

Open Doors

Vol. 30, No. 1 The Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc.

1st Quarter 2005

COMMUNITY SERVICE - LEARNING TO GIVE

It is probably as important today to learn the importance of "giving back" and the meaning of benevolence as any time in our recent history. The world is a fragile place with no one immune of potential disaster. Learning about local community needs and how to provide assistance to meet these needs is a good start in teaching our citizens the gift of giving. Residents at PCHH have many opportunities to learn the value of community service. We are pleased to share these photos with you of some of our recent community service projects.

We had an opportunity to participate in a Blacksburg Playground Project. Our efforts, combined with other volunteers, helped prepare the playground for use by children who will benefit both physically and mentally from exercise.



For several years now, PCHH has adopted the section of highway that runs along our property. Cleanup not only makes our community look much better but helps build pride in our efforts.



Washing dishes in a soup kitchen in Roanoke might not seem like an important activity but it is one of the many things needed to be done in order to provide good quality food to people who need a tasty, nutritious meal.



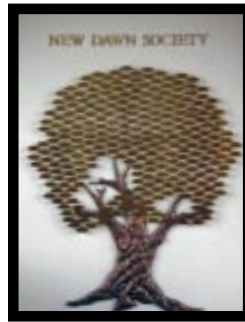
Whether it's helping the elderly at a local nursing home or providing muscle for the local food pantry, the personal effort plays an important role. Sometimes it's hard to see the forest for the trees but with effort, the value of such giving may be seen and appreciated.





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.

FIRST DAYS AT PCHH ...

Our special thanks to Geoffrey and the Gilmer Cottage staff for letting us take a brief glimpse into typical first days at PCHH.



If one could literally drown in paperwork, then we probably would. However, it is very important that we have complete information on each child so that we can develop a plan of care that is exactly what the child needs. Our intake process provides the foundation for a "new beginning" for each child.

As I walk around our campus my mind occasionally drifts to the formidable undertaking over forty years ago that moved our ministry from Foster Falls to our current home in Wytheville. Our supporters saw the need for this change and their generosity made it a reality. This culture of giving has continued as our ministry has grown and adapted to the ever changing needs of the children we serve. We know that our donors are the backbone of the organization, and we hope that you enjoy the satisfaction that goes with helping someone in need. It's a wonderful feeling, and we want to make sure our children experience it too!

Our cover story deals with some of the service projects our children are involved in within our community. We believe it is essential that our children understand that the joy of giving and helping others can be as joyous and fulfilling as the gifts our donors make possible for them at Christmas and other special occasions. As our children grow up and have families of their own, we want them to remember their charitable experiences and pass them on to the next generation.

I think you will enjoy this newsletter, which also includes a pictorial of a child's first days with us and scenes from the glorious Christmas celebration you, our supporters, made possible for our children. We are grateful for the generosity that sustains our ministry and the opportunity to pass on your love to our children.

Billy

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER



Billy Rice, Executive Director, presents Louis Hunter an award for his long-time fundraising assistance for the Home including the recent fundraising dinner held at the Southwest Virginia Community College for the McGavock Center debt reduction efforts. Thank you Louis! If you would like to host a fundraising reception or dinner in your area, call us at (276) 228-2861.



Residents live in home-style cottages with two houseparents and up to ten young people per cottage. It has all the dynamics of a family (a rather large one) and we strive to provide the stability and security a functional family provides. Our houseparents work a 4-day on, 4-day off schedule in order to maximize bonding with the youngsters. Stability is one key to a successful plan of care. Once a child experiences and gets used to three meals a day and a planned daily routine, it doesn't take long before they feel secure and can begin to make progress with their wrap-around support team.

Open Doors

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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



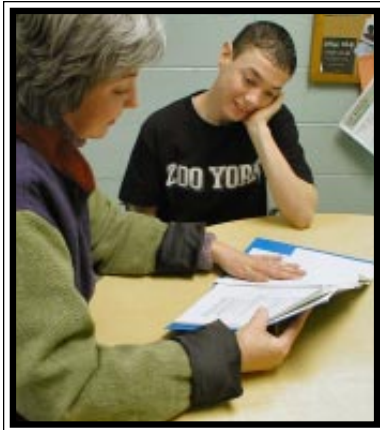
A roommate who understands where you've been and what you face means a lot. Friendships can develop that last a lifetime. Handling successful relationships is an important lesson that serves one for a lifetime.



It takes many caring professionals to make this ministry possible. The initial welcome by staff and a tour of the campus helps put faces to names and locations to places.

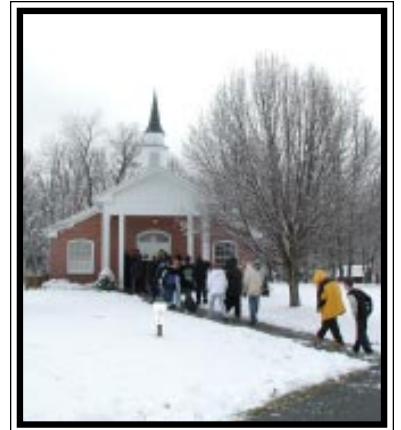


Two very important things for every resident are meals and academics. Our dining room and on-campus school are housed in the McGavock Center. Students learn quickly that staff care about them and want them to succeed. They get the individualized attention they need.



Spending time with our principal is NOT a negative thing. Mrs. Webber is wonderful!

Our wrap-around services includes a fulltime therapist whose case load is our young people. Ms. Wanda plays a vital role in their success.



Our Christian Education Program includes many things including Thursday night chapel services.



Rest is important not only for the body but for the ability to cope and handle all the challenges tomorrow brings. Our fulltime nurse is a vital part of care as well. Nurse Linda takes care of everything from TB Tine tests to physicals and dental work as a part of her normal routine.



CHRISTMAS TIME AT PCHH - 2005



THANK YOU
Friends of PCHH
for making this Christmas
so special for our residents!



Listen to the children;
Hear their laughter;
Feel their joy;
Embrace their hope!

