



Where **HOPE** lives.



2006 Annual Report

## Dear Friends,

Our new Strategic Plan, approved by the Board of Directors, incorporates the roadmap for our vision and goals that we spoke to you about last year. It is now being rolled out across all departments and programs, and groundbreaking work is well underway in the five core areas to which The Home has committed:

- ▶ **Results Driven** - operating a best-in-class practice model based on solid scientific knowledge and a community-focused approach to integrated treatment
- ▶ **Innovative** - continually seeking to identify unmet child and family needs and creating measurable programmatic responses
- ▶ **Diverse** - recruiting and retaining a workforce that reflects the multicultural backgrounds of the children and families we serve
- ▶ **Focused on Advocacy** - implementing a comprehensive public policy agenda to be a driving force for change within the child welfare system
- ▶ **Financially Stable** - expanding private philanthropy to reduce dependency on State funding

Of course, we faced many challenges in the past year. It is a sad fact that the number of children needing our services was increasing, while available resources to provide help were being cut. To bring attention to this dilemma, we commissioned the landmark report, *Kids, Cuts and Consequences: How Cuts to Effective Programs Hurt Our Children*, which showed how inextricably the well being of children is tied to public policy. We are pleased to say that this report has already helped shape policies that have begun to restore some of the budget cuts in human service funding.

As we commit to in our Strategic Plan, we intend to build on our leadership role in helping to formulate public policy. Other issues we have supported during the past year include: **Extending MassHealth coverage for youth in foster care from age from 19 to 21 years old** - the Legislature agreed to extend coverage to age 20, which is an excellent first step and we will continue to press the issue in the next Session; **Expanding early childhood mental health services** - the Legislature set aside \$1.4 million for consultation services in early education and care programs. The Home will have an opportunity in the next Session to help model benefits to this population as we introduce our Early Childhood Initiatives.

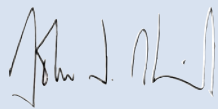
In support of our community-focused approach to care, we launched an enterprise-wide initiative known as *Community Connections*. Every employee at The Home was charged with reaching out to their community and forging new relationships to benefit our children, youth and families. In all, 398 documented connections were made in a variety of areas such as vocational training, volunteerism, health and wellness, and housing assistance.

During the year, as we began to put in place our Child, Family and Community practice model, we were able to introduce a number of financial and program efficiencies, while also providing a more effective experience for our clients. In the coming year, we will continue to examine ways to further enhance the level of our services. We plan to study the potential upgrade of some of our facilities, including creating a more cohesive, integrated facility that would allow us to improve quality by offering a seamless array of services at a single site.

Our challenges are great, but the potential for making a tangible difference is exciting. With the continued support of you, our caring and generous friends, and the tireless efforts of our volunteers and staff, we will continue to succeed.



Joan Wallace-Benjamin, Ph.D.  
President and CEO



John Thomas Hailer  
Board Chair

# SUCCESS STORIES

## Working Wonders

*“Having Susie at the Parent’s Center really decreased the stress in our family.”*

*- Susie’s mother*



**Susie\*** is a cute little girl who was referred to the Parents’ Center at Saltonstall House by the Department of Social Services when she was just two years old. Her older brother has severe special needs with a potential for abusive behavior and Susie was considered to be at risk.

According to her mother, Susie also had a strong attachment to her as an infant - she couldn’t fall asleep without her and could only be calm in her mother’s arms. All attempts to help Susie separate from her mother had failed, and this, plus the son’s special needs, was becoming overwhelming for the family.

After being seen by Early Intervention and an Autism Specialty Service Provider, it was recommended that Susie attend a child care program. This move worked wonders for Susie’s sense of self, as well as providing much-needed respite for the family. As a result of the help she received at the Parents’ Center, Susie is now able to ride the school bus independently, nap, and participate in classroom routines. This success carried over into the home and she can now play in a room apart from her mother, with periodic “checking in.” Susie’s mother is able to participate more fully in her son’s therapy and other activities of daily living have become more manageable.

The Parents’ Center at Saltonstall House is a family preservation and specialized daycare program for the treatment and prevention of child abuse or neglect.

