



Diversions

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THE LOYOLA PHOENIX

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Wincrest Nursing Center closing?

Medicaid funding cut off due to bad care and residents' violent behavior, drug abuse

by Yara Shams
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After being stripped of its Medicaid funding on March 20, and facing a possible license revocation, the Wincrest Nursing center could be closing its doors, according to an Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) official.

The center, located at 6326 N. Winthrop Ave. near Simpson and Creighton Halls, was cut off from Medicaid funding after the state and federal government documented serious inadequacies in resident care as well as violent behavior and drug abuse among the residents.

"I think it's about time," said Jennifer Clark, Loyola's director of community relations. "Having that element of substance abusers, felons and prostitutes out of the neighborhood is a really good thing."

Clark said she believes the center's licensing will be revoked within one week, although a government official could not confirm that information.

"It's looking more and more that by the end of the summer, they won't be there at all," Clark stated. Wincrest had received 99 percent of its revenue from Medicaid.

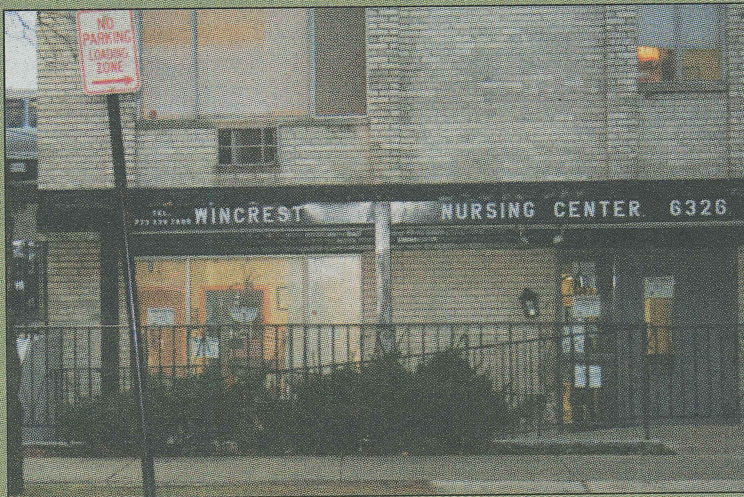
Wincrest, certified for 82 beds, serves adults with mental disorders and substance abuse problems.

Heather Lang, manager of the long-term care certification and enforcement branch of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), oversaw the termination of federal funding from Wincrest.

"A facility has to provide for the residents [and] attain or maintain what we call the highest practicable physical, mental and psycho-social well-being of each resident," Lang said. "Wincrest was terminated as a result of their failure to be in compliance with our requirements for nursing homes participating in the Medicaid program."

According to Melanie Arnold, communication manager for the IDPH, a December 2010 investigation by the department found many deficiencies in the care provided to Wincrest residents.

The federal government then conducted a survey through CMS on Feb. 25 and found that the facility violated eight urgent situations to the residents' health and safety. The nursing center was told that they had 23 days to remove all of the immediately dangerous situations. When the federal



The PHOENIX/Lauren Pirritano

The federal government cut off funding to the Wincrest Nursing Center on March 20 because of the facility's failure to provide effective care and social services to residents. The center receives 99 percent of its revenue from Medicaid.

surveyors returned to the site on March 15th, however, four of the cases had still not been resolved, so Medicaid funding was terminated.

The four situations that the center had not fixed were the center's failure to provide medically related social services to residents, failure to provide specialized rehabilitation services to

residents, an ineffective facility administration and ineffective staff training for emergency procedures.

"The federal report of standing of care was shocking," Clark said.

Clark first started investigating Wincrest per the request of Loyola President, the Rev. Michael J. Garanzini, S.J. in 2004.

"The reason for that is that Loyola

see WINCREST page 4

Increase in reported dorm thefts

Campus Safety says total number of incidents is not 'that alarming'

by Tahera Rahman
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A student was napping around 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 21 in Fairfield Hall when he heard movement in his apartment. He thought it was his roommate, and did not get up. When he later awoke, however, he discovered several items missing from his room.

