

PRISM



WESLEY
SPECTRUM
SERVICES

Strength to learn, to live, to love

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Wesley Spectrum Opens a New School for Children with Autism

The Wesley Spectrum Family and Child Development Center has opened a state-licensed Elementary Center for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders or other developmental delays. The center is an academic and therapeutic program for children in kindergarten through third grade.

Through early and global interventions, the center strives to help each child to reach his or her highest level of independence. The program includes an initial assessment, a skills-tracking system, a systematic Individual Education Plan and an environment that encourages the development of relationships amongst the children and staff.

Children at the Wesley Spectrum Elementary Center enjoy gross motor and sensory play, as well as music therapy and creative arts activities.

This new program is located at:
5465 William Flynn Highway, Gibsonia, PA 15044
Contact Barbara Lombardo at 724-443-4853 for details.



Pumpkin Fest at Wesley Spectrum Academy

The following article was submitted by a Wesley Spectrum Academy student that is involved in the Greenhouse Kidz project.

Wesley Spectrum Academy held a Pumpkin Fest on October 12, 2007 from 9:00-2:15 pm. During the Pumpkin Fest, there were several activities going on, in addition to selling items that we grew in the greenhouse. For instance, we sold jewelry, cakes and pies. The different types of baked goods were pumpkin and peanut butter squares, and apple and pumpkin pies. Did I mention that the squares and pies were made by students at the Academy, so nothing was bought at the store?

All of the students and staff at the Academy had some part in the greenhouse and Pumpkin Fest. The students that are a part of the horticulture class made sure that the plants and tomatoes were not only watered but also picked the fruits. We raised more than \$900 in sales at Pumpkin Fest. ♥





Our mission is to provide transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, responsible and caring members of the community.

From the desk of Douglas Muetzel

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Dear Friends of Wesley Spectrum,

Over the years I have learned that the "power of the pause" can be truly powerful!

The heart and soul of Wesley Spectrum is about providing transformational support for children and families, and to do that, we often are required to adapt to the increasing speed of change. However, we have learned that we must be disciplined to pause. In that pause it becomes clear that we must take time to be thankful for the countless blessings that have come to this great organization.

First and foremost, we are thankful to be given the privilege to serve children and families that are in great need. The stories are too great to recount on this page. But for the moment, consider the child today that is paralyzed by anxiety wondering how they will make it through the day, or the student that is simply tired of failing in an environment that can't meet their complex and multiple needs, or the teenager yearning to be adopted and loved, or the confused and struggling parents of a child just diagnosed with autism, or the family that is divided, frustrated and ill-equipped to find solutions to their problems. We are so thankful that we can help and truly make a difference.

We are thankful for a staff comprised of skilled, committed, compassionate and mission-driven professionals. Their work can be extremely difficult, sad and tiring. But it can also be incredibly rewarding to impact lives. Wesley Spectrum is very well-respected and has earned a trustworthy reputation—and it is because of our staff. We are so thankful they have chosen to fulfill their call at Wesley Spectrum.

Our volunteers are second to none! We are thankful for the faithful service and challenging vision of the boards of directors as they drive Wesley Spectrum to do more for more kids and more families. And we are so thankful for our volunteers in classrooms, offices, programs, and special events—they often make the difference between "good" and "great."

And lastly, we are thankful for the donors that make the decision to stand with us financially, providing the much-needed resources to do more tomorrow than we are doing today for the kids and families we are blessed to serve.

It is time to pause and give our sincerest thanks for the hands and hearts that have contributed so significantly to providing transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, responsible and caring members of the community.

In thanks and for the kids and families we serve,

Douglas W. Muetzel, *CEO Wesley Spectrum Services*



Wesley Spectrum Participates in United Way's Day of Caring

Wesley Spectrum Services hosted two Days of Caring during the month of September. The United Way Day of Caring is an event that has spread to communities nationwide and has mobilized volunteers worldwide. Locally, the demand has led to year round opportunities so that more companies and volunteers can take a day off from their regular jobs and participate in giving back to our community.

