

SUMMER 2000

NEWS

New Advertising Campaign to Raise Awareness of Community Schools



Speakers at the National Press Club launch of the community schools advertising campaign (l. to r.): Martin J. Blank, Coalition for Community Schools, Shay Bilchik, Child Welfare League of America, Philip Coltoff, The Children's Aid Society, Judith K. Dimon, Educational Leadership Advisory Board, Terry Peterson, U.S. Department of Education, Peggy Conlon, The Advertising Council.

Comparing the community schools movement to a “flower that pushes itself up through a cracked sidewalk,” Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala helped launch a new national public service advertising campaign for community schools co-sponsored by The Children's Aid Society at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. in late May.

With top U.S. Department of Education officials on hand, Philip Coltoff, Executive Director and CEO of The Children's Aid Society, Martin J. Blank, Staff Director of the Coalition for Community Schools, and Peggy Conlon, President and CEO of the Ad Council, unveiled the new television ads. They were created pro bono by advertising agency BBDO New York, which created a family of public service advertisements (PSAs) for radio, newspapers and magazines, as well as television.

Community schools are public schools that partner with community organizations to provide services and programs, including before- and after-school programs, health, dental and mental health services, social services, adult education and supports, and recreational and cultural programming. These support and enhance educational opportunities at the schools and strengthen families and communities. Many of these programs are beyond the capabilities of the normal, typical public school.

The Children's Aid Society (CAS) currently partners in eight community schools in northern Manhattan and the Bronx. We undertook our first partnership, in I.S. 218 in Washington Heights, in 1992. The Children's Aid model is used in 70 schools around the United States as well as internationally.

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From the Executive Director...



Helping Families Succeed

At a time of unprecedented prosperity, there are still too many

families being left behind. When we spoke with over 100 Washington Heights parents in 1998 about their aspirations and daily lives, including their financial arrangements, we found families working hard to achieve the American Dream without access to institutions and information that many of us take for granted.

Adults were saving money at home because they did not trust banks, purchasing money orders to pay bills because they lacked checking accounts, and living on credit without an appreciation of the hazards of credit card debt. In response, The Children's Aid Society (CAS) launched the Economic Empowerment Initiative (EEI), which teaches children and adults the basics of money management, fosters habits that can help struggling families achieve financial stability, and links participants to community financial institutions geared towards meeting their needs. EEI helps equip residents to enter the financial mainstream and build better lives for their families.

The youth-focused portion of the program, Project FUNDS (Fun Understanding Nickel and Dime Savings), includes five original workshops that our Program Coordinator, Tanya Ramos, has delivered to 4th and 5th graders at P.S. 8 and to the Business Club at I.S. 218. The workshops cover everything from the history of money, to personal budgeting and investing. Students at P.S. 8 had an opportunity to use their new knowledge by opening savings accounts at Neighborhood Trust Federal Credit Union, a local institution that offers school banking. Every other week, a teller from the credit union visited PS 8, collecting over \$3,000 from the

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala was the featured speaker at the launch of the community schools public service advertising campaign.



Scene from the television public service advertisement sponsored by The Children's Aid Society.

Community Schools *continued from page 1*

The goal of our advertising campaign is to increase public awareness of and support for community schools, and to give parents, educators and decision-makers tools to create and sustain community schools in their local communities. The ads are designed to inform and stimulate interest. They share a common theme, that children love their community schools so much they don't want to leave.

At the press conference, government and community leaders attested to the value and potential of community schools before a standing-room-only crowd of press and educators. Speakers included Secretary Shalala; Sandra Feldman, President, American Federation of Teachers; Terry Peterson, Counselor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; Shay Bilchik, Executive Director, Child Welfare League of America; and Judith K. Dimon, Vice President, The Children's Aid Society and Founder, Educational Leadership Advisory Board, in addition to Coltoff, Blank and Conlon.

All of the public service advertisements encourage viewers or listeners to call a toll-free number, 877-LOVE-2-LEARN. Parents who call that number will receive a handsome new CAS brochure, *Building a Community School: A Parents' Guide*, that will expand their ideas about the possibilities of public education and provide pages of

resources they can utilize in their quests for information and assistance.

