

Renovations Underway at Tinton Falls House in Monmouth County

Since acquiring the two properties in Freehold Township and Tinton Falls in Monmouth County, AMIB has been making considerable progress on renovations to the Tinton Falls home, which, as the photo at right shows, is undergoing major changes.

The original siding and roofing have been removed and are waiting to be replaced. The previous three-bedroom floor plan is being rearranged to accommodate four residents in four bedrooms and two bathrooms located in an addition at the side extension of the home. It will include widened hallways for wheelchair access and handrails throughout the house.

Plans also include a completely renovated kitchen, living room, dining room and an office for staff, a medicine area and laundry room. The exterior will have handicapped-accessible ramps and a tranquil and private backyard where residents will be able to enjoy a peaceful environment with fresh air and the sounds of nature. Once renovations to the Tinton Falls home are complete, work will begin on the Freehold house.



**LET'S
RAISE
THE ROOF!**

Help us meet the Challenge!

Our incoming group home residents need a roof over their heads. An anonymous donor has generously pledged \$27,700 to provide just that (new roof and siding) at our Tinton

Falls home once we have raised the \$27,400 needed to do the same for our Freehold group home. Obviously we want to seize this Challenge opportunity and we invite you to participate by sending your tax-deductible gift to AMIB and rise up and meet the challenge.

Construction and renovations are currently underway. It is, therefore, urgent that we raise the \$27,400 by June 30, 2015.

Please use the enclosed envelope to respond with your donation to this generous challenge.

Also, please let us know if you work for a company that has a matching gift program that will double the value of your gift.

From the President



Dear Friend,
As renovations to our newly purchased homes in Monmouth County proceed, we have been blessed to have an anonymous donor step up to make a challenge to us all to help provide a new roof and siding for each of our two new homes.

Their gift of \$27,700 will underwrite the roof and siding at the Tinton Falls home, which will be paid once we have raised the necessary \$27,400 for the roof and siding on the Freehold home.

Our AMIB Board is enthusiastically planning to support this challenge by responding to it as generously as possible, helping to help raise the \$27,400 necessary to meet the donor's generous challenge. We need your help.

Please join us by supporting this "Raise the Roof Challenge."

As renovations to both of these homes are currently underway, there is an urgency to raise the \$27,400, our part of the challenge.

Together we can raise the roof for both homes by June 30, 2015.

Thank you!

Kenneth P. Carson

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 selected your gift, you can select the **Associated for the Multiple Impaired Blind** as the charity of your choice, and Giftback will donate 10 percent of the purchase price to us.

From the Executive Director



Greetings, and I hope this finds you doing well. Though we have been challenged with staying warm throughout this winter, the time has allowed our two new group home projects in Tinton Falls and the

Freehold Township/Stonehurst section to go through their respective towns' zoning and building permit processes.

The Tinton Falls home is slated to be the first to open, as renovation progress has been steady and the initial stages of framing, plumbing, electrical and roofing are nearing completion. The Freehold home is still in the beginning stages of demolition with interior framing to commence.

On the political front, New Jersey has drafted a transition plan to comply with new federal mandates for community integration and inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. AMIB has submitted its comments on the plan to the State and copied in the Federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid.

Because AMIB serves individuals who have some of the most challenging developmental needs due to their additional blindness/visual impairments, aging, physical, behavioral and complex medical needs, our comments oppose the one-size-fits-all approach to service delivery.

Instead we focus on the need to provide person-centered services and individual choice. This allows unique models of care for those who benefit from them without arbitrarily and unnecessarily limiting the location of services or the number of people who can be served in any location, provided that is their choice and they benefit from the service.

We look forward to the challenges ahead and will keep you posted on our progress in opening these new group homes which provide additional opportunities for people with disabilities to live successfully in the community.

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 *

Kenneth J. Carson, Jr.

Mary J. Carson *

Phil Cochran *

Albert R. Costa *

Viola Ellison *

Peter & Mildred Galanti *

**Richard F. Harries &
Carol J. Harries**

Austin * & Clara Helle

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Patricia McKinley

William McKinley, III

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Vera Monaghan *

Ann Pambello

Edna Thorsen *

Polly Wilson *

** deceased*

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.

Holiday Happenings Around the Houses . . .



Left: At the long-term residence at Lanoka Harbor on Christmas morning, residents enjoy opening up their Christmas gifts. From left: Mary Blair, Jimmy, Fred, James, Rita, Darlene and Kathy.

Below left: After the Annual Cochran Christmas Holiday Party on December 6, Juana, a resident of the current Freehold group home, is joined by Director of Program Services Luciano Orsini and Program Manager Pat Williams, as she looks forward to opening presents.



Above: Program Manager Kristen Gilliam guides Linda, a Howell group home resident, around the Cochran Christmas Party.



Left: Program Manager Katrena Briggs assists Tommy and Chris at the North Dover home as they make cookies for AMIB's Third Annual Cookie Swap. Residents of each home bake a variety of cookies to exchange with each other, so that everyone enjoys a variety of treats.

Donors Making a Difference . . .

