



JULY 2018

Greetings!

It is the peak of summer and things are blooming and thriving on our campus. Although it's a slower, quieter time for the summer, the children are always energetic and joyful in their play and are thriving with many improvements to the playgrounds from last year.

I am asked many times each month about the name of our organization. How does it still fit after the residential home we supported closed so many years ago? I usually respond by telling how all the supports and services we provide help children to live in safer, happier, healthier and more loving homes. Not with bricks and mortar, but with education, counseling, parenting guidance and joy for the future, to build an internal foundation for a life time.



Earlier in the year I had talked about one of my mentors, Mister Rogers. Mister Fred Rogers in his humble, quiet and gentle way gave us a kind neighbor and a model for how we could be safe in the world. I had the great joy the other day to see *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*, a wonderful documentary about Mister Roger's life's work with PBS and in educational programming. Please give yourself a gift of going to see this. There are many encouragements and reminders about what we can and should be doing to make life better for children. Thank you for your support, partnership and being part of our "neighborhood."

In sincere gratitude,

Richard Dorian, Executive Director

Adoption Program: Emily's Bake Sale



On Saturday, June 16th, 12-year-old Emily hosted a Bake Sale outside of the Gray Shop & Save with all profits to go towards our **Adoption Program** and to help other children, like herself, find forever homes.

We are very excited to share that Emily's Bake Sale raised over \$400 for our Adoption Program! We are so lucky to have such a caring donor. Thank you, Emily!

LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS

Portland Office Open House

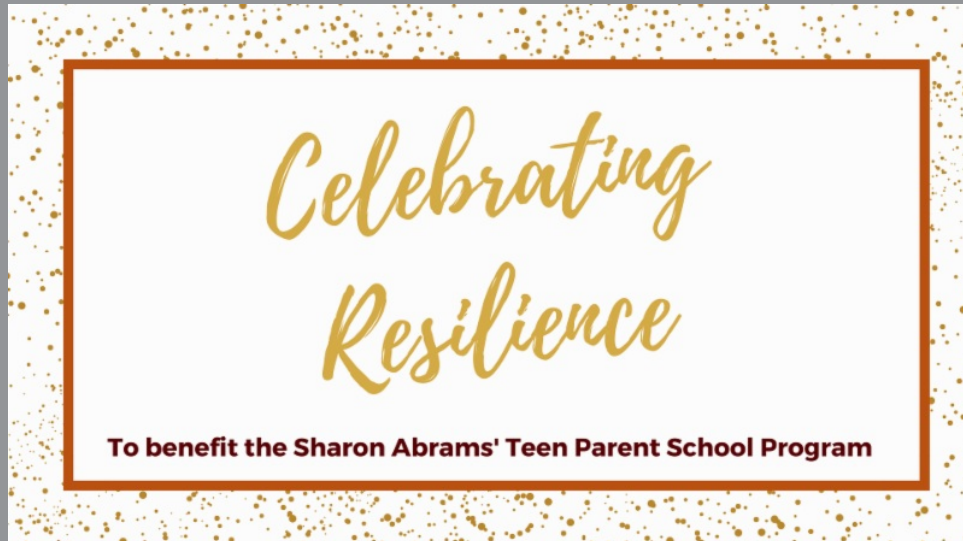


On June 28th, we held our Portland office's Open House at 527 Ocean Avenue. Our new Portland office will help us reach families in southern Maine who are interested in adoption. We are very thankful that Juliese Padgett, author of *The Newest Flower*, a children's book with all proceeds going to our **Adoption Program** was there to offer autographs and sell books. We also were joined by Emily Morse who recently held a bake sale for our Adoption Program and raised over \$400!

Thank you to our Board Members who helped with the delicious food and to all the staff who helped put this event together!



Teen Parent School Program: Celebrating Resilience



Thursday, September 20th
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

On Thursday, September 20th, we will be 'Celebrating Resilience' at O'Brien's Event Center at the Best Western Plus in Waterville. This year's celebration recognizes the hard work and dedication of some past and present pregnant or parenting teens to complete their high school education and become successful parents.

Past and present teen parents will share their stories of the Sharon Abrams Teen Parent School Program and we will also have a number of silent auction items to bid on and support our fundraising! The event will start at approximately 6:00 PM with a social and silent auction bidding available at 5:30.

Tickets are \$40 and are available online or by calling (207) 872-0261.

RSVP

The Children's Place News: Outdoor Summer Fun

The Children's Place Early Care & Education Center's has been enjoying the summer with lots of outdoor play! Take a look at all the fun things our babies and toddlers have been doing!



Playing with friends



Splashing, scooping & pouring water





Picnic lunch



Babies & nature

Teaching children about the natural world should be seen as one of the most important events of their lives.

-Thomas Berry



Gardening



Looking for worms, frogs & bugs



For more information on the benefits of outdoor play, check out this [website](#).

Christmas Program: Ride & Fundraiser

**RIDE AND
FUNDRAISER**



**Saturday, September 15th
10 AM - 1 PM**

On Saturday, September 15th, Low XII Central Maine chapter Widows Sons Masonic

Riders Association is putting together a ride and fundraiser to benefit our **Christmas Program!** Motorcyclists will be meeting at JFK Plaza in Waterville (by Tractor Supply) at 10 am and then at 11 am, they will be escorted by Waterville police to the Maine Children's Home. There will be a bike judging contest with a trophy, raffles, and lunch will be provided for \$10/person. Anyone is welcome to join the ride, just be sure to bring along a toy!

If you can't make it you can still donate a toy or diapers size 4, 5, or 6 Huggies preferred, but any will be accepted!

RSVP

Agency Report Card

July, 2018		
<i>What have we been up to?</i>		
	Program	Accomplishments
1	Adoption	Very successful annual DHHS licensing visit, with positive feedback and no deficiencies or inadequacies!
2	Harland Turner Counseling Center	Our counselors completed their third 5-week session of play therapy training!
3	Teen Parent School Program	Grant received from Inland Hospital for \$2,000 for the Summer Group Program for our teens. Three new teens enrolled for the fall!
4	The Children's Place	Our teachers will be using new technology in classrooms with equipment funded by a Davis Family Foundation grant.
5	Portland Office	Open house held at our Portland location at 527 Ocean Avenue. Thank you to all who were able to attend!
6	Grants	Grants from Bill & Joan Alford Foundation, New Balance Foundation, Maine Children's Trust, Maine Community Foundation, Reisert Foundation totaling \$67,000 to support our Teen Parent School Program, Christmas and The Children's Place Early Care and Education Center.
7	September 15, 2018	Diaper Drive! Low Riders Motorcycle Ride-in and BBQ
8	September 20, 2018	Celebrating Resilience – 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. O'Brien's Event Center. A tribute to our Teen Parent program.



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