The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) is proud to be the sole provider of Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) services in Trenton! The Head Start/Early Head Start award and Abbott award will compliment CHSofNJ’s existing Early Head Start-Home Based program. The three grants combine to over $5 million dollars in funding that will provide enriched services for 372 Head Start participants (pregnancy through age 4) and their families. “When we made the decision to compete, we knew that CHSofNJ could fulfill the needs and expectations of this important program successfully,” said Donna C. Pressma, CHSofNJ President and CEO. “Participants of Head Start/Early Head Start will now benefit from our agency’s 120 years of experience serving young children and families in Trenton.”

CHSofNJ’s programs reach over 10,000 Trenton children and families through our existing Early Head Start-Home Based services, CUNA and Body & Soul pregnancy/parenting programs, Family Success Centers, child and maternal health services, counseling services, school based services, infant foster care, For a Child’s Sake (continued on page 4)

Trenton Education Dance Institute (TEDI) celebrated a milestone on May 22, 2014 with their 25th Event of the Year performance titled Destination: NJ350. The program was an original creation of TEDI’s new Artistic Director Nicholas Rodriguez and his talented team, including Charlotte Perebinossoff as Assistant (continued on page 6)

The dedicated employee volunteers of Bloomberg were honored at our 120th Anniversary Event at Grounds For Sculpture as “Champions of Children” for their continued support of CHSofNJ.

CHSofNJ celebrated 120 years of saving children’s lives and building healthy families at its Anniversary Event, titled Our Children, Our Greatest Masterpiece. The event, chaired by CHSofNJ Board Chair Kati Chupa, (continued on page 7)
CHSofNJ has been chosen by The Center for Hispanic Policy, Research and Development as a placement site for the 2014 Governor’s Hispanic Fellows Program. The eight week summer program, geared toward leadership and professional development, offers quality government, corporate and non-profit internship experiences to New Jersey’s Hispanic college students. Interns chosen for the program are given the opportunity to work closely with experienced professionals, where they learn to assess their own leadership styles and communication skills. In turn, the students provide additional professional support to organizations such as CHSofNJ.

Abraham Lopez, Executive Director of The Center for Hispanic Policy, spoke highly of the interns chosen for the program. He has said, “The students selected to participate were chosen from a large and competitive pool of candidates. We believe they are bright, motivated, skilled, and very talented.”

CHSofNJ is honored to have been selected as a field placement site for this program, and proud to help grow young Hispanic professionals in our community.

EVERY WOMAN COUNTS IN OCEAN COUNTY

The Improving Pregnancy Outcomes (IPO) Program has joined with CHSofNJ’s Ocean County Family Success Center (OCFSC) to introduce “Every Woman Counts,” a program funded by the Improving Pregnancy Outcomes grant from the New Jersey Department of Health – Primary and Preventive Health Services. As a result of the IPO grant award, CHSofNJ and our OCFSC is able to offer a variety of free health services and support to teenagers and women of childbearing age throughout Ocean County.

Through the IPO grant, our OCFSC has hosted a variety of events intended to educate the community on preconception, prenatal and inter-conception health. A six-week CUNA prenatal education and support program was offered in May, as well as a tour of the maternity unit of Community Medical Center in Toms River. In June, the OCFSC organized a Health & Wellness Fair in Lakewood that featured a variety of community health providers offering free health screenings and information to the public. And each month, several workshops focusing on women’s and family health are offered at the OCFSC in both English and Spanish; topics have included nutrition, stress management, prenatal care, childbirth preparation, and baby care and safety.

“We want to do whatever we can to improve birth outcomes in the state of New Jersey,” said Choresse Chambers, CHSofNJ OCFSC Supervisor. She continued, “We are so proud to have brought this program to Ocean County, and feel strongly that if given access to the proper health and pregnancy information, women in Ocean County will take the necessary steps and precautions to ensure the health and success of their pregnancies.”

