



The Children's Home Society
OF NEW JERSEY

For a Child's Sake



Summer 2002

We've been building healthy families since 1894

www.chsofnj.org

A Gala galore

The Gala proves that people can have fun helping children.

With a slogan of "Making Magic...Helping Children," this year's CHS of NJ Gala turned out to be our biggest success ever, raising \$90,000 for direct services to children. Under the creative direction of Gala Chairs John and Guita Martorana and their Oxford Communications' staff, the combined work by volunteers, staff, support of corporations, gifts from donors and the more than 350 people who attended the entertaining evening paid off – literally.

The Gala served as the setting for announcing that the Major Gifts campaign

is over the halfway mark of its \$2.0 million goal. (See "For a child's sake, your support is needed.")

As with any special event, there were more people involved in more ways than could ever be acknowledged here. We thank everyone, and want to point out a few people in particular. Colleen Gehring, Director of Special Events, provided exceptional energy and hard work. Event Manager Paul Mack and his staff at the Merrill Lynch Princeton Corporate Campus – once again – outdid themselves. Thanks to mentalist Marc Salem for *(continued on page 4)*

For a child's sake, your support is needed

The campaign is in a challenging phase. Can you help?

CHS of NJ is moving ahead towards reaching the \$2 million goal of its Major Gifts Campaign, "For a Child's Sake." The campaign has raised over \$1.6 million in gifts and pledges for program endowment. The earnings from this important funding source will sustain and expand program services and allow CHS to continue to provide social services that support and strengthen at-risk children and their families and meet the critical needs of its clients.

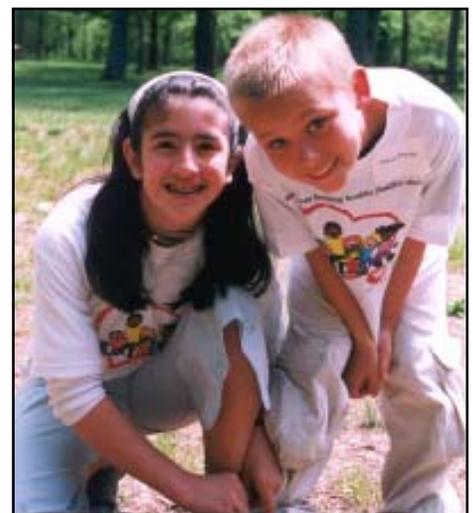
Led by Campaign Chairman Bruce Coe and Board President David Atkin, MD, the campaign committee is determined to reach its goal by December 2002. CHS announced the public campaign at its Gala fund-raising event at the Merrill Lynch Corporate Campus on

"We have 100 percent Board participation and a fully committed campaign committee," said Bruce Coe. Honorary Campaign Co-Chairs are Toni Morrison and Harold and Vivian Shapiro. "CHS has been very fortunate to have received generous gifts from individuals throughout the country, as well as foundation and corporate support."

CHS of NJ is pursuing the remaining \$400,000, through small events held in the homes of supporters and additional individual, foundation and corporation solicitations. For information, call Betty Bohlert at 609-695- 6274 ext. 161, or send a pledge or contribution. Our address is 635 South Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ 08611. All gifts are tax-deductible.

Highlights:

- 2 LOVE PLUS**
You provide the love – we'll provide the tools
- 3 THANKS, SAYS ADOPTEE**
Here is some-one who knows adoption firsthand
- 6 CARING STAFF**
Grateful person expresses her appreciation
- 6 TEEN SMOKING**
KIKS helps to bring down teen smoking rates
- 7 BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**
Local companies help us carry out our mission



Some 150 people gathered at Washington's Crossing State Park in New Jersey for the annual CHS of NJ adoption celebration picnic. Rocio Slobodzian and Owen Panick, both of Newtown, PA, certainly enjoyed the fun. See additional photos on last page.

You provide the love – we'll provide the tools

Parenting always requires patience, love, skills and knowledge. In some cases, it may require additional tools. Here is help for foster and adoptive parents.

Most likely you know a lot about raising children and do a great job of it. We could add to your strengths so that your “style” would work with children who have been neglected, physically abused, or sexually abused by people who “love” them. How do you help a child grieve through such indescribable emotional trauma? How can this child feel safe? How will this child become a member of your family and learn to trust you? How could a child feel love for the face that looks back at him in the mirror? How is discipline different from punishment?

