

AMIB, Inc.
909 Cedar Bridge Avenue
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Brick NJ 08723-4259

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Help us meet The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation challenge grant (see page 3). Send AMIB your contribution made out to the AMIB Capital Campaign. Restrict it for the Weinberg Challenge.



Rita Remembers Those Who Made Her New Place Possible

At the opening of AMIB's long-term-care group home in Lanoka Harbor on October 14, resident Rita Jacobs proudly shows her room to Asbury Park Press reporter Nicholas Clunn. There are eight bedrooms in the new home; one for each resident. The rooms flank two separate hallways, which are as wide as those in large hotels. Rita tells the reporter that her room was named in honor of the Wallerstein Foundation for Geriatric Improvement for their generous gift to the Vision of Independence Capital Campaign. She knows that, because her fingers told her so. She frequently runs them over the lettering on the plaque outside her room and remembers the people who helped make her new place possible.

Sight From Within

Spring 2005

A newsletter from the Association for the Multiple Impaired Blind, Inc.

Dedicating the House that Campaign Donors Built



Below: AMIB President Kenneth J. Carson, Jr. holds his granddaughter, Ella Catherine Healey, as his mother, Mary, cuts the ribbon officially opening the new long-term-care AMIB residence. Five-month-old Ella is the child of Ken's daughter, Colleen Healey, and her husband, Mark.

AMIB President Kenneth J. Carson, Jr. (above right) with his wife, Clare (left), and mother, Mary, stand in front of the plaque in the entrance to AMIB's new house in Lacey Township. The occasion was the official open house and dedication ceremony of the facility on October 14, 2004. The ceremony, dedicating the home to the memory of Kenneth J. Carson, Sr. was the culmination of the successful Vision of Independence Capital Campaign to build the first long-term-care home in New Jersey for visually impaired people with developmental disabilities.

The plaque reads: "We acknowledge with gratitude the generous support of friends who made a major commitment to help us establish this long term care group home for our senior residents."



Right: Vito J. DeSantis, executive director of the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, talks with AMIB's Executive Director Aaron Soto at the open house ceremony.



From the President



Dear Friends:
Last year was a particularly productive and rewarding one for AMIB. We not only opened another group home but also the first long-term-care group home for blind and developmentally disabled in

the state of NJ. We extend heartfelt thanks to you, our donors, for making this possible.

I am delighted to report that our original campaign goal has been achieved. However, during the course of construction, we encountered some unavoidable additional expenses that were not projected. In this regard, we are especially grateful to The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation for making it possible for us to cover these unanticipated extra costs. See opposite page to read about their generous \$150,000 challenge grant which, with your continued support, we soon hope to meet.

During the past year, we were deeply saddened to have lost two of our valued Legacy Society members: Polly Wilson, a founder of the AMIB Endowment Fund, and her sister, Jan Andruss, who passed away early in 2005. They are both dearly missed.

I take this opportunity to thank each of you, our loyal and devoted donors, for your continued interest and your support of our mission. Our group home residents benefit enormously from your generosity.

Kenneth J. Carson, Jr.

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From the Director



Greetings, I hope this finds you doing well; 2004 was an exciting year for AMIB. In July we completed construction of the first completely accessible community residence in the state of

New Jersey for individuals with developmental disabilities and visual impairment. By August, the individuals who lived at the Church Road group home all moved together, as a family, to the new home. The staff, most of whom have been with AMIB for years, did a great job with the transition. The most rewarding aspect of this venture

In Memory — Janet Andruss



AMIB learned with deep sadness of the death of Janet Andruss on January 22, 2005. Jan was a long-time friend of AMIB. Her sister, Mary "Polly" Galey Wilson, together with Polly's husband, Albert, was

one of the original forces in getting AMIB established by organizing parents of blind children with developmental disabilities.

After her husband, Frank, died in 1975, Jan moved from Philadelphia to New Jersey and, at the urging of her sister, joined AMIB's board of trustees. She served on the board for over 10 years, retiring as corresponding secretary in 1997. Jan was one of the first members of The Legacy Society, leaving a \$25,000 bequest in her will to the AMIB Endowment Fund.

