

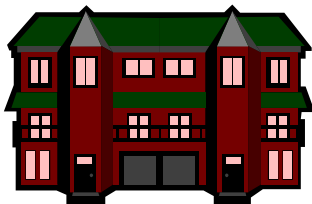


May 15, 2006

PRESBYTERIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN

SECOND CENTURY OF CARING

Independent Living Program



Independent Living Program

- 12 Youth to attend college, trade or technical school
- Eight Apartments
- Independent Living Coordinator & supportive environment

Presbyterian Home for Children has a 102-year history of caring for children and providing a loving, supportive family-style environment that continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of today's youth. As you may know, most of our children are placed here by the family courts and county DSS agencies who have removed them from their homes due to severe abuse, neglect and outright abandonment.

Like other children in foster care, many of our youth have undergone multiple placements, including failed adoptions that have left them feeling disconnected from society and "the system" that is in control of their lives. As teenagers, they long for freedom but lack the maturity, life skills and support needed to achieve success. The NC Child Advocacy Group reports that: 1 in 8 children who "age-out" and leave foster care upon turning 18 will be homeless within 12 months. 62% of females will experience an unplanned pregnancy within the first 2 years and 20% of youth will become addicted to drugs and/or alcohol. These are powerful indicators of the need to develop new and innovative programs that address the needs of older youth and prepare them for adulthood.

After consulting with state and local agencies, social workers and childcare professionals, we have determined that the development of an Independent Living Program (ILP) is the next logical step in our continuum of care. The program will include educational and career guidance, tuition assistance, transportation and training in independent living skills for up to 12 youth residing in 6 two-bedroom apartments. There will be a full-time Independent Living Coordinator on-hand to supervise, provide counseling and offer assistance to youth. While participating in the ILP, youth will be given greater independence, and be expected to keep their grades up, interact with the PHFC community and mentor younger children.

In 2006, we are once again challenging our loyal friends, churches, business partners and communities throughout our region to step forward to help us provide hope, encouragement and to instill a sense of pride in older youth who are facing life on their own. We want to give them **Hope** that comes through an opportunity to have a brighter future by continuing their higher education. We need to provide the **Encouragement** that comes through learning independence in an environment where people care about you. We want our youth to know the feeling of **Pride** that comes from hard work, achieving goals and a job well done!

If you would like to find out more about this innovative project, please contact Tom Campbell to schedule a tour and viewing of the design plans.

Campaign Progress

Raised to Date: \$2,005,561

100%

\$4,820,000 Goal



As of May 15, 2006 we have raised 42% of our campaign goal!

Cluster News

The next Cluster Leadership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2006 @ 2:00 PM. All interested men and women are invited to attend! We will be discussing new ideas and planning for events to be held this summer.

- Leaders and Committee members for **Cluster B** (Buncombe, McDowell and Madison) and for **Cluster F** (Avery, Mitchell and Yancey) are still needed!
- Committee members and general helpers are needed from all churches to assist with event planning, implementation and securing donations.
- Pastors can help by directing interested volunteers and youth groups to the appropriate cluster leader.

For more information, please contact Terri Bowman or Tom Campbell at PHFC (828) 686-3451

Business Partnership Program

The Campaign Steering Committee and Development staff are busy putting the final touches on PHFC's first Corporate Sponsorship Program. The goal is to generate new and lasting partnerships with business leaders while providing them with an opportunity to directly help the abused and neglected children in Western North Carolina.

Sponsorships will begin at \$1,000 (Cousins) and progress to \$25,000 and higher (Grandparents) giving levels with a variety of recognition methods available.

For more information, please contact Terri Bowman or Tom Campbell at PHFC (828) 686-3451

Grant us this day...

Waiting, Waiting, Waiting...

After our recent award of \$100,000 by the Janirve Foundation for the construction of our new Independent Living Program, we were excited about the prospects of additional foundation awards being made.

In June 2006, we expect to hear from The Community Foundation of WNC and The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. Please keep the Home in your prayers as we eagerly await the answers to our funding requests.

Our next Campaign Steering Committee Meeting will be held May 25, 2006 @ 8:30 AM

Look for our next Second Century of Caring Update on 6/15/06

Over 100 years of Glorifying God by Caring for Children and Families