

The Children's Home of Reading

# HomeFront

Helping Children Heal

[www.choreading.org](http://www.choreading.org)

DONATE NOW  
Help Children in Need

Winter 2016

Join us in



honoring  
**PAUL ROEDEL**

The Children's  
**HOME**  
of Reading



**Classic**  
& Dinner Auction  
Presented by  
**CARPENTER**

**MAY**  
**2**  
**2016**  
DINNER & AUCTION



**MAY**  
**3**  
**2016**  
GOLF TOURNAMENT



**Tuesday, May 2, 2016**

The Children's Home of Reading is honoring **Paul R. Roedel** for his many years of service and dedication to The Children's Home of Reading at our **Annual Dinner and Live Auction** held at **Double Tree Hotel in Reading**. Tickets are \$150 per person and include cocktails, dinner, silent and live auctions and more!

It is followed by our **Golf Tournament** on May 3, 2016, which is held at both **LedgeRock Golf Club** and **Heidelberg Country Club**. The registration fee includes greens fees, cart, lunch, and two tickets to the Annual Dinner. The tournament is Shotgun scramble and begins at 1pm.

Registrations fees are \$400 per person for LedgeRock Golf Club and \$350 per person for Heidelberg Country Club.

The Annual Golf Classic and Dinner Auction serves as the main fundraiser of The Children's Home. It helps raise necessary funds to provide care and support to over 500 children daily through 15 different programs, including mental health, educational and community based programs for children in crisis.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

For more information about the event call Mindy McIntosh at 610-478-8266, ext 468 or visit [www.chorgolf.org](http://www.chorgolf.org).

## President's Message

Happy New Year! I am always amazed at how quickly time flies and it's hard to believe we're in 2016 already. I can say that we are entering this new year a bit tired but incredibly grateful. Once again, you have surpassed our expectations in creating an incredible holiday season for the children at CHOR. The number of toys and presents that were dropped off at CHOR was wonderful and you kept our staff busy sorting and distributing so that EVERY child we serve received a couple special, thoughtful gifts that they truly enjoyed. There were even a few young donors who were very proud to drop off a special gift for another child. Those moments were especially touching to our staff. We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity. I know the holidays were so much brighter for our kids due to your bigheartedness.

Your commitment and belief in CHOR were also shown as you helped us exceed the \$150,000 John E. Morgan Matching Grant Challenge. This was greatly appreciated especially during a time when we were feeling the effects of the state budget impasse. We thank The John E. Morgan Foundation for their continued support and their confidence in our programming to help children in need. In addition to the matching grant, they invested in the startup of our new Girls Residential Treatment Program. We have always provided residential treatment for adolescent boys and because of our success and expertise, we had been asked to consider starting a residential program for adolescent girls. Carole Cares, appropriately named after Carole Neag, a long term supporter of our residential program, opened in early December for girls who need 24 hour supervised, structured care.

Lastly, we owe a sincere thanks to the Berks County Community Foundation (BCCF) for coming to the aid of all non-profits who were being affected by the state budget impasse. This situation put many non-profits in a very difficult situation and BCCF acted quickly and honorably to help agencies that our community relies on for needed services.

Once again, the holidays showed us how much the Berks County and surrounding communities are committed to The Children's Home of Reading and the children we serve. Thank you.



Vincent J. LaSorsa, Ph. D.  
President and CEO

## Grant Update

The Children's Home would like to thank the following Foundations and Individuals for making our grant wishes come true. We could not continue the important work we do without your help. On behalf of the children we serve, thank you for your kindness and generosity.

- ◊ **John E. Morgan Foundation** awarded us a grant towards our new female residential program. In addition, the foundation offered us a wonderful matching grant opportunity which we successfully met end of December. **We are pleased to announce we exceeded our goal.**



- ◊ **Bartlett Family Foundation** awarded us a grant towards clothing needs for our boys in our residential program.
- ◊ **Blue Mountain Foundation** awarded us a grant towards our Chapel project.
- ◊ **Freedom Auto Group** awarded us an unrestricted grant towards program use.
- ◊ **Henry Janssen Foundation** awarded us an unrestricted grant towards program use.
- ◊ **Jerlyn Foundation** awarded us a grant towards our Chapel project.
- ◊ **Wal-Mart/Sam's Club Foundation** awarded us a grant towards our CHOR Day Academy.
- ◊ **Wells Fargo Foundation** awarded us a grant towards our Acute Partial Hospitalization program.

# Board Spotlight

**How Long have you been on the Board?**

Close to three years.

## A little about you professionally

Jonathan Encarnacion is the Administrative Director for UPMC for You, a division of UPMC Health Plan. Prior to this position, he directed the Hispanic Center of Reading and Berks County.

Most recently, he has been appointed to the Regional Health Equity Council and appointed by Governor Wolf to serve on the Latino Taskforce of the Pennsylvania Advisory Council on Drug & Alcohol Abuse and the Managed Care Delivery System Subcommittee.



## What prompted you to join the Board of CHOR?

My involvement with CHOR was due to recruitment by Dr. Lou Mancano. One of the many functions of a good Board member is to attract the necessary talent needed to function as a not-for-profit organization. The Children's Home of Reading is in the business of helping our most precious commodity, children. It handles a myriad of complex and difficult situations impacting children across this region. How we handle such situations can impact not only their lives but the economic future of Berks County. It is for these reasons that I enthusiastically said yes to this board appointment.

## What is one of your goals as a Board Member of CHOR?

One of the key goals is to ensure the financial viability of the Children's Home of Reading.

