

Benevolence



Reflections on giving to Baptist Children's Services

Vol. VII Summer 2007

Endowing a Legacy

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*This issue of Benevolence is dedicated to
William H. Gray III*



2007 Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker



From the President's Desk

Two anonymous donors have contributed \$1 million dollars to Baptist Children's Services! This heroic financial investment in our mission and youth-focused ministry establishes the **BCS Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund**.

Income from the restricted Fund is for the sole purpose of providing quality residential care to displaced, at-risk youth in the Delaware Valley.

Like any sound investment, the BCS Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund is capable of tremendous growth, maximizing the impact of BCS in the lives of neglected adolescents and teens left homeless by events beyond their control. With your help, this extraordinary gift has the potential to meet the needs of thousands, perhaps millions, of disadvantaged youths – their need for food, clothing, and shelter, for education and guidance.

Our copious donors have also given us a challenge: the BCS Angel Fund can obtain an additional \$1.5 million dollars – IF – BCS raises \$3 million dollars over the course of the next three years.

BCS has never before attempted a matching gift challenge. While the matching gift is alluring, the prospect of raising \$3 million is staggering. Meeting the challenge will require a great deal more from our many friends and supporters – an *above-and-beyond* commitment.

Catch the Match for BCS!

My personal hope is for us to respond with the open-ended, exuberant commitment of the Good Samaritan: the Samaritan took a wounded stranger to a nearby inn and paid for his lodging. Next, he told the innkeeper to care for him until he was well enough to travel, promising "...and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back." [Luke 10:25]

Note that the Samaritan (like BCS) acted without regard to race, color or creed. He saw only that the victim needed care. He perceived the long-term consequences of neglecting the wounded stranger and reacted with a wholehearted, unconditional pledge of his pocketbook.

We don't know if the Samaritan was rich or poor, had college tuition to pay or on a fixed income. But we do know that he opened his wallet without restraint to help a stranger.

Imagine yourself writing a check for \$1,000 in support of the BCS Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund. Then imagine BCS receiving \$500 more because you did. That is precisely how the Angel Fund Matching Gift Challenge will increase your gift and benefit BCS. All gifts, no matter the size will be matched one dollar for every two contributed.

Will you respond to the Angel Fund Matching Gift Challenge by making a special gift or generous pledge? A young person's future direction is at stake. Please contact me personally for more information, or send us an e-mail at development@baptistchild.org and Catch the Match for BCS!

Blessings and peace,

Kenneth D. Campbell
President, Board of Directors



According to “The Silent Epidemic – Perspectives of High School Dropouts,” a study by Civic Enterprises of Washington, D.C., almost one third of all public high school students fail to graduate from high school with their class. Many of these students abandon school with less than two years to complete their high school education.

Baptist Children’s Services’ Academic Tutoring Program focuses on curtailing this national trend by assisting at-risk students to improve school attendance and academic competencies, and to pursue post-secondary education. Certified tutors at each of our residences provide supplementary instruction in reading and reading comprehension, math, language arts, and study skills.

Seven of the 75 residents currently at BCS, have reached their senior year of high school and are poised to graduate with the Class of 2007. Educational Services Manager Rebekah Elliott, developed a Senior Questionnaire and conducted a survey among this special group of residents.

Our seniors responded with courage and honesty. Amid the dropout epidemic, BCS is pleased to introduce our own Class of 2007 in this issue of Benevolence.



BCS Seniors Make the Grade

Ashley Johnson is a three-time honor roll student. Ashley enjoys the study of music, English and drama. She is a member of the Girls Volleyball Team and plans to major in English in college. Ashley made the most of her two years with BCS by focusing on areas of communications, money management, and activities of daily living, all part of the BCS Life Skills curriculum. Ashley has a deep appreciation of Baptist Children’s Services, and considers direct care staff, her role models.