*\*Please note name and photograph have been changed to protect confidentiality.*

## Finding Stability



**Cleo** started having emotional difficulties when she was just seven years old and was finally diagnosed with bi-polar and ADHD when she was fourteen. At the age of 15, Cleo underwent several hospitalizations, and was referred to the Children’s Community Support Collaborative (The Collaborative) in February of 2005. Today, at age 18, Cleo has found a way to cope with her condition and now looks forward to a brighter future.

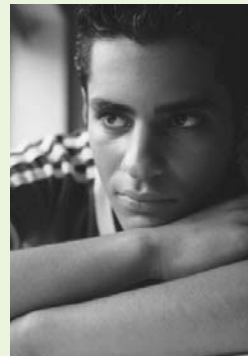
When she was admitted to the Brighton-based program, Cleo was extremely depressed and showed frequent signs of anger and hostility. But thanks to working hard with staff and peers, she has progressed by leaps and bounds. Next year Cleo plans to graduate from the program and High School and go on to college. Her dream is to become a Fashion Editor and she’s aiming high with Vogue as her top pick.

Cleo explains, “Since I joined the program, I’ve done a 340-degree turnaround and I’m on my way to a 360. My improvement comes down to the love from my mother and support from the staff and my peers here, who helped my self-esteem. Simply put, The Collaborative has helped mould me into a better person and I’d recommend it to any family with a teen who is having serious mental health issues.”

The Collaborative organizes and manages a treatment continuum for youth with significant emotional and mental health needs and their families.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ The **Children's Community Support Collaborative** (CCSC) was honored with the Department of Mental Health Commissioner's Distinguished Service Award for its work in treatment and rehabilitation for youth with mental illness and their families. CCSC's Vocational Support Program continued to grow, with more than 40 teens participating and working a total of 2,828 hours.
- ▶ The Home was awarded contracts by the Department of Social Services for two new programs, both the first of their kind in the state. **STARR** (Stabilization, Assessment and Rapid Reintegration), operating from our Longview Farm program in Walpole, offers services for male youths who are at risk of extended out-of-home placement. The **Academic Support for College and Life** program, scheduled to open in January 2007, will provide ten young women, formerly foster youth, the opportunity to live on the all-women Pine Manor campus in Chestnut Hill, while receiving intensive academic and support services that prepare them for college and adulthood.
- ▶ Our **Adoption** program won a MARE (Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange) Award for its exemplary work in recruiting and preparing families to adopt children in the foster care system waiting for adoptive homes.
- ▶ Twelve of our adolescents moved into our beautifully renovated **Roxbury House** group home. Thanks to the strong support and guidance from the program director and staff, almost all of boys, many of whom have been victims of abuse and neglect, were on the honor roll at their local public school.
- ▶ **Safe at Home** merged with **Home Based Family Support**, enabling more comprehensive and adaptable services for families in crisis to help them avoid psychiatric hospitalizations for their children. Safe at Home also formed two new important alliances: the Youth Services Providers Network (a partnership of the Boston Police Dept. and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston); and Health Careers Academy, a pilot school in Boston that serves disadvantaged children interested in careers in the health field.
- ▶ Our **Preschool Outreach Program** established a unique eight-session parent/child group at the Families in Transition shelter. The group was designed by our clinicians as a supportive place for mothers to discuss issues such as housing, parenting and other life stressors. Each group was followed by a "mommy and me" session to promote positive parent/child interactions.
- ▶ **Coldwell Banker Community Living Program** was able to secure summer employment opportunities for all of its young adults.
- ▶ The **Knight Children's Center** doubled its "community connections," with more kids than ever participating in extracurricular activities in the community, such as karate, soccer, and music lessons.
- ▶ **The Baird Center** worked closely with the Plymouth Public Schools to develop a classroom within the Plymouth Community Intermediate School for their "emotionally fragile" students. Baird is providing the clinical coverage and will continue to be a resource as this program develops and grows.



