I am excited to present to you the new format of our Promises to Keep newsletter edition that allows us to communicate to you in a more cost effective medium. We are honored to be part of all of the positive efforts that are occurring at Children's Home and the people who make it happen. People like you.

I always get asked how the state’s fiscal crisis is impacting our agency. I am proud to continue reporting that our financial health remains strong. Our core programs continue to be fully funded monthly, at their anticipated sum, which allows us a vast majority of our monthly cash flow while our grant funded programs from the Department of Human Services is delayed. We have weathered the crisis with strong fiscal controls and targeted growth in several of our programs. I am also proud to report we have not taken any dollars from our line of credit and we rely very little on our endowment to fund our priorities.

As for our programs, we continue to provide the highest quality of care to our youth referred to us. Across our vast continuum of care we continue to be recognized as the leaders of child care in our field. We have taken pride in our ability to provide this level of care, but it takes all of us to accomplish this task.

We recently submitted three grant proposals to the Heart of Illinois United Way for funding; the Line to Hope, Teen Reach and a new program-The Art of Parenting. We are honored to be part of a group whom the community endorses as being responsible and attentive to the needs of the Greater Peoria Area. I am proud of the work we have done to get these three grants to help more children and families in our community.

We invest a great deal in the children we serve, as do you. The road these youth must take as they face their challenges, mature, and grow into adulthood is not an easy one. Our charge is to prepare them for their journey of life. We work hard to prepare them for life in the world around them. People like you.

The Art of Parenting is a new grant which will allow our foster care program to access a group for parents who need to further develop the appropriate skills to parent traumatized children. It takes a lot to raise a child who has experienced trauma and as most parenting groups in the community focus on basic parenting skills, this kind of program is essential. Our goal is to offer these groups and other Children's Home programs to access this group once we get it going. We will be using an evidence based curriculum to teach the class.

Our community supports the Heart of Illinois United Way unlike any community of Peoria’s size across the nation. We are honored to be part of a group whom the community endorses as being responsible and attentive to the needs of the Greater Peoria Area. I am proud of the work we have done to get these three grants to help more children and families in our community.

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Thank you for all that you do to support our mission of Giving Children a Childhood and Future.

Clete Winklemann
President and CEO

The 13th Annual Maui Jim/Children’s Home Charity Golf Classic was held at the Country Club of Peoria on Monday, June 11. The day started with a high chance of rain, but soon after tee time the clouds parted and the sun shone brightly throughout the day.

Golfing was spectacular, and by the time the luau celebration began that evening the weather could not have been more perfect. The generosity of Maui Jim and all of their guests at the event was remarkable as usual. Following a fantastic feast set out by the Country Club and an active and exciting live auction, West McQueen Street Band performed by the pool adored

(continued on next page)
On June 23, 2004, after nearly 10 years of preparation and in-depth discussion, former Caterpillar executive Bob Gilmore donated a 70-acre farm to Children’s Home. The farm features a lake, farm house, barns, camping, springs, fruit trees and even a real caboose.

Thanks to Bob’s generosity, we now have both the opportunity and a beautiful location in which to offer educational, recreational and therapeutic experiences for the children we serve today and for generations to come.

The atmosphere is peaceful and the stage is set for another great season at Scott’s Prairie. Our fishing pond is in prime condition. Family fishing days are in full swing and a few lucky anglers always leave the pond with some rather large blue gill. Fishing is a great way for the kids we serve to just get out and release the stresses of daily life.

Our 4-H garden program is going once again. This season has allowed us to get a head start on a few early season goodies. With the garden’s success last season, we added more fruit trees to the newly established orchard up front. We now have trees that bear Asian pear, Bartlett Pear, Red Delicious Apples, Gold Delicious, Gala, Fuji Apple, Peach and Nectarine trees! Not to mention two new additions of multi Apple bearing trees! It’s hard to imagine three or four different kinds of apples coming off of one tree!

Speaking of orchards, we recently applied to the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation to hopefully obtain an orchard (minimum of 20 trees) for Scott’s Prairie. Gaining that many more trees would create a world of wonderful opportunities for our kids to learn job skills as well as the education value behind those skills.

On top of all that, we have a lot of bicycles that classes and other groups enjoy. The hiking paths are clear and the scenery is beautiful. Our newly established CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) ground is taking shape and we hope to be doing interpretive hikes and plant identification with classes in the near future. And we haven’t even mentioned the Teams Course!

Simply visit www.communityietaeroot.com and register with your email and a password, go to the ‘list by state’ tab, click on “Children’s Home– Scott’s Prairie” and vote for us. You can vote once per day per email address, so every vote really makes a difference!

Maui Jim is an amazing company with a philanthropic culture that is extremely prodigious.

Maui Jim truly is a part of The Children’s Home and our mission of giving children a childhood and a future by protecting them, teaching them, and healing them, and by building strong communities and loving families.

