

**CHILD CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS - PROFILES PLEASE!**

**Please** send your profiles and current licenses to our office on time. The Division of Family Development has mandated that all regulated child care providers have updated information at The Children's Home Society of NJ in order for our agency to give appropriate child care referrals and payment from the subsidy programs. **If your license is not current we cannot refer you or pay you.** For profile information update and license update, please contact Barbara at x105.

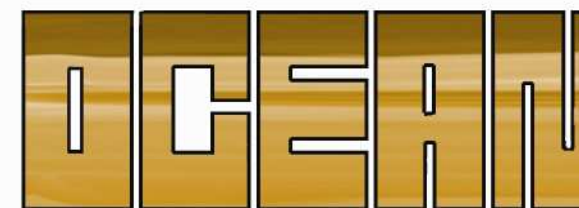
**Staff Extensions**

Name	Extension	Name	Extension	Name	Extension
Barbara Schoen	105	Joan Christopher	136	Michele Smith	141
Bonnie Elbaz	150	Joe Zdeb	163	Noemi Carlo	129
Carmen Garcia	100	Karen Fisher	131	Pat Crane	111
Carol Trub	159	Karen O'Neill	113	Sara Laird	160
Debbie Klaus	104	Kim Pascucci	146	Sara Lemig	114
Dianne Burdette	132	Leah Donato	157	Stacy Solly	112
Donna Reid	138	Lena Zullo	128	Stef Claus	110
Erica McKay	143	Lisa Michaelson	106	Susan O'Leary	142
Fran Stiles	139	Margaret Sesny	107	Wanda Cintrón	133
Gwen Forte	108	Maureen Lawrence	101	Yolanda Franklin	102
Heidi Sloan	103	Melanie Hamann	169		



The Children's Home Society

OF NJ AND EASTERN PA®  
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Toms River, New Jersey 08753  
www.chsofnj.org



THE CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

...saving children's lives and building healthy families since 1894

OCEAN COUNTY OFFICE

SUMMER / FALL 2008

*With the help of our friends...*



Thanks to the **United Way of Ocean County** and its member agencies, many needy children in Ocean County received Easter Baskets filled with wonderful gifts. The beautiful baskets were distributed to some of our clients' children. The appreciation for the kindness and generosity was evident on the faces of the parents picking up the baskets.

The **Girl Scouts from Troop 144**, Saint Joseph's, Toms River, wanted a community project. They decided to collect new pajamas for needy children. They placed boxes in their school, the library, the Mall and a local restaurant. The boxes were there for three weeks. During that time they collected 500 pair of pajamas. The Children's Home Society of NJ (CHS of NJ) was one of two organizations that was chosen to receive the pajamas. These adolescent girls have shown the true spirit of giving back to their community. Many thanks to them and their troop leaders, Laurel Rogus and Joan Foley. We, at CHS of NJ, are pleased to be a part of their altruistic endeavor.

With the help of **Dorothy Lucas**, a tireless supporter of The Children's Home Society of NJ, **Six Flags Friends** awarded the Ocean office three pails of last season's fountain change. Dorothy has dedicated a great deal of her own time finding funding sources for charities in Ocean County. Dorothy's mother, an employee at Great Adventure, submitted our agency's name for consideration for the award. In April, Dorothy brought the huge buckets of change to our Toms River office to present them to Gwen E. Forte, Director of Ocean County Services.



daughters, Jessica and Miranda, to work with her during their spring break. After a hard day's work, they had scrubbed a good portion of the coins.



Heidi Sloan, our Home Inspector, and Barbara Schoen, our Referral Specialist helped the girls by spreading out the cleaned coins to dry. After all the change is cleaned and counted we will let you know the grand total!



The money needs to be cleaned before it can be put through a counting machine. Melanie Hamann, a Program Assistant in our office, brought her



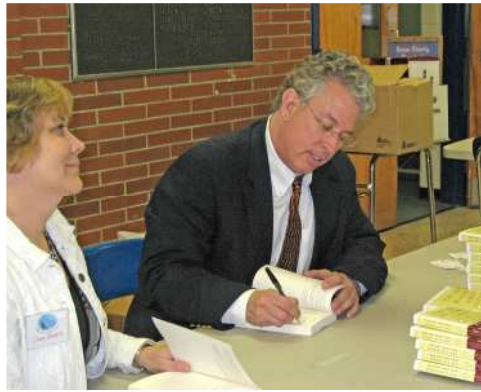
The scouts, and their leaders, delivered all 250 pairs of pajamas to the agency.



