

# News & Notes



# The Children's Home

*A Publication of The Children's Home, Inc. Summer-Autumn 2008*

## MUSIC ♦ ART ♦ CULTURE



Singer, Ikea, during the Family & Friends Music Festival



Residents' artwork for sale at the Annual Meeting

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Little Adventure Program visiting from Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan, as part of the Maryland Sister States program.



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**LIVING ♦ BUILDING ♦ WORKING ♦ ACHIEVING**

## Message from the CEO



2007 was a year of construction and expansion for The Children's Home. Opening of the Diagnostic Center was at the forefront of a progressive advancement in program and services. Implementing new respite program services to support and maintain youth in the community has served as an equal priority.

This year is becoming the year of reflection and refining. We have completed a new strategic plan for the organization with consideration toward our goals and the state of child welfare.

Many initiatives in government and the private sector are emphasizing the importance of keeping children at home, if possible, or close to their neighborhood. This is described in the State of Maryland "Place Matters" initiative.

Our new strategic plan involves meeting the challenges of new perspectives on child welfare. We are incorporating programs that address important discoveries in behavior in a constant effort to make our programs relevant to the youth of today.

We are also challenged by new economic obstacles of providing the best facilities, programs, and services possible. The challenge is to match our efforts in programming with maintaining and upgrading facilities to meet the stress of intensive use.

The Board of Directors, staff and volunteers look forward meeting these challenges to benefit the children in our care via ongoing Capital Campaign. We also invite you to become active in this effort for our children by attending FACES 2008 and contributing to our holiday programs for the children. Support from the community makes the programs and facilities of The Children's Home possible.

*Andre G. Cooper*

## Mark Your Calendars !

### Residents' Fashion Show

The Barn Auditorium at CCBC-Catonsville will come alive with energy and style as the TCH residents present the annual Fashion Show on **Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1:00 to 4:00pm.**

The theme this year is "Back to Old School" to highlight clothing from the 70s, 80s, and 90s. If you have anything stuffed in the back of your closet, we are accepting donations of classic clothing.

The CCBC campus is located at 800 S. Rolling Road. Tickets are on sale now: \$10 in advance \$15 at the door. Call Celeste Boone, 410-744-7310, ext. 104 for more information.

## Back to Old School



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Residents' Fashion Show

November 1, 1:00 to 4:00pm  
CCBC - Catonsville  
800 South Rolling Road  
Tickets: \$10 in advance;  
\$15 at the door  
410-744-7310  
[www.thechildrenshome.net](http://www.thechildrenshome.net)

# Spotlight On.....

## 2008 Annual Meeting

### “Celebrating 145 Years of Service”

The Children’s Home held its 2008 Annual Meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Rolling Road Golf Club. Attendees were inspired by the keynote speech delivered by City Councilwoman, Helen Holton. The evening included testimonials from TCH alumni, Community Service Awards (listed on page 9), a gallery of historic photos, and a gift shop with artwork by TCH residents.



CEO Andre Cooper, Director of Development Gail Lee, and keynote speaker - City Councilwoman Helen Holton



TCH staff members Susan Peacock and Patricia Monroe present a Community Service Award to Lt. Rossbach of the Baltimore County Police Department.



Birdhouses painted by TCH residents available for purchase at the 2008 Annual Meeting.



Gail Lee, Board President Carol Waddell, Vice President Dino LaFiandra, and Kristen O'Farrell.



TCH Alumnus, Tyeshia Allen with Mr. Cooper.



TCH Alumnus Dyala Williams, Foster Mom Ms. Daisy Branch, and Executive Assistant Celeste Boone

# Resident Happenings

## Youth Conference Participants

Lamontray and Brandon of FM Cottage participated in a summer youth mentoring conference held at Glen Burnie High School. The event was hosted by the Alpha Phi Alpha Grad Chapter. The conference consisted of workshops and lectures by the fraternity brothers to promote education and leadership for youth today.

## TCH Swims to First Place

TCH swimmers, inspired by the local Olympic champions, won the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Swim Meet at the Board of Child Care in Martinsburg, West Virginia. The team took first place in four of the six events including the 50-meter freestyle, 50-meter breaststroke, 50-meter backstroke, and the 4 by 25-meter relay. Congratulations to the team and Coach Leroy Walker!



## TCH Summer Camp

Time at the pool, field trips around Maryland, art projects, and sports were all a part of summer at The Children's Home. Off-site locations included Sandy Point State Park, Hampton National Historic Site, Annapolis Harbor, Baltimore Museum of Art, Ravens Training Camp, Reginald F. Lewis African American Museum, and Six Flags Water Park.