Every Woman Counts in Ocean County

NAIFA-GP’S 25TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT CHSofNJ

Join us at the Northampton Valley Country Club on Wednesday, September 17th for NAIFA-GP’s 25th Annual Charity Golf Outing to benefit CHSofNJ! Each year this caring association hosts a fun day on the greens, and donates the proceeds to our infants and children. Last year, the event raised $9,303 for our critical services. If you love to golf or just want to help our children, contact Denise Wentzler at 609-695-6274 x153 to register or learn about sponsorship opportunities.

Bring your best game and meet us on the course this fall to support the at-risk babies, children and families of New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania!
The decision to become a foster family is not one that is easily reached; a family must be willing to open their home and their hearts to a child that may only be in their lives for a short time. The emotional stress of saying goodbye to a foster baby when it comes time to be placed in his new adoptive home or returned to his biological parents can be overwhelming. Thankfully, there are many foster parents who can appreciate the enormity of this precious gift to our babies. These heroes lovingly open their doors to our children in their time of need, and when they must say goodbye, they are comforted to know that this child will now have the forever family he needs and deserves. In some cases, our foster families have been able to adopt our foster children and become that forever loving family.

Babies and children come to our agency through voluntary placement in our private foster care program or through NJ Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P) referrals. Children referred by DCP&P are often survivors of abuse, neglect or other trauma. Research has shown that providing love in a nurturing environment improves a child’s ability to heal from traumatic experiences, and our foster families offer exactly that. Our children are welcomed into CHSofNJ foster homes with open arms and treated as family. Our foster parents go to great lengths to advocate for their CHSofNJ foster child’s needs, ensuring that their health, emotional, developmental, cultural and academic needs are met, and that they feel safe and loved. CHSofNJ is proud to recognize our wonderful foster families. Each year, the foster parents who lovingly care for the children of our Infant Foster Care, Medically Fragile Foster Care, and our Sibling Foster Care programs are honored at our annual Foster Parent Dinner. This year, Social Worker Valerie Fiorentino organized a beautiful event at Villa Mannino in Bordentown, NJ with gorgeous floral centerpieces donated by Ruth Bartasawitz of the CHSofNJ Auxiliary. CHSofNJ Trustee Jennifer Pizi spoke candidly about the impact our foster families have on the lives of our foster children, and thanked them for so lovingly caring for our babies. Following Jennifer’s touching words, each family was presented with an award in honor of their commitment to this agency and to our children.

We cannot thank our caring foster families enough for all that they do for our babies and children, but we hope that these events serve as reminders of how much we appreciate them. CHSofNJ foster families are vital to our mission of saving children’s lives and building healthy families.

**DRISCOLL’S STRAWBERRY DAYS AT WEGMANS RAISES $20,000 FOR CHSofNJ**

For the 8th year, our friends at Driscoll’s and Wegmans have sponsored Strawberry Days to support CHSofNJ babies and children! The goal of this three-day event in July is to promote a delicious and healthy summer snack, while raising critical funds to protect and care for the babies, children and families we serve. For every container of Driscoll’s strawberries purchased at a New Jersey Wegmans during this campaign, Driscoll’s pledges a fifty-cent donation to CHSofNJ. To date, Driscoll’s has donated a cumulative $135,000, thanks to the support and participation of friends like you!

Driscoll’s Category Managers Rose Clark (far left) and Nancy Mabes (far right) present a check to CHSofNJ Trustee Kati Chupa (back center) with Alex Williams (second from left) and Autumn Wentzler (front center). The $20,000 donation was made for their 8th Annual Strawberry Days fundraiser.
The Color Me Rad 5K is a family-friendly fun run where participants are blasted with colored cornstarch as they make their way through the course. CHSofNJ was named charity recipient of the Color Me Rad 5K MetLife Stadium Event in East Rutherford, NJ on July 27, 2014. This opportunity came to be through the outreach efforts of our dedicated staff, who knew this partnership could be an exciting new way to raise awareness and critical funds for the babies, children and families they serve in NJ and Eastern PA.

Race organizers Dustin Butcher, Stacy Butcher, Ty Kidman and Kristin Kidman were thrilled to support our mission of saving children’s lives and building healthy families. In addition to helping raise community awareness, Color Me Rad pledged a donation to our agency each time promo code NJKIDS was used at registration! Anyone not interested in running was able to volunteer for the event, and in return, Color Me Rad made a donation to CHSofNJ for their time.

