



newsletter

- Autumn 2007 -

*This issue is
dedicated to our amazing
Community Partners.*

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A Note From The Executive Director

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This year over 1400 children came through our doors desperate for help. Imagine over 100 telephone calls every single month from parents who are terribly worried about their children and can no longer shoulder alone the frustration, the anxiety, and the long dark nights. Imagine the three year old child who is being expelled from preschool for the second time in as many months. Imagine the mother who has just discovered that her four year old daughter has been severely sexually abused in their own neighborhood. Imagine the parents who are getting a divorce and can no longer trust each other to care appropriately for their children. And imagine the child who lies trembling in his bed at night as he listens to his parents screaming at each other in the next room.

Now imagine a meeting room at each of our centers. Around the table our teams of eight clinicians hover over the new referrals. Each clinician already has a large caseload but as they look through the painful stories they are compelled to take on more families. How do we tell a mother who is weeping on the phone and telling us that she can't find anyone to help her that we're simply too full? How do we explain to a grandmother that she'll have to find alternative care one more time because we can't take another child into our therapeutic preschool program? And how is it possible to tell the abused four year old that we just couldn't find the time for her to be seen?

The commitment of The Children's Center staff is nothing short of outstanding. The clinical team is burdened with unbelievable and overwhelming emotional stories from every family that walks in our doors. All the while, they make certain that the families receive the highest quality of care, that they are listened to with profound empathic regard and respect, and that they leave our Center with a sense of hope. Our Therapeutic Preschool Specialists provide enthusiasm, patience, and support throughout the year – rarely taking a day for themselves because they know the children depend on them. Our bus drivers manage the screaming and chaos to insure that the children arrive safely. And our office and administrative support team keeps an ever growing machine running smoothly so that families can get the help that they need.

In truth, we're the lucky ones. Our hearts are warmed when we see the tears turn into smiles. Our spirits are lifted when parents tell us that they are enjoying parenting again. And we swell with pride when the deeply troubled child graduates from our preschool program and is ready to join his typical peers in a regular program. Despite long days, growing demands for treatment, and daily phone calls for help, we are energized by the knowledge that we're making a real difference in children's lives. As the Executive Director I am profoundly grateful for and incredibly proud of our tremendous team of dedicated employees.

In addition, the community support that you'll read about in this newsletter shores up our spirits as it reassures us that the community believes in what we



- Douglas Goldsmith, PhD
Executive Director

From The Executive Director (cont.)

are doing and cares as much about the lives of very young children as we do. Your support keeps us going. Your support makes each of you an integral part of each family's progress throughout the year. For that we extend to you, our friends, our deepest gratitude

The commitment of The Children's Center staff is nothing short of outstanding.

No Time Spent Playing is Ever Wasted: A Play Therapist's Story

by Nancy J. Coyne, C.S.W

I am a Certified Social Worker, Doctoral Candidate (All But Dissertation), a Play Therapist, and trained by the Utah Leadership Education for Neurodevelopmental Disabilities. While working on my degrees, my goal was to gain the knowledge I needed to work with children

The Children's Center has provided me the opportunity to enhance my skills and do the work I love. I did a practicum at The Children's Center in Kearns from 2003-2004 while working on my Masters at the College of Social Work at the University of Utah and was hired as a therapist while finishing my doctoral curriculum. My clinical experience includes working with children who have been victims of sexual abuse, severe neglect, witness to

domestic violence, as well as children in the foster care system who suffer from Reactive Attachment Disorder.

The Children's Center in Kearns is the location of the Eskuche Residential Treatment Facility and our Eskuche groups. These excellent services provide care and support for children who have been removed from their homes. Natalie Thornley, Kearns Children's Center Director, and Ryan Randall, Eskuche Center Director, work hard to address the immediate and long term needs of these children. We as clinicians are especially challenged to provide intense services for children who have severe abuse histories.

One child the Kearns team helped was a three year old named "Angie" who had been removed by the state from her biological home and, for a number

of reasons, was unable to return to her parent's care. When she entered our residential facility, she was frightened, sad, and terribly traumatized.

