



Workmen's Circle MultiCare Center

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It's my pleasure to recommend Lois Kagan Mingus and Joanie Fritz Zosike, co-directors of *Action Racket Theatre*. Lois and Joanie have given several programs at Workmen's Circle Multi-Care Center. I have been acquainted with their work for four years and they've impressed me not only as theatre artists, but also as terrific presenters providing gentle and loving guidance to special populations.

For over 50 years, Workmen's Circle Multi-Care Center has provided a place for individuals no longer able to function at home. We strive to be the most outstanding and innovative sub-acute rehab and long term care skilled nursing facility. Our menu of activities has something for every level of resident ability. We consider many of our activities therapy for the body and mind. The programs offered by *Action Racket Theatre* fulfilled those standards admirably.

Lois and Joanie first came to our facility as entertainers. After seeing the positive effect they had and the connection they immediately established, I invited them to develop an interactive and instructive theatre program that could be presented over a period of several sessions. They accomplished that, as well as providing an entertaining experience.

Each workshop session featured short stories, poems and songs presented in the context of a "rehearsal" process, during which participants were invited to try their hand at it, too. Everyone created short scripts together, truly reflecting the "instant theatre community" that *Action Racket Theatre* speaks of in its literature.

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The *Action Racket Theatre Young at Art* workshop sparked a unique vitality in the WCMCC community. Lois and Joanie's careful preparation of appropriate activities enlivened participants and gave them a great sense of self-empowerment. They lovingly challenged the residents, gently engaging them with easy-to-do theatrical exercises. They guided them with great care and respect, striking a balance between demonstration and performance.

Lois and Joanie were highly motivated, spending extra time with participants before the workshop sessions. Their expertise and intuition in working in an institutional setting was very impressive.

In a very real and direct way, Lois and Joanie positively affected all who attended with their love of theatre arts, their love of life, and their generosity in sharing. As the Director of Activities at the Workmen's Circle Multi-Care Center, I can say without reservation that *Action Racket Theatre* would be a positive addition to your activities programming.

Sincerely,

Gayle Kirschenbaum
Director of Activities