

WORDS OF HOPE

The Newsletter for
Hoffman Homes for Youth



FALL 2010

Centennial Gala Celebration Approaching

There is still time to make plans to attend the Hoffman Homes for Youth 100th Anniversary Gala. Please RSVP by October 25th by contacting Alicia Stanley, Director of Development, at 717-359-7148, extension 1404. Tickets are \$100, and checks may be made payable to Hoffman Homes for Youth.



The Board of Directors of Hoffman Homes for Youth
invites you to join us

100th ANNIVERSARY Gala

Friday, November 5, 2010
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Oxford Hill Manor
Home of Mike and Jane Rice
827 Hanover Street
New Oxford, PA

Fine dining provided by The Altland House
Live music by The Colgan-Hirsh Band
Silent and Live Auction

Formal attire required. Black tie recommended.
No cameras or cell phones permitted.
Guests must be 21 or older please.

Receive Words of Hope Newsletter Electronically

Beginning January 2011, the Hoffman Homes for Youth newsletter will be available to be received by email. The newsletter will continue to be on our website at www.hoffmanhomes.com. If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically and discontinue receiving by mail, please contact Alicia Stanley, Director of Development and provide your email address. Alicia can be reached by email at astanley@hoffmanhomes.com or by phone at 717-359-7148, extension 1404.



Hoffman Homes for Youth

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Hoffman Homes for Youth is a private, not-for-profit Pennsylvania corporation historically related to the United Church of Christ. The purpose of Hoffman Homes for Youth is to provide comprehensive psychiatric care, treatment and education to emotionally and behaviorally troubled children and their families. Hoffman Homes for Youth is committed to providing services that are cost effective and responsive to the unique needs of each child.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending on your perspective) Hoffman Homes falls under the oversight of many different county, state and national agencies. Since 1990, one of the most important agencies involved with HH is the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). This national accreditation helps assure that we meet the highest standards of care for the children and families we serve. Their survey is usually completed every three years, and in September we underwent another JCAHO survey. I am happy to report that once again, we will receive JCAHO accreditation. The surveyor commented that it is obvious that we are providing a high quality of care to the children with "really fine clinicians". There are areas JCAHO pointed out that we need to improve, primarily in areas that do not directly impact care, and we will work diligently to make those changes.

Another recent event of significance was our participation in Sanctuary Model training. Seven members of our staff, including department heads and direct care staff, spent a week in Yonkers, NY for this intensive training. Staff from Sanctuary will also be coming to our campus for several days for an on-site evaluation of our program. The Sanctuary Model represents a trauma-informed system designed to develop processes and behaviors of staff and children that can counteract the "wounds" suffered by the children in our care. We are excited about the process and the potential for us to improve the overall community of our campus.

These are just two examples of systems and processes that we undertake in order to provide the best possible services to children and their families. Of course, none of these systems or processes would work without our dedicated and caring staff.

We continue to be open to feedback from children, parents, placing agencies and others regarding the changes we are trying to implement. We are also happy to hear from you! Please contact me anytime with questions, suggestions, or concerns related to our program.

