

GREATER TEXAS
COMMUNITY PARTNERS
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GtCP Connection

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 2008

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Helpful Web Sites

Management

www.npgoodpractice.org
www.nonprofitmanagement.org

Volunteer Management:

www.serviceleader.org
www.energizeinc.com

Non Profit

www.boardcafe.org
www.boardsource.org
www.charitychannel.org

Grantwriting:

www.fdncenter.org
www.npguides.org
www.proposalwriter.com/grantwriting.html

Volunteer Thank You Gifts:

www.gtcp.org
www.symmetryarts.com
www.voluncheer.com
www.volunteergifts.com
www.anopenheart.com

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Conference 2008
October 19-21
In
Austin

A Few Words From the Executive Director

IS THAT GREAT OR WHAT?

Texans are incredible---and you only have to look around the state at Rainbow Rooms to see one example of just how incredible they are. Thanks to all your hard work, we are well on our way to ensuring that every CPS caseworker has access to this wonderful resource for every child they serve.



Lynne McLean

Just look at these numbers:

- ❑ 132 Rainbow Rooms currently open, serving 182 Texas counties
- ❑ 12 new Rainbow Rooms opened last year alone
- ❑ 13 more Rainbow Rooms currently in the start up phase, scheduled to serve 19 more Texas counties
- ❑ 99 Community Partner Member Groups

When this phase of replication is complete, there will only be 23 CPS offices without Rainbow Rooms. And, when Rainbow Rooms are opened in these offices, the remaining 53 Texas counties will be served...and no child served by CPS will be without critical items they need after suffering the trauma of abuse.

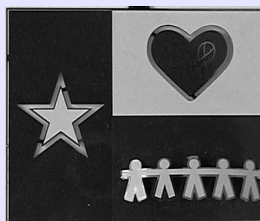
In 1996, when this replication started, no one had any idea it would ever get this big. The fact that this project has been so embraced by local communities is a reflection of that Texas spirit and a testament to the value of grass roots efforts driven by local community need.

For many children we serve, underwear is a luxury and a toothbrush is a precious gift. And so, for them, the Rainbow Room is much more than a successful community project—it's a place that makes dreams come true. That may sound like a wild exaggeration...but to that child who has dreamed of having a toothbrush of their own, it isn't. It's a reality.

And **YOU** have done it. Is that great or what?

Lynne McLean

Volunteer Gifts



for the Holidays!

This ornament is the fourth in a series of GTCP Ornaments, designed by Nelda Laney. The design is reminiscent of the Texas flag, and features children who are closest to our heart. Previous ornaments in the series are also available. A version of this design is also available in a note card.

Ornaments are available for \$20 each, or \$13 each if you buy 20 or more, plus shipping and handling. And remember GTCP bracelets, magnets, pens, key chains, and lapel pins are still available!

To order, go to www.gtcp.org, or call 214-824-4591.

KIDZ Helping Kids in a BIG WAY!



KIDZ AT KAMP and their Giving Back Project has resulted in a wonderful partnership with GTCP, according to Director, Lynne McLean. Each year this church camp supports a charity, providing items they need. This year they chose GTCP's Rainbow Rooms.

Kamp leader, Angelia Hines, spread the word to nineteen churches from the North Texas and Central Texas areas and collected 24 boxes of items, including baby clothes, toiletries, shoes and even lice treatment.

The 640 children at the camp, ages 8 to 12, spent a whole day sorting out and packaging all the items that were collected. They were fascinated with the idea of Rainbow Rooms and touched by the needs of the children. When Lynne McLean spoke to them, many wanted to know if there was a Rainbow Room in their area and how they could help. So, don't be surprised if you hear from one of them – from Bonham, to Killeen to Mineral Wells...*little Kidz with Big Hearts*.

In fact, one child after hearing about the RR, handed Lynne a red folding Frisbee with the **Kidz at Kamp** logo on it and said "can I give you this?" "But", Lynne replied, "you got that at camp, don't you want to take it home?" "Yes", he replied, but this may be the only chance I have to help."

That says it all!

Spotlight On....

Longview Rainbow Room

The **Longview Rainbow Room** Since has served over 9,800 children in Gregg County since opening in 1997, due to the hard work of founders **Liz Cearley** and **Linda Cunningham** and their dedicated board. They also enjoyed tremendous community involvement, especially this year.

Their Raffle Fundraiser made around \$3,000.00 primarily due to some awesome donations: A \$1,000 shotgun from Winchester SportsOutfitters; a \$850 stainless watch from Murray Jewelry; and a Flat-Screen TV provided by Merritt Tool, Four S-INC and Jose Sanchez Law Firm. The list goes on: Fountain of Youth donated a Spa Package valued at \$500; and Ashley Furniture donated a \$500 canvas painting; Board Member, Lester Kilpatrick, who printed up 800 raffle tickets free of charge, and 15 other members who each sold over \$100 worth of raffle tickets, worked hard to make the event a success. The big winners are the children they serve.



Beyond that, they apply for grants with Junior League of Longview (a big supporter), Zonta Club and Rotary Club to keep the Rainbow Room up and running.



New Horizons for GTCP

As the new President of GTCP, I welcome this opportunity to say hello and thank you for all you do for CPS caseworkers and the children they serve.

Our new year began with a farewell to two board members—**Pat Prestidge**, who has served as chair of our Resource Development Committee, The Reel Event and as 2004 President; and **Paige Wilbur**, 2006 President, who has also chaired our Annual Conference and our Children's Medal of Honor Luncheons. Thank you to both of you for dedicating so much time, energy and passion. They have agreed to serve on our Advisory Committee so their experience will be available for consultation and advice.