While this particular incident may seem peculiar, thefts have more than doubled in residence halls this semester.

There have been 11 dorm thefts between Jan. 18 and March 18 of this year, compared to just five over the same period last year, according to Campus Safety.

Many of the incidents have occurred in Fairfield Hall, where Campus Safety suspects one person to be responsible.

In one of these incidents, a Fairfield resident in building D walked into his room around 10:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 21, to find an unknown person in his bedroom. The offender said he was told he could buy Xbox equipment from the room, and left quickly after giving a false name. The other roommate later discovered a credit card and \$150 missing.

The offender, another Loyola student, was caught and arrested for trespass to a residence, Campus Safety said. The case was then turned over to the CPD and a court date is scheduled soon.

Campus Safety said they are withholding the specific court date and the identity of the offender for confidentiality reasons.

No one has been charged for the thefts yet and the investigation is ongoing, Campus Safety said.

Alerts were emailed by Campus Safety to Loyola students shortly after the incidents and the Department of Residence Life issued another cautionary reminder to Fairfield residents, putting them on high alert.

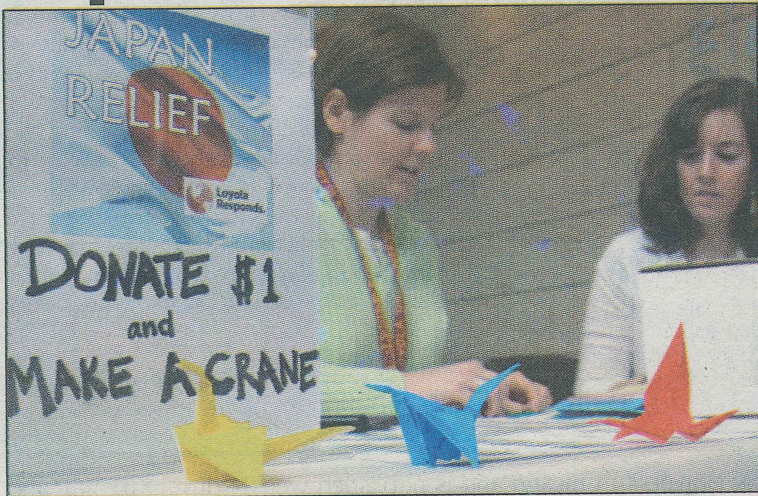
"You don't feel as safe as you should," said Catya Iwanik, a 20-year-old sophomore psychology major who lives in building C of Fairfield Hall.

Campus Safety officers assure students that there is no need to feel troubled over the rise in numbers of dorm thefts.

"The number's not really that alarming," said lieutenant Joseph Bog-

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Loyola helps with Japan relief efforts



The PHOENIX/Mike Berry

Loyola Responds, a committee created by the university last year to help with natural disasters worldwide, is leading efforts on campus to raise money and awareness on the Japan disaster.

by Hillary Kenyon
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Several student organizations are currently working to raise money and awareness in response to the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis that devastated Japan last week.

The Loyola Responds committee, which formed after the earthquake in

Haiti last year with the mission to plan and guide the university's response to humanitarian crises, is taking action based on the magnitude of the natural disaster.

"Some people say Japan is a first-world country — it's well-developed and it's got a lot of resources. But we can see even in the midst of this hu-

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Karl Rove speaks on campus after controversy

by Caitlin Botsios
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Fox News commentator and former advisor to President George W. Bush, Karl Rove, spoke at Loyola on Tuesday.

Rove was originally denied an appearance date in November by Loyola officials who claimed the university needed to maintain impartiality around election time in order to protect its tax-exempt status.

The initial controversy surrounding the postponed event, however, did not seem to affect its quality.

"I feel that the crowd was extremely respectful and that the controversy really didn't impact the event in a negative way," said David Wadell, a 50-year-old businessman who traveled from Minneapolis to see Rove.

