



The Florida Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

Innovation Exchange

Submission Form

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Date of Submission:	2/26/09
Title of Innovation:	“Funny Money”
Topic for Submission: (Please choose a topic from the list included in the attached submission guidelines which best describes the innovation you are submitting.)	Quality of Life
Audience: (Choose one or more, as appropriate.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing (HUD, tax credit, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Assisted Living Facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Home & Community Based Services <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Homes <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Communities (CCRC or Fee for Service) <input type="checkbox"/> All of the Above

1. **Description of Innovation:** Please succinctly describe the innovative program or service, creative idea or best practice and the resulting benefits to your organization or the consumers you serve. Limit the narrative to three pages, excluding attachments such as forms.

Description of Innovation: “Funny Money Silent Auction and Auction.” Jefferson Center’s Social Service Coordinator, was looking for ways to get more residents involved in the health and wellness programs she put together for the building. At times in senior housing motivating residents to join in group activities can be really

tough. Her idea (which she successfully had used at another building) was to give “funny money” coupons to the residents when they attended a building activity and who may have been helpful at Jefferson Center. Over the past year the number of residents attending activities increased and our resident volunteers have increased, too. The residents looked forward to receiving the coupons and reminded her on occasion that they hadn’t received theirs! New residents were curious about the funny money and joined in. The Silent Auction and Auction was a wonderful event. Our Social Service Coordinator spent the year gathering items to be auctioned from various vendors and from staff donations which did not cost the building anything. Refreshments for the event were also donated. On the day of the event, it was standing room only and the residents had so much fun.

The positive benefits to our residents:

- Encouraged our residents to join in with the other residents to participate in a health and wellness activity.
- By joining in they also benefited from a speaker on health and wellness topics.
- Some residents volunteered to help the Social Service Coordinator with the event.
- Giving back to the community by volunteering and helping in the building.

This was a really special event that provided a quality of life activity, encouraging residents to meet with each other, be informed on health and wellness topics and possibly volunteer for the good of all.

2. **Budget:** Provide information about the annual budget or total cost of your innovation (if a one-time expense) and the number of staff or volunteers used to implement it. If your innovation did not require a budget or staff, please indicate.

No Budget.