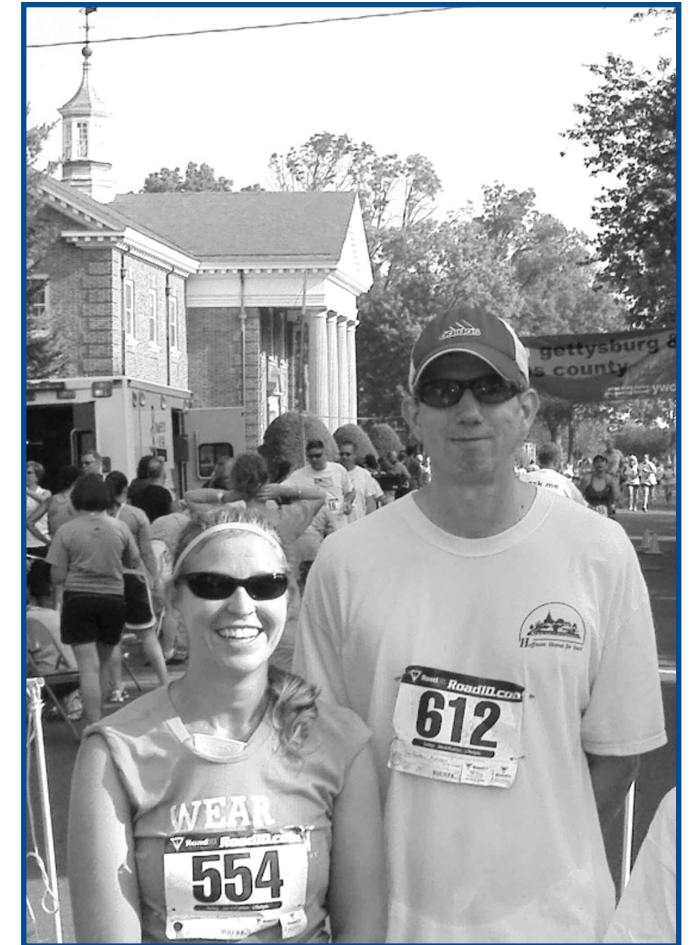
Sincerely,

C. Mitchell Snider, MBA
Executive Director



Musselman Milers Participate in 2010 Spirit of Gettysburg 5K Run

On Saturday, June 26th, Hoffman Homes for Youth participated in the Spirit of Gettysburg 5K Run for the fourth year in a row. The 5K course passes the famous Eternal Peace Light Memorial in Gettysburg and has become an annual event for some of the children and for staff at Hoffman Homes. Therapist Rick VanBuren and Brian F. completed the race this year. Mr. VanBuren begins running with youth months before the event and encourages the youth he works with to set goals. After the run, Brian F. was awarded with a medal to symbolize his hard work and was encouraged to continue running for good health, both physically and mentally.



Change in Friends of Hoffman Homes Membership Meeting

SAVE THE DATE: The Friends general membership meeting has been changed from the first Thursday in November to the second Thursday, November 11th. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and last about two hours. Feel free to contact Alicia Stanley, ext 1404, with any questions.

Hoffman Homes Implementing Sanctuary Model

During the week of September 20th, seven employees attended a weeklong training on the Sanctuary Model in Yonkers, NY. Included in the training were department heads, an assistant department head, direct care staff, and our consulting psychiatrist.

Sanctuary Model is not a “miracle cure” for all problems in organizations, but there is research and evidence to prove that it does work. If implemented correctly, Sanctuary reduces restraints, reduces staff and child injuries, reduces staff turnover, increases morale, and increases referrals for admissions to the program.

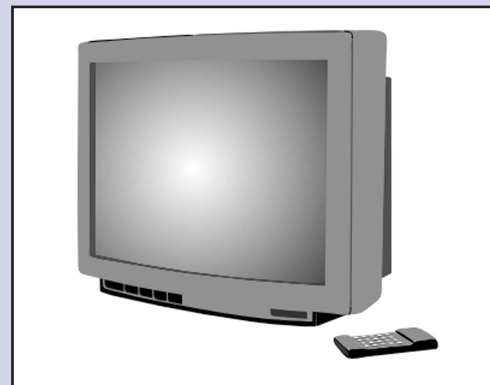
So, what is Sanctuary? It is an ongoing organizational and treatment intervention that addresses the ways that trauma, adversity, and chronic stress influence individuals (children and staff) and organizations. It is based on a set of guiding principles as well as some specific tools that reinforce the philosophy when practiced by the staff and children on a daily basis.

It takes about three years to fully implement the Sanctuary Model and we are eager to get started! Members of the Steering Committee who attended the training are currently working on plans to form a Core Team who will be trained in the model. Eventually, this Core Team will be responsible for training the remaining staff. In the meantime, the Steering Committee members will be sharing the seven commitments of the Sanctuary Model with our staff and children:

- A commitment to **Nonviolence** - being safe physically, emotionally, socially and morally.
- A commitment to **Emotional Intelligence** - managing our feelings so that we don't hurt others or ourselves.
- A commitment to **Social Learning** - respecting and sharing ideas.
- A commitment to **Democracy** - shared decision making.
- A commitment to **Open Communication** - saying what we mean and not being mean when we say it.
- A commitment to **Social Responsibility** - together we accomplish more.
- A commitment to **Growth and Change** - creating hope for our children and ourselves.

Consider Donating Your Extra Televisions

As you upgrade to new flat-screen televisions, please consider donating your extra televisions to HH. While each primary residence has a flat-screen television for viewing satellite and movies, the old televisions are still being used with video game systems. The size and weight of the older televisions make them perfect for that purpose. Here's what we need: 19-inch or larger screen with audio/visual (AV) inputs. AV inputs are generally three jacks, which are yellow, white, and red. Most televisions manufactured in the last 10 years have at least one set of AV inputs. It is very important that the television come from a smoke-free environment and that it is fully functional. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a donation, please contact Alicia Stanley, ext 1404.

