



Have you tried to go a week, or even a day, without reading? A letter from a friend, a webpage, directions on a microwave dinner, an invitation to a party — our lives are filled with words. DII's work gives children and adults the skills to work and play in our language-based society.

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2006-2007

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A Day in the Life of Camp Delafield

Since 1990, Camp Delafield has provided a unique summer experience for children with language learning disabilities. Each summer, students ages 7-14 gather for several weeks of intense academic remediation and community-building.

Take a look at an average day at Camp :

8am- Campers arrive at the campsite, currently housed at Jenn Park in Lawrence Township. Bringing lunches and a sweatshirt (that basement gets chilly), campers gather around in small groups to chat and play until their instructors begin. Students begin a daily rotation between several classes:

- ≡ 1:1 Orton-Gillingham tutoring
- ≡ Small Group instruction in Written Expression or Phonemic Awareness
- ≡ Visual or Performing arts that engages students in fine and gross motor skills as well as self-expression
- ≡ Small group instruction in Math.

After lunch with their recreation counselors, campers enjoy a wide range of afternoon activities throughout the four-week camp. Campers participate in:

- ≡ Low and High Ropes Challenge course
- ≡ Karate
- ≡ Activities that range from archery to cooking and lots of fun stuff in between
- ≡ Field trips
- ≡ Mystery Guests
- ≡ Campfire Night
- ≡ And More!

Two four-week camp sessions are offered beginning June 4th and July 9th and space is still available! For more information about Camp Delafield, contact Christine Bell at cbell@dyslexiaindiana.org or (317) 545-5451, ext.225.

Ready, Set, READ adds ESL Students

In 2005, DII partnered with 8 IPS schools to provide small group instruction and individual tutoring on site. IPS annually trains teachers in Orton-Gillingham to work with making multi-sensory instruction available to more students.

McFarland Middle School and DII have expanded to serve students in English as a Second Language.

DII staff utilize students' knowledge of their native language to building reading, spelling, and writing skills in English.

DII hopes to expand the program to include curriculum development and staff.

Ready, Set, READ represents a unique community partnership to address the literacy needs of Indianapolis students.



Letter from New Board Chair-David Bodle

In the summer of 2006, DII's Board and staff created a three-year strategic plan designed to catapult the Dyslexia Institute into a new era of programs and services offered to the community that we serve.

The primary focus of this plan is to:

- Increase public awareness about dyslexia and the programs DII provides
- Enhance community collaborations with other child-centered agencies
- Strengthen relationships with students, parents, and instructors
- Broaden services to include more school-based programming

- Train more instructors and expand their professional development opportunities
- Provide staff development for area classroom teachers
- Create a fund development plan to ensure the financial sustainability of the organization

We have just concluded the second quarter of the first year of our plan that outlined 301 individual action steps our staff and Board committees were to accomplish. I am happy to report that we completed or addressed 290 (96%) of those actions steps. Some highlights of our achievements include:

- Expansion of our committee structure
- Reorganization of staff, and

- Creation of an enhanced communication program

While much remains to be accomplished, we celebrate our successes. DII will only be able to fully implement our vision and dreams with increased support from the community.

Thanks to the efforts of our Board and staff, under the capable leadership of Carol Golden, Development Committee Chair, we have already exceeded the amount of support received in last year's annual fund. At the same time I share with you – our friends and supporters – that our revenue goals are very aggressive. We need your generous support if we are to become the dynamic organization that our community needs and deserves to enhance the lives of those with a language learning disability.

Summer Writing Workshop Series

Location: DII Office

When: Session A (for grades 4-6): June 5th-30th Session B (for grades 7-8): July 10th-August 4th

Cost: \$395.00 — 24 hours of instruction!

- Classes held three times per week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday — Morning and Afternoon Sessions are available
- Workshops taught by professionally trained instructors experienced in multi-sensory teaching
- Small class size for increased individual attention and appropriate instruction pace
- Multi-sensory focused instruction in writing “power-packed” sentences and paragraphs
- Teaches students to use capitalization, punctuation, grammar and vocabulary expansion to achieve clarity in writing
- Presents creative writing activities that introduce diverse and fun ways to express ideas

New Tutoring Class



Congratulations to the newest graduates of DII's Basic Orton-Gillingham Training. Lea Storm did a wonderful job in training this fantastic group:

Mindy Cole – Fishers area

Peggy Gillig – Westfield area

Carolyn Gillihan – Columbus and surrounding counties

Julie Johnson – Carmel area

Carol Killen – Indianapolis (Meridian-Kessler)

Traci Underwood – Indianapolis (Meridian-Kessler)

Carolyn, who took the Wilson Anderson Basic O-G training this past summer, came to our class to enhance her O-G knowledge to better serve students in her area. Carol was trained by DII several years ago, wanted a refresher before resuming tutoring.