Educators, advocates and funders who call our toll-free number will receive The Children's Aid Society's *Building a Community School* manual, which details the process that led to the foundation of our schools in Washington Heights. This manual has been the guide to much community schools development across the nation. In addition, they will receive two brochures from the Coalition for Community Schools. Together, our materials provide a wealth of information to education professionals.

The toll-free number also can assist callers who are already engaged in making their public schools into community schools. Those respondents will receive calls directly from The Children's Aid Society's Technical Assistance Center, located at I.S. 218. The center hosts thousands of visitors annually who want to learn more about the Children's Aid approach to community schools.

The Children's Aid Society and the Coalition for Community Schools together will campaign to encourage public affairs directors of television and radio stations, newspapers and magazines to place our community schools ads prominently among their other advertisements. It's just the beginning of our multi-year effort to increase the momentum of the community schools movement nationally.

A Teacher's View of Community Schools

I.S. 218 dance teacher Susan Gaddy Greene accompanied CAS Executive Director Philip Coltoff to the recent White House Conference on Teenagers. Here are some excerpts from her presentation:

I have been teaching since 1988 but in 1992, when I transferred to I.S. 218, my style of teaching changed. I learned the importance of parental and community involvement in the education of our children. I learned to educate the whole child...

This is the type of school I teach in. It is a place that is always there for the students, teachers, families and communities. The partnership between the school, school district, Children's Aid Society, community and family lets me know I don't have to do my job alone.



Mimi Nickerson, Board Trustee (1926-2000)

It is with great sadness that the trustees, staff, and volunteers of The Children's Aid Society acknowledge the loss of its beloved trustee, Virginia (Mimi) Moffat Nickerson. A long-time member of the Society's board, Virginia Nickerson chaired the Volunteer Committee, which oversees 1,200 volunteers. In 1997 she was honored by the Office of the Mayor as Volunteer of the Year. We will all miss her warmth and humor, but treasure the impact she made on all of our lives, young and old.

Community Schools Get Jazzy!



Instilling the love of music: Byron Stripling blew up a storm at P.S. 152, while jazz violinist Regina Carter thrilled students at P.S. 5 for the harman: how to listen program.

Thanks to the support of the Harman Family Foundation, the 4th and 5th graders at CAS Community Schools P.S. 5, P.S. 8 and P.S. 152 are learning to appreciate music through a very special program: *harman: how to listen*. In April, jazz greats Regina Carter and Byron Stripling visited our schools as part of this innovative national program designed especially for elementary school children. *Harman: how to listen* actively engages young minds, and ears, in new ways of “how and what” to listen for in music.

Founded four years ago by Dr. Sidney Harman, chairman of Harman International, and world-renowned trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, *harman: how to listen* has visited over 100 schools and has featured musical legends including Bobby McFerrin, Betty Carter and Grover Washington, Jr.

The Children's Aid Society (CAS) program featured an assembly at each school hosted by violin virtuosa Regina Carter (at P.S. 5), and acclaimed trumpeter Byron Stripling (at P.S. 152 and P.S. 8). With the assistance of their small ensembles, Ms. Carter and Mr. Stripling had our children stomping their feet, clapping their hands and dancing to new melodies and rhythms. It was truly an interactive approach that even inspired children from P.S. 5 to take to the stage to create their own melody with the ensemble.

At P.S. 8, Mr. Stripling passed around a picture of Dizzie Gillespie as he discussed the history of jazz. Seeing the photo and watching the musicians on stage brought the concept of jazz to life for our children. Using a curriculum developed by *harman: how to lis-*

ten, our teachers had provided students with an introduction to jazz before the big event. They were able to identify different instruments, such as the bass, trumpet and the saxophone, and they developed an understanding of rhythm and beat.

CAS school directors could not give enough praise to our guests. From the very beginning, they captured the attention of each and every student.

Following the program, Harman International donated a sound system and CD player to each school as well as a library of jazz CD's. As Dr. Harman says, “It does not make a great deal of sense to come to the schools that have been so harshly denied funding for the arts, inspire some enthusiasm for music and then leave them empty-handed. We leave the equipment behind so they can pursue the interest we hope we spark in them.”

