



Newsletter Winter 2007

Who we are, and what we want from you:

Did you know that there are over one-million incorporated not for profit agencies in the United States? Some days it can seem that each of them have sent you something. Today it's our turn. Just like every other agency that sends you something, we are hoping for something in return – your money, your attention, your time...in one way or another, we are hoping for your support. You have over a million choices of agencies to support, why should you support Children's Center?

Children's Center is local

We are locally governed and focused solely on mental health services to children and families. This matters! We are part of the community that we serve.

Children's Center is stable

Founded in 1989, we have an annual operating budget of over one-million dollars. We have built a "Board directed" reserve of a little over one-million dollars for future stability. This may make it seem that we do not need your donation, but nothing could be further from the truth. Any donation, no matter how big or small, goes directly to help fund our services.

Children's Center is frugal with your money and your time

Yes, like every agency we have overhead and administrative expenses but we try to keep them as low as possible. You can rest assured that we spend most of our money on actual programs that serve our community. If you have any questions about this please contact us and we will provide you with more information.



Children's Center is transparent and will remain true to our (and your) values

Our Board formally adopted a set of policies that set out to enhance your relationship with Children's Center. Included in these policies is a Donors Bill of Rights which spells out exactly what you can expect from us. These documents are available on our website at www.thechildrenscenter.org or by contacting Jevan Williams at 360-699-2244 or jevanw@thechildrenscenter.org. We would also like to hear any other comments or feedback. Please contact us at any time.

Children's Center is committed to Community Engagement

Community Engagement is the process of building relationships with community members who will work side-by-side with Children's Center as an ongoing partner, in any and every way imaginable, building support for our mission, with the end goal of making Clark County a better place to live.

Children's Center aspires to more

While we stay true to our core values, we continue to look for new, innovative ways to serve the children and families of Clark County.

Our entire organization joins in sending Holiday Greetings with every good wish for the New Year!

Pat Beckett, Executive Director

Thanks to Children's Center Donors 10/1/06—9/30/07

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Save the date! Wednesday, February 27, 2008



Friends of Children's Center will host their 14th annual luncheon at the Red Lion Hotel on the River at Jantzen Beach, February 27, 2008, featuring Sherri McMillan, M.Sc as guest speaker. Sherri is co-author of four books including "Go For Fit - The Winning Way to Fat Loss and "Fit over Forty - The Winning

Way to Lifetime Fitness." Along with husband Alex she is currently the weekly fitness columnist for the Oregonian newspaper. Sherri has won numerous awards, including 2006 Top 25 Oregon Women in Business awards and 2006 Portland Women's Business Professionals Business Woman of the Year. The company the McMillans founded, Northwest Personal Training in Vancouver, WA, and Portland OR, has recently been awarded the prestigious 2006 Better Business Bureau Business of the Year award and the 2006 Fastest Growing Clark County Business. The luncheon will also include a wonderful raffle and local retailers offering merchandise for sale with proceeds benefiting Children's Center. Call 360-699-2244 for more information and to make reservations

Magical Evening in the Garden

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN'S CENTER HOST ANNUAL GARDEN EVENT FUNDRAISER

A "Magical Evening in the Garden" took place in the beautiful gardens at the home of Dr. Paul and Margaret Kretschmar. Guests had the opportunity to tour the gardens, listen to a musical ensemble under the direction of Melodie Horn, enjoy catering donated by local chef Muggs Broselle, and bid on amazing auction items. Kelly Bruce of Salut Wine Company in Camas, Washington, and Columbia Distributing presented the wonderful wines for the evening. Despite the clouds and a bit of drizzle, 120 guests attended and \$44,000 was raised!



Tracey Waid & Margaret Kretschmar

Small Steps, Big Changes-Balance Program

Childhood obesity is rapidly increasing throughout the United States. In just two decades, the prevalence of childhood obesity has doubled for children ages 6-11 years of age and tripled for adolescents. The consequences are vast and overwhelming for a child and may include low self-esteem, behavior and learning problems, depression and social isolation. Ann Van Patten is the therapist and "coach" for our Balance Program, which offers a holistic approach to children and youth at-risk of obesity. Yoga, walking groups, training with a personal trainer, nutrition counseling, and daily supportive phone calls from Ann helps the kids and parents develop healthier choices for a better life. Ann is already seeing positive changes in the kids that have participated in the program. "They are not only starting to work out together, but some of them are getting other family members to go for walks or play soccer with them. This is going to improve the lives of entire families, not just the kids in the program." BALANCE was made possible through funding from the Gibney Family Foundation.

Santa's Helpers!

You can help brighten the holidays for the families of Children's Center.

Java House at 210 W Evergreen is accepting new, unwrapped toys for donation to the families of Children's Center for the seventh year.

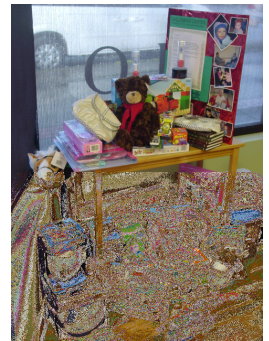
This will be the third year that

Halo Designs Hair Salon at 1923 Main St is accepting new,

unwrapped toys .

Please consider dropping off toys for any age child.

Call 360-737-2330 for more information or to make an appointment.



If you have any question about a toy please check:<http://www.cpsc.gov/> before donating. This website has information and photos of all recalled toys.

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Tommy O's Pacific Rim Bistro
in downtown Vancouver held a
grand opening for their expanded
lounge on June 8, 2007. As a part
of celebrating his good fortune, proprietor Tommy
Owens gave back to the community by generously
donating proceeds from the grand opening to
Children's Center. This \$3,000 donation helped
support services to kids and families. Mahalo,
Tommy! Best wishes for your continued success.

Donate a vehicle Do you have a vehicle that
you would like to donate? Children's Center is
now able to accept these types of donations as we
are affiliated with Car Program LLC. We can
accept most vehicles and vessels including but not
limited to cars, trucks, trailers, boats and RV's.
We are able to accept most vehicles running or
not (exceptions include older vehicles whose
value would not offset the cost of towing). We
would like the title to the vehicle, but even if you
do not have it please call us at (360) 699-2244.

Children's Center

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