

Open Doors

Vol. 30, No. 2 The Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc.

Second Quarter 2005

WISDOM, WORK & WEALTH - KEYS FOR SUCCESS

Someone once said that the keys to a great board of directors are wisdom, wealth and work. PCHH is blessed to have a great board. Our board members give unselfishly of their time and resources and work hard sharing the news of this ministry with others.

We have members who use their professional story-telling skills and abilities to draw attention (and funds) to PCHH. Others host receptions, dinners and special events to share news and provide resources. Yet others find ways to make a difference in the life of this ministry.

Our members seem to know just what we need to do at the perfect time to maximize resources and provide increased levels of care for our children.

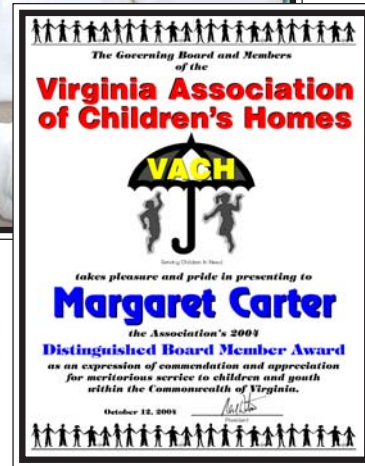
We are fortunate to have 18 board members who provide wisdom, work and wealth as we strive in "Giving Children Hope & Purpose For The Future."

PCHH Board Member Is Honored As VACH 2004 Distinguished Board Member



Margaret Carter's contributions to PCHH have been in several capacities while serving as a Board Member at the Children's Home. She served as Moderator of the Search Committee that brought Billy Rice to the Home in 1999, Moderator of the Building Committee in 2002 (the first major construction for the Home since 1962),

as well as personally participated in the McGavock Center fundraising. She is a charter member of the New Dawn Society.



There are many success stories of what a difference our board members make in this ministry. Most efforts go unnoticed by everyone. However, occasionally they catch the attention of someone.

This is just such a case when the Virginia Association of Children's Homes (VACH) awarded Margaret Carter, a PCHH Board Member from Charlottesville, VA, the Distinguished Board Member Award for 2004.

Mrs. Carter commented, "I am overwhelmed. It is wonderful to have the opportunity of working with so many wonderful people."

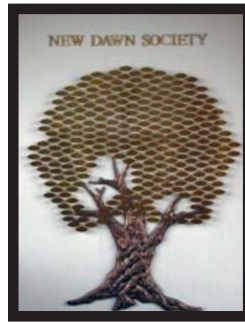
The value of what board members and friends of this Home contribute to this ministry is incalculable. Whether it's finances, hard work, wisdom, or gifts in-kind, thank you for helping us!





Billy Rice
Executive Director

New Dawn Society



Remember PCHH in your estate planning and become a member of the New Dawn Society. Call for information.

As a supporter of the Children's Home, I know that you are aware of many of the components we need to provide a loving home for our children. I like to think of it as a triangle, with three equal but very distinctive parts.

Most people can identify two sides of the triangle immediately – our staff members, who help our children work through the problems that come from the years of abuse and neglect they experienced before they come into our care; and our donors, who create the financial resources we need to provide our children the best possible care and to keep our campus in tip-top shape.

The third section of the triangle is just as important, but not as well known. It is our Board of Directors, who are responsible for the governance and control of our ministry. Our Board members do this, and so much more!

Our Board consists of 18 Presbyterians from the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic who give their time, talents and financial resources to our ministry. They are the guiding hand which ensures that our programs are meeting the needs of our children and the decision makers who allow us to expand when necessary. They are the face of our agency across Virginia and beyond, and they do so with a lot of sacrifice and no expectation of personal gain or recognition.

Occasionally, though, one of our Board members receive special recognition. I hope you enjoy the story about Margaret Carter and the award she received from the Virginia Association of Children's Homes.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER



We are another step closer to our goal of becoming debt-free. Janet Rakes, Libby Beamer and Patsy Weeks recently hosted a fundraising dinner in Christiansburg for the McGavock Center debt reduction efforts.

Thank you dear friends! We thank everyone who participated. If you would like to host a fundraising reception or dinner in your area, call Wynette Yontz or E. C. Hill at (276) 228-2861.

Executive Director's Article Continued...

Margaret is richly deserving of the award, and we are truly blessed to have her and many just like her serving on our Board. It is the third side of the triangle that you never hear about, but without their strength and wisdom, the other sides would collapse. Please keep them in your prayers as they lead us in the service of God's children.

Billy

Our On-Campus School, The Minnick Philosophy...

Our on-campus school program with Minnick Education Center has been a key element in helping us truly meet our mission of "Giving Children Hope & Purpose for the Future."

We hope you enjoy a brief look inside the day-to-day philosophy of our on-campus school program. If you would like a tour of the McGavock Center to see first-hand what Minnick is doing for us, please call (276) 228-2861 to arrange for a personal tour.

Our many thanks to Terri Webber and her dedicated staff for their assistance with the educational component of our program. Thank you!



Welcome Home Josh!

Josh Fanning, a member of our alumni family who graduated in 2003 and joined the U. S. Army, recently returned home from a successful tour in Afganistan (file photo).