Rosalind Doctor, Ph.D. of the CHSofNJ Board of Trustees showed her support by speaking to the nearly 20,000 attendees about our agency and the important work we do. She then directed attendees to our outreach table, where they could find brochures and speak with our staff about our programs and services.

We would like to thank Stephanie Estrada of Kohl’s – Secaucus, Linda Landi of Kearny High School, and the CHSofNJ staff & Board of Trustees for volunteering their time and encouraging their friends, families and colleagues to participate in this event. The Color Me Rad 5K has helped us reach new clients, supporters and friends who are excited to help the at-risk children and families of our community, and we are so grateful to everyone that helped make this event a success!
COMMISSIONER ALLISON BLAKE VISITS OUR OCEAN COUNTY FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER

Commissioner Allison Blake of the Department of Children and Families recently visited CHSoFNJ’s Ocean County Family Success Center (OCFSC) to speak with OCFSC families who have been impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Through their moving testimonials and survivor stories, Commissioner Blake learned how CHSoFNJ Sandy Counseling Services and the OCFSC are helping our families cope and recover from the devastating storm, and connecting them to more Sandy resources, such as our Sandy Homeowner Renter Assistance Program (SHRAP).

Commissioner Blake is a strong supporter of Family Success Centers and sincerely believes in their mission of enriching the lives of children by strengthening families and neighborhoods. “Through these centers,” she said, “we are developing networks of family-centered services that can prevent child abuse and neglect, and promote optimal child, youth, family, and community development.”

Our OCFSC, supervised by Choreese Chambers, at 1433 Hooper Avenue, Suite 121, in Toms River offers fatherhood enrichment programs, parental support groups, individual and family counseling, job readiness and life skills education, parent/child education activities, concrete goods donations, and much more! To make an appointment or to learn more about the services available to you and your family, call 732-557-5037 or visit our website at www.chsofnj.org.

WIC SUCCESS

Ayana Pacheco (pictured left) credits the Mercer County WIC Program staff with helping her reach her breastfeeding goals for her youngest son. Ayana had contacted WIC shortly after giving birth to request formula for her baby. A WIC nutritionist explained to her that breastfeeding was the most nutritious option, and encouraged her to try. “I explained to her that I wouldn’t be able to because you needed a lot of time, and I didn’t have a lot of time,” said Ayana. As a mother of nine children, she had previously relied on formula and infant cereal to keep her babies full for longer periods of time between feedings. Sensing that Ayana wanted to nurse her son, the WIC nutritionist put her in contact with Victoria Frederick, CHSoFNJ Senior Breastfeeding Peer Counselor.

Victoria shared tips and advice to ease Ayana’s breastfeeding concerns. “I tried everything that she told me to try, and it worked,” said Ayana. “And when I had down days, I would call her and tell her what was going on and she would give me some more pointers, and we got through it.” Ayana breastfed some of her children for about a month or so, but with the support she found through CHSoFNJ’s Mercer County WIC program, she has been able to nurse her youngest son for 5 months, and plans to continue. “[He] will stop when he wants to- hopefully before kindergarten [laughs],” she said.

“IT’S BEST TO COME TO THE W-I-C!”

(From left to right) Laura Corrales, Sheetal Thakral, Samantha LoBosco, Jeanine Hearne-Barsamian, Leslie Kowalski, Mayra Morales and her niece Alexiss Makayla Washington (front, center) perform an original song written by Freena Johnson (not pictured), CHSoFNJ Program Nutritionist I for the Mercer County WIC Program. “WIC” was written for the Mercer County WIC Program’s Bellevue Avenue ribbon cutting ceremony, and is set to the tune of The Village People’s “YMCA.”
TEDI DANCES THROUGH NJ’S HISTORY (cont. from page 1)

Teaching Artist, Yolanda Drislane as TEDI Coordinator, Glen McClelland as TEDI’s Musical Director, and Dolores Bryant as CHSoFNJ’s Director of Kinship & School-Based Services. One dance in particular, performed to Pharrell Williams’ hit song Happy, was choreographed by the students themselves as a special treat for audiences. The performance was presented to school, family and community audiences at Hedgepeth/Williams School in Trenton. TEDI participants from grades 5-10 “transported” the audience to historic NJ towns to showcase 350 years of rich and important history. Following the performance, CHSoFNJ and TEDI hosted a VIP reception to honor the individuals who have helped build this extraordinary curriculum into the life-changing program that it is today.

