

she now expresses respect for herself and others. She is considerate and patient when her roommate, who has been working through a problem, needs quiet time. She is a vibrant individual and still expresses her joy exuberantly; however, she has learned to be more mindful of others in both her home, and in the community. It is so wonderful to observe her quiet joy and clarity of thought and speech. When her father visited from Illinois, he was surprised at her progress. She would ask for agreement from her dad by expressing a thought and ending with "...right Dad?" He told us he surmised what she had been saying to him for many years, but this was the first time he could actually understand the words. He was delighted with the evidence of progress.

In Flores House a client came upon a fellow-client in distress. He immediately went and got his copy of Science and Health. He read to the client lying on the couch for a short while, until all the symptoms disappeared and his friend got up and went about his day completely healed. In the past this client was known for being oblivious to the needs of others. Over the past two years, our spiritual goal has been to educate him out of the self-focus and up into a caring awareness. During these two years he has made incremental progress. We are so grateful to see him take this huge step.

Another sign of spiritual stewardship comes from our Adaptive Skills Training Program.



One young man came upon another apparently having a seizure. He immediately summoned the House Manager. That manager and several fellow-clients began to pray right away. The young man who first witnessed the problem went to get the lesson-sermon and a CD to assist the group. From incident to healing only two hours passed. Formerly, at his day program when a seizure occurred, it has taken up to six hours to witness a full recovery. With the prayerful support of caring, like-minded friends, he was able to be up and about his day in record time. He completed a scheduled shopping trip with his manager and there was no further incident. We are so grateful for another sign of the increasing alertness to the needs of others by every member of this program. ☺

*From July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004, Twelveacres received greatly appreciated donations in the names of the following:*

**In Memory of:**

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Elsa Forsblad             | Peggy McCullough        |
| Charles Fulton            | Jim McGrew, CSB         |
| Dorothy Gleason           | Jack W. Paulsen, CS     |
| Doris Gruwell             | Hugh Scott Pennington   |
| Erwin W. Haefner, CSB     | Raquel D. Percal        |
| Winifred Membrey Hanzlik  | Colonel Gary L. Pike    |
| Alice Hellyer             | Paulette Pridmore-Brown |
| Cordelia & Wade Helms     | Helen Schmidt           |
| Steve Holman              | Alaister Smith          |
| Martin Jacob              | Mary Lohr Smith         |
| Nellie Kendall            | Kathleen Stanley        |
| Robert C. Koehler, CS     | Dave Stevens            |
| John Langwill             | Marionette Tack         |
| Audrey Martin             | Al Varone               |
| Ralph Martin              | Brian Wood              |
| Dorothy Matthews Schubert | Jack & Richard Wyman    |
| Donald A. Mayer           |                         |

**In Honor of:**

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Peter Larmer    | Shari Tobias             |
| Amy Long        | Connie Untch, CS         |
| Debbie Mueller  | Peter Untch              |
| Claudia Pearson | Marian Wells             |
| Ruth Sonke      | Charlene Wennerstrom, CS |
| Laura Spaulding | Edith White              |

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**Twelveacres, Inc.**  
 595 Millich Drive,  
 Suite 104  
 Campbell, CA 95008  
 Telephone: 408.341.0400  
 Fax: 408.341.0411

Website:  
[www.twelveacres.org](http://www.twelveacres.org)



# Twelveacres Newsletter

## Fall 2004

*... prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it... And all nations shall call you blessed... Mal 3:10-12*

**Annual Meeting 2004**  
 Visit our website for 2004 Annual Meeting Highlights

[www.twelveacres.org](http://www.twelveacres.org)

**In this issue**

**Update: 2004 Challenge Grant**

**Plan for New Home Purchase**

**Healing the Unhealable Series Continues**

**Welcome New Board Member**

**Progress and Healing at Twelveacres**

**Update: 2004 Challenge Grant and Operational Changes**

Our 2004 Challenge Grant Campaign results have indeed blessed Twelveacres. Numerous nations—aka donors!—blessed us generously during this campaign which ran from April through July. The outcome? We succeeded in matching, and surpassing, the \$100,000 seed fund. We are grateful for the generosity of our many friends, both long-tenured and new-found. This year's campaign took on added import for us because the financial challenges seemed greater than ever before.

