

Homes with Hope

A community designed for children in foster care and adoption

Volume 5, Issue 2 Dec 2008

Merry Christmas! May Christ's presence be with you as you celebrate his birth.



Even though...

*The economy is in crisis...
cost of living is up...
unemployment is high...
retirement funds are low...
We have some good news ...*

*Our business is booming!
Homes with Hope has more
children in care and more
families in training than our
staff can handle right now.
We need to hire another
social worker. Sad to say,
children are still in crisis
and the task at hand is
great.*

Celebrating YOU...my philanthropic friends! We tend to think of philanthropy as acts performed by the very wealthy. But that is not the whole story. A philanthropist is a humanitarian; a generous, goodhearted person marked by compassion, benevolence and selflessness. I am very fortunate that there are many, many philanthropic people associated with Homes with Hope.

YOU are philanthropic because you have helped in many ways to care for children in crisis; children other than your own who have been abused and neglected by adults who were supposed to care for them. **YOU** have brought change, and 24/7 care, to 42 children's lives through the efforts and ministry of Homes with Hope. **YOU** have invested your time and money to rescue children from despairing situations. **YOU** are a foster parent, an adoptive parent, a volunteer, a staff member, a prayer partner, a financial contributor. **YOU** are all, indeed, philanthropists. And your acts of mercy and justice have helped provide children who were once in crisis and have found safety in a Christian home.

This is a great time of the year to think about how we spend our energy and what we can do to express the love of God and make an effort to end human suffering. Be courageous and make a difference this year, for someone somewhere.

Homes with Hope is not an orphanage, an emergency shelter, a group home, a boys ranch, nor a residential treatment center. Homes with Hope is your home with the Hope of Christ for these foster children.

"Though my mother and father forsake me, the Lord will receive me." Psalm 27:10

Blessings, Tricia Herren
Executive Director

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL who made our Christmas party so awesome!

- The toy drives organized by Misty Dudley and the families at King's Kids Learning Center in Friendswood as well as Steve Smith and the employees of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Thank you for your generosity and support.
- The wonderful entertainment provided by Joyful Sound a choir directed by Paula Spencer. They did a fantastic job!
- The friends and volunteers who helped make this happen: The Houston Vineyard Church, Jill Lively, Beth Hoover, Leighnae Hanley, Annie Gee, Russell Gonzales, Kathy and Mike Lenert, Julie Jennings, Marvin Westry, Jamie Lottinger, Marcie Kern, Harry Fritzenschaft, Nathan Kvinge, Janice Beem, Don Bushby and Misty Dudley.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! We really appreciate your time and support to bless our children and families!



Children you have helped:

Youngest child, 3 days old

Oldest child, age 12

Diversity:

- Anglo 17
- Hispanic 16
- African American 9

Average length of stay: 164 days

- Shortest stay was 3 days
- Longest stay was 379 days

Total number of days of care provided 6,904

Total number of children 42

My mom took drugs while she was pregnant with me. When I was just a few days old I went to live with my Homes with Hope foster family. I had a lot of trouble swallowing and breathing and at 4 months old I had surgery that saved my life. My foster mom was very nurturing and attentive to my struggles and needs. I am alive because of her care. I lived with her for one year and I am now healthy and growing big.



Recruit Board of Directors
Write Bylaws

Nov 2002

File Articles of Incorporation

Mar 2003

Start small dinner fund raisers
File IRS 501(c)(3) Non profit status

Nov 2003

Receive State License as a Child Placing Agency

April 2004

Open Homes with Hope Office at the Houston Vineyard Church
Hire staff: Executive Director and Licensed Social Worker

Jan 2004

Train and license foster parents

Aug 2004

Receive a Contract with CPS
Able to receive children into care

Sept 2004

Place our first foster child
1st Annual Gala

Receive our first grant approval
Thank you to *The Children's Fund*

2005

Provide care for 7 children, 950 days of care
1st Annual Golf Tournament

2006

Provide care for 10 children, 1,446 days of care
1st Annual Christmas Party
Homes with Hope staff increase

2007

Provide care for 21 children, 1,885 days of care
1st Adoption finalized
Receive our Adoption License

2008

2 more Adoptions finalized
Provide care for 17 more children, 2,955 days of care



Shelter ministry started in June 1995 as a Houston Vineyard Church youth outreach to a CPS shelter for girls ages 9 to 17.

Backyard birthday fun in November put together by two of our families for two of our kids!



Me and my twin brother stayed with our Homes with Hope foster parents for six months. They took real good care of us and got me to the doctor because I have something wrong with my heart and I wasn't being taken care of properly. We are both much healthier now and we don't have to go to the doctor as much as before. We have learned to eat fruits and vegetables and we speak much clearer. We have even been to the dentist.



I was two years old when I moved in with my Homes with Hope foster family. I had been very neglected and I couldn't talk because I hadn't learned very many words yet. I was really protective of my food and always afraid that someone might eat it. My foster parents got me registered for Early Childhood Intervention and the Early Head Start program right away. My words came to me quickly and I don't worry about being hungry so much anymore.

SAVE THE DATE

Homes with Hope Annual

Charity Golf Tournament

Thursday

April 23, 2009

Tour 18 Golf Course

Humble, TX

Thank you for your participation!!

Swing's the Thing

5th Annual Homes with Hope Charity Event

November 7, 2008 Lakeside Country Club

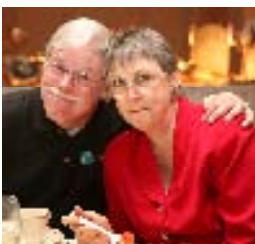


Hurricane IKE blew through and postponed our event, your homes and offices suffered some damage, the economy is struggling and the election was stressful ... BUT you still financially supported us and helped us raise just over **\$45,000**. Thank you! Though the economy is down, our business is booming. It is sad to say that children are still in crisis, abused and neglected. Your support is appreciated and necessary to help us continue to provide quality homes for these children. We are grateful for your support!



Special thanks to our event sponsors who made the evening possible through their generosity:

- Dr. David and Marilyn Ho
- Dr. David and Helen DeLemos
- Bob and Robin Broxson
- Steve and Kathleen Smith
- Mark and Ann Stoehr
- Don Bushby
- Dr. Randall and Esther Dunn
- Mike and Donna Bahorich



We are sincerely grateful for the many items donated to our auction by Harry and Gloria Fritzenschaft

... in Memory of Dorothy Brooks and the Heartfelt Treasures Gift Shop