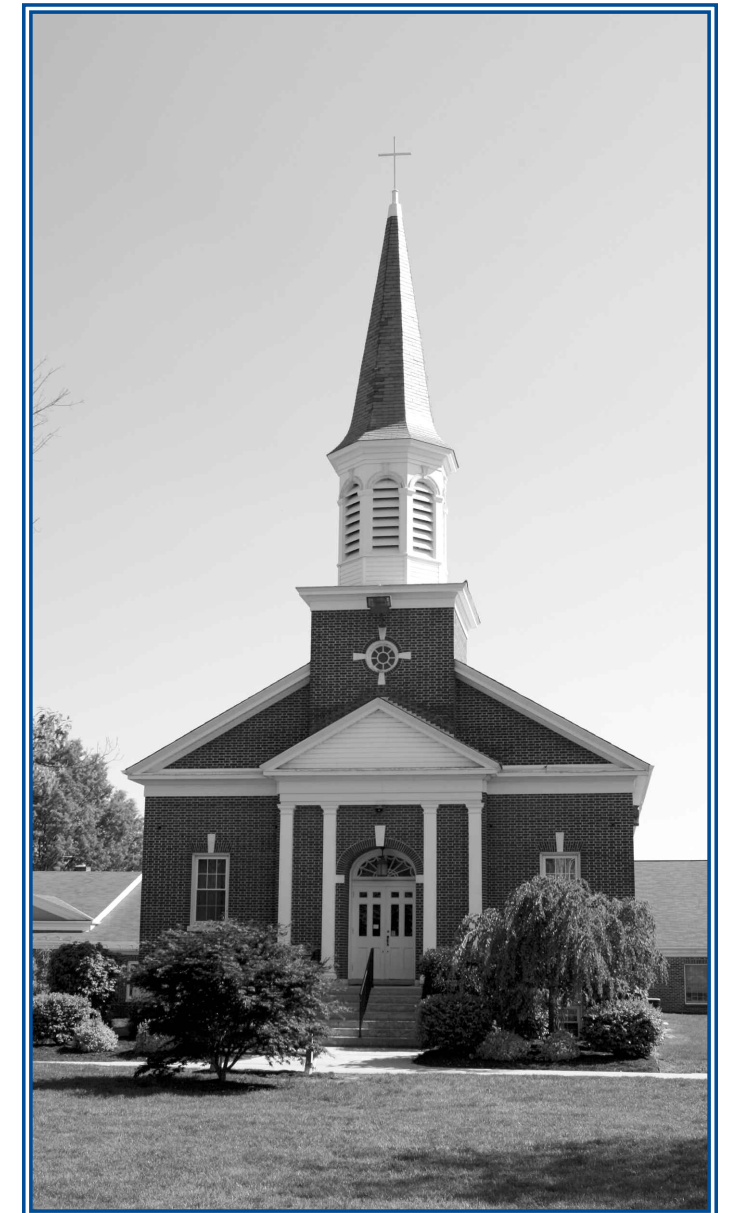


Youth of the Year Award

Hoffman Homes for Youth is the winner of the Youth of the Year award for the 2010 National Philanthropy Day! HHY was nominated by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for their efforts with the Pennies for Patients program, led by Betsy Rohrbaugh. The award will be presented at the National Philanthropy Day Awards Banquet on Monday, November 15th.

Vacation Bible School

This July, Donna Hale came to Hoffman Homes to teach Vacation Bible School to the children in care. For four days, the children were able to come to the Chapel and join in different activities. The children participated in skits and readings. They also completed art projects that reflected what they learned during the classes.



There are Many Ways to Give to Hoffman Homes...

Annual Appeal

The Golf Tournament, Autumn Gala, and the Annual Appeal are Hoffman Homes for Youth's fundraising efforts to provide necessary support to the operating budget. Gifts to these solicitations ensure up to date, cheerful and safe residences for our children. Each of these fundraising events defray the cost of needed renovations to the school building, residences and recreation spaces. They are vital to sustain an adequate environment for healing and learning.

Endowment

Endowment funds provide additional income to supplement the annual operating budget and provide for needed growth. Gifts to the endowment fund enable Hoffman Homes for Youth to anticipate a stable financial future.

Gift Planning

Planned or deferred gifts help donors enhance their tax planning, investment objectives and retirement needs while insuring the future of Hoffman Homes for Youth. Many choose to do this with a charitable bequest in their will. For more information regarding gifts of cash and property, gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, life income trusts for others, charitable remainder trusts and special bequests, please call the development office.

Tributes

Gifts in honor of a loved one are a special way to remember family and friends. These gifts are deeply appreciated by Hoffman Homes for Youth and a heartfelt acknowledgment (and our prayers) are sent to friends and family members.

