



The Children's Home

WARRIORS TODAY

- A community newsletter written by the students



Roy A. Leitstein
Executive Director

Students Fundraise for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Students at the Mary A. Dobbins School held a talent & fashion show fundraiser at The Children's Home and raised \$684.00 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

The fashion show had both male and female residents model sports, casual and formal outfits. The fashion show was very nice.

The talent portion was also very nice and residents showed their talents by singing, dancing and reading poetry that was very unique. During the show we also held a bake sale to raise money.

The audience paid a lot of attention and was very respectful and patient and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The

overall outcome of the talent & fashion show was very nice & everyone had a great time.

- *Keisha



A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization providing residential treatment, special education and emergency shelter services to New Jersey's youth

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On my own for the first time...

My experience living in the Supported Housing independent living program has been great. I have had people tell me all my life what I can do and what I can't do, but now I do things the way that I want to. Living here has made me a better person like saving my money for things that I need for the house and to save for when my rent is due. I have also liked the fact that staff are not watching you like a dog and you have freedom to live your life. Living here has also made me grow up and become a man and because I know if I want things then I have to get it myself because things are not given to you anymore. These are some things that I have learned living in the Supported Housing Program and I hope to keep learning things to make me a better person.



-*A.J.

"Learning another language is fun"

I started doing sign language at home when I was a baby because my mom is mute. Learning another language is fun. The sign language I learned was English Sign Language. I started a sign class at Rancocas Valley high school. The sign language class is American sign language which is good for me because I am learning 2 types of sign language. I really enjoy learning sign language, it makes me feel good inside. I love to talk and sign language is another way for me to talk. I want to go to college for sign language. I want to be an interpreter and work with people who are at hospitals, courts or churches.

- *Devon

SAVE THE DATE

17th Annual
Golf Tournament
April 27, 2009

Woodcrest Country Club
Cherry Hill, NJ

More details coming soon

Mission

To provide professional therapeutic and supportive services that help children and their families to become productive members of society.

Summer Clubs

The school clubs are a good idea to keep us out of trouble and give us something constructive to do with our afternoons. We have fishing (see photo), cosmetology, sports, music appreciation and other subjects to keep us occupied and out of trouble. It is also a learning experience for us to learn and appreciate new things so we don't have to do the same thing every day. Lastly, we can make some of the activities a job to help people.

- *Matthew



Donor support enabled our kids to experience their first ever chartered fishing trip this past summer at the Jersey shore. Thank You!

School Uniforms

A New Addition for the '08-'09 School Year

School uniforms are a great idea because we don't have to rush in the morning or pick out our clothes and we have uniforms to wear so we will not be late for school. Uniforms are a very great outcome because the students don't have to get teased about what they have on because all of the students have on all the same thing - green collared shirts and khaki pants. Mary A. Dobbins School has set a good goal about putting the students in uniforms because if the students go on school trips they can be identified on and off school grounds. The uniforms sets the mood and mind frame of the students at school for the school day. I have noticed that mostly the students have not been wearing their uniforms as they are supposed to but I think that the uniforms helps a professional, cohesive learning environment for the students.

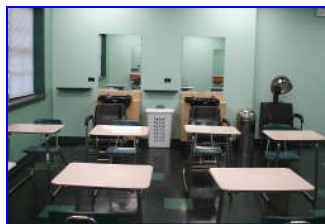
- *Jasmine

Vocational Cosmetology Program



In Cosmetology class we learn how to cut and wash hair. Mr. Smitty teaches us how to braid and moisturize hair too. I am one of the best students he has in Cosmetology class.

When I first came to this program I did not know how to cut hair until Mr. Smitty showed me how. The first time I cut someone's hair I was very nervous but



Cosmetology Classroom

Mr. Smitty said, "Don't be nervous, just take your time and I will show you how to do it." I took my time and it came out good and now I know how.

A long term goal I have is to go to Cosmetology school so I can get my license to cut hair. In the short term I want to go home and do good.

- *Luis



I think that the Cosmetology class helps me out a lot. I learned that you have to keep up on your hygiene. I learned that everybody has different types of hair and I learned how to cut straight hair. I also know how to wash hair much better now. I know how to do it the right way by using your finger tips on someone's head. Out of all the work I like this class very much.

- *Brian

Supporter News



Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Over 100 of our residents and

their families enjoyed a plentiful Thanksgiving dinner thanks to your generosity!



Thank you to all the Prudential Fox & Roach Realtor employees from the Mount Laurel, Moorestown, Medford and Princeton offices who dedicated their time and effort on Prudential's Community Service Day to participate in fall plantings at our Mount Holly and Mercer House facilities. And thanks to Lowe's of Princeton for donating flowers and supplies for the Mercer House project.

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RECENT GRANT SUPPORT

June -

- Hyde & Watson Foundation awarded \$5,000 to our Cosmetology Program
- Sovereign Bank Foundation awarded \$1,500 to our Supported Housing Program

August -

- NJ DoT Youth Corps \$32,000 reimbursement grant for vocational training
- Department of Children & Families awarded \$40,000 Capital Bond grant towards building repairs