Champaine Jones excels in English, math, and world cultures, maintaining her long-standing 3.0 GPA. Champaine says that the real highlight of her high school experience was attending the senior prom. A resident of Baptist Children’s Services for 2 years, she enjoys movies, videos, and the annual Summer Picnic. Champaine says that the study skills acquired through the Academic Tutoring Program benefited her the most. Champaine enjoys the friendships she has made and the mentoring and group discussions provided by staff and community volunteers. Champaine wants to continue her education by pursuing a degree in Sociology. She feels that as a Social Worker, her background and personal life experiences will be valuable in helping others.



Joseph Jones was named to the National Honor Society. Accepted at a dozen colleges, Joseph has accepted a full scholarship to Penn State University. BCS Social Worker Nikishia Jackson, states, “Joseph’s consistent record of high achievement, including great people skills and intelligence, has demonstrated his ability to rise to any challenge.” Joseph has been a resident of BCS since 2006.



High school football fans already know **Calden Pierce**. Calden was named First Team All-Public Running Back; First Team All-City Linebacker, First Team All-Public Linebacker and was nominated for All-State Linebacker. Calden was featured in the Philadelphia Daily News where he was described by reporter Ted Silary as “quite the budding football force.” Accepted to Tuskegee University in Alabama, Calden is looking forward to attending there in the fall. He has been a resident of BCS since 2006.



Sir Quan Preseley will attend a 2-year college to study art or video game design. Sir Quan enjoys art and music, and is a member of the Robotics Club. In the past two years at BCS, Sir Quan has made tremendous progress in areas of communication, daily living, social relationships, and other essentials

for healthy living. He appreciates the help he receives from his counselors, and hopes that BCS will continue helping youths in their adult preparation skills.

Edna Robinson is an honor roll senior and member of the ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps). Edna reports that her favorite subjects have been language arts, physical education and technology. During her residence with BCS, Edna developed her daily living and home life skills. Edna is employed at the local Acme Market, and is considering which college she is most interested in attending.

Montego Bay, Jamaica native **Tysha Wright** excels in math, drama and art. She participated in homecoming events, the senior prom, and is a member of the yearbook committee. Following graduation, Tysha plans to pursue a degree in Business Administration, with a minor in Acting. During her stay at BCS, Tysha was most interested in improving her computer literacy skills. One of Tysha’s goals is to purchase a laptop computer. She is actively saving money to reach this goal.



Baptist Children’s Services is especially proud of our 2007 graduates. By remaining in school they are “youth empowered to succeed.”

Editor’s note: For confidentiality, the BCS facilities where these seniors reside have been omitted, as well as the schools from which they are graduating.

What would you do
with a million dollars?
How have you responded

to this commonly asked question: Buy a
second home? Pay off the bills? Treat your
family to something special?

What would you *really*
do? Baptist Children's
Services would build an

endowment. Our rich
history and spiritual heritage demands that
our commitment to meeting the needs of
children and youth continue well into the
future. By building an endowment,
BCS ensures that future generations of
homeless youngsters have a safe, nurturing
environment that provides the support they
need and deserve.

BCS has received an extraordinary \$1 million dollar gift! This financial legacy is second only to the tiny bequest of eleven coins given so long ago to Mary Weatherly, a Sunday-school teacher at Immanuel Mission of The First Baptist Church. As a result of the efforts of Miss Weatherly, The Baptist Orphanage of Philadelphia was incorporated in January, 1879.

"At that time there was but one orphan, a matron, and a servant girl."

Today, 128 consecutive years later, BCS cares for boys and girls ages eleven to eighteen, regardless of religious affiliation, national origin, or family background. Our mission is simply to respond to the needs of displaced adolescents and teens, and to help them overcome adverse personal circumstances.

Two anonymous donors contributed the \$1 million dollar gift. Already known to BCS for their commitment and fervent concern for disenfranchised youth, the two individuals have vehemently rejected any plans for fanfare and celebration of their munificent gift. Even so, we honor and esteem each of them and the combined gift that created the BCS Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund.