In gratitude we recognize 2014 donors to the AMIB Annual Fund and Year-End Appeal, the AMIB Endowment Fund, Inc., and our Monmouth Project. 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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*Gifts restricted to
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Olga Salisbury

Mrs. Muriel Martucci

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 732-262-0082 so we may correct the error. Thank you.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014

- ❖ AMIB purchased its 11th and 12th group homes in Tinton Falls and Freehold (Stonehurst).
- ❖ Residential Specialist Anne Marie Murphy at the Pine Beach South group home received the 8th Annual Caregiver of the Year Award in recognition of her dedication and devotion to AMIB and its residents.
- ❖ Paul, a resident of the North Dover group home, received the Cochran Award in recognition of his self advocacy, community integration and independence.
- ❖ AMIB installed a generator in each of its ten group homes, thanks to you, our donors, and generous foundation grants.

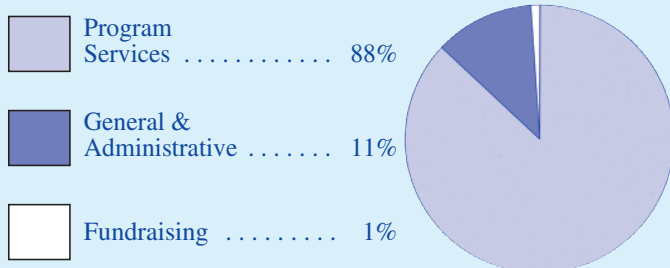
A Bequest to the AMIB Endowment Fund

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 for AMIB residents, ask your attorney to add an amendment, known as a codicil. Suggested wording for a will or codicil could be:

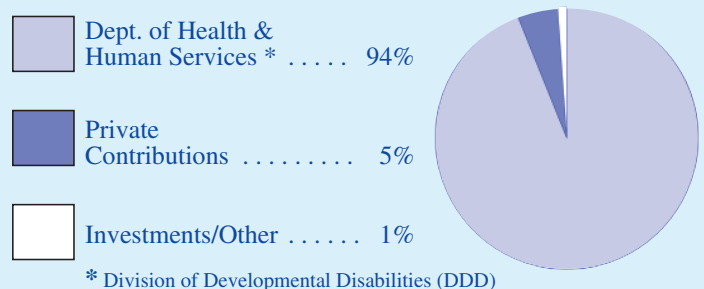
*"I give and bequeath to the **AMIB Endowment Fund**, 35 Beaverson Boulevard, Suite 13, Brick, New Jersey 08723-7812, the sum of \$_____ (or _____ percent of my estate) and/or the following property _____."*

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.

**AMIB, INC.
 Expenses for Year Ending June 30, 2014**



**AMIB, INC.
 Revenue for Year Ending June 30, 2014**



Residents Enjoy Annual Cochran Holiday Party at the Clarion Hotel, Toms River, NJ, December 6, 2014



1. Chris of the North Dover group home (right) with his mother Carol (center) and Residential Specialist Jacinda Grossman
2. Artie of the Bayville home with his mother
3. Freehold group home resident Donna (center) is joined by her two cousins Trish (left) and Kris (right).
4. Bayville Residential Specialist Linda Hires (right) with Bayville resident Barbara
5. Rita of the Lanoka Harbor group home
6. Jody of the Bayville group home



7



8



9

7. AMIB staff members attend the Cochran Party. From left: Book-keeper Joe Monaco, Maintenance Mike Spano, Accountant Rusty Tinik and Administrative Assistant Kathy Coyle.

8. Steven of the AMIB Respite Program with Program Services Director Luciano Orsini

9. Residential Specialist Anne Marie Murphy (center) receives the Sister Mary Byrnes Caregiver of the Year Award for 2014 from Deputy Director Gale DiMartino and Executive Director Aaron Soto. Each year this award is presented to a staff member who has demonstrated the most outstanding devotion in the challenging task of caregiving and has been inspired by the beatitudes of Sister Mary Byrnes, former director of St. Joseph's School for the Blind in Jersey City and partner in the founding and growth of AMIB.

AMIB, Inc.

35 Beaverson Boulevard - STE 13
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www.amib.net

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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.

Paul Receives the Cochran Award

At the Cochran Holiday Party held in Toms River on December 6, Paul, a resident of the North Dover home, received the Annual Cochran Award, presented each year to a resident who has made great strides in self advocacy, independence and community integration. Paul has been a resident of North Dover since shortly after it opened in July 2002. The home is named after his father Vincent in recognition of his many contributions to AMIB.

Paul's mother Muriel speaks with pride about her son. The two talk on the telephone every night and maintain a close relationship.



“Although I'd really love to have him home with me,” she says, “I realize the importance of him being acclimated in a group home where I know he will be safe and always cared for after I'm gone.”

Although Paul is blind, he has always been alert and has a remarkably attentive mind. He listens to the radio and can not only remember and discuss events of the day, he can also recall events long past.

When asked about his award, Paul beamed proudly and said that he received the award because he is independent and has independence.



AMIB Welcomes Patricia Nolan

AMIB recently welcomed Patricia Nolan as Nurse Case Manager. She not only provides care for the group

home residents, but also medication management and oversight, appointment and treatment coordination, medical quality assurance, staff training and advocacy for individuals' independence. Pat received her R.N. from Ocean County College. She has experience in home care, nursing and rehabilitation center settings. Pat is also certified in myelodysplastic syndrome, hemo/peri-toneal dialysis, critical care, telemetry and phlebotomy.