



Presbyterian Home for Children

. . . Glorifying God by caring for children and families

House Parents Receive State Award

Steve & Ann Thurston, house parents at Presbyterian Home for Children, recently received the Excellence in Direct Care Services Award for 2009 from the Children and Family Services Association—NC.

For more than ten years, the Thurstons have been serving as house parents in Rainbow House where they care for nine teenage girls. They have been named house parent couple of the year by their peers twice in the past five years and serve as mentors and role models not only for youth, but also for other staff.

Steve Thurston was a resident of PHFC as a child in the 1960s and has brought his appreciation for the care he received to his

work. Because of his experience in the foster care system, he knows how difficult the situation can be for abused, abandoned and neglected children.

“In more than 25 years of childcare experience, there have been few couples with the same gifts and talents that Steve and Ann bring to the table,” said PHFC President Tom Campbell.

The couple has served hundreds of children while at PHFC. They have seen children go on to lead successful adult lives and they often remain in contact with youth who have moved on.

“They’ve helped me through hard times and helped me make better choices,” said Mariah, one



PHFC House Parents Steve & Ann Thurston received the 2009 Excellence in Direct Care Service Award from CFSA-NC.

of the youth in the Thurston’s care. “They’ve helped me plan my future. They’re great house parents and I’m glad to have them—they’re awesome!”

Each year, CFSA-NC presents awards to outstanding individuals who have achieved excellence in their field of children’s services.

“The “Forget Me Not” awards is an opportunity to highlight the extraordinary service these individuals provide that make a profound difference in the lives of the children they serve,” said Mark Upright, CFSA-NC trustee chair. Nominations for the awards were received from child welfare provider agencies across North Carolina.



The PHFC Woodworking Club led by Paul Scouten (upper left) decorated campus for Easter with a bevy of bunnies, chicks and eggs.

A Word from the President - Tom Campbell

Isaiah 40: 31 “*But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*”

Perseverance is our theme for these challenging economic times. So often we want to constantly be growing and blooming and flourishing. But there come times when we need to just be still and know God.

The challenges our nation and our economy face are bigger than

any one person or organization. We are thankful that no matter what the stock market does and no matter our current situation, God has everything well in hand.

We know this first of all because God has told us so through his Word. But we also know this because we see it every day. We see examples of God’s providence in gifts from supporters who have less to give now than they did a year ago, but give anyway. We see it in volunteers who give so generously of their time and talents. We feel it

in the prayers being lifted up for us and our children every day.

God is taking care of us in so many ways. And we will continue to hope in the Lord so that He can renew our strength. Whether we are soaring on wings of eagles, running without getting tired or simply walking without fainting, we will persevere.

Thank you so much for continuing to persevere with us as we work to glorify God by caring for children and families.

Spring Work Day Brings Out Volunteers

PHFC’s annual Work, Worship and Play Day saw more than 300 volunteers come out to complete projects including deep cleaning, weeding, mulching, painting, assembling picnic tables, tidying donation rooms, roofing an outbuilding and refurbishing the softball field. Volunteers make a significant difference at the Home—we are so grateful for their committment to helping us glorify God by caring for children and families.



Top 10 Projects

1. **Golf Tournament Host** – willing to help organize and run a golf tournament to benefit PHFC.
2. **Teachers** – piano, guitar, crafts, etc.; 1 hour weekly for 6-weeks.
3. **Skilled Craftsmen** – carvers to sculpt tree trunks.
4. **Tutors** – help children who are behind academically.
5. **Bike Repair** – help us maintain our bicycles.
6. **Gardener/Landscaper** – able to plant or maintain landscape.
7. **Auto Mechanic** – someone to help repair and maintain PHFC’s vehicles.
8. **Woodworker** – help youth make frames, birdhouses, etc.
9. **Plumber** – help with plumbing projects on an as needed basis.
10. **Develop Nature Area** - help clear trails and build a bridge.