When Michael Dalton speaks each year to the audience at the Golf Outing Luau about the need for care and nurturing of the children we serve, you can hear the real understanding and concern in his voice. It means a lot to him to be able to help children, and he definitely does. It’s obvious that the understanding of what Children’s Home does for kids and families extends throughout all the people who make up Maui Jim and everyone they come in contact with as well.

We are always looking for a way to say more than “thank you” to show our deep appreciation for Maui Jim and all they do for us, so an additional Hawaiian thanks to them… Mahalo nui loa!
GRANTS AND SPECIAL AWARDS

THE CHILDREN’S HOME & HEARTLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC
RECOGNIZED WITH AT&T’S INVESTING IN ILLINOIS AWARD

Organizations and programs that are improving lives in their communities and the state by advancing education, economic growth, new technologies, and other essential community services are provided resources and recognition through the AT&T Investing in Illinois Award.

State Representative David Leitch nominated The Heartland Community Health Clinic and The Children’s Home for the recognition from AT&T Illinois. Each organization received public recognition and a contribution of $1,000 from AT&T.

“Are fortunate that very committed and caring groups are working to improve the quality of life for many residents of the Peoria area,” said State Representative David Leitch. “Heartland Community Clinic and The Children’s Home do tremendous work and I was pleased to make this nomination to recognize all they do.”

“The Children’s Home truly thanks AT&T for this award. The resources it brings will help us continue our work giving children a childhood and future,” said Mr. Clete Winkelmann, President and CEO of The Children’s Home. We appreciate that State Rep. Leitch supported this award.”

AT&T Area Manager of External Affairs, Dennis E. Pauley stated, “AT&T Illinois has a proud history of making corporate contributions to Illinois non-profit groups and programs that are making a difference in local communities…our company recognizes both Heartland Community Clinic and The Children’s Home for improving the quality of life for local residents and strengthening the fabric of our state.

UNITED WAY IS WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY THROUGH CHILDREN’S HOME

Children’s Home has been selected to provide the Line to Hope, Teen Responsibility, Education, Achievement, Caring, and Hope (Teen REACH) and Art of Parenting Programs for a 3 year grant cycle.

The Line to Hope is a toll-free telephone hotline providing crisis intervention and counseling to adolescents and adults with mental health issues or thoughts of suicide. The hotline serves those living in Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Stark, Marshall, & Putnam counties. 1-855-837-HOPE (4673) is in operation 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is staffed by caring and trained professionals who will give confidential support and referrals particular to the issue at hand.

Teen REACH is an after-school group that helps youth (6-17 years old) by participating in activities that improve the likelihood for future success, provide positive choices, reduce at-risk behaviors, and develop career goals.

The Art of Parenting is a new grant which will allow our foster care program to access a group for parents who need skills to help parent traumatized children. We see the need for this type of group as most parenting groups in the community focus on the basic parenting skills. It takes more to parent a child who has experienced trauma. Our goal is to allow other agencies and other CH programs to access this group once we get it going. We will be using an evidence based curriculum to teach the class.

Our community supports the United Way, unlike any community of Peoria’s size across the nation. Children’s Home believes it is important to be part of a group whom the community endorses as being responsible and attentive to the needs of the Greater Peoria Area. We are proud of the work we have done to sustain these grants and help more children and families in our community.

JP MORGAN CHASE FOUNDATION AWARDS $15,000 GRANT TO EAGLE VENDING

The Children’s Home received a $15,000.00 grant from the JP Morgan Chase Foundation to enhance vocational training provided to youth with emotional/behavioral issues and mental illness.

The funds will support and enhance the Eagle Vending Vocational Training Program, providing hands on skill building experiences and developing work readiness skills, helping youth transition to long-term employment in the community.

“This grant helps Children’s Home fulfill our mission of giving children a childhood and future by ensuring the long-term success of clients as they exit our programs and become adults,” said Clete Winkelmann, President & CEO of Children’s Home. “We are proud to have the opportunity to partner with JP Morgan Chase to meet the needs of our clients.”

“We at Chase know how important it is to invest in our youth, which is why this grant is crucial,” said Andy Hartman, Senior Vice President of Chase in Peoria. “We also know that Children’s Home has had terrific success in teaching skills that will help youth the rest of their lives.”

Clete with Ryan Miller, of CHASE Bank in Peoria
MAUI JIM BASEBALL FIELD

A good baseball field can provide a sense of community, but in this case the community provided the baseball field. Thanks to hard work from many people, the Maui Jim Ball Field has come to life as a place for our residential youth to play ball. The work began with Clete Winkelmann and Julie Siebert, Children’s Home Program Development Specialist, securing funds through donations and grants. The ball continued rolling with the help of many other Children's Home employees. Walt Johnson from our Maintenance Department worked to clear away brush in the area to open up space for the field and its bleachers, and Alex Fuller, Scott’s Prairie Site Manager prepped and seeded the field. Troy Morrissey mowed and raked the grass to get the field ready while Mark Alcorn caulked the base lines in preparation for the first game. Greg Zessinn built the scoreboard located on site with help from Jose Puno, Roger Bass and Mike Rhodes. Jeff Gress, Director of Youth Services at Children's Home, even found a friend who would donate professional field goal markers.