The program's elements, from music education to donated equipment, enhance The Children's Aid after-school programs that have strong drama, dance and music components. Furthermore, the program is a natural fit with the Society's mission to ensure the physical and emotional well being of children and families — creative expression is critical to their success. And as Regina Carter puts it, the program not only teaches children how to listen to music, “but to listen and pay attention in all aspects of their lives.”

The generosity of the Harman Family Foundation has also brought dance to CAS Community School I.S. 218. *Make a Ballet*,

in partnership with The American Ballet Theater (ABT), teaches young teens every aspect of creating a professional dance performance, from choreography and movement to lighting, scenery and costumes, stage and house management and marketing. Over 30 students from I.S. 218 participated in *Make a Ballet* this spring, even spending Saturdays and Sundays learning dance movements and rehearsing for their big performances in June (not only at their school but at the Metropolitan Opera House as well).

The Harman Family Foundation's generous support has brought creative programming and world-renowned artists to our schools. This partnership truly expands the horizons of our youngsters, who are discovering new and exciting art forms and expressive possibilities as well as building confidence — priceless gifts all our children deserve.

From the Executive Director...

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school's 179 account holders over a six-month period.

Through our Project Advance, we reached out to adults from the 1998 study and to parents of Early Head Start children, providing them with workshops on saving, budgeting, and the importance of good credit as well as one-on-one budget counseling.

In the months ahead, EEI will grow in new directions with the launch of the first Youth Individual Development Account (IDA) program in New York City. IDAs are savings accounts for low-income people in which personal contributions are matched by outside funds when monies are applied towards investments such as tuition, business start-up, or home purchases. The Youth IDA will focus on education-related expenses such as tuition, books, and computers. College-bound teens from across CAS will participate.

As the economy booms and technology proliferates, programs like the EEI are crucial to ensuring that CAS families are equipped to benefit from the new prosperity.

Philip Coltoff
Executive Director

CAS Brings New Foster Care Approach to the Bronx

The Children's Aid Society (CAS) has expanded its highly regarded foster care and preventive services with the opening of its new offices in the Crotona area of the South Bronx. The site provides residents of Community Districts 3 and 6 with innovative services in their own community.

"With the opening of this site we can expand our family-centered approach to foster care in the Bronx," states Philip Coltoff, Executive Director of The Children's Aid Society. "We plan to help more families stay together and help place more foster children permanently with our integrated approach." The location also will help CAS recruit more foster parents from the community. An on-site medical and dental clinic and an expansion of foster care services are planned for later this year.

The Children's Aid Society offers a child-centered approach to foster care that strives to place children permanently by reuniting them with their birth parents or by moving them to adoption in a much shorter time frame. This approach fits well with the new federal Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA, 1999) and the city Administration for Children's Services (ACS) initiative, both of which support keeping children in their



Professional supervisory staff who direct services at the new Children's Aid Society's Bronx location (l. to r.): Alirio Guerrero, Administrative Director; and Kelly Collins, Foster Care Site Supervisor.

own neighborhoods, thereby reducing the number of disruptions in a foster child's life. By keeping children in their own neighborhoods they can go to the same schools and have the same teachers, friends and supports in place. This approach helps the child and also encourages the kind of relationship between foster parents and birth families that can accelerate family reunification.

CAS offers a variety of support services to foster parents including: professional training in order to qualify for state certification, ongoing workshops on child rearing, regular visits with social workers, peer support and advice from other foster parents, and reimbursement for the child's food, shelter and basic needs.

The CAS Preventive Services Program provides numerous supports to help families cope with problems before they become too serious. Depending on the need, the program can provide individual and family counseling, parental advisors, benefits assistance, and 24-hour emergency support and referrals.

Professional supervisory staff at the new Bronx location includes: Alirio Guerrero, Administrative Director; and Kelly Collins, Foster Care Site Supervisor.

