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## The Children's Place Association E-Newsletter

Fall 2009

Dear Friends,

Another school year is underway and the holidays are already upon us. As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, The Children's Place Association has much to be thankful for.



Thank you to all of you who joined us for the annual AIDS Run/Walk held on October 3 on Chicago's beautiful lakefront. It was great to see so many of you walking and running for our children and families.

We were also extremely thankful to learn that we have been awarded a federal grant for our Lifelong Families program renewable each year for the next four years from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Children's Place Association's Lifelong Families program helps families stay together, or, when necessary, secures enduring alternate-care arrangements. These arrangements prevent homelessness among older children and the abandonment of infants and young children to the child welfare system.

While this is extraordinary news, we still have a long way to go to make up for the budget shortfall we had at the beginning of this fiscal year. But this is a great success and

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Support the mission of The Children's Place Association and make a donation today.



**Mark Your Calendar**

we cannot be more thankful. This funding will help us serve even more families in need from across Chicagoland.

We are also so grateful for your continued and unwavering support of our families. Your generosity, whether through donations or volunteering, is remarkable to see and we could not continue providing for our families with out each and every one of you.

Best Wishes and Many Thanks,



Cathy Krieger MA, LCSW, MBA  
President & CEO



### 2009 AIDS Run/Walk Brings Record Numbers



On October 3, 2009, nearly 10,000 people came together in Grant Park to support one cause: the fight against HIV/AIDS. This marked the 8th annual Chicago AIDS Run/Walk hosted by the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. This event is important to The Children's Place Association because it helps bring our efforts into focus as well as raise necessary funds to support our services in Chicago and internationally. Our team was represented by 110 people, including employees, friends, and family - our largest team ever.

We would like to give special thanks to the following sponsors

**November 1, 2009**  
Family Holiday Food Drive Begins

**November 2, 2009**  
Adopt-a-Family registration deadline

**November 9, 2009**  
6:00 pm  
Gala Committee Meeting  
Location: 1436 W. Randolph,  
5th Floor

**November 19, 2009**  
6:00 pm  
Professional Partners' New  
Members Event  
Location: The Cedar Hotel  
112 N. State St.

**December 3, 2009**  
5:30 pm  
Steelcase Wreath and Menorah  
Design Competition  
Location: Steelcase Showroom,  
Merchandise Mart

**May 1, 2010**  
Once Upon a Time Gala

### Light Up Your Holidays



This holiday season enjoy the gift of light while giving the gift of hope to children and families

for their generosity: The Christopher Family Foundation, Forest Park National Bank and Clifton Gunderson LLP. Another thank you goes to The Hartford for bringing the most runners and walkers of any team raising money on behalf of The Children's Place Association.

Due to everyone's dedication, The Children's Place Association was able to raise a record breaking \$41,000. Thank you to everyone who supported us and came out to the event.

**[Click here to view photos of the event and our team](#)**

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## 2009 Adopt-a-Family



The Adopt-a-Family Program is the annual Holiday Gift Giving program at The Children's Place Association. HIV/AIDS-affected children and their families from all of The Children's Place Association programs in Chicago participate in Adopt-a-Family. The vast majority of families involved in programs live well below the poverty line. Many of these families struggle to meet very basic needs like shelter and food, let alone buy holiday gifts for family members.

Adopt-a-Family helps make the holiday season special for these needy families. If you are interested in making this holiday special for one of our families, click here for **more information**. **Registration forms** are due by November 2. If you would like to help but would prefer not to buy gifts, you can also donate gift cards in \$20 increments from retailers such as Target and Jewel. Thank you for your support.

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## Calling All Volunteers

The Children's Place Association needs volunteers who can

affected by HIV.

Light Up Your Holidays, a Chicago Christmas decoration and holiday lighting company, is donating up to 25% of its profits from new clients who mention The Children's Place Association when signing up for its customized holiday display services.

Learn more at  
[www.LightUpYourHolidays.com](http://www.LightUpYourHolidays.com)

## Did You Know?

Did you know you can help bring the 2010 Once Upon a Time Gala to life?

If you would like to help with this event, you can join a committee. The first committee meeting will be held November 9, 2009, at 1436 W. Randolph, 5th floor.

Please contact [Natalie Knight](#) for more information



## Stay Up To Date

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

work directly with our children at Parent Support group meetings on Tuesdays from 11-1pm; Thursday evenings, & occasional Saturdays from 10-1pm. If you are interested in becoming a DirectCare volunteer or would like more information about other volunteer opportunities, please contact Natalie Knight at [nknight@childrens-place.org](mailto:nknight@childrens-place.org) or (312) 660-3030.



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Thank you for helping us expand our mission to improve the present and secure the future of children, youth and families confronted by HIV/AIDS and other life-changing health conditions.

For more information about our agency, ways to give or how to get involved, please contact Simone Wheeler, Director of Development at 312.660.3031.

The Children's Place Association

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