I was able to work with "Angie" in individual play therapy sessions during her year in the Group Home. On her first day with me she refused to talk but showed a lot of interest in the toys on my shelf. As play therapists, we understand a child uses play to express their emotions, thoughts and feelings. "Angie" learned to use the dolls and the doll houses to play out the trauma in her life. Her stories took time to develop, but over many months she was able to convey the horrors in her young life. It took her time to trust that I would understand and I was profoundly touched by her willingness to tell me her painful story.

But I didn't do my work alone. The Group Home staff provided her with consistency, stability, and a safe environment that allowed her to learn how to experience life as a cared-for four year old child. "Angie" learned about boundaries, how to use her words, and how to trust again. She began to understand that she could not return to her family because they could not keep her safe. She has started her journey of healing and will have a brighter future due to the dedicated, compassionate, and professional staff at TCC. Someday "Angie" will understand the depth of our commitment to her... For now we just want her to play.

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The Children's Center Annual Benefit

Kasserian Ingera?

HOW ARE THE CHILDREN?

When a Masai warrior responds, "All the children are well." to the question "Kasserian Ingera?" it communicates that peace and safety prevail and the children are well cared for.

When over 500 guests attend The Children's Center's Annual Benefit and respond with generous gifts of support, it communicates that compassion prevails, enabling us to give families access to care they otherwise would not receive, to help provide their children with peace and safety, and answer, "Our children are well."

That was the outcome of the 28th Annual Benefit at La Caille. Thank you to everyone who attended a great party that raised \$280,000 for the programs and services the children and families we serve have come to rely upon. In addition to this outpouring of support, a surprise announcement was made of a \$1 million dollar donation to the Campaign for a New Children's Center by an anonymous donor.

The hundreds of hours spent by the benefit committee organizing, planning, and coordinating the event resulted in a perfect evening. Their dedication has helped to ensure that accessible and affordable professional care is available. Thank you to our fearless,



Benefit Committee Chair George Hofmann surveys the fabulous festivities.

creative and determined committee chairs, Sara and George Hofmann! Our boundless gratitude goes also to the committee members: Cheri Beck; Julie Bishop; Kendall Burwell; Helen Cardon; Paulette Cary; Kim Casaday; Marina Collins; Amy Damico; Chris Losee; Jonette Mangum; Marcy Mullholand; Greg Nordfelt; Laura Nordfelt; Nata Schneider; Kathy Sheaffer; and Dave Thomas.

The National Charity League once again provided the helping hands we

need both before and during the event. Special thanks to Susan Dahlstrom and Kaye Simmonds for their help marshalling the scores of volunteers!

Thanks also to The Stoddard Brothers, the inimitable Ken Verdoia and Ron Olson for making the silent and live auctions entertaining, fun and successful!

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who participated in the event. We hope to see you all next year at La Caille on Friday, June 13, 2008!

Please support those who support The Children's Center. *Special thanks to our sponsors:*

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Training Table

Media Blitz

We are getting the word out! We have a great 60 second TV spot created for us by Love Communications working with Cosmic Pictures and underwritten by the law firm of Workman Nydegger. KUTV and KTVX have signed on as partners of The Children's Center with Love, Cosmic Pictures and Workman Nydegger by giving us editorial attention with interviews and news coverage and by generous matches in airtime so our message has probably been seen by the television watchers among you. Additionally, KUTV has given us ten second spots for their "Community Salute" ads and a banner ad on their website with a link to our website. The spots will be running for several months and will support us as we ask our friends in the community to go beyond their regular contributions to support ongoing programs and to make a contribution to the Capital Campaign. Such contributions will help us make a lasting difference in the quality of life here as we move to the Oquirrh School in the heart of Salt Lake City and can accommodate more clients, add needed clinics and programs and be more accessible to a larger population.

Many, many thanks to Workman Nydegger, Love Communications, Cosmic Pictures, KUTV and KTVX for working together on our behalf!



