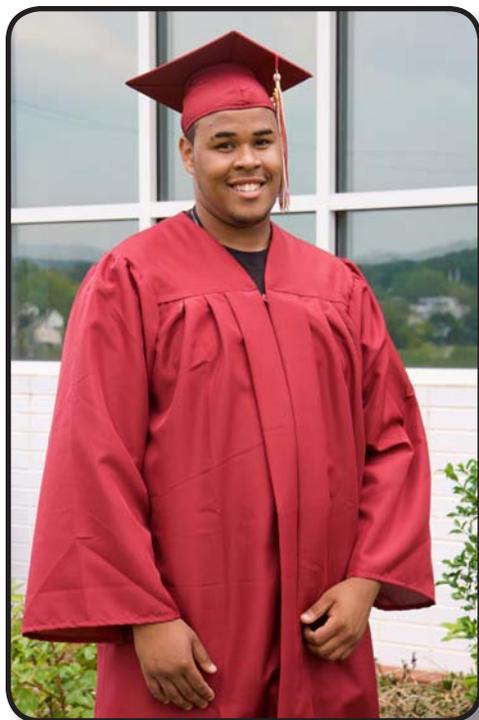




Open Doors

Vol. 35, No. 2 Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc. (PCHH)
Second Quarter 2010

GRADUATION: SUCCESS TODAY & HOPE FOR TOMORROW



GIVING CHILDREN HOPE & PURPOSE FOR THE FUTURE



The future holds such promise... and Deontie is ready to take the next step towards his goal of becoming a chef. His plans include attending culinary school in Roanoke then apply his skills in the Roanoke area.

If you talk with this young man for very long you will notice his light-hearted spirit and keen sense of humor. He thoroughly enjoys life and all it's wonders... especially girls. Although slightly shy in some respects, he compensates with humor.

Deontie's creative side does not start and stop with his interest in creating food dishes. For several years he has also expressed himself through song writing. He says that he's storing them away for the day when his talent will be discovered and he can make a ton of money with them. His dream of a new Lamborghini™ would be one of his first thoughts if such good fortune ever hits.

Graduation from our program is likened to graduation from high school in the sense that it's a time of celebration of achievements and progress while looking forward to the future with great expectations.

In our 2007 First Quarter issue of this newsletter we ran a cover article featuring four siblings, Brittany, Kevin, Heather, and Kyle from Southwestern Virginia. We introduced you to these youngsters in need of the love and caring that PCHH provides to children in need.

It has been our joy to share in the lives of this family over the past few years. Three of them have already joined families and now Heather, the fourth one, is moving into an adoptive family. She will be close to her brother and sister in New York who were adopted by wonderful extended family members. Matter of fact, Heather will be with another extended family member and attend the same school as her brother and sister there.

When she leaves, Heather will break the hearts of each staff

member who has had the opportunity to work with her during her time at PCHH. She has grown in so many ways.

Heather has had an awesome school year at Scott Memorial this year, possibly the best yet. She has grown out of her extreme shyness and is learning how to find her own voice.

She recently visited with Brittany, Kevin and Kyle. All four have demonstrated amazing resiliency and have a bright future ahead.

So much as changed for the better for this beautiful family over the past few years. Kyle (almost 11) is in a successful adoptive home in Southwest Virginia with parents who love him and are devoted to ministering to the needs of children.

Brittany and Kevin have settled into their adoptive family. They have a sense of belonging and normalcy and they are thriving.

They live in a close-knit neighborhood with five children next door who are close to their ages and spend a lot of fun time playing street hockey and roller blading.

Story is continued inside on Page 3...



Billy Rice
Executive Director

Alumni Gathering

What a special time it always is when former staff and residents gather on campus to talk over old times and catch up on the latest with everybody.

Due to tough economic times recently, the Alumni Gathering is now scheduled every three years, which means it's more important than ever to attend this wonderful reunion.

Old friends, good food, a cool swim, a hot game of softball, relaxing horseshoe pitching and other enjoyable activities will be the order of the day.