"We want to be a part of the neighborhood," said Guerrero. "This will be a place where families can come for help before a child needs to be placed." The new CAS Bronx Foster Care and Preventive Services Offices are located at 1515 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York.

Rewarding Young CAS Scholars

On a June evening full of hope and joy, in front of hundreds of family and friends, 80 young men and women were awarded college scholarships by The Children's Aid Society (CAS), and eight college graduates were honored for their achievements. In addition, five young women received special scholarships. Former Mayor David N. Dinkins bestowed the William H. Dinkins, Jr. Scholarship, which recognizes the student with the highest



CAS Executive Director Philip Coltoff, former Mayor David N. Dinkins, and Martha Cameron, CAS's Director, Youth Development Services, at the awards ceremony.



Delia Negron, left, and Eboni Lowe received the Kay Coltoff Scholarship from Executive Director Philip Coltoff.

G.P.A., to **Kristina LeBron**, a sophomore at Westchester Community College. Lolita Jackson, chair of the CAS Associates Council, and Executive Director Philip Coltoff, awarded the Kay Coltoff Scholarship to **Eboni Lowe**, a freshman at SUNY New Paltz and to **Delia Negron**, a freshman at Dutchess Community College. The Associates Council, a volunteer and fundraising group, created the scholarship in honor of Mr. Coltoff's late wife. The Wick

Stern Memorial Scholarship was presented by Truda "T." Jewett, CAS's Assistant Executive Director, to **Winifred Osagie**, freshman at City College, on behalf of Trustee Jean Stern. The Guy and Maud Alchon/Charles Loring Brace Memorial Scholarship was given to **Sheenia Patterson**, a junior at Brooklyn College, by Guy Alchon, a grandson of the Alchons, who had adopted his father Bernard, an Orphan Train Rider.



CAS Executive Director Philip Coltoff and Trustee Patricia M. Grayson (third from left) pose with several CAS College Scholarship award winners. Left to right: Winifred Osagie, Eboni Lowe, Delia Negron, and Sheenia Patterson.

Photographer Captures the Rebirth of a Community, Shot-by-Shot

It's rare that photographs can record a transformation, not just a simple change. Such is the power of The Children's Aid Society's (CAS) Carmel Hill Project and the photographs by Bill Foley.

This power will be on view in *Renewing a Block and the Spirit of its People*, a new exhibit of Foley's photographs at The Museum of the City of New York that opens July 22. The exhibition examines the lives of residents who have found new hope through The Carmel Hill Project, CAS's ongoing partnership with Wall Street investor Bill Ruane, government agencies and community organizations that has breathed new life into a dilapidated and forgotten block of Central Harlem.

The exhibition will feature photos — selected and specially printed by Foley, an internationally-renowned and Pulitzer-Prize-winning photographer — that document this project.

Celebrated author Terry Quinn, who collaborated with Foley on the two-volume book documenting the Carmel Hill project, has written the wall notes for the exhibition as well. Quinn, a widely published writer, poet and playwright, has used many anecdotes in the exhibition that bring the Carmel Hill residents to life.

Bill Foley began his work at Carmel Hill in 1995 by focusing on the residents and families in three decaying residential buildings on West 118th Street that would later be transformed. Over the course of five years, he documented the evolution of this project and its mission to empower a community. The result is a compelling, 57-print photo exhibit that moves from disquieting images of devastation to those of redemption,

community cooperation, and hope.

"When I was first approached with this project I had no idea what I was getting into," says Foley. "Five years later, I can now say it has been one of the most exciting assignments I have ever worked on."

The Carmel Hill Project began in 1992 as an effort to improve the health, housing, educational, and employment prospects of the residents of a single block in Harlem at 118th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenues. Since then, CAS has worked closely with the community to provide medical, dental and mental health care to the residents through our Dunlevy Milbank community center across the street, enroll eligible residents in health insurance, hold numerous educational and career readiness seminars, provide scholarships for neighborhood children, and oversee the renovation of the apartments in three separate buildings.

