

The Center for Great Expectations

CenterStage

Volume 17

19B Dellwood Lane • Somerset, NJ 08873 • Tel: 732-247-7003

Spring 2010

KEN DANYEKO GOLF CLASSIC COMING UP!



Mark your calendars for the 14th Annual Ken Daneyko Golf Classic to be held at the beautiful Suburban Golf Course, an A.W. Tillinghaust design, in Union, NJ. The date is Thursday, July 15th. The event is held annually to raise funds to support the programs and services provided to the homeless, pregnant adolescents and their children, and the homeless pregnant women with substance use disorders and their children who reside at the Center.

The day will begin with a delicious brunch on the veranda overlooking the well-appointed course. The tournament's namesake, Ken Daneyko, NJ Devils hockey great will be there to play and mingle with the golfers during the day. He will be accompanied by the NJ Devils mascot. Boxing great Gerry Cooney, long-time supporter of the Center, will be there to play and mingle with the crowd.

Following a round of golf and cocktails, a sumptuous buffet dinner will be served in the main dining room. A brief announcement of awards and silent auction prizes will round out the day.

Surprises at the Classic last year included celebrities who attended the event. Ron Duguay, Rangers hockey star, and his wife, model and TV star Kim Alexis attended, as did football great Tony Siragusa, who was instrumental in helping the Ravens win Super Bowl XXXV. Siragusa will return this year and is available to play with a threesome to benefit the Center. Call Ed at 908-930-9355 for details.

Chairman of the event, Ed Stankiewicz, points out, "golfers who attend this event are always surprised," he laughs, "It is what makes it such a great tournament. That, the great people who participate, and the cause, the cause is just so worthy and important."

Asked why he gives so much time to the Daneyko Classic, Ed doesn't hesitate, "It is a perfect golfer's day for the right cause. The time and effort I give comes back to me in so many ways. I'm the lucky one," he offers, "the satisfaction I get in seeing everyone have such a great time playing for the women and children of the Center is why this is my 7th year as chairman." For tickets, call Ed at 908-930-9355.

The Center Opens a New Intensive Outpatient Program



Intensive Outpatient Program on the grounds at St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick

The Center for Great Expectations has opened a new Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) on the grounds at St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick. Located at 123 How Lane in New Brunswick, the IOP was made possible by a federal grant from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration). The program will provide service to pregnant and post-partum women with substance use and/or co-occurring disorders. The services provided by the IOP will include: substance use treatment; HIV testing and counseling; parenting group; family education; life skills; peer-led social support; relapse prevention; building social networks; 12-step education; psychiatric services and onsite drop-in babysitting. Program staff will work with clients to help link them to other essential community services including prenatal and pediatric medical care; housing support; employment services and other vital resources.

The program consists of an average of 20 weeks of client-centered, clinically-driven outpatient treatment

including individual, group and psycho-educational therapy with an individualized aftercare program created with the client's primary counselor that includes graduate group participation. Special outreach will take place to assist women who have served overseas in war and conflicts and who are pregnant or post-partum and have co-occurring disorders such as PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), substance use disorders and HIV/AIDS. Over 13,000 female veterans in the United States are homeless, and 45% suffer from mental health issues.

If you know someone in the New Brunswick area who is in need of the program and services provided by the Center's Intensive Outpatient Program or if you would like further information about the IOP, please call the program directly at 732-993-6403 or email IOP@cge-nj.org.

Additional information about all services provided by The Center for Great Expectations can be located on our company website: www.thecenterforgreatexpectations.org.

Shantae's Story

Shantae is the happiest person I have interviewed for the newsletter, ever. She smiles, laughs and is warm and outgoing. She is very intelligent and her vocabulary is superb. She seems to be the epitome of success and positive thinking. When you hear her story, you can't imagine how all this could be so. It doesn't seem possible that Shantae could have come so far in such a short period of time.

Shantae grew up in a home with a mother who was an alcoholic and drug addict. At a very young age she watched many men coming and going from her home. She remembers her father beating her mother, and her mother accepting that treatment as "deserved". This is what Shantae grew up thinking was the way things should be. She wanted to be like her mother because she loved her. She began to drink at age 12 with her mother's approval. Eventually her mother began to share drugs with her daughter. Shantae's mother went to prison for drug dealing and a host of other charges. Through the years, Shantae had 3 children, all of whom live with other people. She could not have her children because she could not care for them properly. She kept falling further into an abyss when her 4th child was born. Amani was her joy as Shantae struggled to turn her life around, but then Amani was taken away from her. She was at risk of having her daughter adopted when she entered a program and stayed for 18 months. But Shantae wasn't where she needed to be. She saw the website for the Center and immediately knew it was where she wanted to be. Shantae embraced the program at the Center and immediately began to make progress. Part of the program at the Center is to reunite children with their parents. Within several months little Amani was back with her mommy. They became inseparable, and Shantae vowed that

she would never again be separated from her child. They are a happy, loving team and provide great joy to all who meet them.

