

# NEWS FOR FRIENDS OF THE YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

SERVING THE QUAD CITIES AREA SINCE 1972



## OUR MISSION

THE YOUTH  
SERVICE  
BUREAU EXISTS  
TO STRENGTHEN  
AND EMPOWER  
YOUTH, FAMILIES  
AND  
COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH  
EFFECTIVE  
COUNSELING  
PREVENTION  
AND  
LEADERSHIP.

YOUTH SERVICE  
BUREAU  
ENCOURAGES YOU TO  
SERVE THE  
COMMUNITY BY  
CONTRIBUTING TO  
UNITED WAY OF THE  
QUAD CITIES AREA. IF  
YOU WOULD LIKE TO  
DESIGNATE YOUR  
CONTRIBUTION TO  
PROGRAMS SERVING  
CHILDREN AND  
FAMILIES, PLEASE  
CONSIDER  
DESIGNATING YOUTH  
SERVICE BUREAU AS  
YOUR CONTRIBUTION  
RECIPIENT.



## *A Story of Trauma, Survival and Empowerment*

### *YSB's Work With Refugees.*

*YSB therapist, Johnnie Woods, has worked closely with World Relief and the Rock Island Schools to address the needs of African Refugees. This is the story of one of the families that she worked with.*

*The family was referred to YSB by a pastor who was concerned about them. The mother was isolated and depressed, she seemed to be shutting out a world she viewed as dangerous. Her son, on the other hand, was rebellious, behaving immaturely, stealing from friends, family, and strangers.*

*They worked very hard and made considerable changes in therapy. The son began following rules and behaved more positively. Although Johnnie knew something traumatic had happened to them in Africa, they were reluctant to share their experiences until they had developed a trusting relationship with her. After several months of therapy, mom shared the following story:*

The war raged in my country for several years but it had not come to my small town. Then one day my father heard that the rebels were coming. He hurriedly gathered our family together and took us to a larger town where he believed we would be safe. One day a friend told my father that it was safe to move back home, so my father decided we would return. We gathered our things together and walked the few miles to our village. We were all so happy to be home again. We prepared a big meal and thanked God for our blessings.

As we began to eat, we heard a loud banging on the door and armed rebels burst into our home waving weapons. The rebels ordered us to go outside. The rebel leader pulled me and my six year old son aside and told his men that he was going to keep me. The other rebels lined up my family and killed them. There was so much blood. I screamed in horror not believing what I was seeing.

When they had finished killing my family, they came for me and my son. They said they must kill us. After a lengthy discussion, the leader agreed that my son and I must die. Some of the rebels took us into the jungle. One of them said, "We won't kill you, but we must make it look as though we have. We have to cut you." They cut us and left us in the jungle bloody, afraid and in shock. All I could do was hold my son and think about my family that was no more.



I began to walk, not knowing where to go. Eventually I met others and we walked together past many bodies lying bloody and motionless. I tried to keep my son's eyes covered. I did not want him to see what had happened. After a long walk we were met by people who took us to a refugee camp in the Ivory Coast. My husband found us at the refugee camp. Eventually, America granted my family asylum.

*If you are interested in learning more about YSB's work with refugee families, contact Johnnie Woods at 793-3460.*



Thank You to everyone who helped make our 12th Annual YSB-Whitey Verstraete Memorial Golf Outing a success. This annual fundraiser raised \$11,500 which will help Youth Service Bureau to provide delinquency prevention services and low-cost counseling for families, children and teens. We especially want to thank our generous Corporate Sponsors: Modern Woodmen of America, Governmental Business Systems, John Deere, Genesis Health System, South Moline Township, Zach Fox at Country Financial, Ben and Lois Larson McAdams, Jason Fox and Jumer's Casino and Hotel. Thanks also to the fine staff at Pinnacle Country Club, our many Hole Sponsors, volunteers, and the golfers who made the outing a success!





## Charitable Contributions



The Youth Service Bureau of Rock Island County relies on the support of individuals, businesses, foundations and community organizations. Every gift, no matter the size, helps children and families in Rock Island County. The YSB would like to recognize the following donors who have contributed to our organization the past few months. Thank you for everything you have done to make our services possible.

YSB deeply regrets and respectfully apologizes for any omissions or errors. We strive for accuracy in acknowledging all of our donors who are a vital part of our success, however, mistakes do sometimes occur. Please call our office at 309-793-3460 regarding any omissions or corrections.

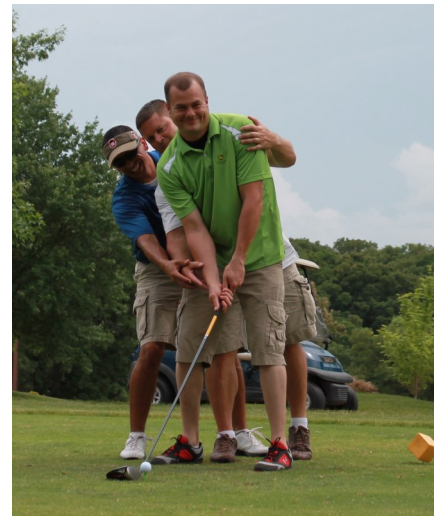
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### Doris and Victor Day Foundation

Thank you to The Doris and Victor Day Foundation for their generous donation of \$5,000 to provide for Community and School Based Counseling Services to low income children and families.



## Community Foundation of the Great River Bend

The Youth Service Bureau Board of Directors and staff members thank The Community Foundation of the Great River Bend for a generous \$10,983 Core Mission Grant to upgrade the agency's computer network. This grant enables YSB to continue its mission to serve low income families and children. YSB therapists specialize in treating mental health disorders of childhood and adolescence.

Through its Core Mission Grants, The Community Foundation of the Great River Bend helps non-profit agencies to build capacity and thereby improve their effectiveness and ability to deliver services to the people who need them. YSB thanks The Community Foundation for their generous support to the community.



YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENCOURAGES YOU TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY BY CONTRIBUTING TO UNITED WAY OF THE QUAD CITIES AREA. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DESIGNATE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO PROGRAMS SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, PLEASE CONSIDER DESIGNATING YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU AS YOUR CONTRIBUTION



**Please consider making a donation** by printing this contribution form and mailing your tax-deductible gift to the YSB at 4709 44 St., Suite 5, Rock Island, IL 61201. Donations may also be made via our website at [www.ysbri.com](http://www.ysbri.com) Thank You.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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I would like my donation to help fund

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\_\_\_\_ Prevention Attention Quick (PAQ) Program

\_\_\_\_ Peer Justice (Teen Court) Program

\_\_\_\_ General Donation

\_\_\_\_ I would like to be a fundraising volunteer. Please contact me at the number listed above

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