

December 2014



Dear Friend of CGE:

There is nothing like the excitement of the end of the year as we are surrounded by family, friends, comfort, and joy. It is hard not become overwhelmed with nostalgia as we reminisce on childhood memories.

Think back to nights when you were snuggled in your bed listening to mom or dad reading you a bedtime story and asking for just *one* more book...and promising you won't pick out a long one! Or sitting around the kitchen table eating, talking, joking, and sharing.

Those bedtime stories and family dinners, as simple as they may have been, created so much more than just warm childhood memories. They helped form a bond between you and your parents that last a lifetime. It's moments like those that traditions are built on and passed down from one generation to the next.

Each year, the Center for Great Expectations serves over 150 mothers and children, many of whom have never had these memories--they had experienced homelessness, abuse, trauma, and addiction. They have come to the Center with nothing but hope--the hope to break this destructive generational cycle and replace it with positive ones to pass down to their children.

We are excited that in this upcoming year, we will be able to serve even more women and children as a result of the additional en suite bedrooms that we are adding to our Adolescent House. And with your continued support, more traditions and positive memories will be established--a legacy that could never be possible without you!

As you take a few minutes to read a book to your children or grandchildren and sit around your kitchen table with your friends and family, I ask you to think about our families that are receiving treatment at the Center. This holiday season give the gift of happy, healthy relationships, memories and traditions. With your help, we can provide the books, blankets, kitchen table, and so much more! I encourage you to please make a year-end gift to help the Center. Please either use the enclosed donation form or click "Donate Now" on our website, www.cge-nj.org, we would be most grateful!

Sincerely,

Peg Wright

