



Tangram's Monthly
Newsletter
January 2011

The President's Pen:
Looking forward

Dear Friends,

January is a time for looking ahead. It would be fair to say that Tangram has spent the last *year* looking ahead as we work to position ourselves for the future.

We continue to put employment first for our clients and have developed a new approach to employment so that more of our clients can successfully enter the workforce. We have applied for funds from the Nina Mason Charitable Trust and we are building relationships with businesses in the community to create a sustainable program.

Employment will be part of our improved Discovery Services which will offer smaller groups and customized activities that fit individual interests and build connections within the community. The services will feature a flexible schedule, including day, evening, and weekend programming, and will put an emphasis on self-discovery and personal growth.

We have always striven to go above and beyond when it comes to accomplishing our mission. We continue to experience a decrease in government revenues and an increase in regulations, an ongoing challenge. Our donors have always allowed us to stay true to our mission and this year was no exception. We are so grateful for the continued support that our donors give us

A year ago, we created a position for a Director of Compliance and Risk Management in an effort to show our emphasis on quality assurance and our commitment to compliance with the increasingly stringent regulations and standards.

We have steadily been upgrading our properties, putting in new floors, windows, protective wall coverings, and HV/AC systems, as well as making other improvements to ensure that our clients enjoy a high standard of living and are safe and happy in their homes.

Our IT department is hard at work upgrading our computers to increase our efficiency, improve our communication, and enhance our service delivery to clients. We have placed a greater emphasis on streamlined communication and now produce newsletters on a regular basis for both staff and our donor base.

We also had the opportunity to review our organizational structure and enhance the way we do business. We have increased our efficiency and contributed to more effective programs by restructuring the organization and adding important positions, such as the three new Associate Director positions.

It has been quite a year here at Tangram. We have been proactive and forward-thinking and laid the groundwork for success. As I recount all the steps we have taken, I know that our future is bright.

Wishing you a successful 2011,

Connie
President/CEO

Important New Tax Law Info

If you are over the age of 70-and-a-half and wish to make a tax-free transfer of up to \$1000.00 from a traditional or Roth IRA to Tangram, you still have time to do so! A new tax law passed in mid-December allows donors to elect to treat IRA-rollover gifts made in January 2011 as if they were made by year-end in 2010.

Blog subscriptions made easy!

Visit thetangramway.wordpress.com. On the right sidebar, click on the [Subscribe!](#) button.

Enter your e-mail address and receive timely updates whenever we post an entry! Quick and easy!

Save the Date

Sizzle is Coming!

Saturday, June 25,
2011

Allisonville Nursery



Hats off to
our fabulous donors!



Whether you gave \$5 or \$2,500, you deserve a round of applause! Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we raised \$12,000 during the 25 Days of Tangram.

We would also like to thank Alex Irwin, without whose enthusiastic efforts we would not have met with such success!

The money we raised allows Tangram to give our clients access to reliable transportation, safe and affordable housing in desirable neighborhoods, and emergency funds.

The campaign may be over, but you can still donate at www.thetangramway.org



Valentine's Day is more than just a day for lovers to give each other flowers and chocolates. It is a day for everyone to show their love for friends, spouses, parents, girl/boyfriends, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, children, pets, and others who make your life special!

This Valentine's Day, express your love in more than just conversation hearts. Send a Tangram-gram! It's healthier than buying chocolates, longer-lasting than flowers, and less painful than having the name of your beloved tattooed on your arm. It's easy to do:

- ◆ Visit www.thetangramway.org
- ◆ Click on the "GIVE" button on the left side of the homepage. It will take you to our safe and secure donation page

- ◆ Enter the amount you would like to donate (\$5 per gram).
- ◆ Enter billing info
- ◆ Type "Valentine" in the "Designation" box.
- ◆ Click the box that says, "My gift is a tribute."
- ◆ Fill out the notification information so your personalized card reaches its destination.
- ◆ In the "Comments" box, write everything you want on your card.

We will add your message to a card and send it to the object of your affection! It's a great way to show your love and donate to a great cause! (Please note that you will need to do a separate transaction for each gram you send)



Special Needs

Newsletter:

Financial Strategies for the Friends and Clients of Nancy Cuning, CFP

View Online at

www.thetangramway.org/tangram_newsletters

Volunteer!

- ◆ Property Maintenance
 - ◆ Office Support
 - ◆ Special Event
 - ◆ Share Your Talent
 - ◆ One-On-One Volunteer
- Call Lindsey VanDyck at (317) 968-9048

Tangram Total Health Update

It's a new year and Tangram staff and clients are excited to get back to wellness after all those holiday treats! In December, the Marion County Health Department came to Tangram and Greenlea and held a physical activity lunch and learn. Everyone who participated received a resistance band to encourage them to get moving! Many continue to do the exercises at home.

Several clients at Greenlea use their resistance bands frequently and love the encouragement from staff. They are even putting together a "strong-man" contest to determine whose healthy habits are really paying off!

Thanks to Laura Johnson, a second year IU social work student, who conducted a client wellness survey with the individuals at Greenlea to determine what their healthy lifestyle interests were. Laura presented her findings to program managers who are using the results to craft more individualized and effective wellness plans for those we serve that take individual needs and desires into account. For instance, she helped reconnect a client with Power Soccer. We are already seeing results like this and are optimistic that the success will continue!

Improved Discovery Services

Exciting changes are coming to Tangram's Discovery Services! Beginning in late January, Tangram will be offering new and exciting events and classes for our clients. The Discovery Services will now include non-services, smaller customized individual connections community. feature a including weekend programming, and will put an emphasis on self-discovery and personal growth.



traditional day which will offer groups and activities that fit interests and build within the The services will flexible schedule, day, evening, and

In addition, Tangram has started a new and creative employment aspect to our services. We have applied for funds from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust and, in an effort to jumpstart the program, we have begun creating relationships with local employers in order to assist with finding a job, internship, or volunteer position for our clients. Many of our clients are already jumping on board and completing customized employment plans with the Associate Directors. It looks like 2011 is off to a fantastic start at Tangram!

Photo: Discovery is about doing what you love and, for Bobby, that means admiring hot rods!

2010 Annual Report

To view Tangram's 2010 Annual Report visit www.thetangramway.org.



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