As part of the InterIllinois Athletic Association, Youth Farm now has a facility that allows the children to compete with a real home-field advantage against other residential programs in the state. Coaches Amanda Wilson, Justin Rayner and Michael West worked with the youth to prepare them for their games by teaching them about the game and the life lessons that come with competitive sports. Thanks to the hard work of our Children's Home staff, they’ve also learned what can happen when a community comes together around a dream.

Youth Farm Activity Coordinator Mark Alcorn added, “Thanks for all the people that made this happen and continue to support our kids in so many ways. Come on out any time to cheer on our kids and everyone who made this field of dreams come true!”

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

We are proud of the progress made finding new ways to engage our youth in developing skills for employment after their stay with us. Our staff do a remarkable job at caring for their needs while in our care, but we must also focus on building skills of our youth so they can be self-sufficient later in their lives. While not every child will be capable of working independently, we must help all our children build their resume with opportunities to give them a starting point. Two examples of work that has started in the past year around this initiative are as follows:

EAGLE VENDING

The Eagle Vending project was initially funded in 2009 by a $5,000 donation from Par-a-Dice Hotel & Casino, and it has become an opportunity for residents at Youth Farm to develop career skills such as tracking inventory, maintaining stock and managing money. At present, youth are hired on either as Accounts Manager or Inventory Associate. The Accounts Manager is in charge of emptying machines, counting the money and depositing the funds as well as assisting with purchasing and payroll. The Inventory Associates focus on tracking inventory, ordering goods and stocking machines. As a result of their work alongside staff supervisors, the youth are learning how to develop good work habits, interact with supervisors and act professionally. Thanks to a $10,000 donation from Par-a-Dice Hotel & Casino, the Eagle Vending employment project will be able to expand to other campuses such as Kiefer School, the Supervised Independent Living Program and potentially the Youth Services program, offering even more youth in our programs the opportunity to develop this valuable workplace knowledge.

CRAYON WORKS

Crayon Works is another new venture that has sprung up in the past few months. Kiefer School staff, Cindy Alesandrini started this project which involves melting crayons and forming them into new objects such as building blocks and bunnies yet still work as a crayon. It is a perfect example of creativity and functionality. The kids do most of the work and then sell them. We displayed them at our Annual Gala Event as well as the luau at the Maui Jim Golf Outing, and the crowd was very impressed. This project has given our students the experience of design, marketing and sales; all skills that can be added to a resume and used in their future endeavors. To place an order, please call 309.687.7742.

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

The success of the Children's Home relies heavily on the genuine dedication and commitment of our outstanding Staff to the children and families we work with in the community. Our Employees of the Year deserve special recognition. They are some of our staff who go above and beyond their “usual” duties on a regular basis. Congratulations and Thank You!

Fred Lee  
Residential Coordinator
W.T. Franklin  
Crisis Intervention Assistant
Pam Phelps  
Registered Nurse
Jody Smith-Brown  
Special Events Coordinator
Roberta Proctor  
Benefits Administrator

Giving Children a Childhood and Future
SPECIAL PROJECTS

PHILANTHROPY

KIEFER STUDENTS ARE RECOGNIZED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Congratulations to Ms. Claudin's class at our Kiefer School for earning the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award for Ages 5-17. Ms. Marla Claudin's class is comprised of eight students from central Illinois ages 13-15 years old. These students “contribute” money to The Caring Project collection by earning and maintaining at least 25 out of 30 behavioral points per day. Each day those points are earned, the student receives a sticker. At the end of the month, each sticker is worth twenty-five cents. The recipients of the Caring Project are chosen by student vote after they have received information about a variety of local charities.

They have supported many worthwhile causes such as Peoria Zoo, Salvation Army, Peoria Rescue Mission, Wildlife Prairie State Park and South Side Mission. Last fall, students selected to help Pets for Seniors, St. Jude Children's Hospital, and TAPS. The students have also completed service projects such as Neighborhood Clean Up with AmeriCorps volunteers, dog and cat treat bags for Peoria County Animal Protection Services (PCAPS), and canned good collections. The support the students have shown to the community that surrounds them has no end in sight. They are proof that anyone, no matter what challenges and adversity they face, can do their part to be counted in the next generation of philanthropic minded youth.

RESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

In May our children at Youth Farm received an award honoring their volunteerism, during a special ceremony at the Peoria Park District. They were recognized for 300 plus hours of service doing such projects as Keep Peoria Beautiful, Peoria Park District Fishing Derby, PPD Egg Hunt, Illinois River Sweep, Howl Zoo Ween and many more. During the ceremony several of our youth spoke to the crowd on why it’s important to give back to others.

