serves as a role model to all of our employees looking to grow and maintain a career in the human services field.

Tristin started her employment in direct care right out of high school in 1990, working part-time for a similar local nonprofit in Ocean County, where she familiarized herself in various responsibilities that are necessary in operating and running a group home.

When asked how she realized that providing direct care services was for her, Tristin said it was in her blood. Her Mother was also a direct-care professional, and for years she would take individuals to their home, usually to celebrate the holidays, or she would accompany her Mom on outings with the individuals in her care. Tristin realized she had a passion for the same type of work and enjoyed working with individuals who had developmental disabilities. So when the opportunity presented itself, Tristin jumped into employment in the field. During a chance run-in with some AMIB employees, Tristin was encouraged to bring her talents to this growing agency. The rest is history.

Tristin is the mother of two boys: Zachary – 18 and Jacob – 15. Both are proud of



what their Mom does and try to emulate her by treating everyone they meet with respect and dignity.

Tristin knows she's good at what she does. Her famous saying is "I do my job and I do it well." She tries to lead by example and expects the same attitude from those with whom she works and supervises.

Tristin is a true leader and a caring and endearing professional. AMIB staff and, especially our group home residents, are fortunate to have her on our team.

Around the Houses...



Delma from Forked River Group Home enjoys petting a pony at her recent visit to Popcorn Park Zoo



Darla (Lanoka Harbor Group Home) and Mary Ann (Forked River Group Home) enjoy outings in the community.



John from North Dover Group Home is guided by his program manager, Jacinda Grossman, in cooking his s'mores

Program manager, Jacinda Grossman and North Dover resident Thomas pose for a photo to display their finished s'mores before consuming them.

In gratitude we recognize 2018 donors...

In gratitude we recognize 2018 donors to the AMIB Annual Fund and Year-End Appeal and the AMIB Endowment Fund, Inc. All of you have helped to make a difference in what we have been able to accomplish in our group homes and in the lives of our residents.

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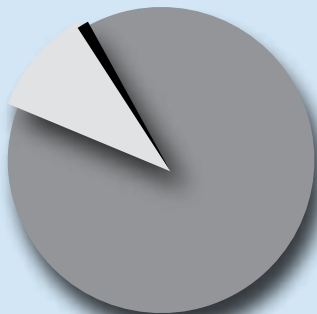
In Memory of Mary Olekson

Caryn Thompson

In Memory of Jim "Buzz" Carson

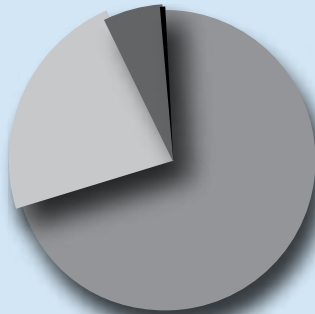
Josephine Carson

Expenses Year Ending 2018



Program & Services 89
 General & Administrative 10
 Fundraising 1

Revenue Year Ending 2018



Dept of Health & Human Services 70.5
 Fee For Service 23
 Private Contributions..... 6
 Investments/Other5

Highlights of 2018

- ❖ AMIB opened its 13TH group home in Howell West in February, 2018, which now houses four men with visual impairments and physical and developmental disabilities
- ❖ Gerard Malcom joined the AMIB Board of Trustees. Mr. Malcolm is employed in the Animal Health Division of Merck and is the brother of John who is a resident in one of the AMIB Group Homes
- ❖ AMIB received a \$200,000 grant from the Lavelle Fund for the Blind to purchase four handicap vehicles for group home residents
- ❖ AMIB completed the renovations to its 14th Group Home in Tinton Falls/Shrewsbury, passed its State inspection, and received its license in August, 2018. This home now houses two men and two women.
- ❖ Cindy Nixon received the Sister Mary Byrnes Caregiver of the Year Award for 2018
- ❖ Rene received the Cochran Award in recognition of his self-advocacy, community integration and independence

Christmas Party



1. David (New Howell Group Home)
2. Jody and Jodi (Bayville Group Home)
3. Jason's Mother, Cindy, Jason (Midland Group Home), Vanessa Garrett (Trainer) and Jasmine Beatty (Midland Group Home Manager) and Jason's Aunt Victoria (standing 1-r)
4. Cochran Award Winner Rene (Tinton Falls Group Home) is congratulated by AMIB Deputy Director Gail DiMartino and Diedra Brown (Brick Group Home Manager)

5. Donna (Freehold Group Home) with her cousins: Chrissie, Trish and Dana (1-r standing)
6. Virginia (new Tinton Falls Group Home) with her Mother, Judy
7. New Howell Group Home residents and staff enjoy Holiday Party with Santa Clause (1-r Reggie, Matthew Covin (staff), Dee Young (Relief Manager), and Robert (seated))



8. Amina (Bayville Group Home), Darlene Venezia (Bayville Group Home Manager), Vanessa Muller (staff) and Barbara (Bayville Group Home)

9. Maureen (Pine Beach Group Home) with her sister, Betsy

10. Santa visited residents at the 2018 Holiday Party shown here checking his list and checking it twice to see whose been naughty and whose been nice



AMIB, Inc.

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Our Mission

is to promote community integration and participation of people who are blind or visually impaired and have multiple disabilities by providing opportunities for community living, training and support.

Cindy Nixon Receives the Sister Mary Byrnes Caregiver of the Year Award for 2018



Cindy Nixon, Residential Specialist at our Freehold Group Home received the Sister Mary Byrnes Caregiver of the Year Award for 2018. She is being congratulated in this photo by Deputy Director Gail DiMartino and Program Coordinator, Maria Leschinski.

Cindy was described in her award presentation as a very passionate, compassionate, loyal and hard-working staff member. She cares deeply for those she serves and is always looking for ways to improve the quality of life for each one of them. She epitomizes those qualities that each staff member can aspire to attain. Cindy assists the residents in her group home and orients them according to each individual's unique needs.

Cindy is known to come in on days off to visit group home residents who are in the hospital or rehab center "to make sure those individuals are aware that we care about them and remind them they are a part of our family and hope they will be returning home soon." Her caring attitude also provides comfort to family members who are reassured that their loved one is being well cared for in their absence.