Gifts in Kind

Hoffman Homes for Youth gratefully accepts gifts of school supplies, food, art supplies and equipment for our children. We are especially grateful that our holiday gift program is supported by so many churches and organizations. Please call the development office to arrange for delivery and acceptance of these wonderful contributions

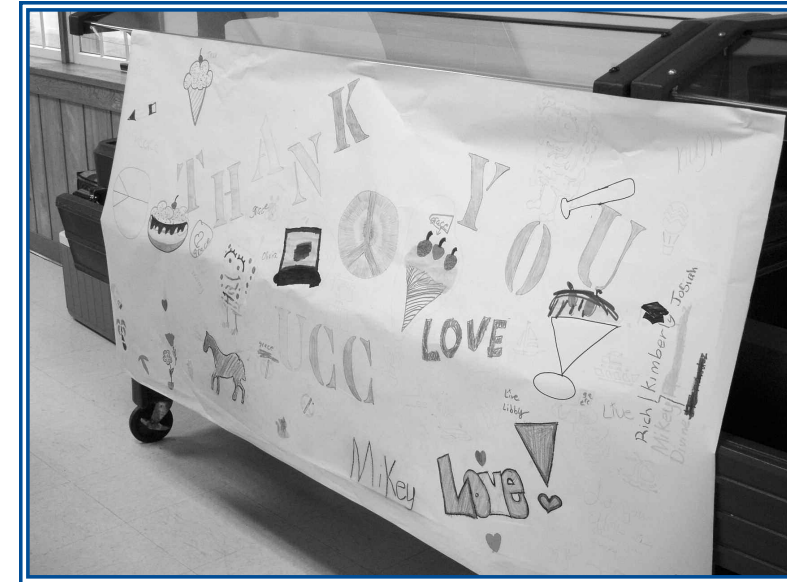
Holiday Gift Program

It's time to start thinking about holiday wishes for the children at Hoffman Homes for Youth. The Development office is currently accepting donations and requests for gift tags. If you would like to purchase gifts for a child in care or have questions about the program, please contact Alicia Stanley, Director of Development at 717-359-7148, extension 1404.



Annual Appeal

As November quickly approaches, Hoffman Homes is preparing to send out our Annual Appeal. This year all funds will go towards educational programs and services. Last year we raised \$33,787, which allowed us to replace flooring in all residences. Our goal this year is to raise \$50,000. Please look for your letter in November and help us reach our goal so we can continue to provide a wonderful learning environment for the children in care at Hoffman Homes.



Trinity Peaches & Ice Cream Social

On Wednesday, August 18th, members of Trinity United Church of Christ in Gettysburg celebrated with the children at Hoffman Homes during their annual Peaches & Ice Cream Social. Hollabaugh Brothers, Inc. Fruit Farm & Market located in Biglerville, PA, generously donated the peaches. Many hours of preparation went into this event to peel the peaches and prepare the ice cream. The children enjoyed the special treat and created a banner to show their appreciation. Thank you Trinity UCC!



Hoffman Homes for Youth

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, November 5, 2010 CENTENNIAL AUTUMN GALA

SAVE THE DATE: On Friday, November 5, 2010, Hoffman Homes for Youth will celebrate their 100th Anniversary of serving children and families in need. The Centennial Autumn Gala will be held at Oxford Hill Manor, the home of Mike and Jane Rice. This black tie event is one you will not want to miss and will begin at 7 p.m. with hor d'oeuvres and champagne. The Colgan-Hirsh Band will be present to provide musical entertainment for the crowd. Please come and tour the gardens, place a bid during the silent or live auctions, or simply relax for an evening of fun and entertainment while supporting a cause that has been meeting the unique needs of children in care for a century! For sponsorship opportunities or more information, please contact Alicia Stanley, Director of Development, at extension 1404.

Saturday, March 19 & 26, 2011 YOUTH DAY EVENTS

Youth groups are invited to attend the 2011 Youth Day Events. For United Church of Christ congregations, confirmands can learn about the mission of the church and how Hoffman Homes for Youth is related to that mission. The events will be held on Saturday, March 19th and Saturday, March 26th from 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. The day begins with a light breakfast and short introduction into the "mission" of Hoffman Homes for Youth and how it relates to the church and youth groups. Visitors will take a tour of campus, learn about the programs offered at Hoffman Homes, and complete a service project. For more information and to reserve a date for your group, please contact Alicia Stanley, Director of Development, at extension 1404.

Monday, June 13, 2011 GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE: The 14th Annual Golf Tournament has been scheduled for next year! The tournament will be held at the Hanover Country Club. This is an event you will not want to miss! Join us for lunch, a shot-gun start, awards dinner, and giveaways! For more information, please contact Alicia Stanley, Director of Development, at extension 1404.

HOFFMAN BY THE NUMBERS

2009 STATISTIC TOTALS

- 167 children admitted
- 148 children discharged
- 12.7 was the average age
- 9.9 months was the average length of stay
- 58% of children admitted had previous inpatient psychiatric hospital stays
- 37% of children admitted had made at least one serious attempt of suicide
- 36% of children admitted had been sexually abused
- 40% of children admitted had been physically abused
- 91% of children admitted had a history of aggression
- 82% of children admitted met their treatment goals

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On August 3rd, Executive Director Mitch Snider appeared on radio station 98YCR to discuss the Hoffman Homes program, how we help the children, and ways the community can help.

www.hoffmanhomes.com

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