Their messages were heartfelt. They all said, in their own words, how they have been blessed by others who gave to them and so they want to give back to others. It was perfect! We are teaching our youth the importance of giving back to others and it’s clear these children understand.

Spearheading this effort is Ms. Emily Benson, Skill Development Coordinator for Residential. With the support of an amazing staff and an eager group of children they are making the world a better place.

Other organizations that benefit from the work of the Residential Living Program Team at our Youth Farm Campus include: Mid-West Food Bank; Peoria Blind Center; River-view Senior Living Community; Bel-Wood Nursing Home; Loaves and Fish; Center for Prevention of Abuse; Children’s Hospital of Illinois; Salvation Army; and Victory Aces and Rescue Mission.

Thanks to all the children and staff for their continued efforts. Keep up the great work!

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

Several different groups of Bradley students did a lot of cleaning and yard work at Knoxville, Jobst, and Academy Campuses.

Caterpillar's Purchase Finish Product Group-NPI Quality Section planted 30-40 saplings at Scott’s Prairie.

Peoria Area University of Wisconsin Alumni painted at Kiefer School.

Rotary Peoria Sunrise Club painted at one of our Supervised Independent Living Homes

The Logistics Professional Development Program from Morton Caterpillar worked on trimming and weeding around the cottages as Youth Farm Campus.

Generation United group painted at Kiefer School.

Cassie Jemilo and 4 young friends cleaned the playroom at Knoxville Campus.

Several groups of Dunlap Middle School Students worked hard cleaning and organizing the art, sand, and play therapy rooms at Knoxville and Jobst Campuses, they also cleaned the attic at Knoxville Campus as well as the grounds around the building, and some even did some planting in the garden at Scott’s Prairie.

Individuals who give of their time are just as important as those who give dollars. Their efforts provide us incredible service and allow us to accomplish large projects in a short period of time. They truly make a difference.

Protecting  Teaching  Healing  Building

Wisconsin Alumni Association-HOI Chapter volunteers at Kiefer School

Dunlap Middle School 8th Grade volunteers
THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #7580 TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE

Jim Wiegel coordinates a Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit Children’s Home that has been ongoing for more than 20 years! This year their efforts and dedication brought nearly $800.00 to help The Children’s Home. Thank you to Jim and all the Knights who show their continued service to others every day in a positive way.

INFOTECH WAS “TAKIN’ IT TO THE STREETS” FOR CHILDREN’S HOME THIS SUMMER

Infotech Enterprises, Inc., with help from Advanced Media Partners, LLC, and The Illinois Valley Striders hosted the first annual Takin’ it to the Streets Classic Car Cruise-In, Street Fair, & 5K Walk/Run benefiting The Children’s Home.

This event was a great success. The crowd enjoyed live music from American Idol contestant Jackie Lawson, an acoustic set from local musician Nathan Taylor, and local favorite Patrick & Swayze for evening entertainment. Food vendors, a beer tent, games for kids and adults, a silent auction, a car show, and a 5K walk/run kept everyone busy and entertained throughout the day.

More than $3400.00 was raised to support youth programs at Children’s Home. Thank you to all the Staff at Infotech and Advanced Media Partners who did so much to make the “Takin’ it to the Streets” Event such a great time for everyone involved. We appreciate all you have done for us.

THE ST. PATRICK SOCIETY OF PEORIA HOSTS THE 21ST ANNUAL GAELIC GALLOP JACK KENNY 5K RUN/WALK

The Children’s Home was again the recipient of a portion of the proceeds from the 21st Annual Gaelic Gallop Jack Kenny 5K Run/Walk held on March 3, 2012 at Glen Oak Park in Peoria. Following the race, St. Patrick Society board member and race director, Theresa Hoadley, presented awards in several categories. A post-race party was held at TNT Restaurant in Peoria Heights.

We are most grateful to Theresa and the entire St. Patrick’s Society for their efforts to make the Jack Kenny successful, having raised over $13,000 over the years for the children and families in our care.

BEAD THE CHANGE: ONE OF A KIND JEWELRY FOR ONE OF A KIND KIDS

Free to Bead one of a kind jewelry shop, in collaboration with Children’s Home, hosted “Bead the Change” to engage community members in a free jewelry making class at Free to Bead with the option to donate their jewelry to the Children’s Home Spring Gala Event.

A group of Bradley students helped organize this effort for a class project, and as far as we are concerned, they earned an A+. Special thanks go out to Kate Degroot, Morgan Nenne, Samantha Reed, and Jeri Kohn for all your hard work.

Free to Bead shop owner Janet Hill stated, “I really wanted to host this event to help the Children’s Home raise money for their programs. I thought this was a fun and unique way to donate my time and energy to a cause I believe in. Also, I get to do something I love!”

Thank you Janet, Free to Bead staff, Bradley Students, and the host of community members who made over 25 beautiful pieces of jewelry at “Bead the Change” to contribute to our fundraiser.