Bring your chairs and relax outside with the gentle breezes under the shade trees or enjoy the cool comfort of our air-conditioned dining hall. Make your plans now.

Alumni Gathering
July 10, 2010

Open Doors

**Giving Children
Hope & Purpose
for the Future**

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This agency complies with all state and federal non-profit fundraising regulations.
A financial statement is available for the asking.
Open Doors is an educational publication produced in-house periodically to provide insights about PCHH.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Billy Rice

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New Dawn Society

There are many ways individuals can benefit PCHH through their estate gifts:

1. A bequest through a will or trust.
2. A charitable life income plan such as a Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, or a Charitable Lead Trust.
3. A gift of property subject to a life estate.
4. Naming PCHH as beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan.

Call us at (276) 228-2861 and ask for more information. Also ask about the "Lunch & Learn" presentations for your group or congregation.

**Thank You
For Remembering
Us In Your
Estate Planning**

CURRENT NEEDS

- Pool towels
- DVDs (PG-13, PG or G)
- Gift cards to local restaurants
- Twin sized sheets or comforters
- First-Aid kits for residents moving into independent living situations
- Corn-Hole Toss games
- Digital cameras
- Heavy-Duty pick-up truck to mount snowplow and salt spreader

While planning for our awards banquet on June 10th (pictures to come in the next issue!), I was reminiscing about similar events that I have experienced over the years. I always enjoy watching young people and their loved ones celebrate their accomplishments. There is a sense of pride that brings happiness to everyone involved.

Unfortunately, these good feelings tend to go away as we move back to the day to day routine that often involves dealing with problems. That got me to thinking – if we like how we feel when we celebrate, why don't we celebrate more often?

Thomas J. Peters, the noted author and business consultant, was quoted as saying "Celebrate what you want to see more of". For those of us in the business of turning around the lives of troubled children, this is a powerful thought. It is so easy to get caught up in problematic behaviors and paperwork that we miss out on the opportunities to celebrate. If we want to see improved behaviors and good grades, maybe we should find immediate ways to celebrate them. I'm sure it would make our children happy, and I bet our adults would enjoy it too!

On the front page of this issue you will find two wonderful reasons for celebration. Deontie's graduation and Heather's move to New York are culminations of long journeys that included many ups and downs. I invite you to join us as we heartily celebrate their success.

Billy

continued from Page 1...

Brittany's and Kevin's new parents have two biological children and have quickly learned that "time-out" does not work with Brittany and Kevin. However, they learned that with the older children push-ups and laps are quite effective forms of discipline.

Brittany (17) anticipates graduating in 2013. She currently attends a private church school and has a 92.38 GPA. She is working a PACE program and must obtain an 80% proficiency in a subject to progress. She is taking dance lessons and is quite the social butterfly. Brittany loves to be at home. She hopes to become a veterinarian or veterinarian assistant.

Kevin (15) anticipates graduating in 2014. His GPA is 96.28. He wants to become an auto mechanic or a welder. Kevin loves Fords.

He is taking guitar lessons and participates with Brittany in a program offered through their church which provides instruction and guidance emphasizing "making a difference" and "giving back."

It's good to know that these precious siblings now face a bright future with hope and purpose. Utilizing

Skype™ computer video conferencing, they have been able to keep in touch throughout the time they have been living great distances apart and it only takes a second when together again to pick up right where they left off.

This story is a prime example of why PCHH continues to minister today. Our prayer is that each child in care can have as wonderful an outcome.



//// THEN ////



//// Now ////



THE OLD, OLD STORY

The old, old story of Jesus and His love is told over and over in as many ways as one can imagine. Our residents and staff were treated to a cowboys version of the Gospel when the Coastal Cowboys for Christ from Conway, SC visited our campus for a special presentation utilizing their horses, ropes, and a special dose of love.

Thanks guys! We have never seen a more focused attention on your performance by our residents. We appreciate your special ministry and the impact you have on everyone.



RECREATION...

REFRESHING THE MIND,
DEVELOPING THE BODY,
AND SERVING OTHERS

