

Changing the Culture of Home Community-Based Care



Robin Norman and Ruth Force, Certified Eden At Home Trainers, have been teaching since 2009.

HONORING OUR ELDERS

Eden At Home recognizes unforeseen ways to enrich the lives of clients and employees.

article submitted by Margeaux Corrao • photography by David Kirk


Have you ever thought about how changing a room in your home can make you feel? For example, when packing to move to another home, how empty the space can feel. Or how painting a room a new color can bring a new exciting energy?

How does a house remain a home when one becomes ill and invites others in to help with care? When the formal living room suddenly becomes a bedroom to allow space for care partners to provide and store supplies, the room suddenly becomes unfamiliar and less personal. When asked about their future, many elders desire to stay in their homes as long as possible because that is their personal space filled with memories. However, that home can quickly become institutionalized.

This is exactly why Dorian Maples R.N., co-owner of Home Nursing Services and Angel Corps adopted The Eden Alternative program called

Eden At Home developed by Dr. William Thomas to raise the quality of their home care services. The Eden At Home philosophy teaches that life is about continuing to grow and to work together. Care partner teams can help eliminate the three plagues of loneliness, helplessness and boredom that elders can experience during the aging process.

The focus of the Human Habitat is to make a life worth living so that one can thrive even in the last years of life. Robin Norman of Angel Corps, Certified Eden At Home Trainer, says “Human Habitats contain empowered care partners working together, helping elders maintain independence and encouraging growth. A diversity of life while building meaningful intergenerational relationships is part of well-being.” For more information on the 10 principles of The Eden Alternative visit EdenAlt.org. Norman, along with Ruth Force of Angel Corps, helps train care partners in

nine northeast Indiana counties the companies serve. The training class consists of three sessions that are four hours in length. The classes are offered several times a year. Care partners share the feeling that their own personal lives have also been enriched by this training. 

ANGEL CORPS

(260) 426-4357

CorpsOfAngels.com

Years in Business: 13

Number of Employees: 150

Services: Non-medical home care

HOME NURSING SERVICES

(260) 424-1237

InHomeNursingServices.com

Years in Business: 19

Number of Employees: 200

Services: Medical home health care