

50 YEARS OF IMPROVING LIVES AND BUILDING COMMUNITY.

The oldest and largest agency of its kind in south central Indiana, Stone Belt has been providing innovative supports and education to individuals with developmental disabilities since 1959.

Begun by nine visionary families wishing to create educational opportunities for their school-age children, Stone Belt has grown to include residential programs, employment resources, life skills and vocational training, a professional art studio and clinical services, all which enable individuals to live self-determined lives of significance and meaning.

Stone Belt has remained at the forefront of the field — pioneering essential changes and implementing innovative programs that touch thousands of lives each day.

CELEBRATING THE PAST



The 1960's. The beginning.

In March 1958, the Stone Belt Council for Retarded Children is organized in the basement of a church by nine families in Bloomington, Indiana, who want to provide education for their children. The following year, the group incorporates. The program grows quickly and in the early 60's Indiana University authorizes the use of the Headley School's classrooms in Bloomington to the Council and a school opens for children with disabilities. In 1960, the Stone Belt Council becomes a member of United Fund (now the United Way) and also becomes affiliated with the Arc of Indiana. In 1968, Joan Burton joins the Headley School as a teacher and member of the Board of Directors; she is later named the organization's first Executive Director.



The 1970's. Early growth.

In 1970, Stone Belt's 10th Street building in Bloomington is completed on the IU campus with county, state and federal tax dollars. The building houses a recycling warehouse, sheltered workshop and adult center. Federal legislation passes that allows children with disabilities to attend public school, and as a result Stone Belt begins its transition from children's services to its Adult Day Program services. In the early 70's, the first residential group homes are opened in small apartments contained within the Indiana Institute for Disability and Community. In the late 1970's, Stone Belt partners with the Lawrence County Arc and begins offering services for individuals in Bedford, Indiana.



The 1980's. A decade of firsts.

Stone Belt phases the last school-age class into the public school system, builds its first group homes, and makes its first community job placement. By 1985, all school-aged children are placed in the public school system and Stone Belt enters the next phase of its service to the community as a residential, employment and day services provider for adults with developmental disabilities. However, children with disabilities continue to be served in the newly created Infant & Child Developmental Services program. In the late 80's, the Sweet Owen Industries facility is opened to serve individuals in Spencer, Indiana. Pioneer Joan Burton retires in 1985, and Stone Belt's second Executive Director, Elbert Johns, begins his tenure.



The 1990's. Focus on the community.

Community inclusion burgeons. Stone Belt opens six additional group homes in Monroe and Lawrence counties. The Supported Living Program begins, allowing individuals with disabilities to live more independently in apartment settings. Employment opportunities increase with more clients holding community jobs than ever before. Stone Belt Manufacturing raises its profile as a resource for local industry. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) passes and people with disabilities are one step closer to equality at both the state and national level.



The 2000's. Expansion.

In 2001, Elbert Johns ends his tenure and current CEO Leslie Green becomes the agency's third leader. Stone Belt expands eastward with day program, employment and residential services in Bartholomew and surrounding counties. Milestones Clinical & Health Resources, a division of Stone Belt, hires two board-certified psychiatrists, and begins offering supports not only for adults with disabilities, but also for children, adolescents and families. A new building in Bloomington is purchased to house Milestones and the Community Employment program. Infant & Child Developmental Services is transitioned to Indiana First Steps. The Art & Craft division is created and Stone Belt begins selling artwork to the community.

OUR MISSION

We believe in the uniqueness, worth and right to self-determination of every individual. Therefore, it is our mission, in partnership with the community, to prepare, empower and support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to participate fully in the life of the community.

PRINCIPLES OF SERVICE

Stone Belt has developed our Principles of Service with the involvement of clients, families, staff and others from the community. These important values are used as the guidelines for how we deliver supports and services:

- self-determination is essential
- learning creates empowerment
- all people have contributions to make
- positive supports provide the best long-term results
- home life must be self-directed
- employment is a fundamental part of adult life
- social life and relationships help create quality of life

PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE

Stone Belt empowers people to reach their greatest potential through innovative programs:

- Hand in Hand
- Stone Belt Arts
- Milestones Clinical & Health Resources
- Client Employment
- Residential Life
- Staff Development

Thank You for Supporting Excellence @ Stone Belt!