Wesley Spectrum was fortunate to have volunteers from PPG and VHA Pennsylvania work at our East Office on Penn Avenue and at our Family and Child Development Center on Mayview Road. Over five truckloads of mulch were distributed around our buildings the old fashioned way, using shovels and wheelbarrows. The volunteers also weeded, planted flowers, hauled away branches and debris and did some interior painting. The work done by these two groups was outstanding and our facilities look fresh and inviting.

Doug Muetzel, Wesley Spectrum CEO, spoke to both groups and thanked them for generously giving their time and talents. Participants experienced first-hand the critical needs in our community and were able to see that their contribution of volunteer time and financial resources truly do make a difference to non-profits.



This year, United Way again partnered with Pittsburgh Cares to coordinate all Day of Caring projects. Special thanks to the great volunteers and to the Wesley Spectrum maintenance staff for organizing the projects. ♥



(L-R) Kulsum Davidson, Program Director, Wesley Spectrum Services, James Reiland, Director of Allegheny County Probation, Jen Nelson, Wesley Spectrum volunteer and Heather Hall, Admission Coordinator at Vision Quest. Heather was the winner of the Wesley Spectrum activities basket.

Allegheny County Juvenile Justice Week

Juvenile Justice Week was celebrated October 1-6, 2007. The Wesley Spectrum In-Home Child and Family Services program participated with a booth at the Juvenile Justice Open House. In addition to providing information on all Wesley Spectrum programs, staff showed a video on anger management and had a complimentary raffle for a youth activities basket.

The event was designed to be educational and informative to school children touring the facility. The itinerary included a lecture on binge drinking, a tour of the Juvenile Cell Block and many informational tables.

According to Allegheny County Juvenile Justice, in 2006:

- 88% of youth successfully completed their supervision without re-offending
- \$218,866 in restitution was paid to victims of crime by youth
- 68,654 hours of community service was completed by youth
- 96% of community service ordered by court, was completed in full by youth

The Wesley Spectrum In-Home Child and Family Services program includes Family Therapy and Family Care services. Both provide intensive family focused services that combine professional social work with structural and strategic family therapy. The primary focus is therapeutic but services also include assessment, communication enhancement, behavioral contracting, mental health assessment, parent education, community advocacy and crisis intervention.

The services help parents and other family members maintain a nurturing relationship and a safe home environment. The program may also provide tangible aid such as rent or utility payments, food or clothing. In addition, the In-Home Child and Family Services program also offers anger management groups for adolescents. ♥



Wesley Spectrum Students Participate in National Walk to (or at) School Day



Students in the Wesley Spectrum Highland Services and Wesley Spectrum Integrated Services programs joined students from around the world to celebrate International Walk to School Day. Since walking to school is not practical for most students, the classrooms participated in different ways throughout the school day.

At the Integrated Services program, students learned about the importance of exercise to keep their bodies healthy and strong. They also used stretching techniques to prevent injury. The kids were given a pedometer and had fun competing to see who could get the most steps.

Students at Highland also received pedometers, and different classrooms participated in a variety of ways. Some enjoyed a walk around the school's neighborhood, and others played games and activities that involved guessing the number of steps between specific locations in and out of the school building. ♥



Transforming Lives

The following letter was written by a parent of a child receiving services from the Wesley Spectrum Family and Child Development Center:

I just want to take this opportunity to thank you and ALL of the other people at Wesley Spectrum for the fantastic job you guys do every single day. I can't say enough about the impact that the program has made on Bob's life. Almost every time I picked him up from Wonder Kids, the program for that day was based on some specific issue Bob had a need to work on. Bob has made really great strides in the social arena, mostly based on things that all the therapists have worked on with him when he would come to Wonder Kids. I've recommended the program to at least two other families, and will continue to do so. ♥*

*Names have been changed for confidentiality.