This class displayed a great deal of passion, dedication



In Memory of John Irwin, written by Julie Richter

Born in a rural community in central Ohio, "Papa" John Irwin grew up on a farm that had been in his family for over a century. Some of his happiest childhood memories were spending time out-of-doors swimming, fishing, and shooting "hoops" with his brother and friends at the farm.

During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army in Signal Corp Detachment at the White House in Washington D.C. After the war, he used the benefits of the G.I. Bill to complete his degree in Business Administration at Miami University of Ohio.

"Papa" John was passionate about his career with the American Automobile Association where he worked for 35 years. He retired as President of the Automobile club of Southeastern Ohio in 1985.

Following his retirement, "Papa" John and his wife, Edna, moved to Fishers, IN to be closer to their daughter, DII Board member, Julia Irwin Richter, son-in-law, Jim Richter, and grandchildren, Krista and Jamey Richter. During the twenty years he lived in Indiana, he served on the Conner Creek Board of Directors and volunteered with Hamilton County Meals On Wheels.

Recruited to help create recreation opportunities for campers during the first summer of Camp Delafield for Children in 1990, he volunteered to teach fishing. Fondly known as "Papa" John by the children, he shared his love of the outdoors, taught basic skills, and made fishing fun for the campers for many summers.

Even though "Papa" John faced pulmonary and cardiac challenges during the last four years of his life, he created some new fish stories and maintained his sense of humor.

Many contributions have been made in honor of "Papa" John Irwin toward the scholarship fund for Camp Delafield campers. Memorial gifts are still being accepted.

Irvin French: A Success Story

Like many adults with dyslexia, Irvin French found ways to compensate for his disability. As a young boy reading Marvel Comics, he used pictures to spark his imagination and fill in the story where words failed him. In high school, he became class clown to distract from his poor academic performance.

As a soldier in Vietnam, he asked a buddy to write and read family letters. Another friend helped French build his vocabulary and express ideas verbally after he returned to the States. "I could express my thoughts as if I could write but just chose not to," French shared.

The night before he married, French told his wife about his dyslexia "I felt I must tell her, because at that time, I couldn't even write a check." His wife



Irvin French and his DII tutor
Karen Sheehy

assured him that she was marrying out of love not because he could write or spell.

French discovered his religious calling in his

fifties and wanted to share his passion with his congregation, which required him to read scripture "I said to myself 'I cannot read,' but 'God said don't worry. I can take care of that for you.'"

French received testing through the Department of Veteran Affairs in 2002 and began tutoring with DII instructor Karen Sheehy. French was one of her first students, and he says they learned a lot from each other.

"We used the King James Bible as reading material. Karen said if I could read that, I could read anything."

The first months were challenging. Sheehy presented new sounds and skills each week, while constantly reviewing old material. French did not feel he was making progress. "Several times I started to quit, but I just had to keep going."

Six months later, French arrived for his session, expecting the same routine. When Sheehy presented a new sound, everything started to fall into place. "I got tears in my eyes. When I looked up, Karen did too."

After that, French's appetite for learning grew. "I wanted her to keep

feeding me new information."

Sheehy taught French about roots and bases that stem from other languages, allowing French to understand more and more of what he read.

As a result of his dyslexia, French has a vivid imagination and a good memory for details. He learned how to fix anything without a manual. He is comfortable speaking in front of people and telling his story.

Still, French says he has been very lucky to receive tutoring and overcome his dyslexia. He hopes DII and the community continue to provide services to young people. "If we get kids early, they will not have to go through ten years feeling less than everyone else."

Irvin French graduates from DII's Advanced Language Program this March. He continues to mentor young people with dyslexia and follow his ministry. Sharing his hard work and life experiences, Irvin French truly is both blessed and a blessing to those around him.



CHANGING LIVES AND IMPROVING
INDIANA'S EDUCATIONAL RESULTS,
ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

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