



Family Ties

LEADERS IN HELPING FAMILIES HELP THEMSELVES

Silver Linings

This year's non-traditional Tree Lighting auction is designed to brighten the days for our homeless children.

Sample Auction Opportunities

\$500 – Furnish one permanent housing unit with towels, sheets, beds, dishes, pots and pans, and other housekeeping essentials.

\$2,500 – Purchase shoes, socks, underwear and uniforms for homeless children.

\$10,000 – Provide children in Project Grow with enrichment activities to enhance educational, social, and cultural skills (music, arts), Project Grow field trips (Fun Depot, zoo, swimming lessons, bowling, ceramic lessons, Calypso Bay Water Park, museums), school athletic activities, etc.



Silver Anniversary Tree Lighting Celebration

a priceless event!

On Tuesday, December 1, loyal volunteers and supporters, as well as new friends of Adopt-A-Family will come to the Sailfish Club from all over Palm Beach County to celebrate one of the finest events of the Season. The **25th Anniversary Tree Lighting Celebration** will be a wonderful opportunity to greet old acquaintances, meet new ones, and help a great cause.

Twenty-five years of expertise comes together when 15 chairmen from prior successful Tree Lighting events (our alumni event chairmen; see photo caption) join forces under the leadership of Alice Tarone to plan this holiday gala.

Dedicated and talented committee members include the following: Ruth Behrman, Diana Bell, Peg Bonvechio, Trudy Brekus, Irene Casey-Rizenthaler, Marianne Castle, Nancy Chandler, Herme de Wyman Miro, Martha DeBrule, Jen Dudnyk, Pamela Dupuis, Debbie Dytrych, Dona Gibbs, Elena Goldfeder, Carolyn Haggerty, Carole Hepburn, Tish Hoyt, Carol Jeney, Ann Jaeder, Terry McAleer, Bel Miller, Elaine Nicastro, Carol Nolan, Chris Oberlink, Annette U. Rickel, Cindy Rooney, Alice Scanlon, Adele Siegel, Kitty Silverstein, Stephanie C. Smith, Alma Tambone, Anita Tauber, Barbara Thomas, Carolyn Thompson, Mary Wenk, and Ruth Wood.

Subcommittee Chairmen include: Elena Goldfeder (Centerpieces), Ruth Hennessy (Underwriting), Wendy Labbett (Live Auction), Paula Michel and Lynn Surovek (Favors), Debby Parr (Preview Party and Gift Gathering), Lisa Swift (Silent Auction), and Alice Tarone (Orchids).



Alumni event chairs include Lynn Surovek, Maria Barnes, Ruth Hennessy, and Julie Gambale (seated), as well as Heather Ferguson, Wendy Labbett, Roger Jorn, Alice Tarone, Debbie Parr, and Paula Michel (standing). Not pictured are Lori Corrigan, Beth Hennessy, Vanessa Henry, Kathy Peterson, and Lisa Swift.

Florence A. De George has graciously agreed to be Honorary Chairman in honor of her late husband, Lawrence J. De George.

The event chairmen as well as the board and staff members of Adopt-A-Family are grateful to all the committee members who are devoting so much time and energy to making this year's event the most successful yet!

To purchase tickets, or for more information, contact Kitty Lanier at 561-253-1361 x 108 or klanier@adoptafamilypbc.org.

Three years in a row with four stars!

In September, Adopt-A-Family was notified that the agency was awarded a coveted 4-star rating for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator! This is the third year in a row that the agency has enjoyed this honor. Only 12% of the charities rated by Charity Navigator have received at least three consecutive 4-star evaluations. "This 'exceptional' designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Adopt-A-Family from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust."



Type "Adopt-A-Family" in the search window on the web site (www.charitynavigator.org) to read the review.

FALL 2009



Board of Directors

John C. Castronuovo
President

Kitty Silverstein
Executive Vice President

Tequisha Y. Myles
Secretary

Deborah Rouse
Treasurer

John P. Marasco
Immediate Past President

Sean P. Bresnan
John D. Deese
Kalinthia R. Dillard
Heather B. Ferguson
Mari Frankel
Suzanne Frisbie
Nancy Golder
Ruth Hennessy
Roger D. Jorn
James E. Larschan
Kaela Lerner
Margaret Luntz
Jay R. Marcus
Paula Michel
William B. Oberlink
Richard P. Ribek
Garth E. Rosenkrance
Michael St. Jacques
André Varona

Wendy A. Tippet
Chief Executive Officer

Matthew V. Constantine
Deputy Director

**Terry Bozarth Family
Resource Center
& Administrative Offices**
1712 Second Avenue North
Lake Worth, FL 33460-3210
Phone (561) 253-1361
Fax (561) 253-1370

www.adoptafamilypbc.org

FAMILY TIES NOTES

Congratulations go to Service Enriched Housing (SEH) client **TRACY**, who purchased her first home in July!

Congratulations to SEH client **SANDRA**, who broke ground on her Habitat for Humanity home in August!

Congratulations to **GLORY**, a Project SAFE client who graduated with a medical assistant certification and secured a position in the office where she served as an extern!

Welcome to new board member, **MICHAEL ST. JACQUES, II** of Bruce Loren & Associates. A great addition to our team!