## Luau Awards Ceremony



## Fashion Makeover Project

There is more to getting ready for school than books and bookbags. There is always the dilemma of what to wear. Assisting in the solution was the TCH Fashion Makeover Project. Requests were sent to individuals, church groups, and civic organizations to sponsor a shopping trip for the young girls at the Home. At the conclusion of the project, approximately \$1,000 was raised and 25 girls went shopping. New clothes and a new feeling of confidence appeared at the first day of school.

The residents and staff at The Children's Home enjoyed an end-of-the-school-year event in the festive atmosphere of the South Seas. The Luau Awards Ceremony recognizes achievements by the residents with an impressive buffet and stirring talk by Deputy 1<sup>st</sup> Class Michael Duvall (above) of the Baltimore County Sheriffs Department.

# TCH Activities

## Catonsville Community Walk for Families and Children



The Children's Home presented the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Catonsville Community Walk for Children and Families on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Walkers strolled through the charming town of Catonsville to benefit the children at the Home. The primary course for the event covered approximately 3.5 miles for the hearty hiker with shorter routes available for the more casual walker. The finish line included refreshments and prizes. The Walk attracted teams, individuals, church groups, families, and corporations (including Kohl's Department Stores – pictured above), in the spirit of good health and competition.

## FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

The Children's Home Treatment Foster Care and Respite Programs are recruiting full-time and part-time nurturing individuals to care for **teens** with special emotional needs. Training, support, and monthly stipend provided.

**Classes forming soon!**

**For additional information call:**

**410-368-1306**

**[www.thechildrenshome.net](http://www.thechildrenshome.net)**

## Family & Friends Music Festival



J Beats entertains the crowd with original music and lyrics.

The Children's Home hosted the Family & Friends Music Festival on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. A wide variety of performers and musical styles preformed for the residents, staff, and visitors. Performers include DeVante, Ikea, Poetic Justice, Sensational Dancers, D.L.B., and Bro.Calvin – offering a mixture of R&B, gospel, pop, and hip-hop. Proceeds from the event benefit the programs and services at The Children's Home.



Silent Voices Dance Ministry from Morningstar Baptist Church



# FACES 2008 – Mosaic Expressions

***Join us for an evening of wine, music, art, and food at the American Visionary Art Museum on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.***

FACES 2008, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual benefit for The Children's Home, takes place at the American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Highway, on October 22, 6:00 to 9:00pm. In just three years the event has grown to be a major fundraising for The Children's Home. Festivities will include a variety of food, wine tasting, and live entertainment.

The innovative atmosphere of the American Visionary Art Museum is the perfect setting for the annual FACES event supporting innovative programs and facilities for Maryland's children in crisis. FACES 2008 uses the art background of the museum as the inspiration for the evening's program. The theme of this year's event is "Mosaic Expressions," with a display and auction of children's original artwork (example below).

The "FACES" theme is a reminder of the purpose of the event. The goal is to see smiling faces on the children who are healing from the emotional scars of separation or the trauma of abuse. The event also gives the public an opportunity to be confronted with an outpouring of expression through the creative artistry of the children.

For additional information visit our website at [www.thechildrenshome.net](http://www.thechildrenshome.net).



Mosaic Expressions of The Children's Home

*"We have witnessed a rapid growth in the FACES event over its first three years. The people of the greater Baltimore area are enjoying the event with its unique theme and appropriate location. They are also embracing the mission of The Children's Home to provide the hope and security that children need and deserve. Enjoyment combined with a purpose creates a very special evening."*

*Holly Joyce Hoey  
FACES 2008 Chairperson*



From the mission statement of the American Visionary Art Museum:

*“Visionary art as defined for the purposes of the American Visionary Art Museum refers to art produced by self-taught individuals, usually without formal training, whose works arise from an innate personal vision that revels foremost in the creative act itself.”*

**FACES 2008 Sponsors**  
(as of 9/30/2008)

**Erickson Retirement  
Communities**

**Bank of America**

**BB&T**

**St. Agnes Foundation**

**T. Rowe Price Foundation**

**J-Squared Design, LLC**

**The Wine Source**

**The Catonsville Times**

**Hubbard Funeral Home, Inc.**

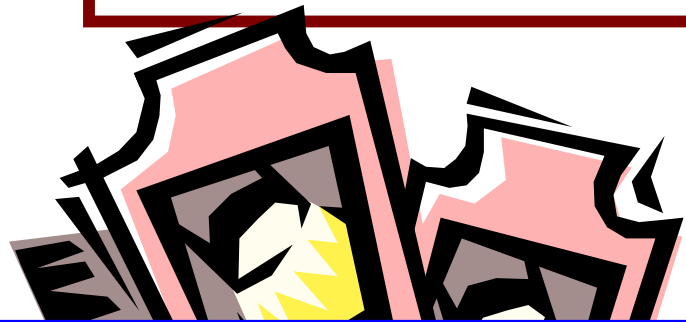
**Edible Arrangements – Catonsville**

**McArdle Custom  
Communications Solutions**

**Cold Stone Creamery**

**Hatcher Design Office**

**Berwick Associates, LLC**



**Get your tickets today!**

Tickets prices are \$65 and \$100 for a VIP ticket. The VIP ticket will open the doors to a special tour of the Museum at the beginning of the evening. Funds raised will support The Children's Home Capital Campaign for the development of new facilities and programs. For more information, call 410-744-7310 or online at [www.thechildrenshome.net](http://www.thechildrenshome.net)