“TEDI is a program of CHSoFNJ that inspires students to achieve their best both as individuals and group members,” said TEDI Founder and President Richard Bilotti. He continued, “TEDI partners with the Trenton public school district to teach students critical life skills such as self-discipline, teamwork, concentration, cooperation and confidence through the art of dance. In addition, TEDI enhances students’ math and writing skills through step counts, vocabulary lessons and journaling exercises. The skills learned through this program complement lessons learned in the classroom to help prepare our Trenton youth for successful, productive adulthoods.”

Both TEDI and CHSoFNJ are especially grateful to have had the opportunity to work with a particularly caring and dedicated member of the TEDI Board; Vice President Carol F. Belt. As one of TEDI’s founding members in 1989, Carol has poured her heart and soul into TEDI and the students who have passed through the program for 25 years. This program could not possibly have touched so many students’ lives without Carol’s hard work and unwavering support. TEDI and the city of Trenton are truly indebted to her, and we are so pleased to have her join the TEDI Advisory Board as she steps down from her position on the TEDI Board.

CHSoFNJ and TEDI thank everyone who supported the 2013-2014 TEDI class and the 25th Event of the Year. “I have seen the transformation of these students; from shy, uncertain children at the start of the school year to courageous, vibrant, creative young men and women beaming with pride at the Event of the Year,” said CHSoFNJ’s President and CEO Donna C. Pressma.

“It is truly a sight to be seen, and we are so honored to provide this wonderful program for our Trenton youth!”

Did you know that you can choose who your United Way donations benefit? Talk to your employer today about designating your contributions to CHSoFNJ!
CHSoFNJ was held at Grounds For Sculpture in Hamilton, NJ on May 18, and raised nearly $70,000 for at-risk babies, children, youth and families throughout New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania. Chupa explained that the event was a purposeful departure from our more formal events of the past. The indoor/outdoor venue and sophisticated casual style of the event set the tone for a fun evening. Guests were invited to explore Grounds For Sculpture at their leisure and experience the highly anticipated Seward Johnson: The Retrospective before gathering inside for the silent auction, a short program, and a delicious dinner buffet and dessert selection catered by Rat’s Restaurant.

The dedicated employee volunteers of Bloomberg were honored as CHSoFNJ’s 2014 “Champions of Children.” For over two decades, Bloomberg employees have given their time, enthusiasm, and hearts to our children. These caring volunteers have become more than friends of the agency; they are a special part of the CHSoFNJ family. CHSoFNJ’s 120th Anniversary Celebration featured an exciting 50/50 raffle and silent auction, which boasted coveted prizes donated by dozens of agency friends and supporters. Entertainment during the cocktail hour was provided by My Divine Music, and DJ Rock ‘N Ron set the mood for the rest of the event. Dariusk Kobajlo of JDKPROPHOTO captured the evening in pictures, and guests enjoyed posing in front of a “green screen” with Grounds For Sculpture images to create lovely commemorative photos of the evening. Attendees were touched by the speeches of three CHSoFNJ youths honoring the programs and people, namely Louise Shabazz, Program Director of CHSoFNJ’s 21st Century Community Learning Center Positive Impact Program, who have changed their lives.

CHSoFNJ sincerely thanks everyone who supported this milestone event, and is looking forward to celebrating another successful year next spring!
Alan and Bonnie Baseman (right) join representatives of Capital Health, Jayne O’Connor (standing left), Javier Mercado and Carmen Garcia (far left) at a table hosted by Larry DiSanto, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, and his wife Lorraine DiSanto.

CHSofNJ Trustee and Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Tim Ryan and his wife Mary Ann (standing far right) join Trustee Jennifer Landis Pizi (standing third from left) and her parents Mark and Carolyn Landis (center seated) and friends for the evening.