Campaign Update

The announcement of an anonymous donation of \$1 million to the Campaign sent joyous cheers and applause through the tent at La Caille on June 8. It was an incredible gesture by a donor who had already given \$700 thousand to the Campaign. Additionally, at a recent luncheon another \$1 million was raised with the help of a generous challenge grant from The I.J. and Jeanné Wagner Charitable Foundation. We are grateful to American Express Center for Community Development, Kem Gardner, Steve Creamer, Khosrow Semnani and our other remarkable friends of long standing for bringing us nearly three-quarters of the way to our \$10 million goal.

ajc architects has provided us with plans and estimates for the renovation of the Oquirrh School and we are hoping to

begin work on the building early next year. Our dreams of shorter waiting lists, expanded services, and greater financial stability are rapidly moving closer to becoming reality. We look forward to sharing these plans in the future with all Children's Center friends.

With the leadership provided by Jesselie and Scott Anderson and their stellar committee, our community partners in advertising and the media helping us reach the larger community, and our steadfast friends throughout the state, we are confident that donations will reach our \$10 million goal. We are counting on each of you! To learn more about how you can help, call Courtney Garay, Development Director, at 582-5534.

Campaign Leadership

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Sue Alder, Foundations Chair
Amy Damico, Public Relations Chair
Clark Hinckley, Facilities Chair
Scott Ulbrich, Financial Oversight

IKEA Adopts TCC



The children are amazed at the size and shape of the check from IKEA.

At the grand opening of the new IKEA in Draper on May 23, 2007, Paul Janzen, IKEA Draper store manager, presented Doug Goldsmith, Executive Director of The Children's Center, with a "check" for \$10,000 in the shape of a big red sofa. IKEA selected The Children's Center to be their Community Partner after visiting our Kearns Center and the Eskuche Center for Foster Services, "because you really have heart," according to Lara Lockwood, Public Relations manager for IKEA Draper. As part of their commitment to community, IKEA will provide design services

and furniture for the Group Home, our residential facility for troubled preschool aged children who are failing foster family placements. We are absolutely thrilled that the nine children in our care at the group home will have the benefit of the enthusiastic designers and the cool merchandise from IKEA to make their home more like home. Additionally, IKEA features The Children's Center on their website. Another wonderful friend has joined the great corporate citizens who support our mission!

Volunteer Extraordinaire: Bruce Moio

Bruce Moio began volunteering on Friday afternoons at The Children's Center over three years ago and he shows no signs of flagging in his commitment. With five children of his own ranging in age from 10 to 22, one might think he would have had his fill of little ones. But a desire to give to the community and an absolute joy in the company of kids led him to arrange with his employer to work through lunch four days a week so that on Fridays he could spend the afternoon here. Additionally, with the money he saves from not going out to lunch, he frequently treats Whitney and Britney's class to pizza or McDonald's!

Needless to say, he has captured many hearts here. His quiet manner and steady strength coupled with his genuine enjoyment of the children is the perfect confluence of characteristics in a volunteer. He has worked with six Therapeutic Preschool Therapists since he began and speaks of each with fondness (and they of him).

Bruce has become something of an icon here and when people talk about him he seems to be a man of mythic proportions because his devotion is so inspiring. He is certainly destined for legendary status in the annals of The Children's Center. Not many men in the prime of their lives find the time to build sand castles and tunnels with young friends who have few good male role models in their lives. He, of course, will shrug off attempts to drape him with superhero capes or Olympian laurels and will instead caution interviewers not to take too much of his play time.

When asked what he wants people to know about The Children's Center, Bruce responded that the kids here just need love and they need to know that people care.

It is certain they know he cares.



Bruce Moio plays with his friend in the sandbox.

Farewell and Welcome

Our good friend and staunch supporter, Drue Price, is stepping down after three productive years as Chair of our Board of Directors. She will be turning over her responsibilities to Sue Alder, another long-time board member and friend of The Children's Center.