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NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We would like to thank all of our exiting board members for their committed service to The Children’s Home.

Jim Vergon ended his service on the Board of Trustees after three 3-year terms, beginning in 2003. He had served as Board Development committee chair from 2002-2004 and Executive Committee member at large in 2008 and 2009.

The following are Foundation Board members whose terms have recently ended:

Katie Arnholz Kim – Served on the Foundation board from 2009-2012.
Sara McKee – served two 3-year terms. She started in 2005 as a Community Leadership Graduate, non-voting member for one year and then joined the board in 2006. She was on the Scott’s Prairie ad hoc committee in 2007-08 and on the Board Development Committee in 2008-09.
Marsha Swardenski – Served on the Foundation board from 2009-2012.

Chuck Weaver – Chuck joined the board with the merger of Youth Farm in 2007. His expertise was crucial to supporting the cattle auction ad hoc committee in 2007-08 and continued support outside of the committee. Chuck was also part of the strategic planning ad hoc committee in 2008-09.

All of the aforementioned gave of their time and talents generously throughout their service. The children and families served by Children’s Home benefited from their dedication. Thank you.

Welcome to those beginning a new role of service to The Children’s Home in supporting our mission of giving children a childhood and a future.

Joining the Foundation Board of Directors: Karin Olnstead, Julie Dreesen Cook, Andrew Crouch, and Beth Jensen. Joining our Board of Trustees: Sean Seckel and Kim Hauer.
SPECIAL EVENTS

CHILDEN’S HOME SPRING GALA EVENT

On April 28th, the Children’s Home held its 15th Annual Spring Gala at the Country Club of Peoria. Hosted by John and Tracy Coker and Mike and Molly Miller, the evening featured Master of Ceremonies and Comedian Joe Roderick, whimsical hats, live auction, live music by Captain Rat and the Blind Rivets and a $10,000 cash raffle. The Spring Gala included a special silent auction with unique art from around the world, as well as, art and jewelry made by Children’s Home staff, clients and friends. Spring Gala event sponsors included Maui Jim Sunglasses, RLI, David Vaughn Investments, PNC Foundation, Willis of Illinois, Davis & Campbell, River City Construction, Mike and Molly Miller, Joe and Joany Dondaville, and UPS.

To date, the Gala has raised over $970,000 to help ensure that the homeless youth in our community get the support and guidance they need to build a better future. Watch our website and Facebook page for details about next Spring’s Gala.

“IMAGINE”

THE CHILDREN’S HOME “DIRTY LAUNDRY PROJECT” COLLABORATES WITH THE MINORITY AIDS AWARENESS COUNCIL AND BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

The Children's Home Primary Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program reaches thousands of Peoria County residents each year through educational outreach, youth development programming and the Dirty Laundry Project public awareness campaign to prevent teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS among young people in Peoria County. 2011 marked the 30 year anniversary of HIV/AIDS in North America, and to commemorate this event, the Children's Home "Dirty Laundry Project" partnered with the Minority AIDS Awareness Council and Bradley University's Theater Department to create and present, IMAGINE, a play about HIV/AIDS. The IMAGINE production was held in Bradley’s Blythe O’Sullivan Studio. IMAGINE followed the stories of a small community of people whose lives had been affected by HIV/AIDS taking us for a walk through their stories of pain, loss, love, and acceptance. Through the play we learned from both their mistakes and their courage, as we imagined our own lives being impacted by HIV/AIDS. The play tackled many of the key issues surrounding HIV; stereotypes about who is susceptible, the four fluids which transmit the virus (blood, semen, vaginal fluid, and breast milk), and details about treatment. One of the most important focuses of the production, however, was the stigma that surrounds HIV/AIDS. As Stephennie Chaudoir, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Bradley University explains, “Stigma is one of the largest barriers of prevention and treatment. First people think they don’t need to get tested because they don’t fit the HIV/AIDS stereotype – they’re not gay, not sex workers, not intravenous drug users. But more than that, our stigma creates almost paralyzing fear in people; many would rather not know than find out they’re HIV positive.” Professor Chaudoir stresses, “HIV will continue to be an issue unless we shed the taboos, talk about it, and keep the conversation alive.”

LIVE MANNEQUIN DISPLAY

On May 2nd, National Day to Prevent Teen and Unintended Pregnancy, the Children’s Home’s “Dirty Laundry Project” came alive for its 6th annual public awareness campaign to draw attention to the consistently high rate of teen pregnancies in Peoria County and promote developmental assets that allow youth to thrive. Children’s Home staff and community members volunteered to pose as live mannequins at 3:52 p.m. wearing Dirty Laundry Project t-shirts to represent the 352 teens who gave birth in 2009.

