



Homes for Autism

The Brightest Hope for People with Autism

Quarterly News

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Dear Friends,

At this very busy time, I greet you with the hope that you are enjoying the preparation and anticipation of the holiday season. As this year comes to a close, I would like also to take this opportunity to give you a brief update on housing issues, plus information on recent and future fund-raisers.

As a nonprofit organization, Homes for Autism relies on the generosity of donors to raise the funds necessary for maintenance and repair costs for our existing homes. Thanks to the assistance we received from our many friends and supporters, we are proud to note that we were able to address some significant repair and safety issues at the residences. At the Livonia house, the driveway was expanded to accommodate the needs of the resident; trees were removed and bushes trimmed at the Waterford house; and, at the Ypsilanti home, the property fence was replaced, the house was painted and the garage roof was replaced.

As to our events this year, I am happy to report that our newest event – **The Walk for Autism** at the Detroit Zoo, held on Saturday, October 8th, was a major success. A significant milestone, the **15th Annual Ring of Hope Dinner**, was held on Saturday, November 12th, at The Village Club in Bloomfield Hills. We were proud to honor both, Jeffrey Margolis, M.D. and Patrick Kemp, EVP, Marketing, Corporate Relations and Development for Autism Speaks as the recipients of our 2011 Golden Ring of Hope Award. Further details on both events are provided on page two of this publication.

We are looking forward to our planned events in 2012. We must consider a different location and date for our Irish Night this year, as our traditional venue, *Four Green Fields*, will not be available to us. We will announce the details in our next newsletter.

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers for the selfless interest they have demonstrated in the past year and please know how deeply grateful we are for your kindness, support and generosity. As part of your charitable giving this holiday season, we sincerely hope that you will consider a contribution to Homes for Autism. *Legacy gifts* are also welcome. Please call for details.

We would like to wish our extended family a joyous holiday season and a healthy, hopeful New Year!

Bill Schramm
President



On the morning of October 8, 2011, Mother Nature cooperated and provided us with a beautiful autumn day for *Homes for Autism's* **First Annual Walk for Autism**, at the Detroit Zoo. The temperature was perfect during the early morning hours, making the activity of the walk comfortable for walkers of all ages. Afterwards, participants were invited to enjoy the wonders of the Zoo for the rest of the day. Many groups of family and friends took advantage of the invitation to make the most of their time together learning about the animals and laughing at their antics!

Thank you to all our participants, donors and wonderful sponsors. Additionally, special thanks to our many volunteers for their roles at registration, and as greeters and course marshals. Everyone worked tirelessly in making this first effort an outstanding event!

It is not too late to turn in donations. We encourage everyone to continue their fund-raising efforts and to keep those pledges coming. Please visit the website at www.thewalkforautism.org, to send any additional gifts, or mail to Homes for Autism, PO Box 904, Birmingham, Michigan 48012.



Homes for Autism celebrated a significant anniversary – our **15th Annual Ring of Hope Dinner** – on the evening of Saturday, November 12th. Our guests were greeted at the front door of *The Village Club* with cocktails and hors d'œuvres provided by the Club's excellent staff. After a festive reception and silent auction, participants enjoyed a delicious dinner, live auction and entertainment provided by the delightful band, *Chateau*.



Congratulations to this year's recipients of our 2011 Golden Ring of Hope Award – Dr. Jeffrey Margolis, Director of Hematology/Oncology for the Oakland Medical Group and Patrick Kemp, EVP, Marketing, Corporate Relations and Development for Autism Speaks. We are grateful to these gentlemen, their families and friends, for their participation and willingness to join us in our commitment to provide housing and fulfill dreams for adults with autism.



To our board members, sponsors, committee members and donors, we are forever grateful to all for making the evening possible. We recognize that all our guests had many requests for their time and contributions, and we truly appreciated their choice to support our mission.



HFA Wish List

You can support our organization by:

- Donating your used cell phones and inkjet cartridges while helping save the environment from toxic waste! Your donation may be tax deductible and we will arrange to pick up your items.
- Adding your name to our *Resource List* of businesses who donate services, especially skilled trades such as electricians, plumbers, contractors and landscapers.
- Donating silent and live auction items for our fund-raising events.

For more details, please call 248.588.2111



Happy
Holidays!