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# Village-news



August 2011

No. 5



## Dear Marcia,

We hope you enjoy this sampling of good news from Presbyterian Children's Village. Please pass it on to others who may be interested.

### Did you know?

■ You can **Donate Now** by going to [www.pcv.org](http://www.pcv.org), or go [here](#) to make a general donation or to direct your gift to a specific project.

■ The Village is now on [Facebook](#). Please "like" us and stay connected.

■ Designate your United Way gift to the Village with #1867.

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### What do you want to be when you grow up?

A monthly session presents career ideas by introducing youth in the residential programs to many possibilities. Some sessions also touch on resume preparation, job search skills, dressing for the interview, keeping the job once you get it and more.

### Green beans for dinner! (It took a whole Village to grow them.)

The Residential Program's School Principal Donya Chamberlain developed a horticulture curriculum to encourage fun while learning science, math, writing, and practical skills. Frank and Nancy Wood donated a Rototiller to prepare the plots. Village maintenance staff fenced out the deer and other hungry critters. Staff and students started the seeds in the greenhouse and transferred them to the garden when the time was right. Employees of Gallagher Benefit Services scheduled a company work day and weeded the beans alongside students. Sally Ferry and the kitchen crew put delicious beans on the menu. Students ate them. Recreation therapists and finance department staff helped students market their wares, inviting staff members to purchase extra plants and produce. The students also grew tomatoes, herbs, flowers, and more. Next steps? Considerations include expanded gardens and sales. Would you like to help? Fall and spring opportunities are available!



A Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. employee weeds beans.

### Alice Meets Philadelphia...and city budget cuts chop into a successful after-school program

What would Alice see if she peered through the Looking Glass in Philadelphia? Students in the Village's Out of School Time Program (OST) recently explored this question. They read Alice in Wonderland, prepared a story board, and created their own Philadelphia version of the Alice story. The unit culminated with an invitation to family and friends to come to a Mad Hatter's Tea Party. The OST program, located in Catharine Elementary School across from the Preheim Center, has been commended on numerous occasions for its creative curriculum and impressive results. An effective program in a community that

X-ray technician, Paula Walker introduced them to her friend Seymour Bones during one Career Night. Can you spare an hour to share your career experience?



### They raised the money...and they used it to help PCV programs.

A BIG thank you to the students in the St. Thomas of Villanova confirmation class for their generous gift of new sports equipment, toiletries, books, and more.



### Visit the Village

Are you ready to take a next step with PCV? One easy step is to come to a Third Thursday program-and bring a friend. *The Village in Sixty Minutes* is offered at 8:30 am in Rosemont. Next

has limited resources, OST was nevertheless cut by five slots for the 2011-2012 school year. Students often enter the program in kindergarten and remain through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The program costs about \$2,000 per child for the year. ***Can you help restore those five slots for children who need this service?***



### Play can heal.

PCV's behavioral health therapists often use Play Therapy to help children describe the traumas they are unable to verbalize. Dolls, toys, sand trays, crayons, magic wands, and Play-Doh are some the tools therapists use to help these children.

PCV took a big step in the behavioral health arena with the implementation of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). PCIT helps young children with conduct disorders by strengthening parent-child interaction. Parents receive coaching from the therapists, who observe from behind a one-way window. The therapy is designed to improve the quality of the parent-child relationship, decrease behavior problems, and increase positive social behaviors. Parents gain new parenting skills, including positive discipline. A grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare allowed PCV to send two therapists for training in PCIT and to construct an observation room at the Preheim Center. The Village is one of just two agencies to offer PCIT in Philadelphia. Next steps are to expand the use of this effective therapy in Southwest Philadelphia and possibly to offer it in Rosemont, where there is already an observation room.



### Sanctuary Certified! And our Sanctuary work continues.

Officials from the Sanctuary Institute brought a plaque and high commendations to celebrate the Village's certification in the Sanctuary Model of Trauma Informed Care. Sanctuary is an evidence-supported practice that is positively impacting not only residential programs, but also community initiatives. Already deeply embedded in the PCV residential programs, next



opportunities:  
September 15 and  
October 20.

## Contact Us

For additional  
information on any of  
these opportunities and  
information, visit  
[www.pcv.org](http://www.pcv.org) or contact  
Betty Wu, 610.519.1615  
or [efwu@pcv.org](mailto:efwu@pcv.org).

steps for Sanctuary at PCV involve training the entire Preheim Center staff in the principles for implementation in community-based programs. From the left: Joanne Wolf, Vice President of Programs; Darlene Hewett, President and CEO; Amy Brinkley, Senior Director of Residential Programs; Todd Etchison, Sanctuary Institute

## Wish List

- \$10,000 to restore funding for 5 children in the OST Program for the 2011-2012 school year
- Passes for the zoo, movies, college and professional sports events, museums (quantities of 4-12 are most useful!)
- Tutors for both sites-especially reading and math
- Grocery Gift Cards (\$25 for ShopRite, Acme or Fresh Grocer)
- Pedometers for the residential program (One costs about \$25)
- Tickets to the Cirque du Soleil and/or the Nutcracker Ballet

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