



**ANGELS  
UNAWARE, INC.**  
*Residential Care for the Developmentally Disabled.*

**2011**

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.angelsunaware.com](http://www.angelsunaware.com)

# The Angels Ledger

Volume 10 , Issue 3

October 2011

## **CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS**

NOW ON SALE



This beautiful, custom made brass ornament is approximately 4" in diameter, comes in a black gift box and is ready to be hung on your Christmas tree. Thanks to our supporters, Angels Unaware, Inc. ornaments have a wide circulation across the world. They have been used as gifts, attached to presents in place of a bow and have been sent to our troops in every major conflict since 1990. Each ornament is dated and ornaments are available from past years to complete your collection. We use the proceeds from our ornament sales to supplement our transportation costs. With the rising cost of gas and insurance, this fundraiser is an important one for Angels Unaware, Inc. Please order as many ornaments as you can to help us supplement these costs. We believe your friends, neighbors, and co-workers would be happy to receive these Christmas ornaments as gifts or would gladly purchase them from you to help our cause.

[Please click here to order ornaments.](#)

Thank you for your support.

## Mission Statement

Angels Unaware, Inc. is a non-profit corporation operating in Hillsborough County, whose express goal is to provide quality professional residential group-home care and supported living services for severe and profound developmentally disabled individuals. We currently own and operate eight homes serving forty nine handicapped residents. Each home is highly specialized to serve the individual needs of its residents. Current training utilizes a behavioral management approach designed to meet the needs of each individual. A board of directors, made up of parents, concerned professionals and other concerned citizens from the community, governs the corporation.

## Contact us

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Please visit our web site at  
[www.angelsunaware.com](http://www.angelsunaware.com)

## A Word From Ross

Ross O'Banion, Executive Director

### DEATH BY A THOUSAND CUTS – THEY JUST KEEP COMING

The Scott administration and APD has announced yet another round of cuts aimed at consumers and providers. According to their words the agency been working to bring its waiver expenditures within the legislative appropriations this year. The agency is also looking for opportunities to increase waiver flexibility and equity for consumers while continuing to protect their health and safety. The net effect has been little or no response to consumer needs (including health issues), the growth of waiting lists, lowering the quality of services and the consumer's quality of life.

This month APD published its **five cost containment ideas** and, as you are reading this, is rushing these to the various legislative sub-committee for approval and a timetable for implementation. To read the entire plan [click here](#). Here are their five containment ideas:

1. Standardize payment rates for intensive behavior residential habilitation starting 1/1/2011.
2. Collection of fees (co-payments) from APD consumers who have income to offset some of their costs of living in a group home.
3. Reduction of the rates it pays for therapy assessments and all nursing services to the standard rate paid by the Medicaid State Plan starting 4/1/2012.
4. Reduction of the difference it pays between solo providers and agencies for waiver services to no more than 20% by 4/1/2012.

There is no timeline announced for implementing cost sharing for parents who have children on the Medicaid Waiver. APD and AHCA are working jointly on this issue.

There is also a Long Range Program Plan for APD. This is the plan that ADP is giving to legislators to consider. **It is important that you read and understand these plans.** If implemented, they will directly affect you and your families. [Click here](#) to read the entire plan. Parents, relatives, advocates and friends need to contact your legislative delegation immediately and tell them no more cuts. ([Click here](#) for contact information.) Providers of services have been barely hanging on for the last few years. The legislature and Governor Scott needs to be looking for ways to increase or hold rates stable while a reliable source of revenue is developed. Our web site has some talking points with comments on each topic that may help you. We suggest that you read these before speaking with your legislator. [Click here to view these talking points.](#)

Your lack of action will result in loss of services because there will not be providers in business to provide these services. **It is time to cut APD (state employees), support coordination and any other position in the state of Florida 'food chain' that does not provide direct daily physical 'hands on' assistance to our consumers.** Eliminate excessive rules and over-site mountains of paperwork. As Governor Scott is bragging about job creation in Florida perhaps it is time to have him look at saving jobs that agencies like Angels Unaware, Inc. create to provide daily 'hands on' services. In the 33 years I have had the privilege being the Executive Director I have never once seen and APD employee change a diaper, feed a consumer, take a consumer to a day program, a doctor's appointment or church.

# Angels Auxiliary

These organizations and individuals proudly support Angels Unaware, Inc.  
God Bless our Donors.

In Memory of Jeffrey Van Kirh—Jean Jordan  
In Memory of Mabel Broome—Marilyn E. Klein, Jeanne L. Raine and L. Lacy  
In Memory of Barbara Farrar from the Buchanans

The Talcot Family Foundation  
North Tampa Assembly of God  
Marks Air, Inc.

1st Baptist Church of Tampa  
Temple Terrace Lodge #330 F&AM  
Joseph and Elna Albano

Siemens Caring Hands  
Ruth Sunday School Class  
Lutz Civic Association

Many thanks to Bobalouie's Grill and Sports Garden for supporting Angels Unaware, Inc. again with their annual golf tournament. It is because of the hard work and dedication of organizations like Bobalouies that Angels Unaware, Inc. is able to continue to provide quality services to the Developmentally Disabled of Tampa.