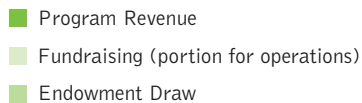
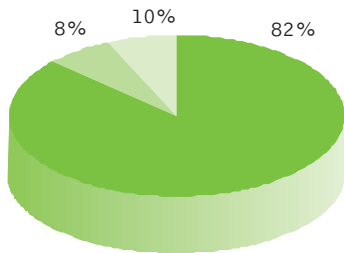
# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## The Home for Little Wanderers' Schedule of Operations

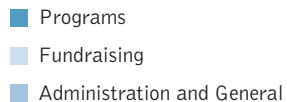
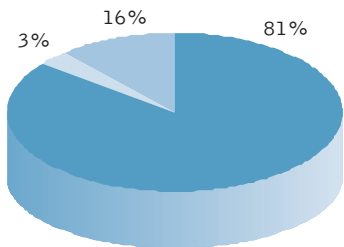
Year Ended June 30, 2006

(Reported in 000's)

### Operating Revenue



### Operating Expenses



### Revenues

Program Revenue	\$34,215
Endowment Draw	3,270
Fundraising (portion for operations)	4,354
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>41,839</u>

### Expenses

Programs	34,094
Administration and General	6,685
Fundraising	1,478
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>42,258</u>

**Operating Surplus<sup>1</sup>** (419)

### Non-Operating Items

Bequests	709
Investment Activity	292
Other	2,015
<b>Total Non-operating Items</b>	<u>3,016</u>

Change in Unrestricted Net Assets \$2,597

Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets<sup>2</sup> 515

Change in Permanently Restricted Net Assets<sup>3</sup> 432

**Change in Net Assets** \$3,544

<sup>1</sup> For internal management and budgeting purposes, The Home uses the Operating Surplus/(Deficit) line.

<sup>2</sup> Included in the change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets is \$2,847,198 of additional Investment activity, \$1,310,453 of additional Fundraising activity and (\$2,775,274) of activity related to Net Assets released from restriction.

<sup>3</sup> The change in Permanently Restricted Net Assets of \$431,755 is additional Investment activity.

# Leadership Circle of Hope

We are sincerely grateful to each of more than 20,000 donors who annually support The Home's work with children and families in need. Our special thanks extend to members of the Leadership Circle of Hope, The Home's new recognition society for donors contributing \$1,000 or more within a given fiscal year. The following list reflects gifts received between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Lisa Rowan-Gillis, Vice President for Development and Public Relations, at 617-585-7528.

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## Facts, Figures, & Milestones

- ▶ **Re-accredited** through the Council on Accreditation (COA). COA accreditation attests that The Home meets the highest national standards and is delivering the best quality services to the community it serves.
- ▶ Our **Adoption** program facilitated the placement of 28 children in adoptive homes, including children in the foster care system, domestic infants, many with special needs, and children adopted internationally; completed 61 assessments on behalf of the Department of Social Services; began working with 40 new prospective adoptive families; and provided decision-making counseling to 21 birth families. Adoption staff also conducted search and reunion efforts for 57 former clients.
- ▶ **Therapeutic Foster Care** helped 12 children reunify with their families of origin, assisted in the adoption of a child by a foster parent, transitioned a teen into an independent living situation, and provided support to a teen who received a full scholarship to attend Boston University.
- ▶ The Home co-chairs a task force bringing state agencies and providers together to address the problems facing youth **“aging out”** of foster care and residential programs. The Task Force hired a Project Director and commissioned the Boston University School of Social Work to conduct a first-of-its-kind study of aging out in Massachusetts.
- ▶ **Voices & Visions**, The Home’s signature fundraising event, generated almost \$300,000 and attracted over 400 guests.
- ▶ The **Cornerstone Society**, recognizing donors who have made a financial contribution to The Home for 20 years or more, was launched this year with over 1,200 charter members.
- ▶ The **Leadership Circle of Hope**, The Home’s recognition society for donors of \$1,000 and above, was launched this year with 235 inaugural individual members and 149 corporate members.

## Where hope lives.

271 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115

617.267.3700 | 888.HOME.321  
[www.thehome.org](http://www.thehome.org)

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