Our social workers help children who are dealing with traumatic loss and help families guide their children through loss. They are available to families who have adopted, and to families who are adopting traumatized children. Call us at

609-695-6274 and ask for our intake worker, Marie Braun.

A special program – Parents as Tender Healers – recently got underway at CHS of NJ to help potential parents prepare for the challenging and rewarding task ahead.

The Parents as Tender Healers program is being conducted by CHS of NJ social workers Debra Hughes Platt and Patti Sims. In addition to their own professional experience, they can draw upon the knowledge other social workers of the agency offer.

Even though the program began in June, you can still sign up for coming sessions. Each session is self-contained, so you will not be behind. The classes, held from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at CHS of NJ's Trenton office, are on July 10, 17, 24 and August 14, 21, and 28

Parents As Tender Healers program sessions

Subjects focus on the following:

Session #1: *Children from the system*

Session #2: *Raising children from the system*

Session #3: *Understanding hurt children*

Session #4: *The impact of loss on children*

Session #5: *Using family strengths to help children heal*

Session #6: *Helping a child to become part of your family*

Session #7: *Surviving crisis*

Session #8: *Tying it all together so you can become a resource family*

For a Child's Sake The Children's Home Society of New Jersey

- Donna C. Pressma
President & CEO

Have some news to share?
A letter to the editor?
Families are encouraged to send news, updates and photos of their adoptive families.

- Gil Phillips, Editor
609-695-6274, extension 141,
gphillips@chsofnj.org
- Dana S. Hyland, Designer

To find out more about The Children's Home Society of New Jersey, visit our website at www.chsofnj.org

You can leave a legacy of caring

There is no time like the present to think about an important tool you can use to help children through CHS of NJ.

The 1894 Society of CHS of NJ offers you a way to preserve your legacy by continuing to help children. You can endow the future of CHS through a bequest. All gifts that are received are placed in the Endowment Fund. The earnings from this source will sustain and expand program services and allow us to meet the critical needs of children and parents. If you would like more information on how you can leave a legacy of caring, contact Betty Bohlert at 609-695-6274, ext. 161 or bbohlert@chsofnj.org.

Don't forget to designate your United Way pledge

This year's United Way campaigns are still a few months away, but we want to ask you that if you work for a company that offers the donor designation option in its United Way drive to consider making your contribution to CHS of NJ. This can be an important source of revenue that helps us continue our work on behalf of children.

Trenton Loves Children: “It works”

The Trenton Loves Children program showed its success when students from three Trenton elementary schools – Gregory, Jefferson, and Stokes – were saluted by education officials who were clearly impressed by the outstanding progress shown by the students.

Many of the students received awards – some more than one, even two – in various categories, including violence prevention and academic performance.

Ed Hines, Executive Director of the CHS of NJ-managed Family Resource Center, said of the children, “These students are among the very special people of Trenton. When we started this program about two years ago, we put in a component in tutoring, violence, and vandalism. You should see the improvements in the kids. The difference in the classrooms from when we started is incredible. TLC works. It teaches kids how to get along and how to love.”

An adoptee writes to say thanks for her life

Carolyn Bacher received a warm and caring thank you letter this year from a woman whose life includes CHS of NJ. This individual said we could share her letter with you as long as we didn't publish her name. Thank you for sharing this following wonderful story.

“I just wanted to send along a note to say thank you. Thank you for a life that has been interesting, challenging, bittersweet, and joyful. You see, my mom and dad adopted me February 19, 1951 from The Children's Home Society. I was two months old and they were thrilled.”

“As an adult, life has been full. I have been married twenty-nine years. I love to sing, dance, and act. I believe adoption is always the better option than any of the other alternatives out there. I am presently

working on my second Master's degree in social work. I hope to become a family

counselor. My first Master's Degree was in Special Education. I taught for about 15 years.”

“I believe adoption is always the better option than any of the alternatives out there.”

“Sometimes we adoptees give much more to our adopted parents than we receive and sometimes it's the other way around. It was when we were visiting my mom and dad at Christmas that I saw the picture in the newspaper (The Times, December 27, 2001) about your celebration of National Adoption Month. I knew I needed to write, share some tidbits and say thanks for my life. Keep up the GREAT work.”

Trenton Loves Children

What some adults said about the students in Trenton Loves Children:

Vernett Sherrill, TLC Project Director: “It is so rewarding to see so many students work so hard to do the wonderful things they do. We see such great things being done.”