At the time of her death, she was living with her son in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

A memorial service for Jan is planned for June 18 at the Sacred Heart Church in Bay Head, NJ.

Gifts in Jan's memory may be sent to AMIB Endowment Fund, Inc. at 909 Cedar Bridge Avenue, Suite 4, Brick NJ 08723.

was when Billy, Rita, Albert, Jimmy, Freddy, Darla, Mary Blair and James thanked us for creating this accessible environment for them to live in. But AMIB also thanks *them* for inspiring us to make sure that this home became a reality. I thank all of you who attended the open house in October. I also thank everyone who supported this project from its seedling stages through completion.

For 2005, AMIB is gearing up to construct its long-range plan. Expansion will be focused on joint efforts with organizations who want to increase services for the multiple-impaired population as well as provide in-home support and develop children's services. We look forward to the opportunities ahead and will keep you posted on our progress.

I would like to extend a thank you to all the board members, staff and supporters of our cause, and wish you a healthy summer.
Aaron Soto

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 *

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth J. Carson, Jr.

Phil Cochran *
Albert R. Costa *
Viola Ellison

Peter & Mildred Galanti *

Richard F. Harries
and Carol J. Harries

Austin & Clara Helle
Betty Wold Johnson

The Keith Wold Johnson
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Robert Wood Johnson 1962
Charitable Trust

Mary Katherine Lightner *
Muriel Martucci

Daniel J. McCarthy
Patricia McKinley

William McKinley, III
Margaret J. McLean

Vera Monaghan
Ann Pambello

Edna Thorsen *
Polly Wilson *

* deceased

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation was created in 1959 by Harry Weinberg and named after himself and his wife, Jeanette.

Born in 1908 in what is now known as Ukraine, Harry was one of seven children of Joseph and Sarah Weinberg, who left their homeland in 1911 for America. They all grew up knowing what it was

The Weinberg Challenge

AMIB is grateful to The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, which has made a generous \$150,000 challenge grant to our Vision of Independence Capital Campaign. AMIB will receive the grant once it has met the following challenges:

- Raised \$132,000 in new and/or additional contributions to the campaign and
- Received \$113,667 in outstanding pledge payments.

We are very grateful to the Weinberg Foundation for this grant and are happy to report the donors, listed below, have already stepped in to help us meet this challenge:

Georgia Burke & David C. Lu

Mary J. Carson

Community Foundation of
Monmouth County

Viola Ellison

Ronald Jacobson

Carroll K. King

Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation

George Link, Jr. Foundation

Aileen McDermott

OceanFirst Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. Alex A. Paglinawan

Russell F. Schmid

Cecilia & John Skove

Wallerstein Foundation for
Geriatric Improvement

We invite our readers to join in and help us meet this challenge by sending contributions made out to the AMIB Capital Campaign and restricted to the Weinberg Challenge.

David R. Bixel
Chairman

Vision of Independence Capital Campaign

like to be poor and what it took to escape poverty.

Harry developed a keen business sense and worked hard from an early age. He was actively involved in real estate and other business pursuits throughout many areas of the United States, with primary concentrations in Hawaii, Baltimore, MD, and Scranton, PA. By the late 1950s he owned mass transit lines and had amassed a fortune in real estate and securities.

But Harry never forgot his roots and became committed to using his great wealth to better the lives of those most in need. During his lifetime, his foundation made many well-placed and compassionate grants.

Harry's wife Jeanette, who was an avid painter as well as a philanthropist, passed away in 1989; Harry died the following year. However, the Weinberg legacy lives on through the philanthropic work of the Weinberg Foundation

Based in Baltimore, Honolulu and Scranton, the foundation today is one of the largest private foundations in the United States and the largest Jewish-oriented foundation in the world. It is dedicated to aiding people, who by reason of poverty, disability, failing health

and/or advanced age, are unable to adequately help themselves.

Both Harry and his wife would be proud that their foundation continues to make a difference in the lives of people around the world, including those right here in New Jersey who are served by AMIB.

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg are pictured above.



