



# THE SMVI SOURCE

## *SMVI Brings in the New Year with a Bang*

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On January 6, 2006 SMVI started the New Year off with a party. Our SMVI's 1<sup>st</sup> Consumer and Family New Year's Party was held at the Elks Lodge on Temple Hills Road in Camp Springs, MD.

SMVI celebrated our participants, staff, families, and the holidays by honoring the individuals we serve and their family members.

Participants and families members representing all programs at SMVI attended. Participants had the

opportunity to socialize and parents got the opportunity to network with other families.

Everyone came prepared for food and friendships. The DJ kept the dance floor filled with music for all.

Special thanks go to **André Coates, Cassandra Rivers, and Lena Ford** for their efforts in planning this successful event.

No one wanted the party to end but all agreed that this event should take place every year.



### 1<sup>st</sup> NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION



## *Kemmerton Tree Trimming*



The Hall Family  
Phyllis, John, & John Sr.

On December 8, 2005, **John and Phyllis Hall** made a generous contribution enabling SMVI to hold a Tree Trimming Celebration at the **Kemmerton** home.

received holiday decorations, new furnishings and carpet.

Everyone had a great time and expressed their genuine thanks to the Halls.



Cecil Pearson and Thomas Shortino

In the spirit of the occasion, each attendee placed an ornament on the tree signaling the beginning of the celebration.

Thanks also goes to **André Coates, Cassandra Rivers, Lena Ford, Shanetta Richardson, Kola Rufai, Oladele Ige, and Angelique Holliway** for their efforts in making this event successful.

Through the generous donation of the Halls, consumers received holiday gifts, staff received gift cards, and the home



Kemmerton Direct Care Staff  
Smart Ofugara, Wosilat Lynch,  
Mary Ogodo, & Amanda  
Robinson



Lena Ford

## *ISS Recreational Crew Holiday Gala*

On December 16, 2006, ISS Recreation Program held its 3rd annual Holiday Party. Families were invited to join in a celebration. Family members were entertained with a talent presentation lead by Louise Pyles, Dance Instructor. Performers included: **Tina Coles, Lisa DeLawder, Jasper Farley, Lanetta Gamble, Theresa Randle, Tracy Trayham, Tracey West, and Jay West**. After the Welcome address by Lanetta, Tracy Trayham presented awards. Tina provided a blessing of the delicious food that was catered by our very own, **Angela Graham**, Lead ISS Specialist.



Jasper Farley and his parents,  
Jasper Sr. and Ann Farley



Carol Walker, Jay West, & Angela Graham



Lanetta Gamble and her father,  
Hoyt Gamble



Tracey West, Tracy Trayham, & Tina Coles



Michele Seager  
RJ Princinsky & Associates



Susan Taylor &  
Sabainah Fawehinmi



Lena Ford

# SMVI Staff Training & Holiday Party

On December 1 2005, SMVI held a Training and Holiday Party. Diversity and Safety were the topics covered during the training session. The Diversity Training was conducted by **Michele Seager** of RJ Princinsky & Associates. Michele talked about the importance of treating all equally and presenting an acceptable environment. The floor was opened and productive discussion flowed throughout the room.

**Lena Ford**, SMVI's Director of Quality Assurance and Consumer Services, conducted the training on Safety. She touched on the issues of the weather and preparedness for the upcoming holiday season.

All work and no play makes for a hard time, so we ended with a party and gifts. All staff were presented with Wal-Mart gift cards and the following staff were recognized for their outstanding contributions to SMVI:

- Outstanding Community Support Counselor  
*Mariatu Kamara*      *Van Thomas*  
*Vinetta Lyles*      *Mary Waters*  
*Mary Ogo*      *Evengla Williams*
- Outstanding Community Support Coordinator  
*Melissa Tiku*
- Outstanding Employment Specialist  
*Martina Wheeler*
- Outstanding Individual Support Specialist  
*Siesa Redman*
- Outstanding Transportation Specialist  
*William Holman*
- Outstanding Lead Specialist  
*Angela Graham*
- Outstanding Administrative Support  
*Angelique Holliday*  
*Shanetta Richardson*  
*Carlisa St. John*  
Visionary Award  
*Susan M. Taylor*

## Happy Birthday

Please wish the following individuals and staff Happy Birthday during the month of February.



*Bernard Ross, 2<sup>nd</sup>*

*Van Thomas, 5<sup>th</sup>*

*Suzette Banks, 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Vinetta Lyles, 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Joseph Messina, 9<sup>th</sup>*

*Mariatu Kamara, 10<sup>th</sup>*

*Rosalind Meyers, 13<sup>th</sup>*

*Jerel Miller, 13<sup>th</sup>*

*Segun Elesinmogun, 14<sup>th</sup>*

*Denita Eleam, 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Diane Nelson, 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Ed Olive, 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Edmund Masango, 22<sup>nd</sup>*