Hugo Yépez (far left) and Christine Côté, M.D. (far right) stand with friends and CHSofNJ President and CEO Donna C. Pressma (center front).

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CHSofNJ Auxiliary members (from left to right) Kristin Hartig, Erika Hartig Kishler, Pete and Aline Guzzo, Kristine Mellett (center), Nicole Kekesi, and Amanda Borgstrom came to celebrate the agency's milestone anniversary.

TEDI Board President Richard Bilotti and wife Katherine Hatton (standing left), Vice President Carol Belt, and husband Barry, Board members Julie Dixon Thomas (seated second from right), Nancy Puri and her husband Bob (far right), CHSofNJ Director Dolores Bryant and Courtland Harris (standing center) enjoyed the delicious dinner.
Our dedicated friends from CohnReznick joined us for the afternoon’s events.

Donna C. Pressma stands with members of the US Marine Corps. who volunteered their time to guide guests on walks through the lovely Grounds For Sculpture.

CHSofNJ’s Chief Financial Officer Bob Notta (standing center) and wife Diane (seated second from left), welcome CHSofNJ good friends Ralph Fimaldi and Judy Caraccio (standing right), and our Merrill Lynch supporters.

William Rue, Sr. and wife Joan (far left), join William and Ashley Rue, Jr. (center left), CHSofNJ Director Pamela Cipriano (center right), and Bob and Lauren Cottone (right) for the celebration.

Angela & Louis Imhoff (far left), Suzanne & Nick Bartone (back center), CHSofNJ Director Susan Paul, with Daniel Garber (far right standing), and Todd, Kimberly, and Alexis Denson (seated), enjoy the evening.

Trustees Bruce McGraw (second from left), Burt Sutker (fourth from left), Les Lefkowitz (fifth from left) and Carol Meta Stretch (second from right) celebrate with their families.
Trustee Reverend Julio Guzman and his wife Reverend Lucy Guzman (left) join Trustee Reverend Patti Daley and her husband Reverend Eliot Daley and friends for a photo.

Candace Christner of Novo Nordisk and Greg Manlio smile for the camera during the silent auction.

Loyal friends from NJM Insurance Group and NJM Bank listen as the evening’s honored guests are recognized.

Trustee and former Board Chair Rosalind Doctor, Ph.D. and Michelle Doctor pose for a photo with a Grounds For Sculpture background.

Board Chair Kati Chupa with husband Steve Chupa (back row) gather with the Arrowood family.

CHSofNJ Auxiliary’s founding member, Ruth Bartasawitz (left) and Marilyn Carroll (right) enjoy our 120th Anniversary Celebration.
It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Lorraine Hudson, a longtime supporter and friend of The Children's Home Society of New Jersey. Born Eleanor Lorraine Bennett, Lorraine grew up in Camden, NJ with her mother, brother, and adoptive father. She later married Roy Hudson, with whom she celebrated 64 years of wedded bliss, four wonderful children, and nine beautiful grandchildren before her passing on March 24, 2014.

Lorraine volunteered countless hours helping our children, and served as a member of our Auxiliary Board, excitedly planning even more ways she could help the at-risk babies, children and families we serve in New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania.

“Lorraine dedicated her life to ensuring our infants and children had excellent foster care until we found each of our babies loving parents through adoption,” said Donna C. Pressma, President and CEO of CHSoNJ. “She was committed to preventing the abuse and neglect of any child, and we are truly fortunate to have had her be a longstanding part of our CHSoNJ family.”

Lorraine's love for our children did not end with her passing; in lieu of flowers, friends and family honored her by making donations to CHSoNJ in her memory. We are so thankful not only for these generous contributions, but also for each friend and family member who chose to carry on Lorraine's legacy through these gifts. She would be so proud to know that she has inspired such kindness, and we thank you for this beautiful tribute to Lorraine's life.

