Charity Ball Association hosts Children at Kiddie Park

The Charity Ball Association of San Antonio treated 20 children from DePaul-Wesley Children's Center to a morning of fun and rides at Kiddie Park on the corner of Mulberry and Broadway (photo below), the nation's oldest children's amusement park since 1925. A photograph of this excursion will appear in the Charity Ball Association's rotogravure, which comes out once a year and recognizes children's organizations funded by the 60-year old women's philanthropic group. The mission of the Charity Ball Association is to support and enhance the quality of life for the children of Bexar County.

The Charity Ball's commitment to Daughters of Charity Services goes way beyond a day of fun and games. The Association has awarded a 2014 grant to expand and enhance the Early Childhood Education program curriculum with an online assessment tool that can create a developmental profile of each child. This will help determine the child's levels of knowledge and abilities. It will also assist teachers in recognizing children who might benefit from special help, screening, or further evaluation. Current estimates show that the majority of our children are performing at age level. However, our behavioral specialist has determined that approximately 50 percent of the children who come from neglectful, chaotic, and even traumatic settings would benefit from intervention and extra help.

The Charity Ball Association has been a good friend to the children of DePaul and DePaul-Wesley with past grants for furniture and equipment, as well as a major playground grant to the Children First campaign to build DePaul Children's Center in 2008.

Adopt-a-Child
Back to School Program

Do you remember the excitement of the first day of school?

Many children living in poverty spend that special day at home, to avoid the embarrassment of wearing worn-out clothes and being without the required school supplies. Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio have been advocates for the less fortunate with the Back to School Program since 1995.

Please be part of this wonderful tradition by participating in the Adopt-a-Child Back to School Program. Monetary donations are accepted, or you can shop for a particular child.

Call 210-334-2300 for more information

New shoes .....................................................$25-$50
New clothing ................................................$50-$100
School supplies ..........................................$25-$50
TOTAL .......................................................$100-$200

Your contribution makes the first day of school special!

☐ YES, I want to shop for a child. Please send me more information.
☐ YES, I want to sponsor a child. Enclosed is my contribution of:
  □ $25  □ $50  □ $100  □ $200  □ Other

Name______________________________________
Address____________________________________
City/State/Zip______________________________
Phone______________________________________

Mail to: ADOPT-A-CHILD
Daughters of Charity Services
7607 Somerset Road - San Antonio, TX 78211
or FAX to: 210-922-0332
Summer 2014
Published by
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7607 Somerset Road, San Antonio, Texas 78211

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Mission Statement
Faithful to the Vincentian tradition, the Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio will establish and maintain neighborhood-based programs to increase accessibility to primary health care and human services on the part of the poor. These programs will have a strong holistic orientation and consider participation and empowerment as an integral dimension of the delivery service. While services will be rendered with preferential option for the poor, it is not to the exclusion of others.

Service Locations
Main phone number: 210-334-2300.
DePaul Family Center
7607 Somerset Road
San Antonio, Texas 78211
DePaul Children's Center
3050 Golden
San Antonio, Texas 78211
DePaul-Wesley Children's Center
1418 Fitch
San Antonio, Texas 78211
El Carmen Wellness Center
18555-1 Leal Road
San Antonio, Texas 78221
La Misión Family Health Care
19780 South US Hwy 281
San Antonio, Texas 78221

Message from the President/CEO

Organizations like ours are fond of their statistics. We use them to measure our progress from year to year, to report to funders, and to give ourselves a pat on the back. For example, last year Daughters of Charity Services provided 55,261 child care days, 6,306 medical visits, 6,033 dental visits, and 9,212 social service visits.

But we must never lose sight of the fact that every one of those numbers stands for a person, a family, a child, a mother, or a father. Behind that number might be a crisis or a tragedy, or there might just as easily be a crisis averted, an accomplishment, a triumph, a healing.

At this year’s luncheon, Board Chair Lee Bailey took flight from that lofty statistical perch in the sky and zoomed down the way you might do on Google Maps, to give us a close look at a few of the people behind the numbers.

He told us about the gentleman in Sister Laureana’s office one day who displayed some erratic behavior, and she called 911 over his protest. Turns out he was having a stroke. She worked with him later to manage the ensuing medical charges. We learned about the diabetic woman who couldn’t afford glucose test strips. When our caseworker investigated, she found out that the client had neglected to sign up for Medicare Part D, which covers diabetic testing supplies. This client also had her eyes checked at the University of the Incarnate Word School of Optometry where we have a collaborative agreement. Lee told us about a family last winter who didn’t have any heat in their house until we located some space heaters for them. Then there was the teacher who noticed that one of the infants in her care seemed to be behind in motor skills development. We referred the family to Brighton Center and today that baby, now a toddler, has improved significantly.

We still love our numbers, but we really love the clients, the skilled associates, and the healing care that those numbers represent here on the ground.
Ana De Hoyos O’Connor grew up in the Columbia Heights neighborhood a few blocks from DePaul-Wesley Children’s Center, and her mom still lives there. When it came time for her to speak, she stepped out from behind the podium and engaged the lunchtime crowd with her passion and enthusiasm. She is an expert in Early Childhood Education and had just returned from Minneapolis and the 2014 Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the organization that accredits our child care program.

Ana began by reminding us that childhood isn’t what it was. "We used to get on our bikes—without helmets—and go to the pool and stay gone all day," she said, describing the bygone days of a typical low-tech summer vacation. "Those days are gone, and they're not coming back. The world of a child today is more complicated than it was for us, and our early childhood teachers need professional training and support to prepare children for school and for life." The audience all but shouted "Amen!" in response.

Ana is a full time Associate Professor of Early Childhood Studies at San Antonio College. She was one of 14 people appointed by the Governor of Texas to the Texas Early Learning Council, an organization that sets standards for early childhood programs. She has 25 years of experience in the field and has traveled all over the world, observing preschool programs and training and mentoring preschool teachers.
ASCENSION HEALTH

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS RECEIVED FROM APR 1 - JUNE 30, 2014
We are honored to be the recipient of these loving tributes.

MEMORIAL
Roland DeWinnie
Roland DeWinnie
Mrs. Anita O. Jimenez
Shirley Litt
Mrs. Mary Ann Sackett
Mrs. Mary Ann Sackett
Marvin Verstuyft
Joseph Weich

GIVEN BY
Ms. Barbara E. Koch
Mr. & Mrs., John Wauters
Mr. Thomas Jimenez
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Searson
John and Priscilla Casall
Donna J. Wickliffe
Mr. & Mrs. John Wauters
Ms. Olga Weich (correction)

HONOR GIFTS
Tom Roberts
Mike Bennett

GIVEN BY
Beth Roberts
Anna Sweden

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIFTS
Mission and Ministry, Inc.,
a Ministry of the Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise
Myra Stafford Pryor Charitable Trust
Frost National Bank
Valero Energy Foundation
Zachry Holdings, Inc.

USAA Real Estate Company
Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Central Park Lions Club

CONSIDER A PLANNED GIFT
Will you make a bequest to Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio by including a gift in your will to our future work?
A charitable bequest is a gift intended to serve a religious, educational, political, or general social purpose to benefit mankind, aimed at the community or a particular segment of it. Charitable bequests also reduce the estate taxes that might be owed on the estate left by a decedent.

To discuss planned giving options, please call Dianne McAlister at 210-334-2300 or email her at dmcalister@dcssa.org.