



**LEO A. HOFFMANN CENTER'S**  
**"JOURNEY TO NEW BEGINNINGS" NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2014**

1715 SHEPPARD DRIVE – PO BOX 60, ST. PETER, MN 56082

**From the Desk of Gene Taylor, M.S., LPCC  
Executive Director**



*"Autumn...The Last, Loveliest Simile"*

*William Cullen Bryant*

***Once again fall is upon us and we all hope it will be an amazing gentle winter!***

**H**offmann Center has forged ahead to meet its specific administrative and strategic goals in completing renovation projects, developing a stronger clinical treatment team, and increasing family participation in receiving therapeutic services. We have used the expertise and dedication of our staff to open new doors and opportunities for our clients to be successful. This has been a busy year for all of us and I thank all those involved in providing the guidance Hoffmann Center needs to advance our mission and offer hope and opportunities to our clients. Without our awesome staff it wouldn't be possible for Hoffmann Center to continue to move ahead and advance our mission and offer further resources, training, therapy and a new beginning for our clients to start over with a clean slate.

As we all know, research dictates that family involvement is one of the most important factors in helping our clients be successful. Every year Hoffmann Center celebrates that family connectedness by promoting a "Family Day"; this year was no exception. On June 28<sup>th</sup> we had approximately 98 individuals involved in this Family Day, which included the teachers, staff, parents and clients in attendance. The theme is to appreciate the importance of the "family". The families are invited to participate in various activities promoting family-centered fun. There is a focus on teaching family wellness by providing education on healthy foods and snack choices. Families are given opportunities

*to interact with their son's in various recreation and leisure activities and then finalizing the day with a BBQ meal as everyone share conversations as one big treatment family. Awesome Day!*

*We have finished the big renovation projects on campus; we have now been focusing on providing quality training for all our staff, ensuring they are fully prepared to deal with the difficult clients we work with. Our therapists have been busy being trained in Trauma Focused – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). This is a therapy designed for youth who have experienced a significant traumatic event in their life. It is also used for parents or caregivers, children, and adolescents in a way to decrease the negative behavior patterns and emotional response that happen as a result of abuse or trauma. In September, Hoffmann Center brought in Charlie Appelstein, a well-known author, consultant and trainer for a one day training for staff and local county social workers and probations officers. Charlie Appelstein's motto is **"THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A BAD KID"**. He has worked in the welfare area for over 35 years. As President of Appelstein Training Resources, he provides original, strength-based training, literature to individuals or groups seeking to better understand and respond to at-risk children and youth. His training was well received by the counties and staff at Hoffmann Center. The training was very uplifting and inspirational for all involved.*

*In conclusion, these last few months have been challenging for all of us with the hiring of new staff to adjusting to our new renovations on campus. Although the future looks bright and through the process of change, we learn more about what direction we want to go in order to grow. Our challenge in the upcoming new year is looking at our options and determining what direction Hoffmann Center will go!*

**Thank YOU for your support!**

## Therapeutic Activities at Hoffmann Center



**Thomas E. Kelly, Psy.D.  
Licensed Psychologist**

**Dr. Tom Kelly is happy and excited to be moving into the role of Clinical Supervisor!**

Dr. Kelly has been affiliated with the Leo A. Hoffmann Center for the past two years as a contracted Psychologist assisting with outpatient psychosexual assessments and training.

Dr. Kelly is a Licensed Psychologist with 28 years of experience treating children, adolescents, and young adults.

Dr. Kelly has worked in a variety of mental health settings and with a variety of levels of care including residential treatment for children, inpatient treatment for children and adults, and outpatient treatment for children, adolescents, and adults. He also holds a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology and worked in a variety of classroom settings for children with special needs. Dr. Kelly began his professional work in psychology as a Milieu Counselor for children and adolescents and has worked with this population in a variety of roles since 1986.

Dr. Kelly is looking forward to working with the staff and clients in his new role and supporting Hoffmann Center as an optimal healing environment.



**Shawn Tweten, MS, Therapist,  
North Cottage**

**Shawn began work at the Leo A. Hoffmann Center as a Therapist at North Cottage in August 2013.**

Shawn graduated from Oak Hills Christian College in 2004 with a double major in applied psychology and youth ministry. In 2013, he completed his Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Shawn obtained training in play therapy to meet the therapeutic needs of children and adolescents. He is currently pursuing additional education in autism spectrum disorders.

### **VISIT OUR WEBSITE!**

**For more information about Hoffmann Center programs, please visit our website at:**

**[www.hoffmanncenter.org](http://www.hoffmanncenter.org)**

There have been fun times this summer at Hoffmann Center! Helping others teaches adolescents that they have a sense of connection and interdependence with other adolescents by learning to work and play together. The community helps form that sense of togetherness and caring for others by helping one another. That is no exception in the summer; clients worked at activities that put them in situations to have to work together to actually move forward. Canoeing is a clear illustration of how the units work together helping one another learn the basic understanding of canoeing. This was an opportunity for all Cottages to end their summer on a real positive note with a sense of accomplishment by being able to canoe together as a group.



Various other fun filled activities and leisure education took place that challenged individuals to improve their own skills. Our walk jog activities were a great success with not only all clients and building staff participating, but even administrative staff put some big numbers up this year. Typically our summer programming assists our clients on learning to better communicate, working on their individual goals and learning to handle difficult situations in a more responsible manner. This assistance helps in preparing our youth for the school year to get started.



**Hoffmann Center** is licensed by the Department of Human Services as a Rule 2960 facility. **Counties who place boys with us are able to seek federal funds through Medical Assistance and Title IV-E.** This allows counties to be reimbursed for **over 59%** of the per diem costs! Hoffmann Center does not bill for

clients who are on straight medical assistance (counties bill) but our programs are MA reimbursable! Hoffmann Center **DOES** bill the treatment portion to insurance companies for clients who are on Prepaid Medical Assistance (PMAP). This means that counties are only responsible for the Room & Board portion!

**Also**, did you know that **Hoffmann Center, as a Rule 2960 licensed facility, is frequently eligible for private insurance coverage?** We are very willing to work with counties and parents to check for eligibility of coverage prior to placement. In some cases, **Hoffmann Center has reimbursed the referring county 100% of the total per diem they paid!** If you have questions about this or would like additional information, please contact our office at (507)934-6122. We are very happy to work with counties in helping to keep placement costs down!