Shantae has her life planned for the future. She is ready to take the test for her GED that she has studied for since she arrived at the Center. She wants to be an ultrasound technician because of the joy people feel when they first see



their unborn child. Following her training for ultrasound, she plans to continue her education. Shantae's other children see her often. They come to the Center on Saturdays to visit with Shantae and their sister Amani. Shantae will sing the praises of the Center without even being asked. She credits the Center with making it possible for her to change the past, reunite with her child, and to believe in a future that she has planned for herself. We have no doubt that she will succeed.

Note: Shantae's mother is out of prison on parole. She is clean and sober and knows that her freedom depends on it. Shantae believes she will make it all the way to a new and productive life.

There are
many people
and
many
corporations
that
help the Center.

Did you know?

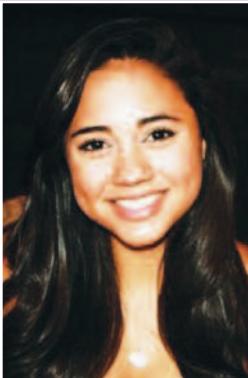
Employees in many corporations have drives to help the center?

Some foundations won't fund a non-profit unless one of their employees is involved with them?

Some restaurants in our area donate dinner for our residents from time to time?

Some restaurants dedicate a percentage of their sales for one night to help local non-profits?

Some corporations provide in-kind service to the Center, such as printing, creative design, volunteers to help at events, employee assistance with cleaning, carpentry, painting and other helpful jobs?



Grace Goldini, a student at Montgomery High School in Skillman, NJ, saw a need at the Center and decided to do something about it. She created an advertisement on Facebook urging people to donate items from the Center's need list. She recruited 87 people who participated in the drive, and collected 500 diapers and 6 tubs of wipes. The effort was a grand success.

Students who are interested in conducting a drive on behalf of the Center can contact Sister Sheila at 732-247-7003 Ext 25.

Moms and daughters come together to help the moms and babies at The Center



On Sunday, June 6, the good women of St. Borromeo's Church in Skillman, NJ will host the 2nd annual Moms and Babies Luncheon to benefit the Center for Great Expectations.

This year, the proceeds raised will be used to assist in the purchase of playground equipment for the children of the Center. Currently, the children have a fenced in area that is vacant space with no play equipment.

Lunch will begin at 12:00 noon as guests wander through the silent auction to view the tempting items available. A beautiful buffet follows as guests help

themselves to a delightful array of selections prepared by the women of St. Borromeo's Church.

Last year, the event was so successful, that the committee decided on the day of the event that it would be repeated this year. To obtain tickets for the luncheon, please call

Carol at **732-247-7003 Ext. 32.**

Tickets are \$20 per person.



IF WISHES WERE FISHES

Each edition of Center Stage features a current list of needs at the Center. We want to thank both those of you who have seen our need and have conducted neighborhood drives for diapers and other items, and, those of you who have personally donated what we need. We deeply appreciate your kindness to our women and children. If you are thinking of conducting a drive, please call Sister Sheila Murray at 732-247-7003 Ext. 25.

THE CENTER NEEDS...

- Crib sheets - green, white, yellow*
- Potty Chairs*
- Small table and chairs for the 2 dining rooms, Outpatient Treatment Center and the Childcare Center
- Storage bins - clear plastic not larger than 66 qts.*
- Plastic Hangers for adults
- Metal water bottles
- Kitchen towels, pot holders, cloths, sponges*
- Kitchen brooms, squeegee type mops
- Shower curtains, liners
- Bath mats*
- Icy Hot Cream
- Elastic bandages 2"x3"x4"
- Benadryl cream
- Aquaphor cream
- Breast milk storage bags
- Suntan lotion for babies & toddlers*
- Child's book about potty training
- Small child's stool
- Drop-in baby bottle liners for 4/5 oz bottles
- Cereal/soup bowls for adults
- Soft baby books
- Box of file folders

***items most needed**



Girl Scout Jr's and Brownies from Troop 956 from Branchburg bringing diapers, wipes and lotion to the Center.



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Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
New Brunswick, NJ
Permit No. 956

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Residential treatment for homeless, pregnant adolescents, and their children; and homeless pregnant women with substance use disorders, and their children.

INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT PROGRAM

For pregnant and post-partum women with substance use and co-occurring disorders.

ZIP NOTES

It isn't too early to think about the **Gift of Hope Gala**. We welcome auction items and please mark your calendar for Friday, November 12. Join us at the Palace in Somerset for a glittering evening of fine cuisine, dancing and a great auction.

Please remember the Center in your estate planning. Wondering how?

Please call us. Our number is 732-247-7003 Ext. 33

Does your company have a matching gift program?
If so, you may be able to double your gift to the Center. Your Human Resource Department can tell you. We do all the work - you just send us the form with your gift.

Have an old car?

We will pick it up at your home or business regardless if it runs or not! You pick the time and we'll be there. It is a turn-key operation.

Call us at 732-247-7003 Ext 33 to speak to Cathy.

Want to have a wish list drive for the Center?

Wonderful! But please check with Sister Sheila at 732-247-7003 Ext. 25 to hear about the items we currently need the most. Thank you for caring about our women and children.

2010 CALENDAR of EVENTS

June 6 { St. Borromeo's Mother and Daughter Lunch

July 15 { Ken Daneyko Golf Classic

November 12 { Gift of Hope Gala