WS WISHLIST

Placement Services:

- Comforters and sheets for twin beds
- DVD player
- Dining room table (seats 8) with chairs
- Bathroom set (shower curtain, floor mat, and rug)
- Personal size travel kits with shampoo, toothpaste, lotion, and toothbrush
- Foam craft sheets (different sizes, colors)



Highland Services:

- Colorful yarn for art students making scarves
- Homespun Yarn
- Red Heart: light & lofty or bright lofty



To make a donation, contact Paula Huffman at 412-831-9390 or phuffman@wesleyspectrum.org



Wesley Spectrum Academy students studied pop artist Claus Oldenburg and created large, colorful artwork to decorate the school's hallways.

firm foundations



WESLEY
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SERVICES

*Strength to learn,
to live, to love*

Highlighting the Wesley Spectrum Services Foundation | ISSUE 4 FALL 2007



Transformation 2007: Reaching Our Goal by Christmas

The mission of Wesley Spectrum Services is to provide transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, responsible and caring members of the community. By giving to Wesley Spectrum Services, *you* are a part of our mission.

You are transforming lives! On behalf of the kids and families whose lives have been transformed, we sincerely thank you for your transformational investment.

Every gift to Wesley Spectrum Services really does make a difference. We are happy to report that as of this printing, we are very close to achieving our goal of \$135,000 from Transformation 2007, our annual campaign that helps us to meet the full cost of care for our kids and families. We are just about 2% away from reaching our goal and believe that by Christmas we will be there!

If you would still like to participate in Transformation 2007, you can complete the Transformation envelope included in this newsletter and place your gift inside, or you can donate online at www.wesleyspectrum.org. Any gift will place you in one of our Wesley Spectrum family giving circles:

Transformational Strength	Under \$100
Transformational Foundation	\$100-\$499
Transformational Support	\$500-\$999
Transformational Partnership	\$1,000 - \$4,999
Transformational Vision	\$5,000 and over

We believe that every donor and volunteer is a vital part of our Wesley Spectrum family. To know more about the successes and stories of transformational strength and support of which you have been a part, you can go to www.transformatallife.org. Once again, THANK YOU!

Reserve Your Foursome



Spend the day at one of the country's finest and most spectacular golfing venues, while supporting Wesley Spectrum Services.



The Wesley Spectrum Invitational
Wednesday May 28, 2008
Laurel Valley Golf Club

This event is a great way to say thanks to your finest executives or customers while giving back to the community. The cost is \$3,000 a foursome and includes Laurel's fabulous luncheon buffet, a cocktail reception and dinner. Call Paula Huffman at 412-831-9390 to reserve your foursome now.

Tremendous Tour of Homes

The 17th annual Wesley Spectrum Tour of Homes was an overwhelming success! Held on October 14, 2007, this well-attended event raised over \$12,000 for the kids and families that Wesley Spectrum serves. The five spectacular homes in Upper St. Clair, Bridgeville and Peters Township offered attendees ideas for their own home decorating vision, while the beautiful autumn day provided a spectacular backdrop of color as they traveled from house to house.

Interior designers of some of the homes were available to answer questions, and decorating catalogs and business cards of home treatment specialists were provided to our guests.

Tour guests continued sharing ideas while they enjoyed refreshments at the tea held at Christ Methodist Church. **Wesley Spectrum offers a special thank you to all of our homeowners, volunteers, and guests who attended the tour and purchased raffle tickets.** Raffle winners were:

Louanne Brunenmeister –
Southern Living Basket

Nell Mellon –
Wine and Dine Basket

Jacob Strader –
Children's Play Package

Jane Pillar –
Nemacolin Gift Certificate

Take Time for Your Year-End Gifts

Many of Wesley Spectrum's supporters choose to make their life-transforming gifts to us as they do their year-end tax planning. Wisely planned gifts will not only make a difference in the lives of Wesley Spectrum's children and families, but also will help you to save taxes, increase your income, or pass more on to your heirs. As you consult your own financial or tax advisor regarding your individual circumstances, please consider the following ways and benefits of making year-end gifts. Some gifts are outright gifts and others can be made in partnership with Wesley Spectrum Services (WSS). Be sure to "take a look" at our examples as you look for ways to help us advance our mission.*

Gifts of Cash

If you want to maximize your charitable giving and lower your 2007 income tax, you may want to consider a gift of cash (including currency, personal checks, money orders, credit cards and wire transfers). A gift of cash is the easiest way of making a donation, putting your dollar to work immediately at Wesley Spectrum, and providing immediate benefits to you. Simply make your gift to us by December 31, 2007 to receive your charitable tax deduction.