Rove focused primarily on the economy during his speech. Discussing the stimulus package, he said,

"The president says he's not going to add a dime to the deficit, and the president is right. He's not adding a dime. He's adding gajillions of dimes."

The commentator also voiced concerns with the current administration's agenda saying, "Every major promise that was made about health care isn't happening." He continued, stating, "I want cut-throat competition with health insurance. I want it to be like auto insurance and [have] commercials on every channel."

Students in attendance had mixed reviews of the speech. Katie Cox, a marketing student said, "I wanted to know where he was getting his facts. He was just throwing numbers left and right."

"I just wasn't floored by anything that was said," Alex Neitzke, a philosophy major, stated.

Marko and Victor Edleke, two students who traveled from Highland, Ind., had very positive reviews of the event.

"He gave a lot of truths," said Victor. "He was saying what we should do instead of what we are doing now. He's just giving a lot of solutions."



Rove



JAPAN: Donations being sent to Sophia University in Tokyo

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manitarian crisis it's so overwhelming that we felt Loyola should respond," Director of Ministry and chair of the Loyola Responds committee Chris Murphy said.

Anime Club kick-started the relief efforts on March 21 with a paper crane drive in Centennial Forum, Student Union and the Terry Student Center. Origami cranes will be made for each monetary donation received.

The goal is to reach 1,000 cranes to be shipped to the Hiroshima memorial as a sign of reverence to the nuclear fall-out that occurred more than 70 years ago.

"It holds deep symbolic significance to the Japanese because it's known as a symbol of hope and peace, and making 1,000 cranes is said to grant a wish of recovery from illness or suffering," said Tom Biel, Unified Student Government Association chief financial officer and liaison of student organizations and Loyola Responds.

Students are welcome to participate in the project by stopping in CFSU or the Terry Student Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, March 23-24.

For the next several weeks, Loyola Responds donation boxes will be available at the information desks of

CFSU and the Terry Student Center, the Hub in Sullivan Center, the Information Commons and the Corboy Law Center.

Donations can also be made to Catholic Relief Services, which is working with CARITAS International, an outreach group to poorer countries in crisis. All donations will be collected and sent to Sophia University, a Jesuit institution in Tokyo, Japan.

While not directly affected by the tsunami and earthquake, classes at Sophia University have been canceled because of the number of student's families who have been displaced, particularly in the Sendai region in northeastern Japan.

"The idea was to have it be linked student to student so that we're helping students directly impacted, and we could focus our efforts on students who we have some heritage with," Murphy said.

The needs and amount of assistance to Sophia University students and their families is still being assessed. The Jesuit community is requesting a special novena prayer, which can be found on the Loyola Responds website, to be repeated over a period of nine days for Japan.

Loyola Responds, which also helped with flooding in Pakistan last year, takes a "two-pronged approach,"

according to Biel, through both fundraising and educating students about the tsunami, earthquake and current nuclear crisis. Presentations by climate and nuclear experts from Loyola and neighboring engineering schools are planned for mid-April.

"As an educational institution, we're prepared to further advance not only that something terrible and sad happened, but what can we do to educate ourselves to understand what happened and to figure out how to use that to go forward in our lives," Murphy said.



Jump online

Check out www.loyolaphoenix.com for a list of events other organizations are hosting in support of Japan.

WINCREST: Center might be shut down by summer

continued from page 1

was receiving complaints from students about Wincrest residents asking them for money, following them home, harassing them — especially female students — as they walked by," Clark said.

"Loyola has never had any incident where a student was in any way harmed by this home, so I don't want students to think they have to be afraid," she explained.

"But it's definitely a situation that probably shouldn't be living so close to a university."

Freshman Gabriela Szewczyk, 18, has been approached by Wincrest residents in the past.

"Several times when my mom has dropped me off, they've come up to me and have tried to get money from us, and they beg, so I'm a little scared sometimes, and I know I shouldn't be,"

the international business and accounting major said. "But it's sad that the nursing center is not up to standards, because these people obviously need the help and they are not getting it in the right way."

