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For Immediate Release:

### **AWS Clients Learn to Do Fun Projects with their Hands**

Friday, June 9, 2006 – South Bend, IN – Last month, AWS clients got to do something new – build a birdhouse. AWS is a nonprofit agency that serves individuals with developmental disabilities. Through AWS' day services program and thanks to Gary Crawford, nearly 25 clients were able to construct, paint and decorate their very own birdhouse to take home. On Tuesday, June 13, they will do the same with flower boxes when they meet in their regular space at St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 915 N. Ironwood Drive in South Bend.

Gary Crawford, who is married to Lee Ann Crawford, AWS' receptionist, is an avid woodworker and wanted to do something for the clients. So, he cut out wood for the birdhouses and flower boxes, put them all together including pre-drilling the holes, took them apart, labeled each piece, wrote a directional manual and let the clients rebuild them.

“All participants, including the staff, said the birdhouses were the best project ever and they are looking forward to making the flower boxes next week,” said Gwen Foose, director. “We coupled the project with learning about different types of birds and what kind of birds these houses will attract. We will do the same with flowers.”

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