Another benefit to a gift of cash is that it can be deducted against a larger portion of your taxable income than a gift of appreciated assets. The IRS allows you a maximum of up to 50% of your adjusted gross income versus up to 30% for gifts of stock/appreciated assets. Often, if you cannot use all of the deduction in one year, you can carry over the remainder over the next five years.

TAKE A LOOK

This year Donor Don's adjusted gross income is \$300,000. Having a heart for kids, he chooses to give Wesley Spectrum a gift of \$200,000. He is allowed to take a deduction up to 50% of his adjusted gross income. Thus, the deduction he can take is \$150,000, making his net taxable income only \$150,000. He then can carry over the remaining \$50,000 next year. By donating to WSS, Donor Don will choose a simple and efficient way to transform lives and maximize tax benefits. His son, who is in a 33% income tax bracket, also wants to give a cash gift to WSS. By donating \$1,000 by December 31, 2007, he will save \$330 in his taxes this year.

Note: Your envelope must be postmarked by **December 31, 2007**. Even if we do not receive your gift until the first week of 2008, your gifts will still qualify as a 2007 tax deduction if it is postmarked in time.

Double Your Donation Through Employer Matching Gifts

Your generous gift of cash can be doubled if your employer matches charitable contributions. By going to our website and clicking on our Donate Now page, you will be able to see if you can double your gift. Many companies offer matching gift programs to encourage employees to contribute to charitable organizations. Most of these programs match contributions dollar for dollar, and are a great way for you to double or triple the amount of your gift. You will see a prompt that says: [To find out if your company will match gifts to Wesley Spectrum Services, please click here.](#)

Clicking on that link will take you to a page where you can type in your company's name and search to see if your employer has a matching gift program. If it is a gift matching company, you will find information about how to match your gift to Wesley Spectrum Services.

If you, or your spouse, are employed by a gift matching company, often you must obtain a matching gift form from the human resources department, complete the donor portion and send the form along with your gift to initiate a match. If your company does not have a gift matching program, you may want to encourage them to offer one.

TAKE A LOOK

Generous Gene decided to give \$500.00 to WSS this year. Before he mailed in his contribution, he checked to see if his employer, Citizens Bank, is a matching gift employer. He logged on to www.wesleyspectrum.org and clicked on the "Donate Now" link at the top of the page and then found the matching gift section. He discovered that yes, Citizens Bank, does match gifts and will match up to \$1,000 per employee. Gene decided to increase his gift to \$1,000 so that WSS could fully benefit by the match. He followed the instructions to

Transform Lives and Support Wesley Spectrum Services through the United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign Workplace Donation Program

United Way Donor Choice: #149*
CFC Code: #90199

*Previous donor choice codes will be accepted.
369: Wesley Spectrum Highland Services
1524: Wesley Spectrum Academy
996389: Wesley Spectrum Services Foundation; formally Spectrum Family Network

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obtain his form from the company intranet, completed it, and mailed it in with his gift to us! Thanks to Gene, Wesley Spectrum has \$2,000 to spend on programs for kids and families!

Gifts of Appreciated Securities (Stocks and Bonds)

The IRS allows you to give appreciated securities to WSS and receive a double benefit on your taxes. The first benefit of common appreciated assets – marketable stocks and bonds – is that they are deductible for the full fair market value of the stock at the time of the gift up to the maximum of 30% of your adjusted gross income. The second benefit is that when you make a gift of appreciated stock to WSS, you avoid any capital gains tax on the stock.