# Art Programs at TCH

## The Art of Learning and Healing at The Children's Home

Research and text provided by Kristen McDaniel

In the middle of these hot summer days, you wouldn't expect to find 20 teenagers diligently decorating birdhouses, baby clothes, and canvas bags (photo left below). But if you come to The Children's Home on Wednesday afternoons, that is exactly what you'd find. Named "Art for Cash" by the kids themselves, this ambitious entrepreneurial art program attempts to teach the beginnings of a cottage business: basic math skills, art skills, and business sense.

Started last fall by Laura Siner, of **The Art Resource** in Baltimore, the self-sustaining program requires a portion of the money made on the products to be used to purchase new material. However, the remaining money is given as payment to the children whose products have sold. As soon as they receive their first payment, Ms. Siner says, they begin to learn about good business sense.

And as their paintbrushes move, these children open their mouths, and hearts. Scientists have told us for years about the healing power of art, and in this case it is quite visible. What were sullen kids just 10 minutes ago are now laughing, painting, and sharing their thoughts and feelings. The children at The Children's Home learn how to dream, plan, and build their futures. Art for Cash is one of the featured art programs with a display at FACES 2008 in October.

**Art with a Heart, Inc.** is an organization that brings art to the disadvantaged, or people with developmental and physical challenges. They offer a variety of interactive art activities that can be customized for a particular group. The staff and volunteers of Art with a Heart had conducted programs at group homes, senior citizen centers, community centers, assisted living facilities, and schools. The participants are exposed to a number of art mediums that may include projects that highlight an important cultural or historic event.

One of the projects directed by Art with a Heart was a variety of abstract paintings created by the boys and girls at The Children's Home in a group style format. Taking a cue from abstract expressionist artist Jackson Pollack, a large piece of canvas was spread out and the children got to create an "action painting," splattering, adding brush strokes and even stepping in paint and adding footprints! Three large painted canvases were created in the process: one by the girls, one by the boys, and one by both boys and girls in collaboration.

The **2007-2008 Mural Projects** (center and right below) at The Children's Home were designed to give residents an opportunity to work with muralist Jeffrey M. Cook on wall paintings that will enhance their living spaces. Both residents and staff were involved in the theme planning of the designs with the artist. This helped to ensure that the people who live and work in the spaces where the murals are painted had meaningful input about the murals' content. The residents were responsible for painting over 60% of each of the four murals with the guidance of the artist. Jeffrey M. Cook has been a professional muralist for 20 years. He worked on his first mural as a volunteer with the Chicago Public Art Group in 1988. The group soon hired him and appointed him to be in charge of several mural projects in the Chicago area.



# Holidays for the Children

The Children's Home **Holidays for the Children** assists us in providing gifts and/or activities for the boys and girls who call TCH their home as well as the children in our Treatment Foster Care Program. **Residents range in age from 13 to 21.**



To simplify this process as much as possible, our holiday giving program guidelines and residents' individual wish lists are available for your review. If possible, we would like to receive donations by **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Please contact Celeste Boone at 410-744-7310, ext. 104 or online at [cboone@thechildrenshome.net](mailto:cboone@thechildrenshome.net), to make your selections, or if you need additional information or have further questions.

Again, thank you for helping to make the 2008 holiday season special for our residents.



## General Donation Form

Yes, I would like to help The Children's Home provide for the needs of the boys and girls in its care. Here is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / items: \_\_\_\_\_ in support of:

- Capital Improvements     Special Events Sponsor     Holidays for the Children  
 General Support     Resident Enrichment Programs

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this reply form with your tax-deductible gift - made payable to, **The Children's Home, Inc.**, to: **The Children's Home, Inc., Development Office, 205 Bloomsbury Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228**, or online at [www.thechildrenshome.net](http://www.thechildrenshome.net), or use your credit card by providing the following information:

Credit card: MasterCard    Visa    Amex.    Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code Number \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

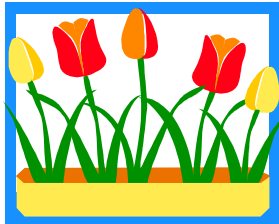


# Recognition & Acknowledgements

## 2008 Spring Appeal Donors

Thank you to all the following contributors to our spring appeal to support The Children's Home.