YLT Yard Sale Raises Almost \$3,000

The Youth Leadership Team at Presbyterian Home for Children held its first annual spring yard sale on May 2. All funds raised by the sale will be used to support YLT service projects, retreats and mission trips.

Youth and volunteers worked hard collecting, sorting and displaying items for sale. The day of the sale, PHFC youth manned the check-out table and helped shoppers carry items to their cars.

The final tally at the end of the day was \$2,743. The money will be used by the YLT for service projects--many of which support the local community--in the coming year.

In the past, PHFC youth have had the opportunity to give back



Yard sale items filled the gym at PHFC on May 2. Youth worked throughout the day to raise funds for service projects and retreats.

in a variety of ways. Weekend retreats have included service

projects such as clearing brush, deep cleaning and landscaping. Youth have also tackled local projects including serving food at a homeless shelter; fixing up a playground at a shelter for abused women and children; and adopting residents of a nursing home who don't have family of their own. International projects have included supporting mission work in Malawi, Africa, and participating in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.

"It's deeply meaningful to these children who so often receive support to be able to then turn around and give back themselves," said PHFC President Tom Campbell. "And when they work to earn the money that goes to support their efforts like they did with their yard sale, it becomes even more meaningful."

Four Staffers Earn MSWs



Four PHFC employees earned their Masters in Social Work from Western Carolina University in May 2009. Pictured from left to right are Crystal Campbell, coordinator of independent living; Shannon Covart, crisis stabilization; Robin Bryson, director of training, foster care and independent living; and Jill Williams, senior house parent.

Youth Enjoy Action-Packed Summer

Generous Donors Make Variety of Activities Possible

Youth at PHFC are braced for an exciting summer full of activities. Thanks to numerous donors, youth will enjoy a summer packed with fun and activities.

MIND & BODY - Each year staff hold a five-week program that combines education, recreation, arts & crafts and field trips in the region. In 2009, children will enjoy: Drama Week with a trip to a local theater; Up, Up, & Away week with rocketry and a trip to Asheville Regional Airport; and a local food week with a trip to the WNC Farmer's Market followed by a campus-wide iron chef cookoff.

BEACH RETREAT - Thanks to the generosity of Garden City Chapel in Garden City, SC, youth at the Home who have a C average or better in school are eligible for a week-long trip to Myrtle Beach. Other donors help with food, transportation, etc.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL - Wilderness Trail, a backpacking ministry has been generous enough to offer 10 scholarships to PHFC youth who will hike a portion of the Appalachian Trail this summer.

SHEPHERD OF THE OZARKS - Youth will select a group of peers whom they feel show strong leadership potential to head to the Ozarks to complete a service project in addition to enjoying activities like rock climbing and horseback riding.

WHITewater RAFTING - For several years, local rafting companies have donated a back-to-school trip each August to close out the summer.

CLUBS & CLASSES - In past years, volunteers have taught classes including drumming, baking, scrapbooking, stained glass, and other skills and activities to youth over the summer.



Youth had the opportunity to learn drumming techniques in 2008.



Youth often see the ocean for the first time at the beach retreat.



Youth serve staff judges their culinary creations at the annual iron chef cook-off featuring local ingredients from the WNC Farmer's Market.



Hiking the Appalachian Trail is challenging and rewarding.

Six Youth Earn High School Diplomas



Several of the 2009 graduates work with volunteer Tony Hart assembling furniture for the Independent Living Village.

On June 13, 2009, Brandy, Mariah, Meg and Victor walked across the stage at Owen High School and received their

diplomas. Later this summer, Logan will also earn her diploma bringing the total number of graduates at PHFC to six for the year (this number includes one youth who graduated in January).

All of the graduates are eligible to enter the new Ray Campbell Independent Living Village, which opened in December 2008. The program is designed to offer support to youth seeking to further their education.

The Child Welfare League of America has found that only about half of foster care youth

complete high school. PHFC has set a goal of seeing at least 60% of eligible youth graduate or earn a GED. In the first year since setting the goal, PHFC has seen 100% of eligible youth complete high school.