TAKE A LOOK

Giver Gracie visited her tax advisor to talk about ways to give to Wesley Spectrum. She wanted to give a \$10,000 gift and wondered which would be better– writing a personal check or giving a gift of stock. Either way, she could take a charitable deduction of \$10,000. Her tax advisor reminded her:

- 1. That she must have held her stock for over a year.*
- 2. That she shouldn't contribute the stock if it had depreciated in value.*

As they checked, they saw that she had bought the stock for only \$2,500 several years ago. If she donates it to WSS as an outright gift of stock, she will benefit by both the \$10,000 deduction and by avoiding the capital gains tax on the \$7500 of appreciation. Giver Gracie called her parents to tell them about her gift. Her father, with an adjusted gross income of \$100,000 also decided to give a \$30,000 gift of stock and was able to deduct the full amount because it was 30% of his adjusted gross income.

Like Gracie, please get complete financial advice on stock transfers and remember that if you want to avoid any capital gains tax, do not sell the stock first. Frequently, after the gift is made, WSS sells your securities and uses the proceeds for our programs benefiting more kids and families.

Gifts through your IRA

If you are at least age 70, you are able, under new tax legislation, to rollover up to \$100,000 annually from your IRA to you favorite qualified charities, including Wesley Spectrum Services. These gifts can be made tax free and can satisfy rules for required minimum distributions for the year. Under the new law, our contributors can transfer IRA funds directly to Wesley Spectrum Services without incurring income tax on transfer. This law also allows you to claim a charitable deduction only to the extent that the IRA was funded with after-tax dollars. It also makes provisions for those who do not itemize. Using the IRA rollover helps you to balance your IRA value with your other assets, perhaps providing you with additional tax benefits.

Gifts of Real Estate

Like other appreciated assets, gifts of real estate can be very advantageous to both you and us. If you own residential, commercial, or undeveloped real estate that has risen in value, but you no longer choose to maintain, you may choose to donate it to Wesley Spectrum. Again, this type of donation provides you with a charitable income tax deduction with the added benefit of avoiding certain taxes and costs such as capital gains on the property appreciation, real estate taxes, or insurance and maintenance of the property. Your gift of marketable, environmentally secure property to WSS allows us to benefit by using the property for program needs, rental income, or by selling it.

There are also ways to give gifts of real estate to WSS for our future use while you enjoy the residence or the income it provides today. You may be able to claim an immediate charitable deduction or a federal estate tax deduction. Often, you may be able to make arrangements to retain a variable income for life or a specified period of time while also making a real estate gift to WSS. Talk to your financial advisor about setting up retained life estates, a charitable remainder unitrust, or a bargain sale.

TAKE A LOOK

Homeowner Henry has a small property he owned in another part of the city that he used through the years for his children's first homes, for rental income, and for housing for visiting missionaries from his church. Now, he is getting older and thinking about retirement in about 10 years. The property maintenance takes too much time and Henry is involved in many other activities he enjoys more. He bought the property for \$50,000 and its value today is \$300,000. If he sells the property, he will realize a capital gain of \$250,000 and could potentially owe over \$37,000 in capital gains tax. He had always hoped that this real estate could help him in his retirement years and provide him a greater way to give to Wesley Spectrum. Henry's tax advisor suggested the idea of a Retirement Unitrust. With the Retirement Unitrust, Henry may avoid his large capital gains tax, make an immediate gift to WSS and take an immediate charitable deduction of over \$50,000, receive an annual income payment (based on 6.00%) of \$36,000 for the rest of his life, and then upon

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his death, provide WSS with a substantial gift of about \$700,000. This is what Henry had always hoped for!

Other outright gifts that you may want to consider are gifts of personal property such as artwork or collectibles, gifts of business interest, or gifts of partnership interests. Finally, at year-end, some people begin to consider as part of their long-term planning, an outright gift such as a bequest, a gift of life insurance, or a gift of a retirement plan. Please discuss these and all options with your attorney, financial planner, or tax advisor. We would be happy to provide you with any additional necessary information about our organization to assist you in making a wise financial decision.

Also, as you do your year-end planning, you may be ready to make an arrangement for a greater return on your investments. If so, please ask your financial advisor about the advantages for both you and Wesley Spectrum of charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities. These are considered life income gifts. We will be discussing these gifts in future issues of Firm Foundations.