LANDMARK RACQUET AND HEALTH CLUB HOSTED THE RUN TO END CHILDHOOD OBESITY

The Children’s Home Residential Program and the Boys and Girls Club were beneficiaries of Landmark Racquet & Health Club’s 5k Walk and Run to End Childhood Obesity this past June. The event was well attended and raised nearly $650.00 for Children’s Home alone. The funds will be used for athletic or fitness based supplies or activities. We plan to clean up and update the nature trail at our Youth Farm Campus and post activity station instructions throughout and along the trail to help the kids have fun while they work to stay healthy. Landmark has also committed to helping us plan for professional trainers to come the Youth Farm Campus for fitness training with our kids. They will also set up a program of specialized classes for our over-weight kids and a general fitness program too. Thank you to everyone involved. We appreciate you thinking of us. Thank you from The Children’s Home and all the kids in our Residential Program.
In Memory of...

Bennie Seudman Dillerhme
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Seudman

Betty Block Parker
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Parker

Betty England
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse E. Barlow

Connie Disney
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Disney

Cora Lee Baxter
Mr. & Mrs. William S. Skelch, Jr.

Dora Jean Ludington
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald J. Rosenburg

Dora Ludington
Mr. & Mrs. John Merito Benedi
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Ludington
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Braucher
Ms. Bonnie H. McIlharr Murr
Ms. Nancy Kielman
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald W. Good
Dr. & Mrs. Miles E. Brundage
Mr. & Mrs. Kaye E. Brundage
Ms. Georga S. Evans

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald E. Trappella
Ms. Julie R. Harley
Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Gollubert
Mr. & Mrs. David Hoffman
Dorothy Miglio
Ms. Mary Stachosowski

Dr. Amiel G. Rabelid
Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Vorheke

E. B. Tez
Ms. Barbara J. Symeswsky

Sonnar  Zinob
Ms. Cornelia M. Sybar

Genevieve Ruck
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel J. Gilbert
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Womol

Gordon McCahey
Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Vorheke

Jack Burke
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin M. Kropf

James D. Clark
Mr. George Clark

Jane Dowdend
Ms. Cheryl Horrman
Mr. Mary L. Schumon
Mr. & Mrs. Mark L. Gannon

John "Jack" Burke
Mrs. Rachel E. Stephenon
Mr. & Mrs. Stewart D. Kuckad
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph R. Sank
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Scroggins
Mr. & Mrs. Min A. Carson
Mr. & Mrs. Roger G. Burle
Mr. & Mrs. Rodenick H. Burle
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Burle
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce E. Boyer
Mr. & Mrs. Lisa L. Young
Mr. Mark E. Okot
Mr. & Mrs. William T. Ukell
Mr. & Mrs. Neil R. Haanen
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Vreden

John Howard
Mr. & Mrs. Allen H. Andreas, Jr.

K.L. Supplite
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Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Vorheke

Mrs. Meda Dunne
Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Vorheke

Mrs. Trice
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Mrs. Marilyn Barger
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Mr. & Mrs. Lee Roffenbach
Mr. Peter Holman
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Glass
Ms. Gloria Beasley
Mr. Bruce Keami
Mr. Terry S. Livingston

Ronald Davis
Ms. Barbara Monti

In Honor of...

Angie Cappner
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Nora

Bernie & Teresa Koch
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Schudle

Birth of daughter Mary Elizabeth
Ms. David S. Tertel

Charlee & Betty Manson
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Disney

Debbie Gleson
Ms. Ashley Teitel

Dr Stephen Smart
Mr. & Mrs. James Klemme

Elaine Woodson
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Disney

Elisea Parrett
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Dunbar, III

George & Jeanine Manno
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Disney

John & Nancy Crawford
Mr. Peter P. Dunne

Linda Stueber
Thomas Jefferson Primary School

Malcolyn Parrett
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Dunbar, III

Olivia Parrett
Mrs. Richard N. Ultman

Parker Ford Griffin's Birthday
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Ramsey, Jr.

Rachel Eini
Mr. Mark G. Eini

Robert Brown
Mr. Nancy Kerr

Robert Glass
Mr. Charles R. Cogu

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Yoder
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy L. Glass
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Hurr
Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Uhlken
Mr. & Mrs. Neville Hawkins

Mrs. Marilyn Barger
Ms. Barbara D. Slapley
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Ms. Gloria Beasley
Mr. Bruce Keami
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Mr. & Mrs. Darrell A. Dunbar, III

Steve & Lila Dudley
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Disney

Suatha Raya
Mr. Kim M. Pugh

Victoria Parrett
Mrs. James E. Glass

Stephanie Parrett
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Dunbar, III

Vicente Tenarvitz
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel A. Dunbar, III

We are having a fundraiser and want Children’s Home to be the benefactor, to a former resident that writes….keep providing your wonderful services because you helped me, and to the young girls in our care that express appreciation because a group of women shared their time to make cookies, take them swimming, or help make Valentine’s Day cards...to the donor that creates an endowment to help provide scholarships for a young adults education, housing, or extra school expenses. You all make a difference in the life of a child; you are all a part of Promises to Keep...Giving children a childhood and future by protecting them, teaching them and healing them, and by building strong communities and loving families.