Arnold said that despite the lack of Medicaid funds, Wincrest will still be able to operate unless the IDPH decides to revoke their license to practice. If their ability to treat patients is revoked, IDPH will facilitate the relocation of all patients to nursing homes that will provide a higher standard of care.

Loyola is not ruling out the possibility of including Wincrest in its campus expansion efforts.

"We are willing to talk to the owners [of Wincrest], but right now we are most concerned with the residents of the home right now being relocated into places that could actually provide them with care," Clark said.

THEFT: One student arrested

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dalek. "It's just different stuff [being reported]."

He pointed to a case from March 18 as an example, which was a report for stolen makeup from a dorm room.

That report, however, was the only incident in the PHOENIX's data that did not include more significant thefts such as money or electronics.

"It makes you think twice about watching the door close behind you," said Suzanne Bell, a 20-year-old sophomore who lives in building C. The pre-pharmacy major said she locks her door a lot more since the incident, even if she is just going downstairs.

James Davis, a 19-year-old philosophy major residing in Fairfield Hall D, claims that although he has not witnessed anything out of the ordinary, he has been extra cautious about locking his door.

"I haven't seen anything unusual, even though I know unusual things have been happening," the sophomore said.

Campus Safety is encouraging

students to report any and all thefts.


"There's not a lot that Campus Safety can do if they [students] don't do all they can do," Bogdalek said.

According to the university's privacy rules, Campus Safety officers are not allowed to go past the first floor of residence halls unless there is a life or death situation or unless the student gives them permission to enter his or her room, Bogdalek noted.

Students are also advised to write down the serial number of all their electronics, which would make it easier to track down in the event of a theft.

Another important tip to remember, Bogdalek said, is to avoid "piggy-backing," or letting people into the gate or building behind you as you enter your residence hall.


"It's the Loyola way, trying to be nice to everybody," Bogdalek said, recognizing the potentially awkward-moment for students if they refuse to hold the gate open for somebody else behind them. But he insists that it is important to the safety of residents.



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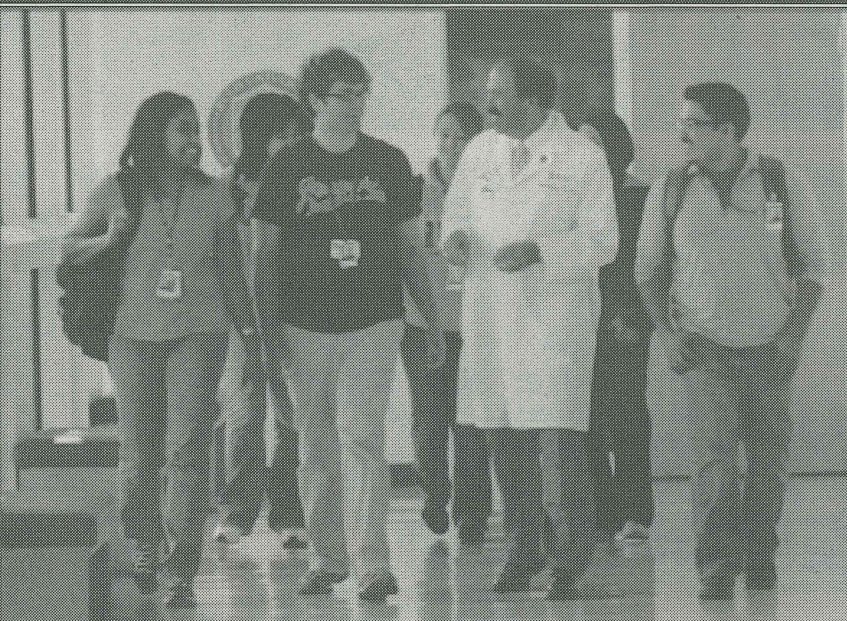
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