The Million Dollar Challenge

The beauty of the Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund lies in its permanency as a restricted fund and its growth potential as an income fund. The Angel Fund ensures that residential care will **always** be available for vulnerable, homeless youth in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Catch the Match

The Angel Fund donors have pledged an additional **\$1.5 million dollars** to BCS as a matching gift incentive. The pledge stipulates that Baptist Children's Services must raise \$3 million dollars within the next three years in order to receive the additional \$1.5 million dollars to the Angel Fund. It releases one dollar for every two dollars that supporters of BCS contribute, promoting good stewardship by multiplicity of every gift, regardless of size.

The matching gift incentive is not a game or gimmick. It is a somber reminder of the growing rate of homelessness among adolescents and teens and the rising cost of providing quality residential care to dependent, neglected youth.

*"Because I lived at Baptist
I was able to*

At an average rate of return of 6%, the Angel Fund is projected to provide approximately \$330,000 each year, in perpetuity, to bridge the majority of the current funding shortfall.

The remaining funding gap is being closed by a realignment of facilities, economies in operations, and an enhanced program of seeking grants and corporate funding. These elements are important; but establishing the Angel Fund as a permanent and on-going funding source is crucial.

Benefactors will also appreciate the tri-fold benefits of their charitable investment in the Angel Fund:

- **Support of Current Operations** providing the immediate provision of services to youth
- **Future Sustaining Revenues** generated through the Fund's \$1 million dollar principal
- **Matching Gift Funds** increasing the amount and impact of any gift



BCS does make a difference in the lives of underprivileged displaced youth. Through our innovative approach to residential care, BCS continues to achieve measurable results that transform lives and strengthen communities.

Please consider what you can do to become involved in the million dollar challenge. Designate a more-than-usual gift to the Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund. As you do, keep in mind that you are making a gift to aid at-risk displaced youth who are the true beneficiaries of your goodwill toward BCS. Thank you for making a difference.

Editor's note: We welcome your inquiries on the BCS Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund. Send your questions and comments to development@baptistchild.org.



*Children's Services
change my life." Chris Marziale*

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Angel Fund Campaign

To guide the Angel Fund toward the ultimate goal of capturing the \$1.5 million dollars in its entirety, BCS has engaged the expertise of Sylvia/Carter & Associates. Principals Constance Carter, CFRE and Corrine Sylvia, CFRE began their work by producing a *Case for Support of the Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund*, and by conducting a *Feasibility Study*. Conversations with several key members of the BCS community revealed the most important characteristics of the Angel Fund from their perspective. These characteristics are also considered the primary reasons that contributors are likely to support the BCS Angel Fund. In order of preference, the Angel Fund is viewed as:

A Difference Maker Fund

Gifts make a definite difference in the lives of at-risk youth

A Forever Fund

Principal of gift is protected so income will always aid at-risk children

A Trusted Fund

BCS is a trusted agency with a good track record of demonstrated results

An Income Fund

Gifts will provide consistent income to ensure BCS care for many years

A One-Time Fund

The Fund's unique origin makes a similar drive unlikely for many years

Other attractive characteristics of the Angel Fund:

- Fund assets will be professionally managed
- Gifts will be recognized publicly by suitable means
- Contributions are deductible for Federal income tax purposes

To receive a copy of the *Case for Support of the Adopt-A-Bed Angel Fund* and/or the *Feasibility Study*, please contact Cheryl H. Barber, Development Director at 610-879-1440 ext. 112.



BCS Welcomes New Donors

Ahepa Thermopylae
 Dr. Lydia Barringer
 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day
 Saints/Gilbertsville
 Ms. Marlene Dorsey
 Mrs. Carole L. Drayton
 Mr. Erich Earhart
 East Coast Cabinetry
 Ms. Jane Gladden

Contributions of a responsive, caring community have enabled BCS to provide shelter and stability that displaced youth require. BCS has received significant foundation grants that have enhanced our programs, affirmed our mission, and produced favorable results in the lives of our residents.

The W.W. Smith Charitable Trust

approved a one-year grant in the amount of \$20,000 for the purchase of clothing, including shoes, for residents housed at our five group homes and two emergency shelters. BCS extends special thanks to Mary L. Smith, Trustee and the W. W. Smith Charitable Trust for making a difference through new clothing and shoes for our residents.

