

## *FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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### **BANK OF AMERICA SUPPORTS THE CHILDREN'S HOME** **WITH \$9,700 GRANT**

**MT. HOLLY, NJ, March 2010** - The Bank of America Charitable Foundation awarded a \$9,700 grant to The Children's Home in Mount Holly, NJ to create a Horticulture Program for troubled and at-risk youth. This support provides the seed funding necessary to get the program up and running with the construction of a greenhouse.

Opportunities for personal growth, academic advancement and skill development will be made available to all youth in The Children's Home residential treatment programs and students at the agency's Mary A. Dobbins special education school.

"The Horticulture Program is an innovative way to reach a group of young men and women struggling to realize their full potential," said Robert Caprice, senior vice president, Bank of America Business Banking. "The Children's Home has been making a difference in the community for as long as anyone can remember, and we are proud to call them partners."



Bank of America Senior VP, Robert C. Caprice (right) presents a check to The Children's Home Executive Director, Roy Leitstein (left)

Youth in residential treatment centers, as well as special education students, often experience significant life skill deficits and delays, causing them to struggle to make successful transitions from the child welfare system to adulthood. Youth development programs provide opportunities for them to gain job readiness and self-sufficiency skills they can put to immediate use or build upon over time. "This award will enable The Children's Home to provide our kids with fun, outdoor activities where they will learn new skills and improve their self-esteem, and we are extremely grateful to Bank of America for their support of this initiative," said Roy Leitstein, The Children's Home Executive Director.

Founded in 1864, The Children's Home is a private, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization providing residential treatment, alternative to detention, special education, emergency shelter and supported housing to youth from throughout New Jersey. Its mission is to provide professional therapeutic and supportive services that help children and their families to become productive members of society. The Children's Home serves over 300 boys and girls annually, ages 10-21, throughout all of its programs.