Harriet Murray, Principal of Stokes: “I want to congratulate all of the students for all of their hard work and for staying for classes after school. I thank the parents for their support.”

Harriet Richardson, Principal of Jefferson: “It is a thrill to be with the children. I thank the City of Trenton for the partnership and extending it.

Judy Steele, Principal of Gregory: “TLC is extremely helpful, not only for the academic tutoring, but teaching children how to get along and not use violence to settle problems. This is a program that must go on.”

We love the sweet smell of Red Rose Day

The Bucks County Auxiliary of CHS of NJ, with the assistance of the Trenton Auxiliary Board and the Southern Auxiliary had the most successful Red Rose Day ever. Because of the hard work by many volunteers of the auxiliaries, and help from CHS of NJ staff, the agency received \$18,000 from the sales of the beautiful roses. The funds raised go entirely to CHS's infant foster care program. We thank the volunteers of all three auxiliaries for their hard work and dedication that made the success possible.



Two Presidents & CEO's
Ruben Johnson, Ed.D., of Trenton Education & Community Development Corporation, and Donna Pressma of CHS of NJ.

“MAKING MAGIC ...

Thank you to our c

Platinum

*Hunter Allen
 Merrill Lynch
 Janssen Pharmaceutica
 Products, L.P.*

*AXA Finan
 Engelhard*

Gala S

Carol and David Atkin

*Bristol-Myers
 First Union I*

Gala Be

Robert and

Gala F

*Building Maintenance Systems, Inc.
 Tom and Jamie Foy
 Princeton Radiology Associates
 Roebling Urban Renewal Associates, LLC
 Turner Construction Company*



A Magical Night

From left: Karen Rogers, anchorwoman of WPVI TV, and Guita and John Martorana, Gala Chairs.



Volunteering Family
John Martorana, Gala co-chair and CHS Board Director is shown with one of his daughters, Marissa, who helped Dad out at the Gala.



Princeton Persepective

Dr. Harold Shapiro (left), former president of Princeton University; Vivian Shapiro, member of CHS of NJ Board, and honorary co-chairs of CHS of NJ's Major Gifts Campaign; and Dr. M. David Atkin, Chairman of CHS of NJ Board.



Gala Band

“Inner Flight” added its music to the magic.

A Gala galore

(continued from page 1)

donating his time and amazing talents to entertain every...
 hosting the auction. “The magic of a child’s dream sho...
 “The magic of their youth should never be taken away f...
 magic to so many innocent lives.”

HELPING CHILDREN"

Corporate sponsors

Sponsor

cial, Inc. Dow Jones & Co., Inc.
Corporation Griffith Electric Company
Oxford Communications

Sponsor

s Squibb Co. Capital Health System
National Bank

Manufacturer

Jan Goldberg

Patron

Edgebrook Property Development
J.H. Cohn and Company
Prudential Securities
Sheehy Associates



Team Success

Left: Roy and Lorraine Hudson, Campaign Committee; Donna Pressma, President & CEO of CHS of NJ; Guita Martorana, Gala co-chair; and Dr. M. David Atkin, Chairman of CHS of NJ Board.



Celebrating Success

Roy Lockwood, Program and Campaign Committee member and child advocate, and Donna Pressma, President and CEO of CHS of NJ.

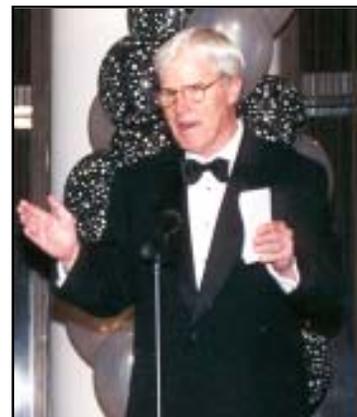


Corporate Partnership

From left: Jo and Dr. David Brickwood of Johnson & Johnson; Dr. Christine Côté, Vice President Medical Affairs of Janssen Pharmaceutica and member of CHS of NJ Board; and Donna Pressma of CHS of NJ.

Campaign Leader

Bruce Coe, former president of NJ Business & Industry Association, is the Campaign Chair, and leading the drive to reach the \$2 million goal of the Major Gifts Campaign.



Making Magic... Making Mickeys?

