



Everyone “Laughed til it Helped” at The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey’s 113th Anniversary Gala Raising \$135,000 for local children

Trenton, NJ – With a little help from entertainer/comedian, Robert Klein, The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey (CHS of NJ) “Laughed til it helped” raising more than \$135,000 at its 113th Anniversary Gala held this year at the Merrill Lynch/ Lakeside Conference Center in Plainsboro, NJ. The evening began with inspirational words spoken by a former Children’s Home Society youth, Jerrell Blakely, a graduate of Trenton High School and Junior at Howard University in Washington, D.C. and Trenton High graduate, “I am a son of Trenton... I am a proud Trentonian and I love this city... and after I graduate from Howard University and law school, I am coming back to contribute to Trenton. I will be here,” said Blakely. Blakely said CHS of NJ is committed to children and asked all to join their commitment to all children. The agency’s 2007 “Friend of Children” award was presented to **Wegmans Food Markets**. **John and Guita Martorana of Oxford Communications** in Lambertville chaired the event. 250 corporate friends and partners, community leaders and local residents attended the event and with Hunter Allen’s expert auctioneering gave from their hearts.

Gala proceeds will support adoptions, infant foster care, birth parent counseling, child abuse services and other direct services that help to save children’s lives and build healthy families. CHS of NJ provides assistance to more than 21,000 at-risk infants, children and families every year. To learn more about CHS of NJ and our services please visit www.chsofnj.org or call 1-800-CHSOFNJ.

Photo Caption: Jarrell Blakely (Trenton), surrounded by Victoria Allen (left), CHS of NJ President and CEO, Donna C. Pressma (Princeton), and Live Auctioneer and CHS of NJ Adoptee, Hunter Allen (a CHS of NJ baby who was adopted and raised in Princeton).