Youth have various plans to further their educations. Career interests include criminal justice, marketing, graphic design, outdoor education and human services. Several youth have indicated an interest in moving into the Independent Living Village over the summer.

Alumni Picnic July 18

PHFC's annual Alumni picnic will be held Saturday, July 18, 2009, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Home in Black Mountain.

In addition to former residents of the Home, former staff, volunteers and community supporters are welcome to join us for a day of food and reminiscing. Attendees can enjoy lunch, take time to explore campus and go on tours of the new Ray Campbell Independent Living Village. Alumni will also be given an opportunity to share stories about their time at PHFC.



Alumni and their families gathered around scrapbooks from days gone by at the 2008 Alumni Picnic.

Gifts to the Home *March - May 15, 2009*

EVERY DAY FUND

Churches

Black Mountain Presbyterian
Brevard-Davidson River Pres.
Cedar Springs Presbyterian
Conley Memorial Presbyterian
Emmanuel Moldovan Church
First Pres. PCUSA, Franklin
First Presbyterian, Belmont
First Presbyterian, Gastonia
First Presbyterian, Hendersonville
First Presbyterian, Marion
First Presbyterian, Sylva
Grace Covenant Presbyterian

Mills River Presbyterian Women
New Hope Presbyterian, Gastonia
Oak Forest Presbyterian
Presbyterian Women of PWNC
Presbytery of WNC
Quaker Meadows Presbyterian
Riceville Presbyterian
Saluda Presbyterian
Shelby Presbyterian
St Timothy's Anglican Mission
Sweetwater Presbyterian Church
Synod of the Mid Atlantic
Third Street Presbyterian Church
Toledo Campus Ministry

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Unity Presbyterian
Waldensian Presbyterian
Women of Brevard Davidson
River Presb.
Women of Brittain Presbyterian
Women of First Pres., Gastonia
Women of First Pres., Hendersonville
Women of Grace Covenant Pres.
Women of Mills River Pres.
Women of United Presbyterian

Businesses/Organizations

Asheville Christian Academy
Asheville Elevator Co. Inc.

Gifts *Continued*

Individuals

Anonymous
 Gene Arrowood
 Malcolm Arthur
 Robert Babb
 Wendell and Jo Barton
 Monette and Tony Bauer
 Norm and Carol Bomer
 Deanna Border
 Patricia and David Bradley
 Richard Buckner
 Margaret Burns
 Larry and Priscilla Burrus
 James Burt
 Crystal Campbell
 Tom and Cheryl Campbell
 William E. and Frances Campbell
 Laura Carter
 George and Claire Cashau
 Charlotte Chesnutt
 June Chesnutt
 Patricia and Larry Clark
 Charles and Jo Ellen Cline
 Robert Cline
 Jane Collins
 Jason and Elodie Covert
 Gene and Barbara Coxen
 John Crognale
 Rachel Daniels
 Allan Davenport
 Sandra Davidson
 Dorothy Descieux
 Wayne and Anne Gay Dickson
 C.R. and Rosie Donnelly
 Enes Durand
 John Elkins
 Ernest Few
 Barry and Robin Fichter
 Donald and Patricia Fisher
 James and Mildred Fletcher
 Marvin Floren
 Grady Franklin
 Ruth Gordon
 David and Rebecca Guggenheim
 Kim Hamrick
 Lib Harper
 Stacy Hart
 Sue Hawkins
 Harvey and Jean Haynes
 Lamar and Joann Hedrick