Everyone who attended the Gala received a Mickey Mouse as a gesture of appreciation.



...one that night and Karen Rogers of WPVI TV for could never be discouraged," said John Martorana. from them. Thank you for helping to bring a bit of

CHS of NJ staff is recognized

A mother who used the childcare services of CHS of NJ's Lakewood office in Ocean County wrote a letter to Donna Pressma, President & CEO about the compassionate service she received from program assistant Stephanie Claus:

I am writing to you because I have dealt with an employee at the CHS office in Lakewood Her name is Stephanie Claus. She is such a wonderful person and she was extremely helpful to me She has always returned my phone calls within minutes of leaving a voice message, and she has always answered my questions fully One thing that really means a lot to me is the fact that she listened to my story without interrupting me or rushing me, and each time I called, she remembered me, not my situation. She made me feel like a person, not a situation. There should be more people like Stephanie in the field of work that she is in."

KIKS partnerships cut teen smoking

The KIKS program of CHS of NJ, now in its 15th year, is a proven tool for cutting teen smoking rates.

You may have read the news about smoking rates among students declining significantly throughout the country, including New Jersey. Behind this encouraging news is a successful story of how community partnerships of federal and state governments, nonprofits and school systems are helping to make this decrease possible.

CHS of NJ is part of these successful partnerships through its smoking prevention program, which is working in Mercer County schools that partner with the Kids Intervention with Kids in School (KIKS) programs. The program is part of its nationally recognized KIKS program, a youth

development and primary prevention program that uses selected and trained teens as role models. KIKS is able to increase the knowledge of the dangerous effects of smoking through a grant from the Abramson Family Foundation. KIKS helps young people not begin smoking at all or to give it up. Compared with teens in New Jersey and across the nation, 18 to 25 year olds who had participated in the KIKS program four to eight years earlier showed a 28 percent lower rate of use of cigarettes and regular use of marijuana, proving that reaching young people in the right way leads to significant results that last.

Kids Intervention with Kids in School (KIKS) helps young people not begin smoking at all or give it up.

Taking the adoption message far and wide

We want to talk about adoptions. Want to invite us?

CHS of NJ is taking its message about adoption options to new audiences, thanks to some local companies. **Educational Testing Service** invited Carolyn Bacher, Director of Operations, to talk about the international adoption option to employees. **Merrill Lynch** invited her to deliver a similar talk, and Patti Sims to talk about adopting special needs and older children. Merrill Lynch also arranged for Kathy Westbrook, CHS's international adoption assistant, to talk about international adoption at a

meeting of the Princeton Work/Life Alliance, a group of some 20 area companies that gather to discuss issues that involve their businesses.

If you could arrange for CHS to present its adoption options message to your company or organization, please let us know.

For international adoption, call Carolyn Bacher or Kathy Westbrook at 609-695-6274, ext. 133 or 113, respectively); for older children, call Patti Sims at the same number, ext. 171.

Adoption options

There is no one type of adoption that fits all people, and that is why CHS of NJ offers adoption options. There are international adoptions and domestic adoptions. Under the broad heading of international are different countries with different processes and requirements. Our staff will lead you through the process and the paperwork. Under the domestic heading, there are infants, including African-American and biracial. There are older children and some with special needs, including brother and sister groups of two or more and children with physical, mental, or emotional limitations. You can call Marie Braun at 609-695-6274, ext. 115 for more information.

Forming partnerships of caring with businesses

These partnerships offer increased opportunities for CHS of NJ to carry out its mission on behalf of children and families.

People who know CHS of NJ and the important work it does also know the need is great and endless. Staff and volunteers work hard throughout the year on behalf of children and families throughout New Jersey and Bucks County. A lot of people might not know, however, that businesses – large and small – are increasingly helping us. CHS of NJ is setting up partnerships of caring with diverse companies.

Educational

Testing Service, for example, underwrote the cost of printing several brochures, and allows us to post articles on its website. Twelve employees of ETS serve as the volunteer full-service communications team for CHS of NJ by providing an array of skills, from designing, editing, proofreading, and artwork to making quilts for children. **Merrill Lynch** allows CHS of NJ staff to come to their facilities to present adoption seminars.

Janssen Pharmaceutica Products, L.P. is donating critically needed supplies for children and underwrote printing of educational materials. **Johnson**

& Johnson donated hundreds of containers of shampoo. **Hamilton Horizons Federal Credit Union** provided Easter goodies and Christmas presents and suitcases for children.