"Carmel Hill is about more than renovating real estate — it's about the people and how this project has changed the way they live, think and feel," says Foley. The Carmel Hill Project was one of only 19 projects, and the only one in New York City, to be chosen as a "solution" by the Pew Partnership within its "Wanted: Solutions for America" search. Funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the program is an effort to disseminate creative and cutting-edge strategies to America's most pressing urban and rural problems.

Bill Foley is a freelance photographer based in New York. He spent 20 years as a photo-journalist for Time Magazine and the



Associated Press, working in more than 40 countries and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for spot news photography. His assignments have ranged from the assassination of Anwar Sadat to the bombings of the embassy and Marine Corps barracks in Beirut to Nelson Mandela's first visit to New York. The exhibit will be on view until November 12, 2000.

New Peter Max Mural Brightens Milbank

In early June, before an audience of children, families, community leaders and press, world-renowned artist Peter Max unveiled a new 55x10-foot outdoor mural at The Children's Aid Society's Dunlevy Milbank Community Center in Central Harlem. The permanent mural combines art created by many CAS children into a colorful design that permanently hangs from a wall near the community center's garden. Max selected portions of the children's art, scanned them into a computer and colored them. The artist has made many artistic contributions to CAS in the past, but this mural is by far the largest single work. Max's painting brightens the outdoor play area at Dunlevy Milbank on even the darkest of days.



Orphan Train Riders Discuss Foster Care of Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

At what may have been their final reunion, 22 Orphan Train Riders and about 125 spouses and children returned to New York City from May 11 – 13 to share memories of their historic journey, take part



Orphan Train Riders pose with NBC 4's Janice Huff (sixth from right) and CAS Executive Director Philip Coltoff (second from right, obscured) at the Foster Care and Adoption Media Forum that highlighted the Orphan Train Reunion.

in activities, and discuss current practices in foster care and adoption at a special media forum. Philip Coltoff, Executive Director of The Children's Aid Society, also announced plans to create a museum dedicated to The Orphan Train Movement at the forum.

During their three days in New York City, former riders and their families were treated to a performance of an Orphan Train ballet performed by the Covenant Dance Group, attended the Broadway show "Annie Get Your Gun," and dined in the elegant revolving restaurant atop the Marriott Marquis Hotel.

At the media forum, "Foster Care & Adoption: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," the foster parents and prominent child wel-

fare officials who discussed the evolution of practice and attitudes toward helping children who need care outside their birth families engaged the Riders and their families in the audience. "There have been sweeping changes in the area of foster care and adoption since that last Orphan Train departed from New York City in 1929," said Coltoff. "This forum allowed us to contrast ongoing advances in child welfare to the first-hand accounts of the Orphan Train Riders."

Moderated by Janice Huff of NewsChannel 4, who is the host of "Wednesday's Child," a weekly adoption feature on NBC supported by the Freddie Mac Foundation, the forum also featured Linda Gibbs, Deputy Commissioner, Administration for Children's Services; Shane Salter, Director of Planned Giving, the Freddie Mac Foundation; Jan Flory, Director of Services, The Children's Aid Society; Gladys Johnson, a CAS foster mother; a CAS teen; Arthur Smith, an Orphan Train Rider and CAS Trustee; and Coltoff.

Coltoff, Flory and Gibbs emphasized that foster care practice in New York now stresses keeping children close to their neighborhoods and relatives; CAS's services try to achieve permanency for a foster child – either back with his/her birth parents or with an adoptive family – in one year.

Between 1853 and 1929, more than 150,000 abandoned, neglected and often abused children were rescued from the gritty



Foster Care and Adoption Media Forum speakers included (l. to r.): foster parent Gladys Johnson, former foster child Sheenita Patterson, Shane Salter, Freddie Mac Foundation, and CAS Director of Services Jan Flory.

streets of New York and taken by train to start new lives with families out west. It is estimated that in the 1850's over 30,000 children were homeless in New York City. The Orphan Train Movement was conceived by Charles Loring Brace, founder of The Children's Aid Society, as a humane alternative to abandonment, institutionalization or exploitation of youth.

The Orphan Train Movement, now recognized as the beginning of foster care in the United States, helped spur the passage of numerous child welfare reforms including child labor laws and public education. Many Orphan Train children thrived in their new homes. Quite a number went on to become farmers, bankers, lawyers, and prominent elected officials.