Memorials & Tributes

In Memory of: Mrs. Nancy T. Conover

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Kramer

In Honor of: Michael Aaron Farrell, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Farrell, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Farrell, Jr.

In Honor of: Mr. Daniel F. Findley

Mr. William E. Alexy

Mr. and Mrs. William O. Barnard

Mr. George Basara

Dick and Jeanne Berdik

Ms. Carolyn Heaton Black

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Borkowski

Ms. Karen R. Brewer

Bill and Pat Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Ray W. Brown

Ms. Louanne Brunenmeister

Mr. and Mrs. Myron W. Collier

Ms. Mary Ann Crabtree

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Patrick Crawford

Ms. Melissa Davenport

Mrs. Kulsum G. Davidson

Ms. Canice Dolan

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Elliott

Ms. Sheila M. Ford

Mrs. Fredric L. Founds

Dr. and Mrs. David Hagan

Mr. and Mrs. William Hallett

Don and Paula Huffman

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Johns

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kara

Gregory and Pat Kenney

Ms. Sandra Keppel

Ms. Elizabeth Anne Knoell

Mr. and Mrs. Santo J. Laquatra

Dr. and Mrs. William Law, III

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lipinski

Mr. and Mrs. David F. Lyle

Mrs. Tamara Marsico

Ms. Millicent T. McCathren

Mr. and Mrs. Mose McNeese

Mrs. Margaret G. Mueller

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Muetzel

Doug and Linda Muetzel

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Murphy

Mr. and Mrs. L. Scott Neely

Ms. Patricia K. Nichols

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Niedzwicki

Ms. Kimberly O'Brien

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Ogrodnik

Mr. and Mrs. Scott G. O'Mara

Mr. and Mrs. John T. O'Rourke

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Perkins

Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Pierson

Dr. and Mrs. William A. Pope

Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Potter, Jr.

Ms. Lisa M. Rand

Dr. Robert A. Reed

Jim and Rene Salerno

Ms. Carla Shettel

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Soroka

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry L. Stephenson

Ms. Nancy Stillson

Mr. and Mrs. James D. Strader

Drs. Gary and Heidi Swanson

Mrs. Amy Townsend

Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Urso

Pamela Weaver

Dr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Wucher

Rich and Becky Zahren

In Memory of:

Mrs. Polly Richardson Hawkins

Mr. William R. Hawkins

In Memory of: Mr. David B. Hughes

Mrs. Marjorie K. Hughes

In Honor of: Mrs. Anne Knoell

Mr. and Mrs. Regis W. Becker

In Memory of: Ms. Kristin Mason

Ms. Barbara Frost

In Honor of: Bill Schwenk

Realize Your Dream Foundation

In Memory of:

Mr. Richard O. Whyland

Mrs. Mary Whyland

Success of Greenhouse Prompts New Transformation Station Grant

The **Johnson Family Foundation** recently awarded Wesley Spectrum a generous grant of \$45,550 to continue our success with the Wesley Spectrum Academy's Transformation Station greenhouse project and to begin a new greenhouse-related business venture. The first component of the grant is to further utilize the land around the greenhouse for additional growing, beautification and creation of learning and meeting places in the outdoor environment setting.

Inspired by the success of Transformation Station, the second component is a vision to potentially turn the greenhouse concept into a sustainable Wesley Spectrum business that will serve young adults throughout all of our programs. Many of our students and clients in the transition age group of 18-25 struggle in their employment after leaving the services of Wesley Spectrum.

The purpose of the business is to better identify successful employment barriers in a safe and therapeutic environment that will greatly improve the young adult's success in the real marketplace. The Johnson Family Foundation grant is an investment in these kids and will provide seed money for significant research and development, product development, business plans and employment of kids in our various programs. We greatly appreciate their partnership with us in transforming lives.