**THANK YOU 120TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DONORS**

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Park Middle School in Scotch Plains, NJ is working hard to cultivate a proactive, responsible student body. One of the requirements of their seventh grade curriculum is for students to complete a service learning project. For their projects, students work in small groups to identify a community problem and then develop and implement a plan to address the issue. Jessica Friebely and Elena Wollman wanted to address the issue of economic inequality and its effects on young children, so they focused their efforts on helping economically disadvantaged children preparing to enter the school system.

The girls partnered with CHSoNJ’s Director of Corporate Development and Volunteerism, Pamela Cipriano, to organize a collection of preschool supplies such as books and craft materials in their neighborhoods. Jessica and Elena’s drive was an overwhelming success, and they happily donated many large bags of supplies to CHSoNJ!

Although Park Middle School may have inspired their initial good deed, the girls chose to go a step further and volunteer their time to CHSoNJ’s Happy Smiles Dental Awareness Month event, held at our Mercer County WIC office in Trenton. Jessica and Elena painted the faces of excited preschool aged children as they waited for their dental appointments. The children had a wonderful time, and parents were so grateful to Jessica and Elena for making their children feel special.

CHSoNJ thanks Jessica and Elena for so generously helping the at-risk children of our community, and for sharing what they have learned with their classmates in the hopes of inspiring more good deeds. These two young girls are role models, demonstrating how youth can become a part of the solution in addressing economic inequality.

if your company offers an employee Matching Gifts program, each gift you make to CHSoNJ can be doubled by simply submitting a matching gift request!
Shyam Gopalswamy, Chandru Raj, Jagannathan Vinayorgam and Thilaka Velupillai of the Adhiparasakthi Worship Center (APWC) donated 300 healthy packed lunches to CHSoNJ children!

Erin Byrne and a group of friends donated baby shower baskets full of essentials to help some of our new mommies through their first week at home with their newborns.

Students participating in the Boonton High School “Main Street Philanthropy” program present a check for $635.38 to Danielle Matish, (far left) CHSoNJ Director. The program, led by Yale Levy (second from left), teaches the importance of philanthropy, how to align students personal passions with meaningful contributions, and lets the group allocate funds they help raise among the charities of their choice.

Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) Performing Arts Academy spent two months collecting donations for the Ocean County Family Success Center. Thank you OCVTS for dropping off seven boxes of personal care items for our families in need.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AUXILIARY BOARD’S NEWEST OFFICERS

The dedicated members of the CHSoNJ Auxiliary Board work tirelessly to raise critical funds for our Infant Foster Care program. On May 27th, following a beautiful Installation Dinner Chaired by Joan Gies and Co-Chairs Marge Ruch and Ruth Bartasawitz, the Auxiliary formally congratulated their 2014-2015 Officers.

Pictured from left to right: CHSoNJ Auxiliary Board’s 2014-2015 Treasurer Kate McGrath, Projects Director Eve Mitchell, Recording Secretary Gina Gilligo, Vice President Joy Ann Lowery, President Erika Hartig Kishler and CHSoNJ President and CEO Donna Pressma. (Not pictured: Parliamentarian Marilyn Carroll, Corresponding Secretary Samantha Sciarotta.)
HONORS AND MEMORIALS

We wish to thank the following donors for gifts received between January 28, 2014 and July 10, 2014.

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Robert Albert
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CHSoNJ UPCOMING EVENTS
Annual Backpack Drive
The last day to drop off donations of new
backpacks and school supplies is August 16; please help us provide school essentials for children age 3 through 18!

9th Annual Latino Parenting Conference
“The Importance of Grandparents and Extended
Family in the Latino Community”
Saturday, September 13
South Ward Family Success Center - Trenton, NJ

NAIFA-GP’s 25th Annual Charity Golf Outing
Wednesday, September 17
Northampton Valley Country Club-Richboro, PA

2nd Annual Father Daughter Dance
Friday, November 7
Lighthouse Outreach Ministry - Trenton, NJ

Trenton Half Marathon
Saturday, November 8
Visit www.crowdrise.com/CHSoNJTrentonHalf

TEDI Fall Fundraiser
Wednesday, November 12
Grounds For Sculpture - Hamilton, NJ

Thanksgiving Food & Grocery Gift Card Drive
Drop off Thanksgiving donations by Friday, November 21. Contact Ella DeAngelis at 609-695-6274 x141 for donation suggestions or to schedule your delivery.