The Genuardi Family Foundation

awarded BCS a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to help provide therapeutic recreation for

shelter is provided for with funds from The Bard Foundation. BCS acknowledges Mr. Roderick A. Russell, Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager of the Agnes C. and Robert L. Bard Foundation for sustaining our program's operation.

BCS is grateful for additional foundation grants that were awarded in fiscal year 2006-2007 by the following foundations:

Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation
 Fox & Roach Charities
 Genuardi Family Markets
 Phoenixville Community Health Foundation
 PNC Advisors, Charitable Trust Committee
 The Prudential Foundation
 Schuylkill Area Community Foundation
 E.G. and Klara Smith Foundation



Reflections on Philanthropy



Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Herion, Jr.
 Ms. Phyllis Love Jones
 Kelly Insurance Agency & Life Solutions, Inc.
 Mr. Murray Lefkowitz
 Dr. Constance Lindsay
 Monday Bible Study Group of Gordonville
 National Ministries, ABCUSA
 Mr. Edson Noelle
 NPI Shareholder's Liquidating Trust
 Overland White Cross
 Pan Macedonian Society of Greater Philadelphia
 Ms. Terrie Lynn Pendleton
 Philadelphia Soul
 Mr. and Mrs. Gus Roseman
 Mr. and Mrs. Jon L. Ross
 Mr. and Mrs. John Somplasky
 Ms. Susan Ughy
 Sigma Rho Lamda of Ursinus College
 Vincent Elementary School
 Ms. Irene Walz
 Mrs. Joan Wegman
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wilkinson
 Ms. Patricia D. Williams
 Mr. and Mrs. James Wood

youths residing in each facility. As summer approaches, therapeutic recreation is a top priority. Our deep appreciation is expressed to Jim V. Genuardi, President, and members of the Genuardi Family for providing summer fun for boys and girls in our program.

The Patricia Kind Family Foundation

provided Baptist Children's Services with \$10,000 to support educational services. BCS staffing includes certified tutors to assist residents with homework, reading, and study skills. Our 2007 graduating seniors benefited from the academic tutoring program. We are grateful to Laura Kind McKenna, Managing Trustee, and the Patricia Kind Family for recognizing the importance of providing academic support to children in placement.

The Agnes C. and Robert L. Bard Foundation

awarded a grant of \$10,000 for operating expenses. The nuts and bolts of operating a group home or emergency

George Stuart Bequest of St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 United Way of America (FEMA)
 United Way of Western Montgomery County

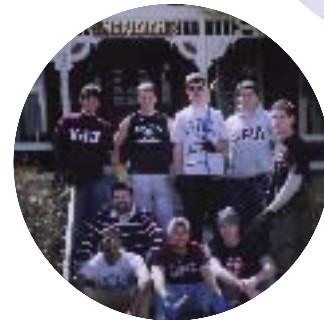
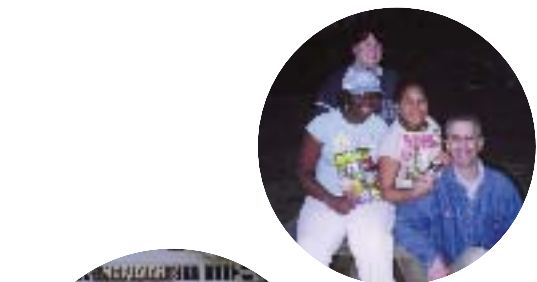


Photo Credits: Clockwise from top: Christine McVeigh of St. Eleanor's Moms and Tots delivers Easter baskets for each BCS facility; Pat Kelly with staff of Kelly Insurance Agency holding Easter baskets made for group home and shelter residents; Members of Sigma Rho Lamda of Ursinus College volunteer for landscaping and garden work at Meridian; Volunteer and Mentor John Markunas assist residents design and plant a flower garden; Karlynn King of National Properties Inc. pictured with BCS Executive Director Bill Flood as NPI donates a variety of useful items including three vehicles, ten computers, and numerous water coolers.

