



Twelveacres

Winter/Spring
2002
Newsletter

Update:

**Fall 2001
Matching Funds
Drive**

**Huge
Success!
Goals Achieved!**

**We thank
you!**

**Twelveacres
Development
Agenda
2002**

**Constituent Visits:
February/March
Arizona**

**May/June
FL, D.C., NY, MA**

**September
MI, IL, TX, OK**

**October/November
WA, OR, CA**

*From glory unto glory, Be this our joyous song;
From glory unto glory, 'Tis love that leads us on . . .
Hymn 65*

2001 Achievement Challenge Celebration A Joyous Success

On September 7, 2001, we held our third Achievement Challenge Celebration. The formal dinner-dance was the culmination of weeks of dedicated work by the clients and their staff. In June each House Manager met with staff to develop individual goals for the clients to achieve. Clients began working on their goals July 1st. Each client received a binder in which the client and staff could chart progress toward the goal. The steps to achievement laid out in the binders helped staff keep clients on track. Clients had six weeks to achieve their goals. These included memorizing *The Lord's Prayer*, walking for a designated distance three times per week, learning to put dirty clothes in a hamper and take the full hamper to the laundry room, and learning to voice what one wants rather than what others might want to hear. Rainbow Girls from a local assembly made and delivered motivational cards for each client, with phrases like "You can do it," "Good luck on achieving your goal," and "Go for it!" Each house's staff hung these brightly decorated cards on the walls to help keep the clients motivated about working toward their goals.

Traditionally, clients who do not achieve their goals get a participation certificate at the Celebration Banquet, while those who achieve their goals are given awards. And from all the clients, three major winners were chosen for the

Love, Hope, and Victory Awards, the highest given at the banquet. Of the Love award winner, Administrator Marlie Brooks said, "She has demonstrated what being a Good Samaritan is all about. She lovingly helps her roommates and knows when to stop so they can feel the joy of their own accomplishments." The Hope award winner, Ms. Brooks stated, "has overcome serious physical conditions, and there are definite signs of his overcoming what the world calls incurability." The woman who won the Victory award was lauded for what Ms. Brooks called her "greatest victory: overcoming physical and mental challenges and speaking out for what she knows in her heart to be what she truly wants." Winners were elated at being selected, and their excitement energized the audience. The winners were announced and awards dispensed between the dessert course and dancing. After the last awards were given, the excitement spilled over onto the dance-floor, where the clients' exuberance and joy brought everyone to their feet. On the second page, you can view a collage of photos from the Achievement Challenge Celebration.





Fruitage

◆ One of our clients, who never speaks, went into the Administrator's office before Christmas and indicated he wanted a piece of candy from a bowl on her desk. She told him he could have a piece but must thank her before eating it. He paused for several seconds, then took a piece of candy and said, "Thank you."

◆ At our Staff Christmas Party, there was an extraordinary degree of comraderie and real appreciation for each other and for the work being done at Twelveacres. Several staff members expressed that working here is like "being in a family."

◆ At our clients' Holiday party we saw much evidence of their responding to the needs of others. For example, a client who is often uncomfortable in social situations was happily greeting other guests, making them feel welcome. Another client showed loving selflessness when she made sure each of her housemates had cookies and punch before she got her own. She also helped out a housemate by carrying her gift to the car for her.

◆ A client went to a church service and had seizures which required her to be taken home. When this happened again, the accompanying staff member realized the client rarely had seizures, but had now had them twice at the start of church services. The staff member responded vigorously with a direct rebuke, "No, this is enough; we will have no more of this." The seizure stopped immediately, and the client has experienced no more seizures.

◆ As a result of a Twelveacres presentation in Kansas City, through contact with a board member, a father has been reunited with his daughter and is now in frequent contact with her. The daughter is expressing great joy at having her father in her life.

◆ Recently, a staff member had a headache and sat down at a table in the house. A client came over and silently patted the staff member's shoulder and stroked her hair lovingly. The headache immediately went away.

◆ One client has resisted going outside for walks, so the staff walks her up and down the hall and around the inside of the house. Recently, however, the client went for a walk outside with the house manager and a staff member. They walked all the way down the block and crossed the street. The manager reported that while outside, the client was smiling and observing the surroundings in a very alert way. The manager expects that soon the client will be able to walk farther outside.

◆ A client had large rash-like spots on her back. The practitioner was called, and the client and her staff member prayed together. Very shortly, the spots disappeared, and they have not returned.

◆ A client who went home to visit has not, in the past, been willing to help out around the house. However, during a holiday visit, when a family member was not feeling well, the client helped prepare meals and clean up the kitchen, and generally gave eagerly and willingly of herself. The family called the client's house manager to report this, saying "it was the very best visit we have had with her. We are so pleased and grateful for the progress."

◆ A client who, in 2001, had many physical and mental challenges, continues to make extraordinary progress in demonstrating independence and self-confidence by speaking out about how she truly feels. In addition, unexpected funding and help from a local service organization enabled the client to purchase a long-desired travel wheelchair. This healing sequence has fostered the reconciliation of estranged family members.



Twelveacres' Educational Program will be up and running in July, 2002.

**This is a direct result of your response to the
Fall Matching Grant Campaign.**

**Check out
Twelveacres' new Website.
(still under construction)**

Go to www.twelveacres.org

Twelveacres continues to seek candidates for Manager of Harlan House. Applicants must be experienced in working with developmentally challenged individuals. For further information, call Sally Weber in Human Resources at 408.341.0400, extension 103. You may also FAX your resume to 408.341.0414, or email it to hr12acres@aol.com.

Special Thanks

Twelveacres' Board of Directors wishes to thank Miss Quinn McClure and the girls of San Jose Assembly #5, International Order of The Rainbow for Girls, for the Christmas party they gave for Twelveacres' clients. The party was truly a gift of love from the girls, who include Twelveacres among their many service projects. The clients and the Rainbow Girls had a great time together, and both groups look forward to sharing fun at a beach party this summer.



A client and a Rainbow Girl

*Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

From October, 2001, through January 25, 2002, Twelveacres received greatly appreciated donations in the names of the following:

In Memory Of:

Roy & Doris Barrett
Grace Bemis Curtis
Charles Fulton
Doris Gruwell
Edith Joel
Jim McGrew, CSB
Hugh Pennington
Lois Savoye
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Carlton Wetzell

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Molly D. Byers
Elissa Charles
Buzz Hungett
Amy Long
Debbie Mueller
Shari Tobias
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Robinson Tradewell
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Penny & Pat Barrett
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Mary S. Hellyer
Cheryl King
Dolores Minton
Laura Spaulding
Twelveacres' Board of Directors
Jeff Wilson

Design A Giving Plan That Benefits You, Your Heirs, and Twelveacres

A variety of gift options exist to use in planning your estate. Each has value in achieving your gifting goals. Many provide significant tax advantages to both you and your heirs. Some create income that is usable immediately, as for example a Charitable Remainder Trust. All benefit both your loved ones and your favorite causes. Call our Development Office for more information. Seeking legal advice from a qualified estate-planning professional is also wise.

- Twelveacres
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