We bid farewell to two dedicated board members, **MARILYN BRAFMAN** and **BETH HENNESSY**, both of whom moved up north. We will miss them!

Welcome **TULIA CARREJO**, a care coordinator for Projects UpLift and HIP. Tulia has been helping clients with rent, utility, and deposit assistance. Thank you, Tulia!

Welcome to **NYDIA SABUGO-MARROU**, our new rapid re-housing manager. Nydia is a wonderful addition to the staff and will make this very important program a great success.

Welcome **SUZANNA RICKARDS**, our new executive administrative assistant. Suzanna will be a big help to everyone in the agency!

Congratulations to Project SAFE senior case manager **EMILY GORMAN** for successfully completing the Nonprofits First LMI [Leadership and Management Initiative] program. Her graduation was quite an event!

Congratulations to **CEO WENDY TIPPETT** who received the Soroptimist International of Boca Raton/Deerfield Beach Woman of Distinction non-profit division award.

Calling All Holiday Adopters...

It's that time of year again! The Holiday Adopter Program, another long-standing tradition at Adopt-A-Family, ensures that more than 1,000 Adopt-A-Family clients – mostly children – wake to gifts and holiday cheer. The program pairs client families with generous donors (individuals, businesses or organizations) who give gift certificates to the family, empowering the parents to experience the season as we all do – by shopping for the items their children want and need. Adopters provide gift certificates to stores such as Target, K-Mart, and Wal-Mart. The gift amounts are up to the donor, but we suggest \$25 or \$50 per person, based on the number of children in the family. Also, to give parents enough time to shop, we urge participants to drop off their gift cards no later than December 4. Please call David Eakin (561-253-1361 x 105) or e-mail him at deakin@adoptafamilypbc.org if you would like to participate this year.

Rapid Re-Housing Program

where “coming home” takes on new meaning

“With housing,
anything is possible.”

Abraham Maslow, *A Theory of Human Motivation*, 1943.*

Many of us take our homes for granted. These are simply the places we go to at the end of the day. But there are too many families and individuals who not only cannot take their homes for granted ...they don't even have places to call home.

This is the target population for the **Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**

Program: Families or individuals who 1) are earning less than 50% of the Area Median Income, 2) are homeless, and 3) demonstrate a willingness and ability to become self-sufficient within 15 months if appropriate services were provided.

RRH is part of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), a federally funded program, the focus of which is housing stabilization, under the Recovery Act. It is a two-part program designed 1) to prevent individuals and families at risk of homelessness from becoming homeless and 2) to assist persons experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The second part – finding safe, affordable housing as quickly as possible for people who have lost their permanent homes – is the purview of Adopt-A-Family (AAF), the Family Empowerment Coalition (FEC), and The Lord's Place (TLP).



Priority is given to people residing in homeless shelters and transitional housing in order to free-up much needed emergency beds, and to facilitate entry into a more permanent – therefore, healthier – environment. Initial assessments will be performed in the shelters and appropriate clients will be referred to the RRH Program: individuals and youth aging out of foster care will be referred to TLP, and families will be referred to the FEC and AAF. RRH staff within these organizations will conduct final eligibility assessments, assign case managers, and with the help of a housing specialist, identify and secure safe, affordable housing.

RRH provides security and utility deposits to enable the clients to move into their new homes, and the program provides graduated rental assistance to keep people in their homes until they reach self-sufficiency.

It is the responsibility of society to ensure the health and safety of individual citizens in order to ensure the health and safety of the whole. Palm Beach County, with unemployment at 11.3% and 4,150 homeowners in some stage of foreclosure in August, is one of the hardest hit areas in the country. If action isn't taken to help the victims of the bad economy, we all suffer.

**The second of the five levels of Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs is Safety and Security, which includes physical safety, economic security, and freedom from threats. Rather fundamental and second only to survival, Safety and Security includes shelter – the security of a home.*



1712 Second Avenue North
Lake Worth, FL 33460-3210

Adopt-A-Family is dedicated to restoring families in crisis to stability and self-sufficiency by providing access to all-encompassing services for families with children.



Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
West Palm Beach, FL
Permit No. 529

SAVE the date



Thursday, November 12
Annual Meeting – 6 pm
Terry Bozarth Family Resource Center
1712 Second Avenue North, Lake Worth

Tuesday, December 1
25th Anniversary Tree Lighting Celebration –
The Sailfish Club, Palm Beach
Tickets \$250 per person

Saturday, December 12
Annual Santa Shoppe –
Contact Patrick McKenna 561-253-1361x136 or
pmckenna@adoptafamilypbc.org if you wish to
volunteer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION regarding any of
these events, please contact Kitty Lanier at 561-
253-1361x108 or klanier@adoptafamilypbc.org.

Do your holiday shopping
and support our agency!

MILDRED HOIT DAY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009

10 AM TO 4 PM

A portion of the day's sales will be donated to
the Tree Lighting Celebration and will benefit
Adopt-A-Family programs.

Mildred Hoit
265 Sunrise Avenue, Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-833-6010

*THANK YOU to Mary Gushee and the staff
at Mildred Hoit for their support of
Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches!*