**Thank you for all your hard work and support!**

Thank you to the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters, HVAC & Refrigeration Mechanics Local Union 123, and also to The Mechanical Contractors Association of Central Florida's Charity Foundation for holding their golf tournament at the Eagles that benefited Angels Unaware, Inc. They always host a great tournament and we all appreciate their support.

**Thank you to all that participated.**

A special thank you to Bracken Engineering for sponsoring this year's family picnic.  
Thank you for all your hard work and continued support.

## 2011 Restaurant Raffle

**Many thanks to our participating restaurants.**

The drawing was held on October 18th. All winners were notified by mail.  
It is because of these restaurants that we are able to hold this important fundraiser.  
Please stop by these restaurants and thank them for their support.

ABC Pizza	Bahama Breeze Island Grill
Bobalouies Grille & Sports Garden	
Bonefish Grill	The Colonnade
Cracker Barrel	J. Alexander's
Kon Tiki Restaurant at The	Tahitian Inn
Long Horn Steakhouse	Outback Steakhouse
P F Chang	Rapscallions Restaurant
Rigatoni Tuscan Oven	Tahitian Inn Cafe



# Scholarship Fund

If you have been a reader of our newsletter or a supporter of Angels Unaware, Inc. for any length of time, you are aware that we have a growing number of consumers that no longer have immediate family or relatives alive, or active in their lives due to age or illness. Angels Unaware has established a fund within our organization that helps those consumers without families. Throughout the year we use this fund to help our consumers have and enjoy the same things that others in the group home enjoy. These funds support their birthdays, holidays, vacations, trips to the movies, restaurants, and amusement parks. Because of funding cuts from the State of Florida we occasionally have to use these funds to help repair a wheelchair or help purchase a needed piece of equipment. Sometimes we may have to help with a bill for a consumer.



We do utilize this fund throughout the year but due to the Christmas holidays, our greatest need is towards the end of the year. Perhaps you and your family may consider donating directly to the Scholarship Fund or consider providing Christmas for one of our consumers that no longer has any family alive or active in their life.

Please [click here](#) to learn more or donate to this fund. As always, our guarantee to you is that of every dollar you provide to this fund will be spent directly on the needs of the consumers that we serve.



A copy of Angels Unaware, Inc. official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free 1-800-435-7352 (refer to CH8732) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

## **Angels Unaware needs your help!**

Please check with your Tax Advisor and consider a donation to Angels Unaware, Inc. and the Developmentally Disabled we serve. Donations to Angels Unaware, Inc. are eligible for tax exemption consideration and benefit subject to current tax laws. Our regular donors are reminded that donations must be postmarked by December 31, 2011 in order to be credited to the 2011 tax year.

## **Stay informed on Legislative Issues**

Please visit our web site and continue to check out new postings on our [Legislative Information](#) page. It's important to stay up-to-date and to contact your elected officials to discuss issues important to Angels Unaware and the Developmentally Disabled.

*All of us at Angels Unaware, Inc.  
want to wish all of our supporters a very joyous and wonderful holiday season.  
We appreciate your generous support throughout the year.  
It is because of you that we are able to continue to provide the quality services and care  
to the people that we all care so much about.  
Thank you and God bless you.*

## Going Green and Going Red and Green

By James Epperson, Director

There may be many reasons to grumble and bah-humbug this Holiday Season. Economic or environmental concerns.....take your pick of things to get down about. Reve has found a way to beat both.

Reve has found something to do about both his environmental and money concerns. He has been a long-time recycler and has been to a few workshops on the benefits of reusing as well as recycling. With the budget cuts that we all have been suffering from, Reve no longer has an Adult Training Center program and less job coaching hours.

Instead he spends his time lately taking arts and crafts lessons and using those skills to make Christmas presents. Specifically, he is making Christmas trees using plastic bottles, cereal boxes and other reusable items that attract his artistic eye. His living room is a virtual forest



of Christmas colors as he strives to meet the demand. Not only will some of these trees be gifts to his family but some will be given to local children's and nursing homes. When asked of the project he was most proud of he recalls the three-masted pirate ship he had made for a sick family member for Gasparilla Day.

Angels Unaware maintains a "Scholarship Fund" to assist our residents with Christmas gifts or other 'nonessentials' (as the State may describe them). Reve is blessed with a caring and involved family. Many of our residents aren't so lucky. We can learn from Reve and teach them how to give to others, but what about their Christmas morning? Reve can't make that many trees.

To donate to our Scholarship fund, please [click here](#).

Thank you for your support.

### Wish List

Angels Unaware maintains a wish list on our web site for our residents and their houses. It is updated quarterly. Please visit our [Wish List](#) web site page to see if you can help.

Thank you for your support!

### Attention Churches and Service Clubs

Please help Angels Unaware, Inc. with this year's ornament sales. These ornaments are great gifts and can be sold to your members, their friends and families. Please contact our office to order yours.

Thank you for your support!

### Community Service Hours

You can earn community service hours with Angels Unaware, Inc.

Please contact our office for details.