These challenges necessitated the downsizing of our administrative and training operations in mid-March. Four employees were laid off. Our Vocational Education

Program had to be temporarily suspended. We were able to retain the teacher of that program. She is now working as the manager in our Flores Home. We intend to reinstate this program as soon as possible. To restore the Vocational Education Program will require \$200,000—two years of funding.

Although positions were eliminated and employees laid off, not one direct care staff member was affected. Our clients, staff and homes continue to run intact. We are grateful that the level of care and healing successes have continued just as before. ☺

**Twelveacres Formulates Plan for Home Purchase**

Since last fall we have taken a hard look at ways to reduce costs. Twelveacres' CEO and Board of Directors devised a comprehensive plan for cost reduction. They determined that homeownership versus leasing was a significant way to cut costs. In April of this year we began searching for an investor to partner with us in this ground-breaking endeavor.

We are grateful to report that the Frank Levinson Family Foundation in partnership with the Peninsula Community Foundation have completed a creative funding package to make Twelveacres first home purchase happen.

With the focused help of newest Board Member, Kevin Massey, on September 17th we assumed ownership of Braeburn House, a home for five of our female clients. This is just the beginning!

We have set the stage. Thanks to Frank Levinson, we now have a viable model

to use in purchasing future homes. Twelveacres wants to replace the leasing of five homes with ownership as quickly as possible.

If you are interested in exploring investment possibilities, or wish to donate a home, please call Marlie Brooks, CEO, 408.341.0400 extension 102. ☺



Acquired September 17th, Braeburn House now houses five of our clients.



## Successful Healing the Unhealable Series Continues

**T**he word is out about Twelveacres—and advancing! The Christian Science Movement, the public and community agencies are becoming increasingly aware of the healing work being accomplished at Twelveacres.

In April, Colorado audiences benefited from four Healing the Unhealable talks. First Church, Colorado Springs and First Church, Buena Vista hosted talks by Patricia Scott Gantt-Philip, CS. First Church, Fort Collins and Sixth Church, Denver hosted talks by Arno Preller, CSB. All four talks were well-attended and were received with immense enthusiasm.

In May we went on the road to Carmel, California where we were heartily welcomed by First Church, Carmel. The audience greatly enjoyed “Primacy of Mind,” the series talk given by Mrs. Ruanne Gentry, CS.

Going a little farther south in California, in June we gathered at First Church, Santa Barbara where Mrs. Pam Walker, CS gave a lively talk.

Response to this continuing series has been gratifying. We are delighted to be able to bless communities throughout the United States in this way.

At each talk, attendance and interest was unprecedented. What a statement Twelveacres is making to a world standing on tiptoes to see Christian Science healing.

## Welcome New Board Member

**K**evin Massey comes to the Twelveacres board with over twenty years’ experience in sales and management at IBM. Kevin transferred to the San Francisco area from Philadelphia just over ten years ago and loves it in this part of the country. He has been a member of several branch churches as he has moved around, and has served in many capacities including First Reader. A graduate of Princeton and Wharton, Kevin spends his free time singing, doing voice-over, and now working with Twelveacres. He and his wife, Elizabeth, are members of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Mill Valley, CA. ☺

In continuing our Healing the Unhealable series, we anticipate visiting the northwestern United States—northern California, Oregon and Washington this Fall. In the Spring of 2005 we hope to visit Michigan, Illinois and the East Coast of the United States. If any of our readers would like to host a Healing the Unhealable talk in their community, please call our CEO, Marlie Brooks at 408.341.0100, extension 102. She will be most happy to schedule one with you. ☺

