



## ...Helping Children's Hearts Heal



Grandma's Place

September 2014

### Grandma's Expands to Help More Children

We have been bursting at the seams since our licensed capacity was increased to meet the community need. Previously licensed for 14 children per night, we now accommodate 16. A large room at our shelter, previously used for storage, needed to be converted into a bedroom.

With all the additional noise and excitement the increase has brought, the older children needed a quiet place to study and computers to do their school work. Our previous office space needed to become the study room. Fortunately, we were able to rent additional office, program and storage space, only a few blocks from the shelter. Wait until you see how the ML19 Gratitude Training Group has transformed the front of the office into an Art & Music Studio. More information on this in our next issue!

The new study room is now complete with computers, printers, and a bright, cheery décor - everything needed for school work and independent learning. The new bedroom space is light, bright, and nicely furnished. It is sad that there are more children that have suffered abuse or neglect, but we are all so grateful we are here to help them in their time of need!

*The mission of Grandma's Place, Inc. is to provide shelter and loving care to children who have suffered abuse and/or neglect and have been removed from their own homes by the Florida Department of Children and Families.*

### Thank You to Our Generous Donors!

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Paulette Burdick Campaign  
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Toshiba Business Systems  
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Dale Walker  
Wycliffe Charities Foundation  
Wycliffe Men's Breakfast Club  
Michael Ziede MD

\*as of July 31, 2014

Please see Gala donors, page 7.  
Donor Level \$100 up Q 1 & 2 2014



## Volunteers Make A Difference



Sensei William M. Wright III, founder and owner of the K2 Karate Studio in Royal Palm Beach has been a good friend to the children at Grandma's Place. Any of the children age three to ten are welcome to participate in the mixed martial arts class at no charge. Sensei has provided years of unconditional service to our children. They join in the classes Monday – Thursday, and on Saturdays as well. The class is extremely fun, yet offers a high level of discipline. Sensei Will also donates uniforms to our children.

Some parents may think martial arts promote violence, but that's a myth, according to experts. The martial arts actually help teach self-discipline and socialization skills. In fact, many parents whose children have attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) report great success with these programs because self-control and concentration are exactly the skills underdeveloped in ADHD kids.



Sensei has been teaching and training for over 18yrs. He grew up in an incredible MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) school in New Jersey, where he learned and embraced a true non-quitting spirit, which he passes on from student to student.

Sensei's true artistic abilities emerge while he is teaching children. He is able to communicate and reach people when others cannot. Through the years he has had many students with varying degrees of disabilities including learning disabilities: students with MS, CP. and Down Syndrome, students that are missing limbs, students that are blind and that are also in wheel chairs. For information on his anti-bullying campaign visit [www.mooseysadventure.com](http://www.mooseysadventure.com)



Thanks to our wonderful supporters, like JL Cares and Toshiba Business Systems, our children now have a brand new study room with computers, tablets, printers, and everything they need to keep with their school work and more.

## *More Volunteers Make A Difference*

Associates from the Wellington Keller Williams Realty office volunteered their time on May 8, 2014 to help beautify our shelter. Debbie Sanacore led the team for her company's community action day, entitled "RED Day". Introduced in 2009, RED Day, which stands for Renew, Energize and Donate, is Keller Williams Realty's annual day of service nationwide. Each year on the second Thursday of May, associates close their offices, and spend the day away from their businesses serving worthy organizations and causes in their communities.

The Keller Williams team did a remarkable job, painting two bedrooms and working on several landscaping



projects. "Our team wanted to find a local, not a national organization, where we felt we could really make a difference." Sanacore said. Several people on the committee had heard of Grandma's Place, and Sanacore had heard of our shelter through her Rotary Club as well. The Keller Williams team members said the biggest job was painting. Several of the volunteers said there was very little clean up to do, as the house was nearly immaculate!

## *Roxanne Jacobs Joins Grandma's Place!*

Grandma's Place is pleased to announce that Roxanne Jacobs has joined the agency as Director of Development/ Chief Financial Officer. Roxanne is an industry veteran, with nearly thirty years of executive fundraising and leadership experience, and is known to be strategic and proactive with community leaders. She is an active member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and has earned the CFRE designation. The CFRE is earned through ongoing education in the field, signifies a commitment to professional development, and assures donors of the individuals pledge to uphold the AFP Code of Ethical Principles and Standards of Professional Practice. Roxanne also has the distinction of being noted in Who's Who in America, 2009.



