Thank You from Superintendent Jeff Butler

I have had a couple of weeks now to read the cards, the scrapbook, and to reflect on the festivities at my retirement. I am so truly thankful for all the wonderful gifts, the many, many kind words, and the ceremony was in a word, overwhelming! I am so humbled and so appreciative of the efforts by so many that made the day possible. I will remember my time at RSH with so many fond memories, and they will last me a lifetime. The job provided me an opportunity to meet so many great people and to work with so many wonderful and caring individuals. I wish the very best to all of you and for RSH in the future.

Again, thank you so much for everything.

Jeff Butler

Sagamore of the Wabash Award

On Friday April 25th Jeff Butler was presented the Sagamore of the Wabash Award by Representative Richard Hamm on behalf of Governor Pence. The Sagamore of the Wabash Award is a high civilian honor granted only by the governor. Senator Allen Paul and members of the Leadership team at Richmond State Hospital were very instrumental in submitting Jeff Butler’s name to the Governor’s office to receive this award.

Jeff Butler just recently retired from Richmond State Hospital with over 41 years of service. His last 14 years he was the Superintendent of the hospital.

Representative Richard Hamm stated, “I understand that Jeff was a very caring man, both for the patients and the staff. He went from a Recreational leader to the Top Job, Superintendent.”

Those present at the luncheon, held at the Old Richmond Inn, were Jeff’s wife, Karen, and their three children, Ashley, Stephanie and Nathan. Also in attendance was Adrienne Shields, Deputy Director of DMHA, members of Richmond State Hospital leadership team and the Administrative Support Staff.

Jeff was very honored and humbled to receive such a high honor. “It has been my pleasure to serve for so many years with such wonderful people at Richmond State Hospital and the state of Indiana. I am truly honored by this award.”
In the Spotlight
Ron Bailey, Purchasing
By Jesse Hodges

In the 11 years that I have been here, I have been friends with Ron. We started out in the Psychiatric Attendant class at the same time in the summer of 2003. Even during the class, I knew Ron was a kind and likeable guy.

He started his attendant career on second shift in the A.I.T. building on unit 417C. After being an attendant for three years, he was given the opportunity to become a Pharmacy Technician and fill a position here in the hospital. He received training for 6 months and became certified in that field. As a Pharmacy Tech, his job was to fill prescriptions, process physicians orders, triage, and computer processing on the Quadramed system.

He most recently took a job here at RSH as the Purchasing agent located in the Industrial Building. In this job he is responsible for procurement of supplies and equipment needed at the hospital as well as the money spent for these items. He believes that with the education and people that are in the purchasing department, it will be a great job.

During his time here he has made many friends and stated to me that he loves the family like atmosphere with the staff. He said that first shift was hard for him to get accustomed to because he had never worked a first shift job, but the staff here helped ease the transition. When asked “where do you see yourself in five years here at Richmond State Hospital?” he said, “I see myself continuing my education as a purchasing agent and becoming accredited in this field.”

Turning to a more personal note, Ron said that he would like to travel to Ireland to look up family and spend some time getting to know them. He also stated that he likes classic rock.

So, in closing, if you ever wonder who buys the things we need to run the hospital, now you know, his name is Ron Bailey.

Heading for Home
Palladium-Item Article March 21, 2014

Jeff Butler has been working to help patients throughout his 41-year ascent from recreation leader to superintendent at the Richmond State Hospital.

During a retirement reception Thursday honoring Butler, Kevin Moore talked about how Butler has had the strength to be himself and how, through his servant leadership, he has been a model for his staff. Moore is director of the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction, which is part of Indiana’s Family and Social Services Administration.

“We were going through the facility on a tour with other folks from FSSA, and we were in the area where the vending machines are and we lost Jeff,” Moore told those gathered in the CTC building community room. “He was leading the tour and we lost him.” The room full of guests chuckled. “I looked back and he had knelt down in front of a patient to tie that patient’s shoes who couldn’t do it on his own,” Moore said. And in my mind, that reflected everything you need to know about superintendent Jeff Butler and his approach to patient care.”

Moore said that the state is actively seeking a new superintendent to lead Richmond State Hospital, but that Butler is “irreplaceable”.

