

Providence Child Center Foundation News

Acts of Joy

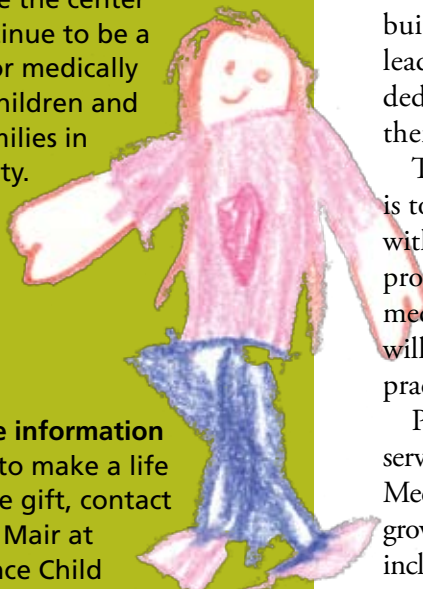
Serving children with disabilities and their families

Life insurance: another way to leave a legacy

Every Saturday and Sunday, you will find volunteer Don Murnane at Providence Child Center rocking a child, reading to a child or taking a child for a walk through the center halls.

The 21-year veteran volunteer's incredible devotion to our special children is more than any organization could ever ask for. Or, so we thought. Don recently made Providence Child Center Foundation a beneficiary of his life insurance policy and also transferred the policy directly to us.

"Since I already made provisions to take care of my family, this was a way to give back to a community of special children who have given me so much in return over the years," said Don. Through his generous legacy gift to support the endowment at the Center for Medically Fragile Children, Don is helping to ensure the center will continue to be a haven for medically fragile children and their families in perpetuity.



For more information on how to make a life insurance gift, contact Jennifer Mair at Providence Child Center Foundation 503-216-6611, or jennifer.mair@providence.org.

Pat and Jo Becker: hearts of gold

The 2009 Heart of Gold Dinner, held Feb. 12, honored Pat and Jo Becker for the more than 20 years they have dedicated to supporting medically fragile children at Providence Child Center.

The current Center for Medically Fragile Children stands as a symbol of Pat's commitment. Serving as the chairman of Providence Child Center Foundation's capital campaign from 1992 to 1994, Pat helped the Foundation to accomplish its goal. Gathering at the very place the Beckers helped build, Heart of Gold guests were treated to a brief visit to the center before enjoying dinner at the Providence Cancer Tower.

The dream of Pat and Jo Becker, the Foundation board of directors and many others is to sustain the center for years to come. To help us get one step closer to realizing the center's \$14 million endowment goal, a grateful grandmother generously pledged \$500,000 with the hope that it would inspire others to match the gift.

As an incredible tribute to honorees Pat and Jo Becker, the Heart of Gold Dinner did just that, generating an unprecedented \$400,000. Thank you, Pat and Jo, for inspiring so many people to join us in helping to care for some of our community's most vulnerable children.



Patricia Budo, Providence Child Center operations administrator (center), congratulates Jo and Pat Becker at the Heart of Gold Dinner, which raised \$400,000 for the Center for Medically Fragile Children.

Providence Child Center clinic gets a matching challenge

In planning for the new Providence Child Center building, completed in 2006, our leadership had the foresight to dedicate space for medical, dental and therapy services in an on-site clinic.

The purpose of this model clinic is to improve outcomes for children with disabilities and educate health professionals about caring for medically fragile children. The clinic will also conduct research on best care practices and share its results.

Phase I of the plan is to provide services to residents at the Center for Medically Fragile Children. As the clinic grows, Phase II will be initiated, which includes recruiting a medical director. Both of these phases depend on funding.

Through the generosity of many individuals and foundations during the

special appeal at the 2007 Providence Festival of Trees event, and through recent funding from the Collins Foundation, we are very close to starting Phase I of this critical project.

We recently received a challenge grant commitment from the HEDCO Foundation. This generous grantor is offering \$86,575 to sponsor the clinic's new dental suite if the amount is matched by other gifts from the community. Here's your opportunity to be involved in helping us raise the dollars needed to make this dream a reality.

Please contact us at Providence Child Center Foundation, 503-215-2405, for more information. Thank you to the many people who are helping to bring the clinic to fruition.



Acts of kindness bring joy

Dear friends,

Despite the uncertainty in today's world, there are abundant opportunities for joy at Providence Child Center.

Recently we received a lovely message from a parent whose son lives at the Center for Medically Fragile Children. "I am overwhelmed by your generous heart," she wrote. "Thank you for allowing my son to have the happiest childhood possible. Thank you for giving me quality time with him."

Every day we are surrounded by acts of kindness, large and small, that make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities.

Whether it's through volunteering with the kids (6,854 hours for 2008 alone), a gift of treasure (more than \$2 million raised in 2008), or direct services provided to families (6,000 contacts via the Swindells Center in 2008), it all adds up to caring for kids with disabilities, empowering families and strengthening our community.

Your support, advocacy and acts of kindness are deeply felt by all the children and families we serve. Our only hope is that you, too, feel the joy that your kindness brings to us.

Warmly,

Patricia Budo

Patricia Budo
Operations Administrator
Providence Child Center

Karen Santangelo

Karen Santangelo
Executive Director
Providence Child Center Foundation



A couple driven to help children

When we learned that a 2007 Honda Odyssey EX minivan fully equipped with a wheelchair lift was being donated to Providence Child Center, we were grateful that a major transportation void could be filled.

Thanks to Bill and Leona Hite of Wilsonville, we now have a safe and

reliable vehicle to take smaller groups of children to community outings or medical appointments when the MAX train is unavailable or when it's simply not practical to use the center's 14-passenger bus.

This gift has empowered us to assist children with special needs in a real and tangible way.

Thank you for granting wishes

Wish Book update: Thank you to everyone who supported the *Opportunities for Joy Wish Book*. We have raised more than \$68,000 toward the programs, activities and services at the child center. Our goal for 2008 was to make 100 wishes come true. We surpassed that with 115 wishes granted. We couldn't have done it without you.

Homero (pictured at right), a resident of the Center for Medically Fragile Children, walks with a gait trainer, one of the many wishes granted through the Wish Book program.



Join us on a tour

Our children love visitors. We welcome you to attend one of our tours scheduled for 10 to 11 a.m. on May 5, June 2 and July 7. To arrange a custom tour, please call 503-216-6625.

Volunteers wanted

Please contact Jody Wright, Providence Child Center volunteer coordinator, 503-215-2470, or jody.wright@providence.org.

Swindells Resource Center at Providence Child Center

Free workshops and seminars on parenting children with disabilities are available through the Swindells Center. Please call 503-215-2429 or e-mail swindells@providence.org for information or to register for events.

Providence Child Center Foundation News | SPRING 2009

Providence Child Center Foundation News is produced biannually. For more information, or to request removal from this mailing list, please contact:

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Karen Santangelo, Executive Director
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OUR MISSION

As people of Providence, we reveal God's love for all, especially the poor and vulnerable, through our compassionate service.

OUR CORE VALUES

Respect, Compassion, Justice, Excellence, Stewardship