Port Authority Visits Highland Services

A representative from the Allegheny County Port Authority recently made a presentation to students at Wesley Spectrum Highland Services. The students learned about the different Port Authority buses and trolleys, also about the different worker's there such as mechanics, drivers and trainers. Students had a chance to practice inserting their bus "fare" into the payment machine and they learned more about how to act appropriately when using public transportation. ♥



RENEE

Looking for a Place to Call Home

Wesley Spectrum Services is looking for a home for Renee. Can you or a family you know provide permanency for this child? You could mean the world to this child.

Renee is a 14 year old Caucasian female who will have you laughing and smiling within minutes of meeting her. Her favorite activities include riding her bicycle, swimming, creating crafts and scrapbooking. Renee admires animals and has expressed an interest in becoming a veterinarian when she is older.

Identifying herself as a Christian, Renee would prefer to be placed with a family that would encourage her to continue exploring her faith.

Renee is currently attending 9th grade (learning support) classes. She enjoys reading books written by R.L. Stine, who authors books for the Goosebumps series.

If you would like to learn more about Renee, please contact her CSR Worker: Matthew Steiner, msteiner@wesleyspectrum.org, 6117 Broad Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 ♥

November 2007 is National Adoption Month

During National Adoption Month, we recognize the adoptive and foster families who have shared their homes and hearts with children in need, and we encourage more Americans to consider adopting young people of all ages.

Families who adopt show the generous spirit of our Nation. Every child desires a permanent home, and when parents adopt a child to love as their own, lives are forever changed. For parents, the decision to adopt a child is among life's greatest and happiest turning points. ♥

- A Proclamation By the President of the United States of America, October 31, 2007



Children and youth in Wesley Spectrum Placement Services (Shelter, Foster Care and Adoption) came together for a Halloween party and dance. They had a great time playing games and dancing the night away.

Holiday

HELPER CATALOG

Do you remember the anticipation you felt as a child on the day after Thanksgiving when the holiday toy catalog arrived in the mail? How exciting it was to look at the new trains, dolls, or games and just dream?

Likewise, many of Wesley Spectrum's kids and families dream, too, of having a wonderful holiday. In their hearts, our children still believe there are magical moments during the holidays and are still believing they will receive a special gift. And some of our parents imagine the joy of being able to afford to put a Christmas dinner on the table or of giving their child at least one gift.

This year, recapture that childlike excitement as you browse through our Holiday Helper Catalog to find the special holiday gift that you will give to one of our children or families in need. After you choose a giving category, please place your tax-deductible donation, along with the form on the following page, in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter and return it to Wesley Spectrum Services by December 12, 2007.

Last year, thanks to our holiday helpers' generosity, we were able to provide over 150 gifts for children, gifts for eight full families, and dinners for five families with the more than \$6,000 we received. This year, we know that the need is even greater as we seek your help.

Thank you for the squeals of delight and the treasured memories that you are providing to our children and families this season! 



Holiday

CATALOG OF GIFTS



I want to be a Holiday Helper!

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

- to purchase the catalog items marked below.
 to use where most needed this holiday season.

Please make checks payable to the Wesley Spectrum Services Foundation.

YOUR GIFT	CAN PURCHASE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT	TOTAL
\$30.00	One angel tree gift for needy children in our programs			
\$50.00	Family night activities for families in our care			
\$100.00	A Christmas/Holiday dinner for a family			
\$150.00	Gifts and holiday dinner for a child in 1 of our shelters			
\$150.00	After school activities in our programs (sports, musical, greenhouse, group or mentoring activities, etc.)			
\$200.00	Gifts for kids' care (scholarships for kids, free care fund, field trips, music therapy, foster kids camp, etc.)			
\$350.00	Gifts for 1 whole family in need			
TOTAL				



Wesley Spectrum Services Believes:

- The Organization's Purpose is to Serve
- Children and Families are at the Center of Decision Making
- Every Person is Valuable
- Every Person has Strengths
- Knowledge and Timely Access to Resources is Vital
- Children and Families Should be Heard
- Partnerships are Essential to our Success

www.wesleyspectrum.org

WESLEY SPECTRUM ON THE WEB

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