



Homes for Autism

The Brightest Hope for People with Autism

Quarterly News

Volume 10

Summer 2010

In This Issue:

Letter from the President
Recommended Reading
Election of New Board Member
Create Your Own Event
Remembering Lon Makanoff
Upcoming Event

Chairman of the Board

John F. Burns

President

William Schramm

Past President

Harvey Hohausier

Directors

Corey Beaubien
Craig Brown
Linda Brown
Eric Hohausier
Michael F. Jennings
Shane LaRocca
Jim Marleau
Tom Osborne
Elaine Shenkosky
Danielle A. Smith
Rob Vogelei

Executive Director

Anne Gerard

Emeritus Director

Jack Quick

Advisory Board

William F. Burger
Dr. Diane Chugani
Dr. Harry Chugani
Sheila Diaz
Dennis J. Flynn
Paul Gross
Sally Kelly
Justin LaRocca
Denise MacKinnon
Carl Shullman
Alice Wangbichler
Bob Wangbichler

P.O. Box 904
Birmingham, MI 48012
248.588.2111
248.588.2150 (fax)
info@homesforautism.org
www.homesforautism.org

Dear Friends,

All of us at *Homes for Autism* hope you are enjoying the glorious weather we in Michigan have already experienced in this summer of 2010. Once again, I hope you will allow me to take a moment of your time to share some great news with you...

On May 16, *Homes for Autism* partnered once again with Oakland University's Center for Autism Research, Education and Support (OUCARES) for the *Run for Autism*. Early-rising participants were rewarded with a picture-perfect morning to walk and run on the beautiful Oakland University campus. This year's event was an extraordinary success. We had over 600 participants, 100 volunteers and 30 sponsors, and we raised over \$30,000 to benefit both our charities! Thank you to everyone who contributed in support of our commitment to raise awareness and support of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

As many of you know, *Homes for Autism* raises the majority of its funding for residential programs and operating expenses through our annual dinner event. This year, we are very proud to honor Gregory J. Schwartz, Sr., Chairman of Schwartz & Company, at our *14th Annual Ring of Hope Dinner*, to be held on Saturday, November 20, 2010, at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester. Our *Ring of Hope Dinner* celebrates the independence of our autistic members and their families' hopes and dreams.

I'd like to welcome Eric Hohausier to our Board of Directors. Eric's father, Harvey, is a past president of HFA and we are thrilled and fortunate to have a representative of the "next generation" willing to devote his time and energy to our organization.

And, lastly, we pay tribute (on page two) to one of our board members, Lon Makanoff, who recently passed away. He will be missed.

May you and yours enjoy a safe and happy 4th of July!

Bill Schramm, President

Recommended Reading

Friends of HFA, Sandy Hallett and Nikki Wisor, co-authored the book, "How Our Children With Autism Raised Us As Parents: The 99 Jobs Needed to Raise Kids With Autism." The Hallett family has a son with autism and the Wisor family is raising three children with autism. Sandy and Nikki wrote this book because they felt parents needed a guide to the "lighter side of autism." The book takes the reader on a humorous journey into the everyday tasks and events involving a family member with autism. The book can be found on Amazon.com and Borders.com.

Election of New Board Member



At the Homes for Autism's Annual Meeting on June 17, 2010, Eric Hohausser was elected to the Board of Directors.

Eric is Director of Client Services, Harvey Hohausser & Associates. He works with clients to understand job profile and client organization information to determine the specific knowledge skills and abilities, as well as behavioral / personality traits of potential candidates. He is responsible for management of cross functional merchandising, recruitment, and training teams. Eric has an operations background with multi site/state distribution/retail corporations and is a specialist in sales, sales management, purchasing, and executive recruitment for publicly traded international and privately-held corporations in the consumer products, engineered product solutions, manufacturing, and technology industries.

Eric's charitable background includes volunteering at Pontiac Public Schools', Ypsilanti Public Schools' and Canton Public Schools' within their children's literacy and reading related programs.

Create Your Own Event

Homes for Autism depends on the efforts of organizations, clubs, congregations, company employee groups, student school clubs and teachers, to help raise dollars. Here are some examples of fund-raising activities that you could sponsor:

Charitable jeans day is an easy project that fellow employees appreciate.

Bake sales, pancake breakfasts & spaghetti dinners are a good way to support our worthy cause.

Bowl-a-thons, walk-a-thons or, for the more energetic, 12-hour **volleyball** and **basketball marathons**.

Host a **dinner party** in your home. In lieu of a hostess gift or a bottle of wine, ask your guests to make a donation to HFA.

Please contact us -- any gathering can be used as a venue to collect donations.

REMEMBERING...

Sadly, board member Lon Makanoff passed away on April 8, 2010. Lon was a very accomplished individual (see profile below), a beloved father of four and grandfather of two. He was also a long-time friend of our past president, Harvey Hohausser. Harvey introduced Lon to our board and he was elected to the board on March 6, 2008.

Lon will be greatly missed by all who knew him. On behalf of the board, condolences were sent to his family.

Mr. Makanoff held many high executive positions over the years, including EVP – Strategic Planning for Sherwood Food Distributors. He was a Certified Public Accountant for 36 years, starting his career with Deloitte & Touche and retiring as a Partner in 1980. Lon held a Bachelor's Degree from Philadelphia University and did graduate work at New York University, Central Michigan University and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, in real estate development, taxation and financing and hospital administration. Lon served on the audit committee of the Allied Jewish Appeal, was a member of Ort (helping to raise money for training centers for immigrants in Israel) and also served on a number of committees with the United Way campaign. He was a member of the Board of Directors and later Chairman of the Board and President of Kern Hospital.

Upcoming Event

14th Annual Ring of Hope Dinner

November 20, 2010

6:30 p.m.

Meadow Brook Hall
Oakland University, Rochester
Cocktail Reception and Strolling Gourmet Dinner
Tours of the Hall
Entertainment and Ballroom Dancing
Silent and Live Auctions

Homes for Autism & OUCARES'

Run for Autism

May 16, 2010

Many thanks to all who supported the *RUN* this year! We were overwhelmed by your generosity and enthusiasm.

For more pictures, visit:
www.homesforautism.org



How You Can Help

You can help with your energy and financial support. Homes for Autism is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We receive no state or federal funding. Our only support comes from those like you who see an opportunity to make a difference and decide to do it.

- Enclosed is my donation.
- Individual \$25 Family \$60 Sustaining \$100
- Benefactor \$500 Corporate \$1000
- I want to volunteer my time. Pease contact me.

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Credit Card Name _____ Exp. Date _____

Credit Card Number _____

Signature _____

Please make your tax deductible check payable to Homes for Autism or, for your convenience, you can go to our website, www.homesforautism.org and contribute online. Does your employer/spouse's employer provide a matching gift? Contact your Human Resources Department to inquire.