

# Foundation FOCUS

FALL 2011



## HELP Summer Program's *Landmark Year*

This past summer marked the 39th year of the HELP Summer Program with a landmark regional collaborative partnership. For the first time our six-week program was conducted at two Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) schools.

As we have traditionally done, the program had a location on the East and West side of Cleveland. This year we were thrilled to conduct the program at the Riverside and Jamison Elementary Schools. This partnership expands the long standing success of HELP's collaborative effort with the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) and also included the Cleveland Catholic Diocese Nutrition Services, who provided breakfast and lunch, as well as many other local school districts whose children participated in our program. Thanks to the efforts of HELP, CMSD, and CCBDD staff, this partnership was more successful than even we had imagined and was really a natural fit for the 300 children we served this year. With a large number of our participating students



*Continued on page 4*

### IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- 3 ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS
- 4 SUMMER PROGRAM CONT'D
- 5 GOLF OUTING
- 6 NEW HELP HOME ADULT DAY PROGRAM HELP U SHRED
- 7 DONORS
- 8 SAVE THE DATES HOLIDAY PARTY GOLF OUTING 2012

To ensure that children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have the homes, environments and opportunities to be valued members of the community.

**HELP**  
FOUNDATION, INC.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S *Report*



Daniel J. Rice  
*Executive Director*

What a summer! I know that I'm prone to hyperbole in the opening lines of these letters, but this past summer really ranks right up there with the best of them! For the first time in its 39 year history the HELP Summer Program was able to conduct our six-week program in two Cleveland Municipal School District (CMSD) schools. This resulted in a natural collaborative program with our longtime partners the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD), the Cleveland Catholic Diocese Nutrition Services, and numerous other local school districts. We are all eager to see how the program can grow and improve for our 40th anniversary year in 2012! You can read all about this very successful regional collaboration elsewhere in this issue. And I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Francie Watson and Mary Wolf from CMSD for their tireless advocacy as our champions in the district, as well as Dr. Terry Ryan's leadership and continued support at CCBDD. I'd be remiss for not commending the work of Marilou Weidus and her Summer Program staff for all they do to serve 300+ children and young adults. Thank you to everyone who made this summer such a grand success!

As the summer ended HELP restarted one of our finest traditions. The 2011 HELP Golf Outing was held on September 12th at the Aurora Country Club. With this sold-out event we were able to raise nearly \$20,000 to support our mission, made a number of new friends, and had a fantastic round of golf at a truly beautiful course. Mark your calendars for Monday September 10, 2012 for next year's event!

Moving into the Fall HELP's efforts in the City of Euclid continue to expand with our successes. With the growth of our Adult Day Support Program we are launching a Vocational Habilitation program to complement the therapeutic activities offered through Day Support. HELP U Shred will be opening soon to safely and securely handle your document disposal needs at reasonable rates while providing valuable vocational training for the people we serve. Beyond Day Support programs we are working closely with the City of Euclid to develop residential group homes for our clients. We have recently received final approval to purchase a gorgeous three-bedroom home with support from HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Act and are looking to develop further housing on this model in Euclid's charming neighborhoods.

Finally, be sure to make room in your party schedule for Cleveland's finest Holiday Party! Sunday, December 11th is the HELP Holiday Party at the downtown Doubletree. If you've been before you know how much fun this is, if you haven't made it then you're missing out!

Thanks again for all you do to make the lives of the ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls that we serve so much better, your help makes the difference!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Rice". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel J. Rice  
*Executive Director*

# 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

The 2011 HELP Annual Meeting featured a remarkable presentation by our guest speaker, Jeanne Sydenstricker, covering her family's development of technological solutions to assist her two sons and others with developmental disabilities in living as independently as possible. Links to in depth information on Jeanne's work can be found at the HELP homepage ([www.helpfoundationinc.org](http://www.helpfoundationinc.org)). Following this fascinating presentation, the 2010 HELP Awards were presented to the staff, volunteers, and friends who had gone above and beyond in making the lives of our clients the best they can be. As always, the highlight of the meeting were the Progressive Achievement Awards given to those HELP clients who have made great strides in their own development and growth.



*Retiring Trustee Inez Corrado with Julie Ann Sweet Buntin, Board President and Dan Rice, Executive Director*



*HELP Housing staff were presented with special awards for their compassion and commitment to caring for our residents.*



*Annual Meeting: Guest Speaker Jeanne Sydenstricker receives a thank-you gift from Dan Rice, Executive Director*



*Donald accepts his Progressive Achievement Award*

## AWARD WINNERS:

### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Rebecca Fritz  
Ed Gilliard  
Doug Knoop  
Marqueze N'Dow – Day Program  
Mark Ribar - Day Program  
Kieta Smith - Six Chimneys  
Amy Steverding

### ROBERT HERMAN LEADERSHIP AWARD

Tamara Honkala

### PROGRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Bill A.  
Donald J.  
Amiee P.  
Jamal S.  
Amy S.  
Brent S.

### HONORED TRUSTEE AWARD

Inez Corrado

### RALPH FRIED DEDICATION TO CHILDREN AWARD

Constance Uhl

### ELIZABETH HALL VOLUNTEER AWARD

Janet Barthlomew

### SIDNEY SIMON DEDICATION AWARD

Marty & Michelle Frygier



# HELP Summer Program's *continued*

already living in Cleveland, and most of the balance from nearby inner-ring suburbs, locating our program at these two beautiful new buildings allowed for less travel time and provided for more familiar settings.