# Involvement in the community...

## "A Day With Dr. Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D."

On Saturday, April 05, 2008, The Children's Home Society of NJ and the Ocean County Early Learning Council sponsored "A Day With Dr. Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D." This event was another in the continuing Community Learning Series. Oh, what a day it was! Close to



250 people were mesmerized and enlightened by what Dr. Perry had to say. His message was so profound that you couldn't help but be moved by his research. The impact that nurturing early relationships have on the developing brain is undisputable. It was one of those memorable professional development days.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors: Family Success Center, Lakewood, Investor Savings Bank Foundation, Ocean First Foundation, Office of Children and Families, Toms River, and Community Baptist Church, Manchester. We would like to especially thank the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders for their support. Also, Ocean County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Bruce Greenfield, for his appreciation and understanding of the importance of early childhood, and Superintendent Michael Ritacco for the use of Toms River High School North.

## DATES TO SAVE:

**Thursday, October 16, 2008** The Children's Home Society of NJ and The Ocean County Early Learning Council will hold a Fall event in our continuing Community Learning Series. "An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure", A Panel Discussion on Children's Health and Behavior. Details to follow shortly.

**Friday, March 20, 2009** The Children's Home Society of NJ will hold our Early Care and Education Conference. The topic will be "Understanding the Whole Child." This will be a conference to help parents, teachers, and social workers develop an understanding of children from the early childhood and child welfare points of view. Details to follow.

You can also check for our events at [www.chsofnj.org](http://www.chsofnj.org). This will bring you to our home page. Click on the yellow Ocean County Office and scroll to Special Events.

Wanda Cintron, social worker, displayed information and services that the Children's Home Society of NJ offices offers at the annual **FACES Health Fair**. The fair was held on April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lakewood Library and was well attended by residents of Ocean County.



The annual **NAEYC Children's Festival** was held this year on April 12<sup>th</sup> at Toms River Intermediate North. Staff members Yolanda Franklin, Stacy Solly and Kim Pascucci, provided the materials and helped the children make headbands and rainbow streamer wind catchers. The festival also included entertainment and it was lots of fun for everyone.



# Back at the office...

## CELEBRATING OUR 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Ocean County office opened on May 1, 1988 with one employee, Cathy Tamburri. (Those of you who have been around since then will remember Cathy.) The office administered three programs, REACH (Reaching Economic Achievement), Family Child Care Registration and Child Care Resource and Referral.

Below is a picture of the Private Industry Council's building on Route 9, Toms River where we first rented office space. Then, we moved north on Route 9 to Cross River Mill in Lakewood. We outgrew that space and moved to a seven room office suite a little further north on Route 9. After expanding on the first floor, adding space on the lower level and then expanding that space we needed an office with more room for growth. In June of 2005 we moved to our present office on Hooper Avenue in Toms River. Now, in 2008, there are 32 employees and we are administering 15 programs.



**Administrative Professionals' Day** was celebrated at the Ocean office with the supervisory staff, Gwen, Debbie, Joan and Maureen, providing a delicious, nutritious breakfast to show their appreciation of the office staff.



Donna Pressma, President and C.E.O. of The Children's Home Society of N.J., gave a luncheon for the Ocean County staff in celebration of the **completion of the office expansion project** that allowed for the addition of the "Reunification Program".



Pictured above are Robert Notta, C.F.O., Gwen E. Forte, Director of Ocean Services, Chris Stephan, Director of Child Welfare Services and Donna Pressma cutting the celebratory cake.

Upon visiting The Children's Home Society of NJ's Ocean office you will find a newly papered hallway and decorated front office offering a large variety of program brochures and informational materials. The office offers a private interview room and new space for our receptionist, Carmen. Some staff members were relocated to new spaces to make room for Joan Christopher's, supervisor of the Early Childhood Department, new office. Despite the construction and relocating of staff, all services were in full operation.



The Children's Home Society of NJ is proud to **welcome Karen Fisher** to our Ocean County office. Karen will be the new Family Child Care Coordinator/Special Needs Network Coordinator continuing the mission and vision of Family Child Care Registration/Special Needs Network. If you are a registered family child care provider, feel free to reach out and welcome Karen to family child care. She is very friendly and approachable and would like to hear from you. Her extension is 131.