



Director's Monthly Update

Construction Update

Special points of interest:

1. **Two grants will be filed by the end of 2009 and one will be filed in January of 2010.**
2. **Participation in UWP C.A.N program is a tremendous help.**
3. **Support for Oasis Youth Center remains strong.**

Things are continuing to develop at Oasis Youth Center. Although things slowed down late in the fall, they are back on pace this winter.

All of the walls have a fresh coat of paint on them. New walls have been constructed, painted, and trimmed.

On December 11th, a group of men will be "boxing in" the exposed water pipes in the Youth Center space. Flooring decisions have also been made. Carpeting and tile have been purchased and will be installed as soon as possible.

After those items have been completed, the final stage of preparation will be to install the new lighting and the recreation equipment.

Grants Away!

When the concept for Oasis Youth Center was presented to our congregations, I spoke to you about two existing models for this kind of ministry, Lighthouse Youth Center and The R.O.C.

In both of those youth ministries, grants are a major source of funding. In one case, granting relieved the supporting congregations of

all their financial obligations.

Oasis Youth Center is currently working on preparing three grants. The CDBG grant with the city of Kenosha. (That is also known as the block grant.) A grant has already been filed with WE Energies, Focus on Energy program to provide new energy efficient lighting for the youth center. And I will

be preparing a grant for funding through UW-Parkside. That grant is due in January.

You will certainly be kept up to date as more grants are filed and accepted.

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Partnership with UW-Parkside

UW-Parkside received a grant three years ago in order to help non-profits in Kenosha and Racine increase their ability to serve more people with better services. Through this grant UWP formed a program called the C.A.N program. Oasis Youth Center has officially been inducted into the C.A.N program.

The CAN program will assist Oasis Youth Center develop its structure and the ability of its

governing board. It will also give Oasis staff access to training on any number of topics that are important for people serving on the board of a non-profit organization, such as: grant writing, procedural development, financial management and fundraising strategies.

Being a part of the C.A.N program has already been a tremendous help to us on the Oasis Board. Through this program we have a clear path set in

regards to where we must continue to develop. Maybe more importantly, the C.A.N program has given Oasis the ability to seek granting for its start-up costs!

Support Is Overwhelming!

Last July many of you took the time to fill out surveys in order to gauge how much support Oasis Youth Center would actually have, if it should open. 112 names ended up on a list, volunteering as few as two hours per month to as many as fifteen hours per week.

I realize that your situations may have changed since you filled out those support surveys six months ago. I also realize that I have not been able to get everyone involved to the degree

that they would like to be involved, *yet!*

I do believe the time is drawing closer to when Oasis will be up and going. When that happens we will need all the volunteers we can muster. Might that be you?

In addition to the prayers and moral support of the people, our congregations have also stepped forward to show financial support to this new ministry. Bethany, Friedens, Mt. Zion, St. John's

and St. Luke's have all made significant contributions to the budget of Oasis Youth Center so that right now Oasis has received \$7,000 of the total pledged support for this ministry. It's through this generous support that Oasis is incorporated and is preparing its facility for a grand opening. Thank you for all your support, as individuals members and as congregations.

A Special Thank You...

I would like to use this space to thank the Rena Waack for designing our final logo. The

newly completed color version is featured in this month's issue of the Director's Update. And

will be painted on the wall of the center.