Miracles in the Making

The annual Children's Miracle Network (CMN) telethon aired June 3 and 4, with star appearances from children and families from The Children's Aid Society's (CAS) Medical Foster Boarding Home program. Smiling for the camera are Migdalia Figueroa and Justina, age 3-1/2.

CMN is a fundraising organization created by Donny and Marie Osmond that supports hundreds of children's hospitals and health care agencies in the U.S. and Canada. CAS is the only New York City affiliate and the only non-hospital; CAS uses CMN funds to support our work with chronically ill and disabled children, particularly the Medical Foster Boarding Home program. This program provides a wide array of support services for foster children with chronic medical problems such as cerebral palsy and genetic disorders. Instead of letting these children languish in hospitals, CAS finds and trains foster parents who provide loving, supportive homes. The program is a perfect match for the Miracle Network — everyone involved is a miracle maker.



Tech Centers Bring Everyone into Digital Age

While the digital divide continues to grow between more and less affluent communities, The Children's Aid Society (CAS) is helping to ensure that all children and families gain the technological knowledge needed to participate in today's economic and social mainstream.

The Children's Aid Society's Community Technology Centers (CTC) serve all school-age children and teens in their after-school and evening programs, as well as adults. They are intended to help students improve test scores and help them become better connected to their academic environment while emphasizing the need to complete homework assignments. They also provide programs designed to stimulate cognitive processing and active learning.

The centers also help entire families with technological literacy, which will enable them to participate in the information age. They encourage career readiness with the participation of business leaders from the technology sector, and provide home computer distribution for families participating in special projects. The CTC also benefit from partnerships with other organizations including The Center for Technology and Children, and Computers for Youth.

"We want to integrate technology into every aspect of the after-school program," said Judith Beville, Director of School Age Care Projects and Community Technology Centers.

The Centers were established with generous support from The New York Life Foundation and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, which enabled us to build and



equip the Centers at Goodhue, East Harlem, Frederick Douglass, and Taft House community centers. Now with a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education, CAS will be able to staff and develop curriculum at the latter three program sites as well as Dunlevy Milbank.

The first technology center was launched as a pilot in 1999 at Dunlevy Milbank. By the end of the three years the centers are expected to have served over 1,000 children and adults in total.

There will be a technology center supervisor, a curriculum developer and two teachers at every center, one for morning activities and one for after-school and evening activities.

All the children in the program begin with a mini-course that provides them with a foundation in basic computer literacy. Upon completing this course they earn "WhizKid" certification that allows them to join the Computer Club. As club members, students select one of several projects depending on their interests and their need for academic remediation. Last year, club members built web sites for several CAS locations, developed multi-media presentations about their

Harlem neighborhood and wrote animated stories and poems.

Community Technology Centers are also generating business. CAS is working with our more advanced students to create web sites for local businesses. A program to teach small business owners how they can use computer technology to make their businesses more efficient is also offered. There are plans to create similar programs at the other CTCs.

PowerUp, a new major national initiative launched by more than a dozen nonprofit organizations, corporations and government, is also bringing its resources to the Dunlevy Milbank and Drew Hamilton community centers. PowerUp brings together computers, staff trained by AmeriCorps VISTA, specially designed content programming, and partnerships with youth-serving organizations to help children of all ages and backgrounds use and explore the Internet. In April, America Online provided school-age children and teens at Dunlevy Milbank with free Internet accounts. Partnerships like these help to ensure that underserved young people acquire the skills, experiences and resources they need to succeed in the digital age.

SAVE THE DATE **Free financial and estate planning seminar** Wednesday, October 4, 2000 – at a Manhattan location to be announced

Seminar begins promptly at 11:30 a.m., finishes with our remarks, your questions, and a light lunch by 1:30 p.m. Space will be limited! Please make a reservation by calling 212-949-4936 or sending in the coupon below.

Please reserve _____ space/s for me at the free Financial and Estate Planning Seminar on Wednesday, October 4, 2000.