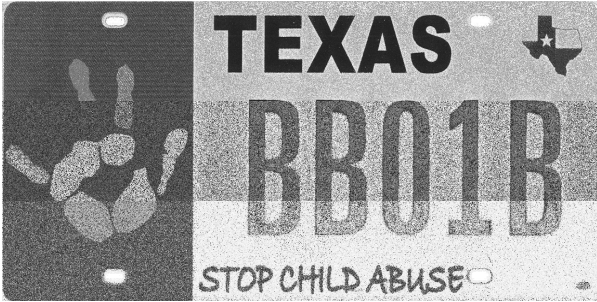
We welcomed three new Board Members who will serve as Regional Representatives - **Sondra Andrews, Cameron; Teneta Tyler, Lubbock; and David Woodberry, Killeen**. Thank you for joining us. Jane Thayer has agreed to Chair our Audit Committee. Her expertise will be a real addition to our organization. By resolution, we named our two **GTCP founders; Emy Lou Baldridge and Mimi Powell Huey** as **Lifetime Members of the Board of Directors**. Their almost 20 years of dedication and service to giving abused and neglected children of Texas a future is priceless.

The GTCP Board of Directors has set three goals for this next year: 1) to increase our operating and renewable income by identifying 2 or more new sources of support and partnership; 2) to develop GTCP to be an even stronger valuable resource to our Partners and Rainbow Room sites; 3) to raise public awareness of the critical issue of child abuse and the prevention strategies that can make a difference.

If you have ideas, sources, suggestions, questions, or would like more information, please contact me, **Karen Pardoe** at gtcp@sbcglobal.net. I look forward to hearing from you and meeting you at our Annual Conference in Austin, October 19 – 21.

COMPASSION IN ACTION.... FOR TEXAS CHILDREN

Vanity? NO! Plates Help Kids!



Sometimes referred to as “vanity plates”, these “Stop Child Abuse” specialized license plates will help raise funds for programs and services supporting abused and neglected children.

Offered by the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, a portion of each plate sold raises \$22.00 for these programs, **\$18.00 of which goes directly back to the child welfare board in your county.**

To order on line, go Texas Department of Transportation, (TxDOT) website, (www.texasonline.com) Click on Order Specialty License Plates, scroll down and click on STOP CHILD ABUSE. The cost is regular plate price, plus an additional \$30.00. This special design will also be available as a souvenir plate for \$20.00 each, \$10.00 of which goes to TCCWB and county boards. While not “street legal” these plates make fun gifts, decorations or mementos.

Many Thanks to Our Recent Donors!

B. G. T. R., Inc.
Sandy and Bill Barber, in honor of
Jessica, Katie, and Cassidy Barber
Dallas Children’s Charities
Nelda Laney, in memory of Shirley Igo
and Buddy West
Merle and Grace Johnson
Penntex, Industries
Dede Roberts, in memory of Joyce Seaton, and
In honor of Gayle Shurett
Paige Wilbur
Sara Murski Williams, in memory of
Sarah Anne Phillips Cobb
Women of St. Michael’s and All Angels Church

And to our Donors for Our Annual Conference!

BGO Architects
The Baldrige Foundation
Amon G. Carter Foundation
Mimi Powell Huey
Mignon McGarry
Karen Pardoe
Debbie Scripps
Emmy Lou Prescott
Wells Fargo

To make a gift in honor or memory of someone,
contact **Lynne McLean** at
214-824-4928, or gtcp@sbcglobal.net

Tear Along Dotted Line -



YES! I want to help the abused and neglected children of Texas with a gift of
\$_____.

This gift is given by _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

My gift is in memory of _____
My gift is in honor of _____

Check Visa Mastercard Acct # _____ Exp _____

Make Check Payable to: Greater Texas Community Partners
Mail to: 2801 Swiss Ave, Suite 110, Dallas, Texas 75204

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Laura Johnson, Secretary
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Greater Texas Community Partners Newsletter is published quarterly.
Editor
Lynne McLean
Editorial and Design Staff
Dede Roberts
Jeanie Edens

GTCP MISSION STATEMENT

To meet the critical needs of abused and neglected children through state and local collaborations.



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GTCP Mission:

To meet the critical needs of abused and neglected children through state and local collaborations

We're on the Web!
gtcp.org

HOLD ON TO



YOUR HATS PARDNERS!

Things are moving faster than a poacher who's been shot with prickly pear and wildcats, the GTCP/TCCWB Conference will be here before you know it!

A second seminar has been added to our Sunday afternoon agenda. In addition to our "Grant Writing" Seminar presented by Kim Wilson of Greenlights, Becky Casey will be presenting a seminar on "Bar Coding your Rainbow Room." Wow—Imagine having your Rainbow Room's inventory bar coded!

Additionally, in lieu of a field trip this year, we are offering a "Virtual Rainbow Room" at the Doubletree that will be open for viewing throughout the Conference. Laura Johnson and Deana Frontz are hard at work putting together examples of what you can do to make your Rainbow Room more efficient. It will be a room of sharing ideas across Texas.

Child Welfare Boards and Rainbow Rooms will be showcasing their accomplishments fund-raisers, and events on display boards, blue bags will be decorated as "Bags of Literacy," the food will be fabulous, and the hostesses will be friendly and ready to assist you—everything is the same, but very different!

Times a Wastin' Pardners—registration is a **must!** If you haven't received our new Electronic Invitation, please go to our website at www.gtcp.org; or if you need a paper invite, call the GTCP office at 214-824-4928. See you October 19-21 at the Doubletree in Austin!

Vicki Beeler, Conference Chair