Drue befriended The Children's Center as a young woman fresh out of college, when she joined our team of Therapeutic Preschool Specialists. In the intervening years she has brought up her own wonderful family but has never forgotten us. Her husband, Steve, served on the Board. Her son, Garrett, did his Eagle project for The Children's Center, replacing sand and sod, fixing sprinkler heads and setting up a new umbrella to shade the pure white sand, which he decorated on the first Monday in June with brand new pails, shovels and other fun sand toys. The children have reveled in the sand all summer! We hope each generation of Prices continues the family tradition of supporting The Children's Center.

Drue championed the decision to launch the Campaign for a New Children's Center and was a key figure in getting us

where we are today – nearly three quarters to our goal! During her tenure we purchased the Oquirrh School and developed our ten-year plan. We are grateful to her for all she has done and are glad she will stay near the fold by serving on the Executive Committee to help us and guide us as we grow and add new programs.

At the same time we are thrilled to have Sue Alder take the helm as Chair of our Board of Directors. Sue is an Investment Advisor with Alpine Securities. She comes from a fine clan of Children's Center loyalists. Her mother, Kaye Alder, served on the Board of Directors working side by side with our founder, Agi Plenk, to put The Children's Center firmly on the map. Sue's brother Bruce, served on the Board in the eighties and continues to lend us his friendship and support. His company, Alder Construction, was a major sponsor of our June benefit. Sue's sister-in-law, Coralee Alder, was on the inaugural breakfast committee. We look forward to reaping the benefits of Sue's leadership abilities, energy and financial savvy as well as the continuance of a long-term family friendship. Welcome, Sue!

With Great Appreciation

The Children's Center Thanks the generous individuals, companies, foundations and organizations for their contributions from January through June 2007.

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Spark the Light of a Child

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lit the flame within us."
 – Albert Schweitzer

On Wednesday, November 7, 2007
 The Children's Center will host its Second
 Breakfast, "Spark the Light of a Child."

This is an opportunity for business and community
 leaders to hear our story and learn how they can help
 rekindle the joy of childhood for little kids with big
 problems.

For more information, or to participate in this event,
contact Lisa Alleman at 582-5534.

With Great Appreciation (cont'd)

The Campaign for a New Children's Center is deeply grateful to the following organizations, businesses, foundations and individuals for their contributions as of June 30, 2007:

Alder Construction Sue Alder	Foundation John and Joan Clower	Holbrook Intermountain Healthcare	Steve and Drue Price S. J. & Jessie E. Quinney Foundation
American Express Center for Community Development	John and Jane Coats	InterNet Properties	Raddon Brothers Construction, Inc.
Douglas and Shelley Anderson	Dru and Amy Damico	Gabriel Ishley	RBC Dain Rauscher
Anonymous	Suzanne Day	Gary Ishley	Reaveley Engineers and Associates
Nancy and Lewis Baker	Catherine De Vries	Jacobsen Construction Company, Inc.	Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield
Haven J. Barlow Family	Lawrence T. Dee and Janet T. Dee Foundation	Kenneth and Lisa Jensen	Tomoko Schlag
Amy and Haven J. Barlow Jr.	Tim and Candace Dee	Gay and Wayne Jensen	Richard and Jean Simons
Heidi and Ted Harris	Michael and Sheila Deputy	Ceri Jones	Carlton and Sharon Spaulding
Debra and Duncan Barlow	Diebold, Inc.	Lisa A. Jones	Spring Communications
Marie and Stewart Barlow	Kent and Martha Difiore	Kennecott Utah Copper	Helen and George Stahlke
Jesselle and Scott Anderson	EnergySolutions	KeyBank National Association	Sam and Diane Stewart
Rachel E. Barlow Trust	Fidelity Charitable Giff Fund	Morris Kulmer	Richard and Susan Thomas
Andrea and Kevin Barnes	Mickey and Sharee Gallivan	Love Communications	Paul and Christy Thurston
Chris and Robin Bateman	Courtney and Rodrigo Garay	John and Julie Lund	John and Shelley Turner
Teresa Beck	Kem and Carolyn Gardner	M Lazy M Foundation	Scott, Sue and Eric Ulbrich
Georgia and John	Mavy Ghavim	Anne and Jack Mark	Robert and Marcia Vickery
Bircumshaw	Drs. Douglas and Denise Goldsmith	Kim Marquardt	I. J. and Jeanné Wagner Charitable Foundation
Brent and Bonnie Jean	Dr. Sam Goldstein	William McCreary and Paula Swaner	W. Mack and Julia S. Watkins Foundation
Beesley Foundation	Manal Hall	Mildred Metcalf and Thomas Metcalf	Alison Weyher
John Bowen	Patricia Hall	Larry H. Miller	Fred and Lynne Wilhelmsen
Lonnie and Ardene Bullard	Karen Hansen and Dan Hendriksen	Mark and Kathie Miller Foundation	William and Lisa Wirthlin Family
The Frances W. Burton Foundation	Henry and Patrice Hemingway	David Moore	Brenda Yamagata
Call Family Foundation	Richard K. and Shirley S. Hemingway Foundation	Michelle Mull	Zions Bank
Louis and Ellen Callister	Miki Hesleph	H. Gary and Julia Pehrson	Mike and Susan Zuhl
Helen and Jeff Cardon	Clark and Kathleen Hinckley	Craig Peterson	
Caring for Kids	George and Sara Hofmann	Margaret Posch	
Karen Child and Brandon Ogden	Liza Hoke	John and Marcia Price Family Foundation	
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	James R. and Meghan Zanolli		