Butler’s last day is Friday. The appointment of an interim superintendent soon will be announced by state officials.

Debra Minott, Secretary of the Indiana FSSA, presented Butler with a plaque of appreciation for his service to the state during Thursday’s gathering. Gretchen Gibbs, RSH’s director of nursing, presented a portrait of Butler that she created. In it he is portrayed in Chicago, the home of his beloved Chicago Cubs, which were featured heavily in the baseball-theme reception.

State hospital employees gave Butler and his wife Karen, tickets to three upcoming Cubs games and a framed collage of state hospital buildings. Staff members from the Business Office gave Butler a giant card that used candy names (and the candy itself) to show their appreciation of him - “You have always been a Lifesaver as we fall to Pieces to see you leave. If we searched the Orbit, Milky

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Way, Starburst or even the lunar Eclipse, we would never find a Mr. Goodbar like you.”

Butler touched by the outpouring of friendship and appreciation said he will “without a doubt” most will miss the staff and patients at the state hospital. “We are a family, and I think that means a lot” Butler said.

Gloria Goens, who worked for 27 years at the hospital, came to wish Butler well. “I always felt like Jeff had an open door policy. You don’t get that everywhere,” she said. “He always took care of the patients.”

Butler joined the state hospital in 1972 after graduating from Indiana State University with a degree in recreation. He had hoped to work for a city parks and recreation department, but instead found himself working with the addiction population. One outlet he developed for patients was a softball team program and an intrastate hospital sports program in which different facilities compete. In his honor, the state Hospital’s softball field will be now know as Butler Field.

As his role changed, he acquired a master’s degree of health science from Ball State University. He became clinical director in 1996 and superintendent in 2000.

Looking back at his term, Butler said he has tried to keep the hospital campus open to the community and to develop strong partnerships with community organizations and services.

He said he worked to make sure the state hospital was a good employer in the city, a challenge as the state decreased the hospital’s population from about 320 in 2002 to its current capacity of about 200 patients. Butler is proud that downsizing was achieved without staff layoffs. Butler also is proud that even with such drastic changes, he and his staff were able to add a new role, recovery specialists, to the staff.

In his retirement, Butler isn’t planning to do a lot right away. He plans to hike a section of the Appalachian Trail with a friend and to spend next spring in Arizona working anyway he can with the Cubs organization. Of course, he also plans to attend many Cubs’ games.

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**2014 Annual Golf Outing**

For RSH Employees & Family Members

Sponsored by: Grass Roots

Date: 6/14/14 Location: Highland Golf Course

Time: 8am

Cost: $45 (green fees, cart, lunch)

Individual players welcome. Assistance compiling teams will be provided.

Any skill level welcome!

Questions?

Contacts:

Corey Laughlin @ ext 9392

Josh Nolan @ ext 9319
Staff Development News

New Faces at RSH
Please welcome our new employees at RSH when you see them on grounds.

Welcome to RSH!

Todd Richie, BHRA   Tori Wisner, BHRA

Brittney Singleton, RTA

Lunch 'n Learn Program
Thursday, May 15
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
CTC Conference Center
TEVA Pharmaceutical will be discussing a new medication
More information will be coming in a hospital-wide e-mail very soon.

Do you know this building and its location?
It’s the Powerhouse, building 308, located near the south end of 4th Street.

“Basics of Epilepsy” program
Thursday, May 8
1 to 3 p.m.
CTC Conference Center
This program, which emphasizes types of epileptic seizures/first aid, is tailored to direct care staff.
All employees are welcome to attend.
Please e-mail or call Diane (ext. 9376) in Staff Development to register.

Training Schedule

Recertification in Bridge Building
Dates: May 2 & 16
Time: 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Location: Staff Development

Recertification in Professional CPR
Dates: May 2 & 16
Time: 12:15 to 3:45 p.m.
Location: Staff Development

Evening shift recert in Bridge Bldg.
Date: May 29
Time: 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Location: Staff Development

Evening shift recert in Professional CPR
Date: May 9
Time: 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Location: Staff Development

*Annual recerts are scheduled during your birth-month.

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Staff Development will be closed on Tuesday, May 6, for Election Day. We will also be closed on Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day.