A Bequest to the AMIB Endowment Fund

A tax-deductible bequest in your will is an excellent way to become a member of The Legacy Society and make a significant gift that may not be possible during a lifetime. If you have an up-to-date will and want to include a provision to provide permanent assurance of the future of AMIB residents, ask your attorney to add an amendment, known as a codicil. Suggested wording for a will or codicil could be:

*"I give and bequeath to the **AMIB Endowment Fund**, 909 Cedar Bridge Avenue, Brick, New Jersey 08723-4259, the sum of \$_____ (or _____ percent of my estate) and/or the following property _____."*

Some other opportunities to make a planned gift to AMIB's Endowment Fund and become a member of The Legacy Society include: creating a Charitable Remainder Trust; giving a paid-up insurance policy; and arranging for a gift of appreciated long-term capital gain securities or real estate.

Donors Making a Difference . . .

In gratitude we recognize donors to AMIB, Inc., the AMIB Endowment Fund, Inc. and the Vision of Independence Campaign in the year 2004. 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.

AMIB, Inc.

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Visionary

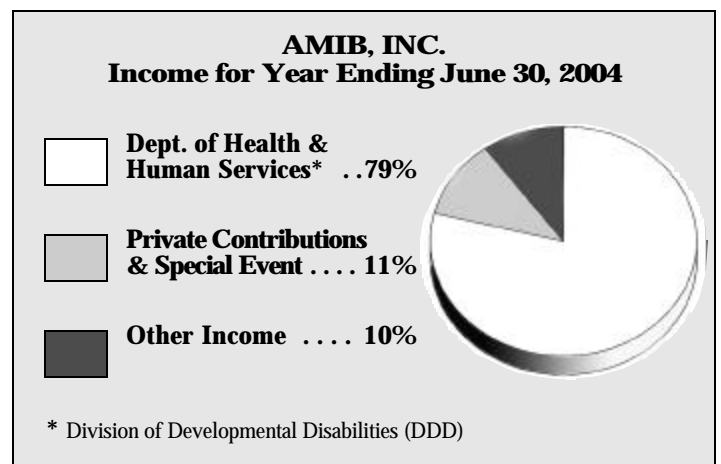
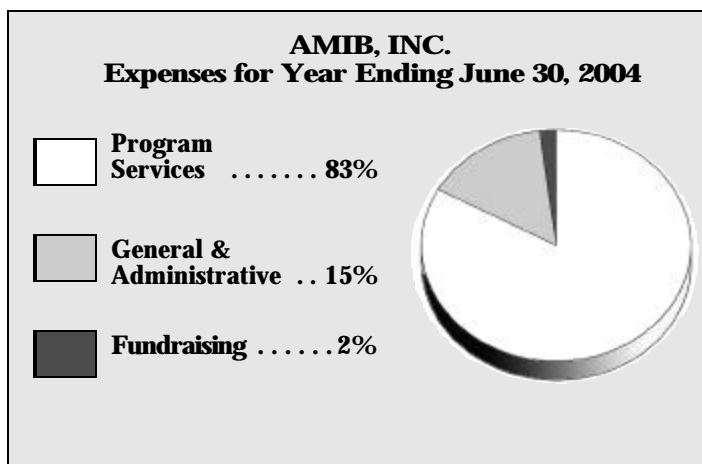
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While every effort has been made to check the accuracy of this list, mistakes sometimes do occur. If we have made an error in spelling your name or omitted your name, please accept our apologies and call 973-376-6191 so we may correct the error. Thank you.

AMIB HIGHLIGHTS OF 2004

- ❖ New group home on Sweetwood Drive, Forked River, completed. Four individuals move in.
- ❖ New long-term-care residence in Lanoka Harbor, Lacey Township, opened. Eight individuals move in.
- ❖ Vision of Independence Capital Campaign completed.
- ❖ The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation made \$150,000 Challenge Grant to meet unanticipated costs of new facility.
- ❖ Andrea Helle of Bayville residence named Community Star of the Year by the NJ Association of Community Providers.
- ❖ Janet Morris of Forked River residence named winner of 2004 Cochran Award for community integration.
- ❖ Residents competed in Special Olympics in Toms River.
- ❖ Margaret Alford of Brick residence featured on front page of NJ Life Section of the Asbury Park Press.
- ❖ AMIB's long-time friend and president emerita, Mary "Polly" Galey Wilson, died — January 6, 2004.