In Spirit.

Vice President of Community & Donor Relations

Lou Tenarvitz

From the Office of Community & Donor Relations - Lou Tenarvitz

Giving Children a Childhood and Future

I invite you to share in our vision and invest in the dream of a better community where you can make a real difference by remembering Children’s Home Association of Illinois in your will.

From the period October 2011 - July 2012

Gifts are from the period October 2011 - July 2012
Thank you to these dedicated individuals who share our passion for children and who have made a financial commitment to fulfilling the mission of Children’s Home.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Stephan
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel J. Statler
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Mr. & Mrs. Larry D. Starr
Starbucks
Ms. Mary Stachowicz
Ms. Jackie Staab
St. Thomas School
St. Patrick’s Society of Peoria
St. John’s Lutheran Church
St. Bernard’s Church Sewing Group
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Long-term Planned Giving

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Mr. & Mrs. Joe and Jan Thelen

Endowments
Mary A. Barker Trust
Bin Damnisa Memorial Fund
Holy Health Memorial Fund
Harold Heun Memorial Fund
Frank Hopkins Trust

Leaders of Tomorrow Fund

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Greg Nolte Memorial Scholarship Fund
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Mr. & Mrs. Janice J. Yost
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Zeigler
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Zem
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Mr. & Mrs. Gary S. Zwicky
The Children's Home Cattle Auction is an annual event that includes a silent auction with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres, a fabulous dinner, live auction, entertainment and, of course, the cattle auction.

In 1956, a group of Peoria area citizens met to propose plans for a home for troubled boys. What started as a dream by a few dedicated people with a vision became a reality in 1960 when Youth Farm first opened its doors. In August of 2007, Youth Farm merged with Children's Home. The combined histories and similar missions of both agencies have strengthened the services available to the children and families in our community.

The first Cattle Auction took place in 1964 and raised $4,000. This event continues today, raising over $100,000 each year to help support the development of our Youth Farm campus and enabling us to provide the therapeutic environment these children need to heal.

Visit our website: www.chail.org to make a donation Online.

OR

Mail your gift to The Children's Home Association of Illinois at:
2130 N Knoxville Ave, Peoria, IL 61603

Please select a payment option:

☐ Enclosed is my check for $________. (Please make your check payable to the Children's Home)

☐ Please charge $________ to my [circle one] Visa, MasterCard or American Express.

______________________________
Credit Card Number

______________________________
Expiration Date

______________________________
Zip Code where card is billed

______________________________
Signature

OR

Phone Linda Keown at 309.687.7289 to charge by phone.
Sali Buss has been a therapist at Children's Home for over 27 years. Sali received the 2012 Jean Tucker Children's Mental Health Care Provider of the Year award for her lifetime of service as a therapist.

The award was presented by Mental Health America of Illinois Valley in March during a symposium sponsored by Bradley University and the National Association of Social Workers.

Sali is a gifted therapist who is almost always successful in making a difference when she intervenes. For her lifetime of service to others, Sali is most deserving of the Jean Tucker Award for the Children's Mental Health Care Provider of the Year. We are proud to have her on our team at Children's Home. Congratulations, Sali.

On Friday, April 20, child welfare professionals and their work were highlighted at the Hands Around the Courthouse event downtown at the Peoria County Courthouse Plaza to raise awareness for child abuse prevention. In 2010, 691 cases of child neglect were reported in Peoria County. Susan Irion, chairwoman of the board of directors for Voices for Illinois Children, noted, “We believe that there is nothing more important than working to help ensure that our kids can grow up to be safe and healthy and educated and loved.”

Judge Mark Gilles of the 10th Judicial Circuit was quoted as telling social workers present,

“Not any other person in the process is more important than another, but today I’d just like to give an extra emphasis to the case workers … for what we see on a daily basis as a really, really great job.”

The event included singing by children from the United Way Success by Six program as well as speakers urging attendees to watch for and report signs of abuse and neglect. Speakers reminded attendees that it was more important to report the suspected abuse than to worry about potential disruptions that could occur in the home as a result.

Our Mission:
Give children a childhood and future by protecting them, teaching them and healing them, and by building loving families and strong communities.

Our Vision:
Create a healthy community where families and children come first.

Our Values:

- **Integrity:** We will exhibit honesty and respectfulness in our work, be forthright and open-minded in our relationships and stand up for what we believe in.
- **Collaboration:** We will seek opportunities to build partnerships inside and out, demonstrating that social connectivity adds value and increases vitality.
- **Knowledge:** We will encourage discovery and learning as a pathway to fulfillment, providing opportunities that inspire originality, innovation, and leadership.
- **Diversity:** We will work diligently to understand and appreciate individual differences and similarities, enriching our collective opinions, attitudes, and actions.
- **Commitment:** We will embrace each child and family with an unwavering dedication to release their potential, believing in the possibilities long after others give up.
- **Quality:** We will strive for the highest level of quality interaction.

