

Shults-Lewis

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

“Responding with God's Love”

January 2012

Collinsville Church of Christ
1400 Troy Road
Collinsville, IL 62234-5146

Dear Friends,

Having two young children of my own, it amazes me how many teens come to Shults-Lewis who never had a childhood. They have had life experiences that rob them of their precious youth.

I was reminded of this last winter. The Blizzard of 2011 hit our campus. School was cancelled, roads were closed, we were stuck at home. The girls were bored and getting stir crazy. We decided to bundle up and go outside to just play.

On our way out, we began to discuss the fun we were about to have-snow ball fights, building snow men, and of course, snow angels. One of the girls looked at the rest of us and asked, "What is a snow angel?" Without hesitation, one of the girls plopped into the snow, laid down, and demonstrated the art of making a snow angel. The other girl was unsure and hesitated for a moment, and then joined her peer. They moved throughout the yard laughing and creating snow angels.

I thank you for your gift. You have given me the beautiful opportunity to let teenage girls break through their adult-like experience and just be kids. As they should be.

On behalf of the staff and residents,

Amber Tyler
Girls' Housemom