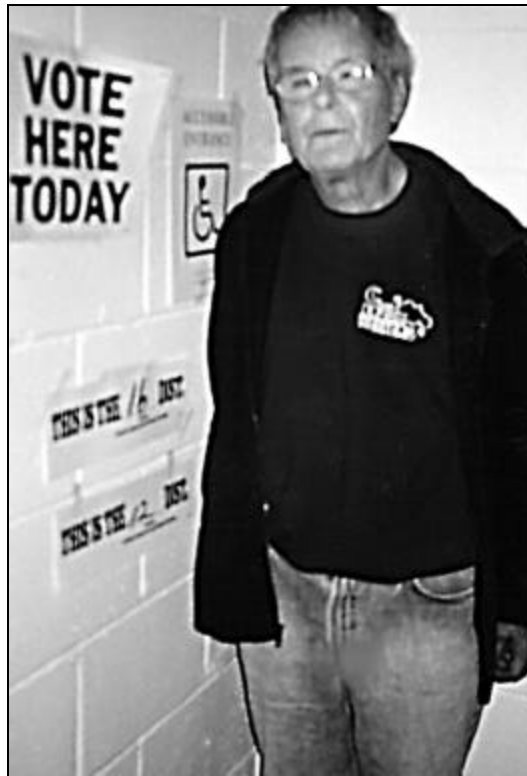
Around the Houses . . .



Maggie Makes Headlines — Margaret Alford (Brick) has unique gifts as an entertainer, piano player and singer. She has been the church organist at the Wayside United Methodist Church for 15 years. A reporter from the Asbury Park Press recently heard Margaret play, saw she was blind and wrote a story about her that appeared on the front page of the Jersey Life Section of the Press on December 18, 2004. Blind since the age of 1, Maggie, as her friends call her, plays at weddings, for children at a local specialized hospital and at AMIB parties. Above, she entertains residents at her Brick home. AMIB is blessed to have such a talented person among its residents.

Artie Brings Meals on Wheels to Elderly

Last October, Artie (**last name?**) (Bayville) became a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer with the Ocean County Nutrition Project for the Elderly. He is shown, right, helping to deliver meals to members of the Lakewood community. Artie enjoys his work. He starts his volunteer run at 10 a.m at the Northern Ocean County Resource Center in Lakewood where he picks up the meals to be delivered. He then visits each home and returns to the center with the empty containers. The people who receive the meals look forward to seeing Artie and chatting with him. “Enjoy your lunch,” he tells them.



Casting their Vote

On November 2, 2004, AMIB had a high voter turnout. Many of our residents voted for the first time in their lives. All were educated on the issues, listened to the presidential debates, and had presidential materials read to them at self advocacy meetings. Billy Holmes (left) was one of several residents who cast their vote for President of the United States.



Scenes from the Phil Cochran Annual Family Holiday Party

Residents, staff, family members and friends attended the annual Cochran Holiday Party on Sunday, December 5, 2004, at the Quality Inn in Toms River. Below: a waitress greets Jimmy McDonald, a resident of the new facility on Emerald Court (left), and Albert Coath (right) of Bayville.



Sweetwood resident Janet Morris holds the 2004 Cochran Award plaque she earned for her continued success in independence, community integration and self-advocacy. Janet, who is vice president of the Dream Weavers self advocacy group, has been with AMIB for 18 months and has demonstrated outstanding leadership. She helped raise funds for the Dream Weavers at their Wal-Mart coin-toss fundraiser. She also helped out at the Mayor's Advisory Council for Children and Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities. Unfortunately Janet was

unable to receive her award at the Cochran Party because she was at home recovering from open-heart surgery.



Residential specialists Erica Wolverton, Liz Duckworth and Donna Kessler (standing, from left) help residents open their gifts at the Cochran Christmas party. Seated, from left: Paul Martucci (North Dover), Melvin Branch (Bayville) and Jody Segan (Bayville).