Originally from New Castle, Pennsylvania, Roxanne moved to Florida and completed her degree at Barry University. She has a passion for the well-being of children and strives to make a positive impact in their lives. "We are so pleased Roxanne has joined the staff at Grandma's Place," said Karen Vaughan, board chair "Our services and programs will continue to be a tremendous success under her leadership."

## *An Evening of Great Expectations 2014*



*L-R Michele Poole, Karen Vaughan, Bessie "Grandma" Gordon, Liz Quirantes, Mrs. & Mr. Bertram Firestone, Leo Conroy, Father Thomas.*

An Evening of Great Expectations, Grandma's Place signature fundraising event, was once again a big success! The gala is conducted in partnership with St. David's in the Pines Episcopal Church, raising funds for both of our organizations. St. David's in the Pines outreach helps those in need in the local community. On an ongoing basis, the Church provides meals to two local soup kitchens, organizes blood drives and school supply drives, provides home delivery of meals to the sick and bereaved and hosts weekly meetings for people in recovery trying to reform their lives. Many church members volunteer and donate to Grandma's Place.

Guests enjoyed a relaxed, tropical evening at the International Polo Club Palm Beach Mallet Grille & Patio, on Friday, March 14, 2014. During the evening, guests enjoyed a cocktail hour while perusing a tempting selection of silent auction items, followed by a delicious buffet dinner and an exciting live auction--- all the while listening and dancing to some live music with a South Florida feel provided by Tom and Bonnie Colombo.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Bertram Firestone served as Chairs of this year's event. The Host Committee included Dr. and Mrs. James Belden, Mr. and Mrs. David Burton Jr., Mr. David Burton Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Caristo, Ann Ferez, Mr. and Mrs. Marc Ganzi, Mr. Tim Heitman, Ms. Linda Hough, Ms. Susan Humes, Mr. and Mrs. W.T. Kees, Ms. Laura Kraut, Ms. Caroline Moran, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Shore and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Smith. Liz Quirantes served as emcee of the event. Behind the scenes, the working committee included Sally Chester, Leo Conroy, Michele Poole, Valerie Seifert, Father Thomas, Karen Vaughan, and many more.

### **SAVE-THE-DATE**

*Suspended  
in a Dream*

**Monday,  
November 17**

**6:30 - 9:30PM**

**Kobosko's  
Crossing  
9160 Forest Hill Blvd.  
Wellington, FL 33411**

**Benefitting  
Grandma's Place**

## *More Volunteers Make A Difference*

Lost Tree Charitable Foundation Grants \$30,000 to Grandma's Place for New Van!

The Lost Tree Charitable Foundation recently awarded a grant of \$30,000 to Grandma's Place to pay for a new van for transporting the children in our care. Transportation is essential as children are driven to school, doctors and dentists, therapists, field trips and more. Grandma's Place has had a van for transporting the children, however it had several years of heavy use.

In the fall of 2013, ChildNet, the lead agency, increased our licensed capacity from 14 to 16. In a letter to the Foundation, board member Michele Poole explained, "While an increased capacity of two children may not seem like a great deal, please understand that with even fourteen children per night, our transportation capacity was stretched to the breaking point with only one vehicle. Also, with the new contract increasing the number of children, ChildNet made it mandatory that Grandma's Place provide all the transportation. In the past the case worker did many of the doctor visits, counseling, and other appointments."

Understanding both the need and the urgency, a check from Lost Tree covering nearly the full amount of the new van arrived in response to the grant proposal and heartfelt letter! The board, staff and children are all deeply appreciative of this wonderful gift.



*Grant Funding Provides New Van for Grandma's Place!*

**Save-the-Date  
for the  
Grand Opening  
of the  
Art & Music  
Therapy Studio  
Tuesday, October 14  
4-7 pm**

*A Great Big Thank-You  
to our  
2014 Gala Donors*

**Hunter Jumper Sponsor**  
Caroline Moran, Goshen Hill  
Jennifer and Roger Smith

**Mallet Sponsor**  
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Joanna and Ben Boynton  
Allison Rogers Haft  
Linda and James McKeown  
Elizabeth and Jack Towell

Grandma's Place  
184 Sparrow Drive  
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411



We thank you in advance for  
your support.



**Grandma's Place**

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Royal Palm Beach, Florida 33411  
[www.grandmasplacepb.org](http://www.grandmasplacepb.org)

## Wish List

Wash Cloths & Bath Towels (White)  
Bicycles - youth  
Gift Cards  
Laundry Detergent  
Shampoo  
Hair Conditioner  
Body Wash  
Toilet Paper  
Hand soap  
Paper Towels

Donations should be dropped off between 9 am and 5 pm at the office address below.