So successful was this regional multi-level collaboration that we are looking forward to next year and are planning for an expansion to serve additional students who are diagnosed with autism. We can think of no better way to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the HELP Summer Program than by meeting the needs of more children and families during the challenging summer months!

This year's program wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of:

The Cavalier's Youth Fund, a Fund of the  
McCormick Foundation

The Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation  
The South Euclid Co-Operative Preschool



# HELP FOUNDATION GOLF OUTING



The 2011 HELP Golf Outing was the first such event in many years and was a grand success by all counts! The sold-out event was held at the beautiful and challenging Aurora Country Club on what proved to be as perfect a day in early September as we could have asked for (and there was a lot of asking going on!) We raised nearly \$20,000 to support HELP's mission and had a great time doing it thank you to all of our players for making this such a fun and productive event! We're already planning for next year so mark your calendar for Monday, September 10, 2012; we'll be at Aurora again and are hoping you can come out and play with us again.

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR GOLF OUTING SPONSORS!

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### Lunch Sponsor

Medical Service Company

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Steve Myers

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Julie, Chris, Maisa, Aline and  
Andreia Shlepr

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Executive Caterers  
Great Lakes Brewing Company  
Mitchell's Homemade Ice Cream  
Tara Nieberding  
Souper Market  
Julie Ann Sweet Buntin

### Gift Bag Donors

Kaiser Permanente  
Stinger Golf Tees

### HELP Golf Outing Committee

Michael Brink—Chairman  
Mark Blakeslee  
Julie Ann Sweet Buntin  
Becky Fritz  
Mary Holland

Tamara Honkala  
Tara Nieberding  
Dan Rice  
Heather Stakich

### Thank You to Our Volunteers!

Heather Baus  
Deidre Benjamin  
John Buntin  
April Callahan  
David Harkness  
Chris Hawkins  
Ken Kosteinshek

Karen Nemetz  
Julie Pachta  
Allison Pickett  
Amy Potkalitsky  
Tamara Reese  
Jack Schroeck  
Darlene Willis  
Walter Zborowsky

# Big Things HAPPENING IN EUCLID!

## NEW HELP HOME

In partnership with the City of Euclid, through the HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program, HELP will purchase a gorgeously remodeled home on the Oak Court cul-de-sac. This home has been remodeled with great care and old-world craftsmanship from a foreclosed and abandoned home into a beautiful new home for three HELP residents. As you can see from the photos, this is a house anyone would be proud to call home and it is the end result of our ongoing productive partnership with the City of Euclid. Our thanks to Marty Castelletti, Manager of Neighborhood Development, for his work in making this project such a success!



*New stainless steel appliances compliment the totally re-done kitchen which reflects the high quality workmanship and fixtures found throughout the home.*



*Expertly remodeled, this 3-bedroom on Oak Court is HELP's newest home with residents expected to move in soon.*



*The team that made this happen (l-r) Dan Rice, HELP Executive Director, Tamara Reese HELP Residential Director, Andy Krsaka Field Supervisor, and Zak Keselman Construction Superintendent with Community Reinvestment, who handled the contracting, and Marty Castelletti, Manager of Neighborhood Development for the City of Euclid*

## HELP ADULT DAY PROGRAM FUN!

The participants of the HELP Adult Day Program, located on Shore Center Drive in Euclid, continue to have fun, develop friendships, and learn new skills while enjoying a wide variety of events, activities, and attractions Greater Cleveland has to offer.



*Day Program participants had a great time learning about fire safety and proper evacuation procedures from the Cleveland Fire Department*



*Calling back to the Day Program location's days as a beauty school many of the ladies enjoyed a day of pampering with manicures and facials!*



*A trip to the Holden Arboretum's Gnomes in the Garden was great fun for everyone!*



## HELP U SHRED VOCATIONAL PROGRAM

We are very pleased to announce the launch of our newly expanded Adult Vocational Program in conjunction with the Adult Day Support Program. Perfectly situated between the Day Program sites HELP U Shred will offer secure paper and document shredding at a competitive price while providing participants with paid vocational training! If you're interested in this new service please contact Tami Honkala at 216.432.4810 x304 or email [thonkala@helpfoundationinc.org](mailto:thonkala@helpfoundationinc.org)

# *Donations* MARCH 2011 – SEPTEMBER 2011

## **Monetary Donations**

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 The Cleveland Foundation -  
 Day Support Program  
 Lubrizol Foundation -  
 Day Support Vocational Program

## **In-Kind Donations**

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*We apologize for any omission or error, please contact Darlene Willis with corrections a 216-432-4810.*



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# SAVE THE DATES

## HELP *Holiday Party*

Sunday, December 11th, 4:00 – 9:00 pm  
 Double Tree Hotel

1111 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114  
 For tickets call Darlene: 216.432.4810 x308  
 or [dwillis@helpfoundationinc.org](mailto:dwillis@helpfoundationinc.org)

## A LOOK AHEAD...



### 2012 GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH  
 AURORA COUNTRY CLUB