Ruth Heinemann
 Bruce and Judith Henderson
 Brock and Cathy Himan
 Phillip and Linda Humphries
 Joel Kendrick & Eva Ann McLean
 Grady and Sally Kennington
 Katie Kennington
 Jeremy and Amber Knighton
 Earl and Joanne Kratzer
 Susan Laney
 Edwin Lewis
 Al and Norma Mancinelli
 James and Maureen Marais
 Dean and Jeanette Marlow
 Wayne and Carol Martin
 James and Caroline Mattos
 Elizabeth Maxwell
 James and Lucy McCarl
 Roy and Marilyn McCorkle
 Glenda McDaniel
 Patsy McLeod
 Ellen Mills
 Wayne & Elizabeth Montgomery
 Kevin and Laurie Moorhead
 Joe and Karen Morgan
 James Munn
 Nancy Murray
 David Myers
 William Neville
 Jason and Lori Norris-Sutphin
 Blair and Betty Olmstead
 Burton and Carolyn Osteen
 Mark and Linda Owens
 Jim and Sylvia Payne
 William and Helen Prescott
 Kevin Reynolds
 Paul and Loretta Reynolds
 Martha Rhodes
 Johnathan and Mary Jane Rhyne
 Clyde and Delores Roberts
 Bob and Sandy Robinson
 Sandy Robinson
 Charles and Joyce Sammet
 Martha Schaefle
 Alice Schweitzer
 Paul Scouten
 Pope and Peggy Shuford
 William and Jessie Silber
 J.B and Mary Slaughter
 Lurline Slider
 Robert Smathers
 Bernard Smith

John Smith
 Robert and Doris Smith
 William and Virginia Smith
 Natalie Staschke
 Everett Stephenson
 Marvin and Margie Stewart
 Ned and Joyce Straehla
 Natalie Stroud
 Jim & Sarah Thomas
 Roger and Donna Thompson
 Lacy and Dorothy Thornburg
 Steve and Ann Thurston
 Billy and Jeanie Walker
 Michael and Jerri Warnock
 T. Edmund Whitmire
 Don and Marihonor Widmayer
 Chris and Jill Williams
 Roston Williamson
 Mike and Joan Wilson
 Don and Peg Windmiller
 Raymond Wissolik
 Michael and Julia Yestrebsky

Memorials

Alma Alexander

Catherine Spangler

Stacy Arrowood

Homer Legrand

Randy Babcock

Ann Babcock

Bobby Alexander Elliott

Wade and Juanita Elliott

Kay Godfrey

Danny and Margaret Mullis

Ted Grant

Evelyn Renda

Joe Keenan

John and Linda Brackett

Boyce Lindsay

Riley and Judy Covin

JoAnn Hughey

Charles Miller

Tom and Virginia Avery

Tommy Parks

John and Helen Harris

John Peden

First Presbyterian, Gastonia

John Stewart

Graham Price

Malcolm Arthur

Reid and Lillian Lovelace

Dan Ray

Wade and Vickie Reece
Sara Robinson
Ken and Deborah Wilson

John Seawell

Grady and Sally Kennington

Wolfgang Selle

Robert Camenzind

Christian Shull

Rheta Robinson

Sara A. Smithson

Marianna Williams

Willie Springs

Women of First Pres., Mt. Holly

Gilbert Unger

Mary Gregory

Patricia Vingle

Richard and Mary Doyle

Jane Vine Vokes

Deane Foster

Elaine Schenck

Bryan and Susan Whitmore

Honorariums

Ann Babcock

Ann Babcock

Grady Kennington

Katie Kennington

Marshall Witherell

Wesley and Kasey Barnes

William Current

Charles and Christa Heilig

James and Cherrienne Hooks

Dustin and Caroline Letts

Reese and Mandy Rencher

Timothy and Kimberly Witherell

Patricia Clark

Alan and Cathy Clark

Mary Hollins

Fred Hollins

John P. Swanson

Kathleen T. Swanson & M.

Hayes Mizell

Jesse Thornburg

Lacy and Dorothy Thornburg

Estates

William Moss Salley, Jr.