Our community is stronger when every individual experiences success.

Yes! ☐ I want to encourage success @ Stone Belt with my tax- deductible gift of:

\$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐

Other ☐ \$_____ (all gifts help us meet our goals)

I wish for my gift to remain anonymous in Stone Belt publications ☐

.....

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE #

EMAIL ADDRESS

☐ My check is enclosed (payable to Stone Belt)

☐ Charge my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover

CARD #

EXP. DATE

.....

Please mail your donation to:

Stone Belt

Attn: Development Department

2815 E 10th Street, Bloomington, IN 47408

Or, make your donation online @ www.stonebelt.org

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Opportunities through the arts.

Stone Belt continues to develop its dynamic, community-based arts program that enables individuals with disabilities to express and exhibit their creative talents. The program provides individuals with the opportunity to explore the performing arts, develop careers as artists and learn valuable skills in support roles related to art production. Artists with and without disabilities work together to create economic benefits for artists, the organization and the entire community.



Professionally prepared staff.

Stone Belt continues to strengthen its leadership role in quality workforce preparation for members of its staff. Clients are able to achieve their desired outcomes because Direct Support Professionals have been trained with the knowledge and expertise to support them. In addition, managers have the skills to support and provide resources to their team members, leading to high levels of productivity and satisfaction.



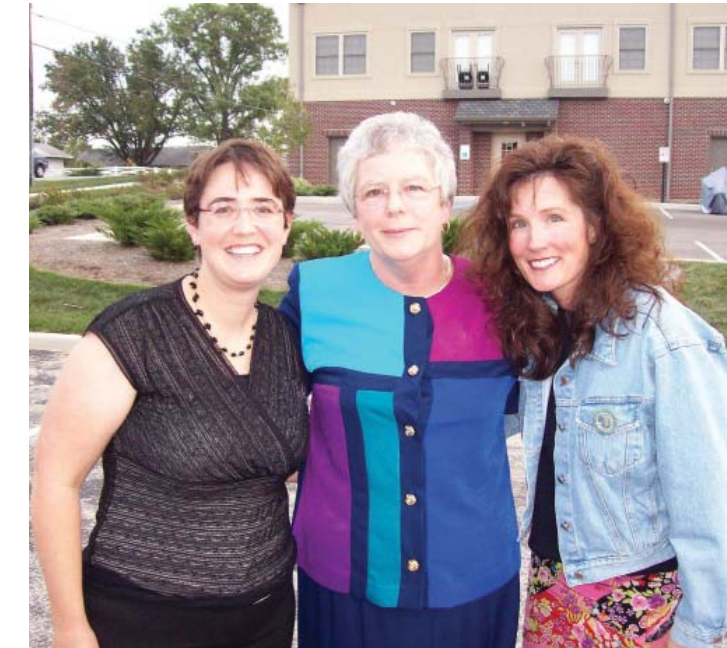
Strong community partnerships.

The goals of Stone Belt and other community organizations are successfully achieved by collaborative, mutually beneficial partnerships. Through these relationships, resources are combined for a larger community impact. We energetically promote current relationships and actively seek new ones for important initiatives such as the arts program, client employment and further educational and clinical outreach through Milestones.



Increased client employment.

Stone Belt believes in the significance of meaningful employment for individuals with disabilities and promotes the positive contributions these people make to the workforce. We continually strengthen our efforts to provide robust and effective community employment services as well as functional vocational training that facilitates the acquisition of positive work skills and habits.



Growth of Autism supports.

The impact of the increased incidence and diagnosis of Autism on individuals, families and society is not yet fully known, but Stone Belt works diligently to mitigate this. We offer effective, best-practice and evidence-based treatment and education for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. Milestones staff members continually receive specialized training to remain current on the most cutting-edge treatment methods.

www.stonebelt.org

www.milestonesclinic.org

www.stonebeltartandcraft.org

www.stonebelt.org/runwithme



YEARS

www.stonebelt.org