Name: _____ Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Day Phone: (_____) _____ (required so we can notify you of the location)

Please return to: Cathy O'Rourke, The Children's Aid Society, 105 East 22nd Street, Suite 504, New York, NY 10010-5413

Two Cool Pools

Combined, they are 115 years old. Each has served the children of New York City on behalf of The Children's Aid Society for more than half a century. Who are these stalwarts of our community services program? Dedicated social workers? Tireless community school teachers?

No. They are our swimming pools. Built in 1936 and 1949, respectively, the swimming pools at our Goodhue Community Center on Staten Island and our Wagon Road Camp in Chappaqua, New York have provided more than 100,000 inner-city children with the opportunity to splash, play and learn to swim.

For a youngster living in the center of a city, in communities with perhaps only one municipal pool for every 10,000 children, the importance of these facilities cannot be underestimated. When the mercury makes its daily climb over 80 degrees on New York's hot summer streets, plunging into the cool blue waters of a country pool is a dream come true. Filled to capacity every hour of every hot, summer day, year after year, the time has come for our pools to get some help.

Starting just after summer camp, these two

mainstays of summer life will get some well-deserved relief and rehabilitation.

The Wagon Road Camp, which serves almost 2,000 children per year, will see a new 45x75-foot pool constructed alongside the existing pool. When it is ready, for the summer of 2001, 250 children will all be able to cool off at the same time. And, importantly, the new pool will be designed to handle the special needs of our disabled children, just as the original pool was long ago.

At Goodhue, the existing pool will undergo extensive renovations. While this beautiful, historic pool remains a viable facility, after years of use it needs a new pool lining, high volume filters, main circulation pump and piping to ensure that the facility can continue to serve the community for another 64 years. In addition, Children's Aid will refurbish the old locker room and create an indoor activity



This Wagon Road Camp pool will be renovated right after summer camp, and will be joined by a new pool that will greatly expand Wagon Road's cooling capacity.

room to provide space for campers during rainy days.

These swimming pools are already everyone's favorite place on a hazy, hot and humid day. With the construction completed, they will continue to be the pride of our summer programs as well.

Having the Will to Give



Isn't it fun to dream about what you would do with the millions of dollars that you would collect with a winning lottery ticket? Buy a new house...a new car...travel...or maybe send your kids to the finest Ivy League colleges. You might feel the urge to give some of it away to charity, to help the people who are less fortunate than you.

No matter how you get it or spend it, the point is - you would make the decisions about where the money goes.

How do you do it? Write a will! Your will is your instruction about where your money goes; you can make sure that your children's college education will be paid for, that your aging mother is taken care of and that a contribution is made to your favorite charity - The Children's Aid Society!

Most importantly, you can make sure that a judge doesn't decide for *you* where your money goes.

Every year, *over 70%* of the people who die have no will. Most keep thinking that they

will get around to it when they have more time. Or that they have nothing of value to give away.

But nobody is too young or too poor to need a will. Everybody has something that they want to make sure goes to the right person. The legal way to do it is to write a will, optimally in consultation with a lawyer.

If you don't write a will, the state will decide how to hand out your property and money. It's possible that a big piece of it will end up going to pay taxes. Wouldn't you rather send help directly to the needy children of New York City and reduce your estate's potential tax liability by making a contribution to The Children's Aid Society in your will?

If you would like to know how you can leave a legacy to Children's Aid, please contact Cathy O'Rourke, our Director of Planned Giving, at 212.949.4937, or cathyo@childrensaidsociety.org, and she will be glad to help you.

CAS Tees Off!

We are thrilled to announce that our Inaugural Children's Aid Golf Classic, presented by Andersen Consulting, will be at Baltusrol Golf Club on August 7, 2000. Numerous corporate sponsors are supporting the event, which we hope will become annual. Look for photos in our next newsletter!

NEWS

The Children's Aid Society
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Edgar Koerner, *Chairman*
Philip Coltoff, *Executive Director*
C. Warren Moses, *Assoc. Executive Director*
Truda Jewett, *Asst. Executive Director*
Jane Quinn, *Asst. Executive Director*
Harvey Robins, *Asst. Executive Director*

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