Foundations

The Community Foundation of WNC

The Prudential Foundation

Matching Gifts Program

IN-KIND

Individuals

Malcolm Arthur

Norm and Carol Bomer

Kathy Branch

Ed and Leslie Brenegar

Marilyn Buchan

Jane Collins

Joseph and Judith Cook

Brenda Dean

C.R. and Rosie Donnelly

Mark Edwards

Minta Eley

Nancy England

Michael Ferjak

Larry and Marian Fincher

Betsy Hester

Brock and Cathy Himan

Katherine Hirstner

Duane and Erin Honeycutt

Randy and Lauria Hughes

Melinda Kent

Elvis and Rebecca Lafunor

Polly Layman

Sara LeVan

Ricky and Crystal Levi

Dean and Jeanette Marlow

Bill Metts

William Neville

Ken Nixon

Peggy Pitman

Sandi Rector

Stuart Rice

Ken and Leslie Saucedo

Margaret Smith

Amaelia Solada

Roger and Donna Thompson

Kellie Tipton

Wayne and Amy Turner

Tim Wagner

Nancy Wait

Michael and Jerri Warnock

Jason and Tania Wells

James and Charlotte Wharton

Susan Young

Churches/Organizations

Black Mountain Parks and Rec

Cedar Springs Presbyterian

Crossfire Ministries

First Presbyterian, Asheville

First Presbyterian, Hendersonville

First Presbyterian, Sylva

Friends of the Black Mountain

Library

Women of Bryson City Pres.

Businesses

The Bake Shoppe

The Biltmore Company

Cheshire Swim Club

Solstice Salon Spa

SECOND CENTURY FUND

Individuals

Bill and Tammy Brown

Brandon and Robin Bryson

Shannon Covart

Bruce and Judith Henderson

Joel Kendrick & Eva Ann McLean

Jason and Lori Norris-Sutphin

Jeffery and Winyah Templin

Jim and Sarah Thomas

Churches

First Presbyterian, Gastonia

First Presbyterian, Belmont

Fall 2009 Back-to-School Needs

- 1) Small Post-its
- 2) 1" and 1.5" three-ring binders
- 3) TI-30X IIS calculators
- 4) Folders with 3 prongs and side pockets
- 5) Pens (black or blue)
- 6) Antibacterial soap
- 7) Hand sanitizer
- 8) Small Sharpies
- 9) Pencil pouches for three-ring

- binders
- 10) Mechanical pencils
- 11) College-ruled, spiral notebooks (3 or 5 subject)
- 12) Crayola markers
- 13) Colored cardstock
- 14) Colored construction paper
- 15) Posterboard



Will you leave a legacy?

Consider planned giving as a way to ensure PHFC will continue in its mission to glorify God by caring for children and families for years to come. The simplest ways to remember the Home are through bequests or by naming PHFC as a beneficiary of an insurance policy. Call 828-686-3451 for more information.

PHFC Board of Directors

Dr. Bruce Henderson - *Chair*

Dottie Thornburg - *Vice Chair*

Ken Farmer - *Treasurer*

Glenda McDaniel - *Asst. Treasurer*

Tom Campbell - *President of PHFC*

Bart Bounous, Pat Bradley, Carol Burnette,
Patricia Clark, Dr. Jim Cockerham, Judith Cook,
Ruth Gordon, Lib Harper, Brock Himan,
Joel Kendrick, Grady Kennington, Frank Maske,
Dr. Wayne Montgomery, Keith Nichols,
Abigail Owolabi, Johnathan Rhyne Jr.,
Charles Snead, Ed Teters, John Webb

Top 10 Needs

- 1. Supplies for the Independent Living Village** see gift registries at Target, Wal-Mart and Bed, Bath & Beyond. Look under first name "PHFC" and last name "youth"
- 2. Large gas grill** - for campus cookouts
- 3. Hair straighteners and small fans** for youth rooms
- 4. Two 60-foot I-beams** - to build a bridge to our nature area
- 5. Good used vehicles** - for youth entering the Independent Living Program
- 6. Weed eaters & gas leaf blowers**
- 7. Porch planters and porch furniture** - to beautify campus
- 8. Living room furniture** - new or gently used sofa or sectional
- 9. Foster care supplies** - diapers, car seats, new clothing, baby supplies, etc.
- 10. Backpacking/camping gear** for youth hiking the Appalachian Trail--rain jackets are particularly needed



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Presbyterian Home for Children
80 Lake Eden Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
Return Service Requested