Jo Ann Alexander  
Arbutus Social Club  
Eva P. Brooks  
Benjamin Brooks  
Susan Daddio  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dean  
Rudeine Demissie  
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Guidera  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Hemler  
Douglas Huether  
Patrick McTavish  
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Smith  
Thomas R. Klein



### NOTE:

The Children's Home is continually updating our donor database. We apologize for any omissions. Please contact the Development Office so that we may correct any error.  
410-744-7310.

## Congratulations!

### 2008 Community Service Award Recipients

The following friends received special recognition at the Annual Meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>:

#### **Kohl's Department Stores—Severna Park & Ellicott City**

Assistance with special events at the Home

#### **Swift Staffing**

Providing computers and expertise for the new classroom

#### **Baltimore County Police Officers – Wilkens Precinct**

For their hard work and professionalism

#### **SugarBakers**

Donating many baked goods to the delight of our residents and staff



#### **Officer Terry Benson**

For service above and beyond the call of duty

#### **Beverly Hickman**

For her assistance with the students from the Home at Catonsville High School

#### **The Bridge Center**

Special care and education for many of the children from the Home

#### **Laura Siner**

Leadership and persistence in conducting the art program at the Home

## Recognition & Acknowledgements - continued.....

### Capital Campaign and Major Contributions for 2008

*Donations of \$250 or above up to September 1, 2008*

AT&T Employee Giving Program  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Shike  
J.C. Crothers Foundation  
Lou Jean Liem  
Ebony Women's Investment Club  
Sampson Eduful  
Fleet Laboratories  
General German Aged Peoples Home  
John and Holly Hoey  
Douglas Huether  
Kohl's Department Stores  
Mr. & Mrs. Andre Cooper

Open Society Institute  
Baltimore County Commission on Arts & Sciences  
Charles Skirven  
Thomas J. Stewart  
Stratton Picture and Mirrors  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward N. Stringer  
A Kathleen Gran & Alice J. Talcott Charitable Trust  
U.S. Chinese Kuoshu Federation  
Carol E. Waddell  
Mrs. Arthur Ward  
Worthington Elementary School

### Thank You! – 2008 Sponsors and Advertisers

#### Annual Meeting

##### **Gold Level:**

AtSite  
Human Services Benefits Company

##### **Silver Level:**

Rukert Terminals Corporation

##### **Advertisers**

Brooks Benefit Services, LLC  
Valley Processing, Inc.

#### Catonsville Community Walk

CitiBank  
The Catonsville Times  
B.C.W. Prints, Inc.  
Objects Found  
ABC Rental Center  
Kohl's Department Stores  
Chick-fil-A  
SugarBakers  
Councilman Sam Moxley

#### Family & Friends Music Festival

Appalachian Bluegrass Shoppe  
Edible Arrangements  
The Catonsville Times

### Volunteer Projects

The Children's Home is blessed by our location in a community that believes in the spirit of volunteering. During the past months, the campus has been host to two active organizations whose members or associates enjoy the hands-on activity of philanthropy.



The crew from Christian Temple



A hearty worker from Erickson Retirement Communities

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[www.thechildrenshome.net](http://www.thechildrenshome.net)

## **ACCREDITATION**

Council On Accreditation (COA)

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Association of Children's Residential Centers (AACRC)

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)

Foster Family Treatment Association

Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC)

Greater Catonsville Chamber of Commerce

Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations (MANO)

Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth (MARFY)

Founded in 1863 as an orphanage for children of German descent, The Children's Home has a long-standing history of commitment and experience serving children in residential care. A non-profit 501(c)(3), it is registered as a charitable organization with the Secretary of State of Maryland. The Children's Home is licensed by the Department of Human Resources to serve dependent, neglected, and abused children ages 8 to 21. The Home provides long- and short-term services that include a group home, emergency shelter for girls, transitional program for boys, and a treatment foster care program.

Our mission is to provide residential and community services to young people and families who experience disruption in their lives. By utilizing its human, physical, behavioral, and financial resources, The Children's Home builds on the strengths of those served to promote long-term well-being and success.

The Children's Home  
205 Bloomsbury Avenue  
Catonsville, MD 21228  
410-744-7310

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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## **BUY A BRICK - BUILD A LEGACY**

We are building a legacy at The Children's Home one brick at a time. You can become a contributor to the effort to expand and improve facilities by the purchase of a brick. The brick will have an inscription of your choice – space permitting – and will be incorporated into the design of the new Diagnostic Center. Cost is \$65.

Call 410-744-7310 for more information