*Steve Lott, 25<sup>th</sup>*

*O'Shawn Puller, 28<sup>th</sup>*

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

**Gloria Lee**

2/21/1992, 14 years

**Cassandra N. White Rivers**

2/14/2002, 4 years

**Oyinlola Abosede Omishore**

2/8/2005, 1 year

**Andrew Azoro**

2/16/2001, 5 years

**Omoyemi Akinwunmi**

2/27/2002, 4 years

**Sherita Jones**

2/12/2005, 1 year

**Esther Jones**

2/21/2001, 5 years

**Nazarius Ngu Ntob**

2/8/2005, 1 year

**Denita Eleam**

2/23/2005, 1 year

### WELCOME ABOARD

SMVI welcomes the following new staff to our team:

Tolulope Sunday, Community Support Coordinator  
Nicole Lauren Richeson, ISS Specialist  
Lakisha Evette Dixon-Duvall, Administrative Secretary

## NEWS ITEMS

### Job Club

Job Club participants **Jerome Powell** and **Desiree Riley** have been offered and accepted full time jobs at NASA Goddard Space Center located in Greenbelt, MD, as custodial workers.

### New Jobs

**Shameka Thompkins** is now employed in her new job as a Stock Room Aid at Ross Department Store located in Largo, Md. **David Marlow** has accepted a position at the Navy Yard. **Carrol Noel** is employed at Goodwill of Greater Washington Thrift Store as a donation attendant.

### Community Support

#### *Rutland House*

It was a pleasure to hear from one of the family members, Mrs. Miller. Mrs. Miller commented on how well the staff takes time to care for her son, J. Miller, how well he looks and the cleanliness of the home. Mrs. Miller also complimented on how well the food is prepared. I say to you, **JOB WELL DONE TO THE STAFF AT RUTLAND HOUSE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

*Cassandra Rivers*  
Director of Community Support

### Welcome

SMVI welcomed **Rita Spriggs** to our Supported Employment program on December 5, 2005. Rita is eager to work with SMVI's job Club to find her ideal job. SMVI would also like to welcome **Tony Richardson** to our CSLA program. Tony is extremely happy to have the medical and recreational services included in this program.

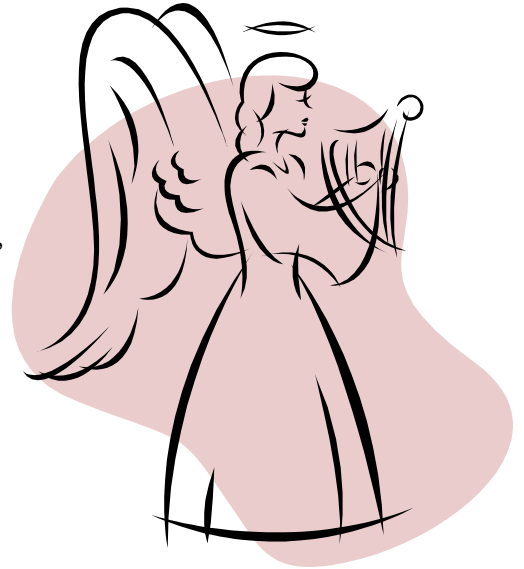
### Get Well Soon

SMVI sends out prayers and well wishes to **André Coates**, SMVI's Deputy Director of Development. SMVI staff and consumers truly miss André.

## *Homegoing for Ellen Jo England*

On January 24, 2006, SMVI held a memorial service for Ellen Jo England. The service included an Old Testament Reading by Cassandra Rivers, a New Testament by Baiyee Tiku, a musical selection from Renita Briscoe, Gregory Crawley, and Steve Lott who also provide music of comfort. The service and Benediction was lead by Pastor James E Hardy.

The SMVI family would like to thank everyone for their condolences in our time of sorrow in the loss of one of our dearest consumers, Ellen Jo England.



### **Ellen Jo England**

1936-2006

Ellen Jo England was born on March 14, 1936 to Howard & Ollie England in Elkins, West Virginia. Ellen Jo lived with her family until 1983 when she moved to Great Oaks.

On July 13, 1992 Ellen Jo moved to the SMVI Residential Program, where she resided at the Green Apple Turn home in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Ellen Jo attended Vocational Services Industries (VSI) where she was enrolled in their Senior Program.

Ellen Jo England departed this life on January 17, 2006. She leaves behind two sisters, Margaret English and Anne Wetzel. Three house mates, Margaret L., Clara K., Mary J. and a host of family and friends.

Every one who knew Ellen Jo couldn't help but love her.

Ellen Jo's staff over the years appreciated that she had great enjoyment from simple pleasures, having her nails painted, getting the mail, reading magazines, spending quality time with her housemates, spending time in her special rocking recliner watching movies and eating good southern food.

She was a strong willed woman with a loving heart. Ellen Jo will be greatly missed by all who knew her, especially Margaret, Mary and Clara.



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The race for quality has no finish line

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## HR Corner

Please congratulate **Carlisa St. John** on her acceptance of the position of SMVI's Human Resources Manager.



### *SMVI Employees Take Pride in Their Work*

*SMVI Human Resources recognizes that employees are our most important assets, so we hire the best, provide training and growth opportunities, and recognize good performance.*

Please see Carlisa if you or someone you know is interested in employment with SMVI.

### **Benefits, Benefits, Benefits!**

New Hire Orientation will be conducted on February 15, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Please come prepared to learn about the exciting benefits SMVI has to offer.