Executive Director's Message

"Think Outside of the Box" is a contemporary phrase that implies that success is measured by one's ability to expand their thought process. This is not easy to do. We are so comfortable *inside* of the box, that we are afraid to venture out of it – in our thinking, our actions, and our giving. It may be stretching it somewhat, but may I suggest that to "Think Outside of the Box" is the subject of the parable of the "Good Samaritan."

The "Good Samaritan" is a story told by Jesus of three righteous and presumably honest individuals. Any one of them could possibly have been on their way to church or synagogue or some other important destination. I imagine that their minds were filled with lofty ideas or focused on deep spiritual matters. In all probability they did not want to lose their focus. Then, the horrific sight of a stranger, pummeled and laid out by robbers came into view. A terrible distraction that all, except one crossed the road to avoid.

Or take the story of the young lawyer, another honest and upright individual. He was not guilty of an overt act such as robbing a man and leaving him injured by the road. Only thieves did that. But the lawyer asked Jesus an interesting question of avoidance – "Who is my neighbor?"

The children whom Baptist Children's Services provides shelter for have been left by the roadside in an unbelievable condition. It is not your fault that they have come to this. You are not guilty of the circumstances that cause them to be referred to BCS. The "Good Samaritan" parable is not about who was guilty. In fact, Jesus led the discussion away from blame and fault-finding. Instead, He directed that since you know about this incident – the helpless misfortune of another, what are you going to do about it?

I like the statement made by Board President Ken Campbell when referring to the Good Samaritan. Ken observes that "the Samaritan paid the bill." When you, my friend, give to Baptist Children's Services, you are helping to pay the bill. You are today's Good Samaritan, interrupting your own important journey to help homeless at-risk youth who have been left by the wayside. Thank you for thinking outside of the box. God will reward you for it.

Rev. Dr. William E. Flood
Executive Director



From the BCS Archives

"At the annual meeting in January, 1884, a joint committee of ten was appointed, with Dr. Benjamin Griffith as chairman, 'to select and purchase a lot, secure plans, erect cottages, and direct the raising of the money to pay for the same.'"

"After several months spent in examining many eligible locations in and around the city, on March 11, 1885, a square of ground, containing about eight acres, on Fifty-eighth Street, near Angora Station, on the West Chester Railroad, was purchased for fourteen thousand dollars."

"At this time there was only about nine thousand dollars available for lot and building purposes. It was decided therefore, to pay five thousand dollars and



create a mortgage of nine thousand dollars for three years. It was agreed that it would be necessary to erect three cottages, and the estimated cost of these was twenty-six thousand dollars, with only four thousand dollars in hand."

"The two Boards held a joint meeting to consider the question of raising the funds to pay for these cottages. Business was dull, many persons were out of employment; the prospect was far from encouraging. But there had been much prayer for success."

"After some discussion as to plans, Mrs. Griffith, in a few well-chosen words, promised to pay for one cottage, as a memorial to her beloved, departed daughter, Bessie C. Griffith. All hearts were encouraged. Soon after, generous contributions were made by others."

Excerpt from Benjamin Griffith – Biographical Sketches
Edited by Charles H. Banes, A.M. (circa 1920) Page 236



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BENEVOLENCE
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The BCS Y.E.S. Invitational Returns!

Join BCS for a Good Time and Great Golf at
Huntington Valley Country Club on Friday September 14, 2007.

Newcomers Are Welcome!

Thank you for making a contribution to Baptist Children's Services.
An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.



BCS residents receive new beach towels thanks to the combined efforts of Prudential Fox Roach of Malvern, Perspective Consulting, Inc. of Collegeville, Spring-Ford Track Team, Gail Guttridge and Friends, Montandon Baptist Church, Baptist Church in the Great Valley, Susan Zeager and the Lebow family. Photo by Dev. Coordinator Nancy Guttridge.

Baptist Children's Services is dedicated to provide quality care to youth. We are committed to instill a sense of responsibility, accountability and morals in the youth we serve. Baptist Children's Services creates opportunities to improve lives through guidance, love, education and positive role modeling.

"Empowering Youth to Succeed"