Many companies also supported the Gala: AXA Financial, Building Maintenance Systems,

Bristol-Myers Squibb, Capital Health System, Dow Jones & Company, Engelhard Corporation, First Union National Bank, Griffith Electric Company, Janssen Pharmaceutica Products, J.H. Cohn and Company, Merrill Lynch, Oxford Communications, Princeton Radiology Associates, Prudential Securities, Roebling Urban Renewal Associates, LLC, Sheehy Associates, and Turner Construction Company.

CHS of NJ is setting up partnerships of caring with companies.

New thrift store helps people and CHS of NJ

A new thrift store in Hamilton Township will do more than provide clothing and household items at affordable prices and provide a place for people to donate used items.

For every purchase, the store, called **BeginAgains**, will donate a percentage of the sales to The Children's Home

For every purchase, the store, BeginAgains will donate a percentage of sales to CHS.

Society of New Jersey. When a mother and daughter team, Linda Granett and Julie Dohanic, respectively, decided to open a shop at 2135 South Broad Street in Hamilton, they wanted to give something back to CHS of NJ. There is a family connection here. Julie's husband, Jeffrey, had adopted son, John, through CHS in

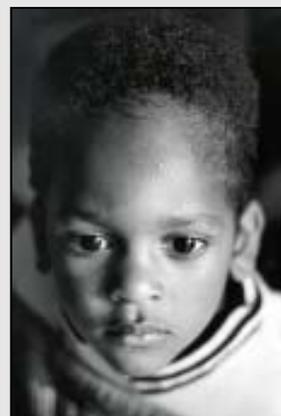
1994 when he was five years old.

If you have any used clothing, toys or other small household items you would like to donate, you can call 609-888-3300 for a pick up, or you can drop the items off at the store.

The owners are anticipating an early July opening, but donations are now being accepted. Remember, your donations will help CHS of NJ as well as **BeginAgains**.

Can you help some older children?

We are always looking for "forever" families for older children or sibling groups who are in the state foster care system. There are children of color, children over five years old, and some with special needs. Most of them are boys, brother and sister groups of two or more, and children with physical, mental or emotional limitations. Through no fault of their own, many have been waiting a long time for a permanent family. Can you give the love they need? Call Patti Sims at 1-800-247-6365.

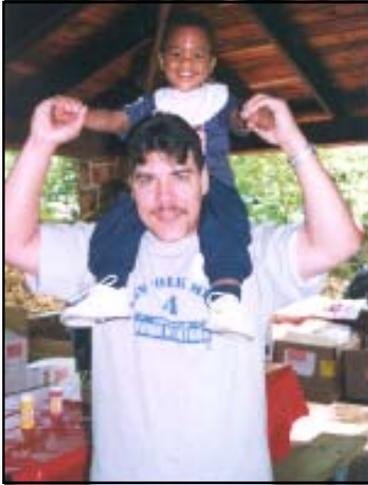


Rona Talcott © 1990

Make a difference in a child's life

We had fun at the CHS of NJ adoption picnic

There were plenty of smiles and lots of fun and games for everyone who attended the annual CHS of NJ adoption picnic. Mother Nature provided a perfect day, and families provided the rest. If you missed this year's picnic, join us next year for a fun celebration for families.



Carlos Dias of Bayonne, New Jersey, gives a lift to his son Jared.



James and Judy Kluck of Levittown, PA, with their daughter Jamie, shown with a brand new CHS of NJ tee shirt, enjoyed the picnic.



Proud dad Donald Walton is shown with his son, Joshua. Donald and his wife, Patricia, are from Hillside, New Jersey.



Melissa and Andrew Sadin of Somerville, New Jersey, enjoyed the CHS of NJ picnic with their son Theo.

CHS adoptee writes to say thanks for her life – page 3

ACCREDITED
Council on Accreditation
for Children and Family Services
The Symbol of Quality



Return Service Requested

635 South Clinton Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08611
609-695-6274
Ocean/Monmouth: 732-905-6363
Northern NJ: 908-735-9458
Southern NJ: 856-854-8545
Pennsylvania: 215-736-8550
www.chsofnj.org
Fax: 609-394-5769

OF NEW JERSEY
The Children's Home Society


Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Trenton, NJ
Permit No. 165