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The Children's Place Association E-Newsletter

Summer 2009

Dear Friends,

Earlier this summer we came to you and asked you to join our fight to get state funding restored for our Early Learning Center. Your **response to our rally cry was overwhelming** as you made phone calls, wrote letters, joined us at rallies and helped us spread the word about the proposed budget cuts.



It is with great excitement that I write to you today to inform you that **90 percent of our state funding has been restored**. Given the current economic climate and ongoing state budget struggles we consider this a tremendous success that would not have been possible without your help. **On behalf of our children and families, I cannot say thank you enough!** We also owe thanks to the State Legislators who fought this long battle with us and for us.



While we are pleased about the restoration, our fight for funding is an ongoing battle. Our programs rely on the support of foundations, corporations and individuals, all of whom are feeling the effects of the recession. As a result we continue to reduce costs where possible and do so with minimal disruption to our children and families.

We know that the year ahead will not be an easy one but we look **forward to the future and celebrate** the fact children and families in need can continue to come to The Children's Place Association for support, encouragement and hope. Again I cannot say thank you enough for all you have done and continue to do for our children and families.

In This Issue

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Donate Now



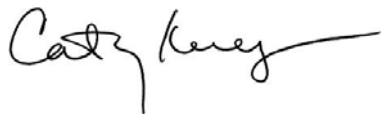
Support the mission of The Children's Place Association and make a donation today.



In the News

Listen to an interview with John Sweeney, director of

Best Wishes,



Cathy Krieger MA, LCSW, MBA
President & CEO

Improving the Present: Paul's Story

Last year Paul was one of the children who graduated from our early childhood program and headed off to kindergarten. Paul is five years old and lives with his mother, his father and his two sisters.



Paul's mother has an AIDS diagnosis and she, like many of our parents, worries she may not be able to see her son walk across the stage at his high school graduation. For her seeing him in his cap and tassel at five years of age was a memory enough to carry her and bring her strength to continue fighting her disease.

Our families are reminded daily that they may not live forever and because of that each moment is precious. The staff and volunteers at our Early Learning Center take great care and concern in making sure that an event like preschool graduation, that may seem simple to some, is planned with care and becomes a cherished memory for our families to hold onto.

This year the families of 20 children will gather to celebrate the accomplishments of the Early Learning Center's class of 2009 and create memories to last them a lifetime.

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Join Us For AIDS Run/Walk 2009



AIDS RUNWALK
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2009

Bring yourself, your family, friends, church, co-workers, school and social group to the Chicago Lakefront on Saturday, October 3!

[Learn how](#) you can help meet our goal of 200 walkers/runners

Children's Place
International, on
Chicago Public Radio's
Worldview.



See the July/August issue of *The Chicago Reporter* for their interview with Cathy Krieger.



Mark Your Calendar

August 10, 2009
8pm
Benefit Concert at
Martyrs'

September 10, 2009
6pm - 8pm
Volunteer Orientation

September 12, 2009
Game Night Fundraiser

October 3, 2009
AIDS Run/Walk 2009

November 1, 2009
Family Holiday Food
Drive Begins

Adopt-A-Family

May 1, 2010
Once Upon a Time Gala

Did You Know?

and \$50,000.

[Join Our Team Today](#)

Contact [Ann Simonson](#) (312.660.3033) for more information or if you have questions.

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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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