## Progress and Healing at Twelveacres

**A** few weeks ago a mom and dad came to Flores House to pick up their son to join them for dinner. They reported having a delightful time. As they were saying good night, he turned to them and said, “Thank you for dinner, Mom and Dad.” This client rarely speaks in sentences, and generally not in words relating to what is happening at any given moment. Also he rarely expresses gratitude, unless reminded. For years, in most situations, he has responded with words or phrases like, “Mississippi,” his favorite word, and “Be happy!” his favorite phrase. We have been encouraging him to express, in appropriate words, the gratitude that we know he feels for the good he experiences. Staff frequently remind him that “Mommy” and “Daddy” are not appropriate terms for an adult son to use in referring to his parents. This was the first time he ever addressed them as “Mom” and “Dad.” When he expressed his gratitude in the above well-chosen sentence, his dad turned to the house manager, tearfully, and told her that he had never before heard his son utter his gratitude and love to his parents. What a joy for them to experience their son putting his true feelings into words that exactly expressed his sentiments. Tears of joy are not infrequent at Twelveacres. Being in the midst of such majesty and grace is a regular event! Our Father-Mother continues to show us that our work is purposeful and fruitful.

**S**haring the next healing requires a little background information. Several years ago a young man came to Twelveacres very confused about his true identity. His behavior included much time

*Continued next page.*

## Fall Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

How grateful we all are for the success of our 2004 Challenge Grant Campaign—reported on page 1 of this Newsletter. Many generous supporters, like you, enabled us to exceed our goal. Twelveacres funding needs are, of course, ongoing. So are our successes.

One success this year was securing a unique funding package devised by a donor. This donor’s creativity in charitable giving enabled us to purchase a home for Twelveacres clients! Please see the related story on page 1.

All your donations help bolster and advance our unique and vital role in the Christian Science Movement. The numerous healings clients achieve are reviewed by California’s local licensing and oversight agencies. In effect, they provide independent public verification of each healing. CEO Marlie Brooks and her staff get frequent appreciative, even awed, comments from personnel at these agencies. While careful to not endorse Christian Science

healing, they cite us as an industry model for care providers for the developmentally disabled. Quite a shift in both the thinking and relationship from when we first moved into our local communities! Then we were an unknown entity—even a cause for concern. Today Twelveacres is widely respected for the highly visible and successful work we do as Christian Scientists. This, in an industry that formerly couldn’t see the viability of spiritual healing as a care option!

Your continued financial support now, at year’s end, will enable our clients to keep proving to themselves, and showing their communities and the world, that Christian Science heals—that there are no unhealable conditions.

Please take a moment today to respond with a gift. Thank you, in advance, for giving as generously as possible.

Lovingly,  
Manya Kaseroff-Smith, CS  
President Board of Directors ☺

## Progress and Healing at Twelveacres (continued from previous page)

spent screaming, rolling in the dirt, destroying plants, and eating grass. He could not sit still, nor could he stand to be touched. His existence appeared quite perilous and volatile. The world declares such a state virtually unhealable. His apparent inability to speak added to the difficult situation. He was untouchable, unreachable, unteachable—to human sense only! Today he is a different man. He consistently expresses his true identity and heritage. His progress, many observers say, is nothing short of miraculous. He enjoys many activities with his four Flores Housemates. A few weeks ago they all went to a dance sponsored by one of the local day programs. He was sitting along the wall, on a bench with his friends when the music began. With minimal coaching, he got up and walked across the floor to join a redheaded young woman who caught his eye. He put out his hand in a gesture of invitation. She stood up in acceptance. Neither communicate (yet) in words. They danced. When the music stopped, he walked her back to where he found her. He returned to his friends. There are a couple of further pertinent details to tell about this experience. First, staff has tried, without

success, to get him to dance. Second, his mother is a beautiful redhead, perhaps a motivating factor in his choice of a dance partner. We are witnessing the results of Christian Science treatment in this man’s life, and it is a blessed sight to behold!

**I**n Lily House we have seen a lovely healing of a woman’s very loud talking and persistent, insistent demands for immediate attention. Now she expresses herself far more quietly and gently, and minus that former insistence. In the past this young lady had difficulty being understood. With this healing has come increasing clarity in her speech. Staff and others easily understand her. Also



*Continued next page.*

“At each talk, attendance and interest was unprecedented.”

“Gifts received by December 31st of this year are tax deductible, as allowed by law, for your 2004 tax year filings.”

“This was the first time he addressed them as ‘Mom’ and ‘Dad.’”