Open Doors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

P.O. Box 545 Wytheville, VA 24382 (276) 228-2861 FAX (276) 228-8154 http://pchh.org info@pchh.org	* Harold Lamm - Martinsville, VA Libby Beamer - Christiansburg, VA Bay Boyd - Eagle Rock, VA Margaret Carter - Charlottesville, VA Eural Clippard - Wytheville, VA Molly Copes - Yorktown, VA David Dickerson - Rockbridge Baths, VA Mary Lou Cox - Monterey, VA **Joe Duckwall - Roanoke, VA Julia McAfee - Norton, VA Mary Lee McGrady - Hillsville, VA Marilyn Moore - Chester, VA Cap Oliver - Vienna, VA Tim Outlaw - Bristol, VA Nancy Schroeder - Edenton, NC Catherine Shoulders - Roanoke, VA Sara Staley - Marion, VA Frances Trent - Roanoke, VA *Moderator **Vice-Moderator
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Giving Children Hope & Purpose for the Future.

This agency complies with all state and federal non-profit fundraising regulations. A financial statement is available for the asking.

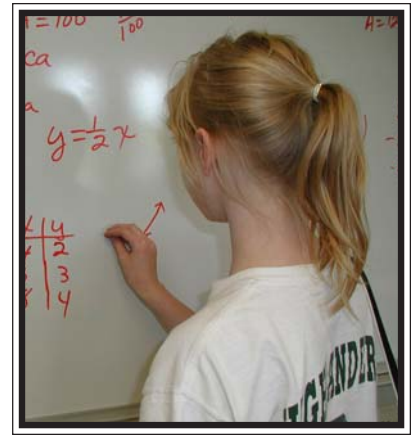
... A Brief
Inside
Look!



In our "intensive care academic setting" students are preparing for another grade, another school, another time later in their life. We help them to stay focused on their long-term goal.



It's also important to focus on the task at hand today. Each class, each challenge at hand, deserve their very best efforts.



We believe that students need to respect our differences and understand that diversity makes us stronger.

Students must learn to ask questions. It helps them to learn more, learn why and really understand.



We all have our best subjects in school... and worst. Our teachers and staff help students become better at both. Success is sweet but not always easy.



Yes, we learn to disagree without being disagreeable. In the real world, people listen to our opinion if we are polite.



"I am responsible for what I do!"
We teach that the individual student is responsible for his/her own actions... the good, bad and ugly regardless of circumstances.

We value...

- our students as individuals... capable and able to academically and socially achieve.
- a safe, orderly and uninterrupted learning environment.
- each individual as a person with worth and dignity.
- integrity, self-respect and personal responsibility.
- the effort and involvement of each individual in his or her own education.

We are so pleased to be in partnership with Minnick Education Center of Lutheran Family Services ministry with our on-campus school program. Several key phrases come to mind:

- *Individualized Instruction*
- *Great GED Program*
- *Computer Assisted Curriculum*
- *Fully Accredited Program*
- *Successful SOL Testing*
- *Inclusion of Day Students*
- *Preparation for the Next Step*

THIS IS ANOTHER DAY THE LORD HAS MADE, LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!



Poetry is one of those things that can heal the soul, refresh the mind and help one survive... it can also do the same for the writer of the poem. "My Final Goodbye" is such a poem. Chassadi, resident of Buchanan Cottage, wrote it and the International Library of Poetry published it on page one of their new compilation of poetry copyrighted in 2005 entitled, "A Surrender To The Moon."

My Final Goodbye

Our lives crossed,
And our destinies were forever altered.
My mind was seared with your memory,
I cannot forget you, no matter how hard I try,
But this must be my final goodbye.

Our paths followed the same winding road
And our destinations forced us apart
As my heart was torn from my hollow chest,
Yet I cannot remember why
So I guess this is my final goodbye.

Our journeys have changed
And our futures remain unclear.
My pain has been buried on this shelf with my tears.
I cannot hold onto this hope, it hurts too much to cry
As I tell you that this is to be my final goodbye.

One of the goals of our on-campus school program is to reintegrate students back into public school. Our experience thus far has been very successful. The public school bus arrives each school morning around 7:30 am.

Current PCCH Needs

- Computers for the cottage
- Phone cards for residents
- Model car kits
- Personal care products
- Wal-Mart gift cards
- Stationary & postage stamps
- Twin-size bed linens
- Your continuing prayers



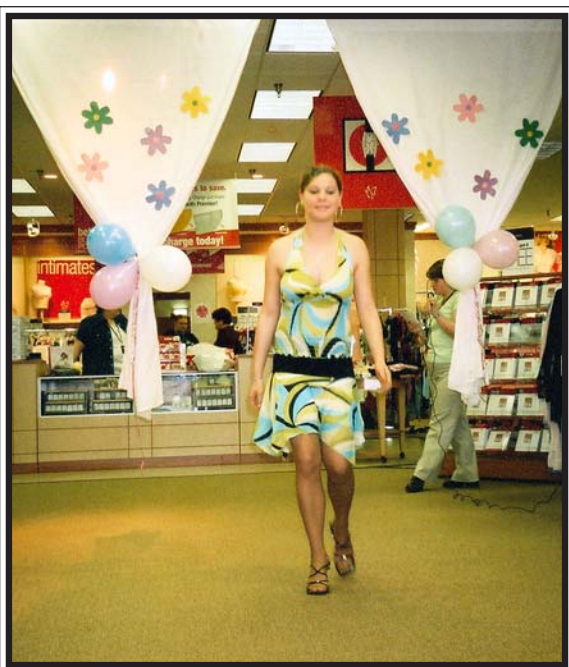
Thank You

Friends of PCHH

for helping us meet our mission of
"Giving Children Hope & Purpose for the Future"



Chassadi
Published Poet



Kayla recently participated in a local fashion show. The confidence she has gained over the past several months is demonstrated in a beautiful way.

The Youth Choir from Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church in Roanoke recently provided music for our ears and food for our souls with a concert for residents and staff. Mission trips to PCHH with such wonderful provisions are greatly appreciated. Thank you friends, great job!