Put your Garden to Bed and Bring Sweet Dreams to Little Kids with Big Problems

On September 26th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. join us at Cactus and Tropicals, 12252 South Draper Gate Drive (1325 East), and find everything you need to put your garden to bed for the winter and please your friends with holiday gifts.

Receive 10% off your purchase. A portion of all sales will go to The Children's Center.

Gardening professionals will be there to answer your questions and provide tips

- How to turn your fall leaves into a nutrient-rich mulch that will reduce winterkill, discourage weeds in the spring, condition your soil and feed your plants
- When to cut back and divide your perennials
- How to plant your bulbs

- Bonus: George Hofmann and Penney Gregersen, both with deep roots in their gardens, will be there and would love to share the benefit of their experience as lifelong gardeners.

Fill those long winter nights with dreams of blooms to come, knowing that your garden will rest well through the winter and that as a result of your generosity the children and families at The Children's Center will receive the comprehensive mental health care that provides fertile ground for sweet dreams and happier lives.

This will be a great time to get an early start on holiday gifts for friends and fellow gardeners. Gift cards indicating that the proceeds of your gift benefited The Children's Center will be available.

Thank you for shopping!

How to Help:

The Children's Center is dedicated to giving struggling kids and their families a new start. We are their hope for a brighter, happier future. You are ours. Your support will allow us to continue our legacy of helping little kids with problems for decades to come.

For more information on The Campaign for a New Children's Center, please visit www.tccslc.org or contact Courtney Garay, Director of Development, at 801-582-5534 ext. 36 or Courtney@tccslc.org

Got Heart? Got Time? Get Love!

The Children's Center welcomes compassionate people to assist in our Therapeutic Preschool classrooms. We have three hour sessions weekday mornings and afternoons both in Kearns and Salt Lake. If you can commit one morning or afternoon a week, you will find yourself immeasurably enriched by the experience.

For more information, call Penney Gregersen at 582-5534.



1855 East Medical Drive | 5242 South 4820 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84112 | Kearns, UT 84118
(801) 582-5534 | (801) 966-4251

www.tccslc.org

Share the Gift of Giving

If you're considering a donation to The Children's Center, why not share it with someone you know. By contributing in honor of a friend or loved one, you give the gift of caring twice: once as you help a child receive treatment, and a second time as you designate someone else to share in your generosity.

- Notification of your generous donation will be sent to the honoree.

I would like to help a young child by donating the following: \$ _____

As a general donation to The Children's Center

In honor of: name _____
address _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

I have enclosed a check. Please bill my credit card.

Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Address: _____

Card Type: Visa Mastercard Amex. Discover

Card No: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

- Please cut on the dashed line and mail to one of the addresses to the right.