

History of Happiness Bag

Founded in 1971 as a touring theater company, Happiness Bag presented plays to various schools & organizations, with the cast consisting initially of students from Indiana State University and in later years, with individuals with disabilities.

What is a Happiness Bag?

A happiness bag is a tradition in Korea, similar to our Christmas stocking, except they use it all year long.

The colorful little bag is used to give gifts, usually making the receiver happy, but often to provoke thought to help the recipient become more aware of life & to learn a valuable lesson.

Happiness Bag adopted its' name from this tradition and utilizes this philosophy in all its endeavors.

Happiness Bag, Inc.



3833 Union Road
Terre Haute, IN 47802

Directions to our Facility

Our facility is located directly behind the Vigo Co. Fairgrounds and Terre Haute Action Track.

From the North: Proceed on US Hwy. 41 South to West Johnson Avenue. Turn right on to West Johnson Avenue, proceeding to Union Road. At Union Road, turn left and continue to the second building on the right.

From the South: Proceed on US Hwy. 41 North to West Johnson Avenue. Turn left on to West Johnson Avenue, proceeding to Union Road. At Union Road, turn left and continue to the second building on the right.

Phone: 812-234-8867
Fax: 812-238-0728

For more information, please contact:

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*The Wabash Valley's
only
Recreational
and
Educationally oriented
facility solely
designed for
individuals with
disabilities.*



Our Services

Adult Day Service



This program is designed for Individuals who have completed their formal education.

These friends are generally

21 years of age or older. The primary focus of this program is to assist and instruct the participants in maintaining current skill levels, to adapt current skills to "real life" situations and to provide the participants with a meaningful day of activities. This program is offered year-round, Mon. - Fri., from 9:00am - 3:00pm.

Personal Growth & Social Development

This program incorporates many opportunities for our participants, including an After-School program and an After-Day Services program. This program operates from 6:30-9:00am, Mon. - Fri. and resumes from 3:00 - 6:00pm. Participants in this program engage in structured activities in the areas of Arts/Crafts; Recreation; Music; Nature; and Drama. Additionally, this program also offers our newly re-designed Friend's/Venture Crew, in conjunction with Boy Scouts of America. This group for guys & gals, meets at least two Saturdays each month, working to earn pins for their "Venture Crew" letter. We also host special holiday dances throughout the year, open to all of our participants and their friends.

Summer Day Camp

We provide a nine-week day camp experience for our school-aged friends. The program is conducted Mon. - Fri., from 9am-3pm at our facility. The individuals in this program participate in a variety of structured activities throughout the day which are centered on a particular theme each week. The activities can be in the areas of arts/crafts; recreation/healthy lifestyles; music; nature; or drama. This program has the distinction of being the only summer day camp in the Wabash Valley area, solely designed for individuals with special needs.



Special Olympics

Any individual, with an intellectual disability and at least eight years of age, is offered the opportunity to participate in programs offered by Special Olympics Indiana through our agency. Each program consists of a required eight week training/practice session. Athletes going through the training are coached by volunteers, who must submit and pass national criminal background checks, receive training through a certified volunteer orientation program, and are trained specifically for each sport. Athletes must submit physical forms, applications for participation, and sign a Code of Conduct prior to participation in any sport. The sports programs offered are: Spring and Fall bowling; Athletics; Aquatics; Basketball; Bocce - for athletes 30 years or age & older; Softball; and Unified Volleyball. In the Spring of 2011, we will add Ballroom Dance - which is only offered in Indiana.

Bowling

Bowling is conducted on Friday evenings in Terre Haute and Sunday afternoons in Sullivan in the Spring and Fall. The Terre Haute league has the distinction of being the single, largest league in the Wabash Valley; averaging nearly 130 bowlers each season. During the spring season, bowlers work toward the chance of competing in the Indiana Special Olympics Summer Games conducted in June on the campus of Indiana State. During the fall season, bowlers again are gearing up for tournament action - first competing in a qualifying area tournament in November, with the hopes of advancing to the State Bowling tournament in Indianapolis. All bowlers are also eligible to receive trophies during the annual awards banquet each year.

Respite Care

This program provides parents/care-givers with a needed "respite". The respite can be provided in the home of the participant or in the community. Respite services cannot, however be provided while a parent is working or attending school, nor while the Adult Day Service or Summer Day camp programs are in session.

Fees and Funding

We are a certified Medicaid Waiver provider for the services of Adult Day program; Summer Day Camp; and Respite care. For individuals not receiving waiver services, affordable hourly rates are available. Funding support is received from the United Way of the Wabash Valley; fundraising; grants/foundation gifts; and donations.