Holiday Gift & Gift Card Drive
New, unwrapped gifts and gift cards must be received during the week of December 8 – 12 to ensure delivery by Christmas. Call Ella at 609-695-6274 x141 for gift suggestions.

For more information about our events and drives, please visit our website at www.chsofnj.org
CHSofNJ would like to congratulate the following employees on their recent accomplishments:

Lydia Colon has been promoted to Program Assistant I.

Zully Almonte has been promoted to Supervisor – Food Outreach Program.

Fatima Reynolds has been promoted to Community Health Worker/Social Service Specialist I in the Improving Pregnancy Outcomes Program.

Laura Corrales and Victoria Fredrick have been promoted to Senior Breastfeeding Peer Counselors.

10 employees have received their Adult & Pediatric CPR/AED certification, valid for 2 years; Harriet Abekah, Janas Eastmead, Kathleen Franklin, Natalya Gorbachik, Emily Koper, Debbie Piccione, Tonya Powell, Jessica Reyes, Mary Salcedo, and Yashira Tirado-Rosario.

Keep up the great work team!

RECOGNIZING OUR EMPLOYEES’ HARD WORK

Maritza I. Raimundi-Petroski, (pictured left) CHSofNJ’s Director of Maternal/Child Health, Family and Community Support Services and valued member of the CHSofNJ family since 2004, has been appointed to the March of Dimes Program Services Committee, where she will assist in the implementation of the March of Dimes NJ chapter’s Program Plan, and positively contribute to the chapter’s program Standards for Success score. The March of Dimes works to prevent birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. Each of these goals are closely tied to CHSofNJ’s mission of saving children’s lives and building healthy families, and we know that Maritza is the perfect fit for this important position!

Maritza’s impressive credentials and experience are evident in each of the agency programs and services she oversees, including three Family Success Centers in Mercer and Ocean Counties, the CUNA and Body & Soul Prenatal Health Education & Support Group Programs, and the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC) in Mercer County. She is also responsible for CHSofNJ’s Latino Advisory Committee and the agency’s annual Latino Parenting Conference.

We congratulate Martiza on this exciting opportunity to contribute to our partners at the March of Dimes!

DONATE YOUR OLD CAR!

As a charitable contribution, your donation could make a big difference in the life of a child.

For more information or to make a donation, please contact Dana Johnson at 609-695-6274 x161 or djohnson@chsofnj.org.

MARITZA RAİMUNDI-PETROSKI JOINS THE MARCH OF DIMES PROGRAM SERVICES COMMITTEE

ANGELES PASSING THROUGH

Author Peter Mastrantuono has generously pledged a portion of the proceeds from the sale of his new book, Angels Passing Through, to CHSofNJ! This beautifully written book captures the point of view of a biological child growing up in a foster family, and we are so honored to have been chosen by Mr. Mastrantuono as recipient of this generous gift. It is our hope that his personal story will help readers gain a deeper understanding of the intricacies of foster families, and the infinite love that resides within them.

Angels Passing Through is available through Amazon.com. And remember, purchases made through Amazon Smile can be designated to support CHSofNJ babies, children and families!
CHSoF NJ’s South Ward Family Success Center (SWFSC) hosted its second annual *Faces of Fatherhood* exhibit on June 13th. Photos of fathers and father figures were proudly displayed at the agency for four days, and members of the Trenton community were invited in to view the beautiful gallery.

The event, led by Socorro Garcia and Natalya Gorbachik of the SWFSC, celebrated positive male role-models within the community, and featured photos of the dedicated fathers and father figures of our CHSoF NJ clients, staff, community partners, and friends. The gallery highlighted fathers, brothers, grandfathers, uncles, and friends that have truly made a difference in a child’s life.

“We want to honor the men who have embraced this important role,” said Arleen Jacoby, CHSoF NJ’s North and South Ward Family Success Center Supervisor. “It is so important for children to have the support and positive interactions that come from an involved father figure, and CHSoF NJ truly celebrates men who have chosen to play an active role in a child’s life.”