Giving Children a Childhood and Future
GOVERNOR’S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD HONORS
ONE OF CHILDREN’S HOME’S AMERICORPS MEMBERS

During a reception at the Executive Mansion Thursday, April 19, 2012, on behalf of Governor Pat Quinn, the Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service presented 24 Illinois residents with the Governor’s Volunteer Service Award.

We are proud to announce that Children’s Home AmeriCorps member, Karla Williams, was one of those 24 recognized for making a difference in Illinois through volunteerism and community service.

“Every day in Illinois, thousands of volunteers donate their time and talents to help others and to build stronger communities,” Governor Quinn said during the reception. “We honor these individuals who have made a difference in our state and set an example for others to follow with their initiative, creativity and energy.”

Karla was nominated for her unceasing dedication to service work in and around Peoria. She is in her third year with Fostering Transitions, where she serves on the Knoxville Service Team. Outside of work, Karla is involved in other volunteer initiatives throughout the community. Her passion for inclusiveness and working with disadvantaged youth takes shape in the positive work she does. In her time with AmeriCorps, Karla has helped the program grow by developing and maintaining partnerships with several local organizations, including a new enrichment project at the Urban League Preschool. Her dedication to AmeriCorps, as well as her ever-present smile, makes Karla a vital part of our AmeriCorps team at Children's Home.

AMERICORPS WEEK ACTIVITIES

Fostering Transitions uses the service experience to prepare disadvantaged individuals (unemployed current / former social service clients – foster youth, individuals with a disability or mental illness) for employment. Terms of service (900, 675, 300 hours) offer disadvantaged individuals valuable life experiences and provide an intensive "employment-like" experience that bridges the gap between life in the system and self-sufficiency. Through service, individuals develop vocational skills and impact Central Illinois by: 1) providing academic enrichment & positive youth development to at-risk youth and 2) use service to engage community members in solving community issues.

Fostering Transitions participated in AmeriCorps Week 2012 (March 10-18) by volunteering at Access the Experience at the Peoria Civic Center. That evening the program was recognized by Mayor Jim Ardis at the Peoria City Council meeting. Members in attendance were invited to stand with the mayor as he made a formal declaration of AmeriCorps’ positive impact on our community. He presented the members with an official proclamation, which is now on display in the lobby of Children's Home Knoxville Campus.

AmeriCorps always welcomes volunteers. If you are interested in joining one of our volunteer service projects or if you’d like more information about our program, please contact Natalie Salawage at nsalawage@chail.org.

Story from a Staff Member

James came into residential treatment with an extensive history of becoming easily frustrated, using physical aggression to cope with his anger, boundary issues and impulse control problems. He was preoccupied with violent thoughts and had aggressed towards multiple people including family members. His prior schools reported that he needed one-on-one supervision to keep him from fighting. He came to Children's Home from another agencies’ group home. Even in the group home setting, he continued to antagonize his peers on a daily basis and was physically aggressive about once a week. He also struggled with appropriate social skills and reported that he did not care what others thought of him.

Since being in placement, James has learned how to talk about his feelings instead of acting out. He has processed how his history of neglect and being asked to take on adult responsibilities at a young age affected his feelings and behaviors. He has stopped his physically aggressive behaviors and developed positive relationships. He has helped to plant and maintain flower beds on the Youth Farm campus with a persistence that is impressive. He has worked both on and off-campus. He had the opportunity to spend a week out of state at camp this past summer. He displayed positive behavior and good social skills while on this trip. He attributes much of this transformation to the consistent, caring support he has received at Children's Home. He also expresses a desire to maintain his positive behaviors and relationships in the future.

Carla Cortes, Clinician
Enterprise Cottage at Youth Farm Campus
Children’s Home Residential Program
Children’s Home has been caring for the children in our community for nearly 150 years. Operating from five locations in the Peoria area, our staff of 400+ professionals is committed to community-based, family-focused programs that provide counseling, education and support to 1,100 children and families each month. Programs for children and youth include: residential care, group homes, foster care and adoption, supervised independent living, private school, crisis intervention, mental health assessment, homeless services, in-home counseling and family preservation.

We are very proud of our history in Peoria and are dedicated to improving the lives of children with special needs, but our work wouldn't be possible without the support of a caring community. If you would like to learn more about how you can help the kids through a variety of volunteer opportunities, employment, becoming a foster parent, or making a charitable donation, please take some time to visit our website or facebook page.

Thank you for helping us fulfill our mission.

Visit us online and become a fan of Children’s Home on Facebook!
www.chail.org
https://www.facebook.com/ChildrensHomeAssociation

Our next Cattle Auction will be held Thursday, September 6, 2012.
For more information contact our
Special Events Coordinator,
Jody Smith-Brown at
jbrown@chail.org
OR
309.687.7423.