## Why should someone else consider serving on our Board of volunteering for CHOR?

As the African proverb states "it takes a village to raise a child". Clearly the Berks County village must come together to raise our most vulnerable children. You should consider not only serving on the Board but also opportunities to volunteer and donate. Your time and financial contributions can help reshape the future of a young child and thus continue to invest in the future of Berks County.

## ALUMNI Corner

By Jeanette Marie Pullano Eriksson

61 years ago, my sister Carmen and I spent 4 months in The Children's Home of Reading. I was 6 and Carmen was 4.

At the time, we were told that my parents were between homes and work so we stayed at CHOR. We remember a large dorm with brass single beds. We were warm, fed well and the facilities were clean. All ages of children were there. I remember every morning when I woke up; I would find Carmen in bed with me because she would get scared in the middle of the night. The staff was very understanding and loving and never yelled at us for sleeping together. They understood that sisters should be together.



Carmen

Although our stay was short, we both have good memories of CHOR. All the children there respected us and each other.

I remember every Sunday, a magician came and entertained us. WOW we were impressed. We remember ice cream and Easter chicks. The only bad memory I have is that they served smoked sausage stew every week that I hated. Another resident named Kathy ate the stew for me and then I ate her rolls and butter. All was good.

It is surprising the things you remember. I said to myself at a very early age and it followed me to my senior years, that one day I would pay it forward. And I am so grateful that after all these years I am finally able to. I am now a volunteer at CHOR! I am so grateful that they accepted me and treat me with respect. I give what I can which is my time and computer expertise. However, they have not tasted my cooking yet.



Jeanette

Children's Homes are needed to ensure that the needs of children are met when they cannot live with their own family. They are a place for children to develop and grow, as well as providing food, shelter, and space for play and leisure in a caring environment. And that is what CHOR was for me and my family. I wanted to say thank you for such a long time. And now I have. Thank you!



# About The Children's Home

Established in 1884, The Children's Home has over 130 years of experience in providing care to children from Berks and surrounding counties. Over 800 children and their families are served each year.

Mission Statement: Caring for the needs of children and families in crisis and preparing them for success in life.



2016 means many things to many people. New Year's Resolutions bring hopes of weight loss, healthier living, new jobs,

and many other dreams. At the Children's Home of Reading, 2016 is bringing us a Chapel. For several years, we have been raising funds in the hopes of building a place for worship, prayer and reflections for the children we serve.

Not all the necessary funds have been raised to-date but we are anticipating reaching our goal by spring. In addition, with the help of Bill McMahon, several local contractors have agreed to reduce the cost they charge in helping make this dream a reality. We truly look forward to breaking ground and thank all our friends who have donated to this very special project. Make your donations at [www.choreading.org](http://www.choreading.org).

## National Philanthropy Day

### CHOR Honors Leslie Giardiello



We were delighted to honor Leslie Giardiello during the National Philanthropy Day breakfast at Green Valley Country Club.

After her mother's passing in 2011, Leslie Giardiello honored her in a very special way. She founded the Margaret J. Yeager Children's Shoe Fund for The Children's Home of Reading so that every child served had the proper shoes in the proper size for whatever need. Her desire to honor her mother in that way was fitting, as Margaret Yeager owned and operated Margaret's Shoe Store in downtown Reading for many years. Several hundred shoes have been purchased to date for children who were wearing hand me downs in the wrong size, shoes that had holes in them or worn out shoes.

Since then, Leslie continues to support The Children's Home of Reading in many ways. She serves on our Board of Directors and Golf, Dinner, and Development Committees. For those who have attended our Annual Dinners, they have witnessed her incredible creative flair for special events. Owner of Details by Leslie, she has envisioned, funded and implemented creative ways to provide a "wow" factor for attendees including breath-taking centerpieces made out of vegetables which were later donated to the Home.

She is an incredible friend to the children and staff at CHOR and we feel so blessed to have Leslie in our lives.

## Inspirational Moments

By Mindy McIntosh

I have worked at CHOR for almost 23 years. I have seen so much generosity from donors for our kids that it has brought tears to my eyes on several occasions.

One event happened this past Christmas that really put me in awe. Grace Outlet, a local church down the street from CHOR whose parishioners come here once a month to play games with our residents and host field trips, decided they wanted to do something special for our residential staff. They honored all 88 of them with hand written notes and gift cards as a thank you for their dedication and commitment to our residents.



Grace Outlet Church

According to Kim Saadi, The church wanted to do this because "We see the staff investing their lives into caring for and building relationships with these residents and we wanted to do something special this holiday season to honor them."

They began the month with a symbolic tree filled with 88 fall leaves. Each leaf bore the name of a CHOR residential Youth Care Worker. The Gracians' picked a leaf off the tree and wrote a thank you card, placed a \$10 gift card inside and committed to pray for that staff member for the remainder of 2015. As the fall leaves were taken, the Gracians' wrote what they were thankful for green leaves to refill the branches. One of the first things they were thankful for was CHOR! Another church member agreed that "It is nice to give back to a group of people who give so much."

It means so much to our staff to see that people recognize their hard work.

So inspiring!

# Holidays At the Home

Thank you for making the holidays so special for our children.

We counted on you, our generous donors to provide Christmas gifts for all our clients and residents and you came through! With your help, we were able to give 4 gifts for each of our children. Without your support, most of these children would not have had anything to celebrate. We thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Here are some pictures from our various Christmas parties, holiday celebrations and luncheons that you made possible!



Penske delivering gifts to The Children's Home of Reading.



Residential Party sponsored by Land Displays



Santa Visits Girls Program



Bingo Party sponsored by Lucky Star



Eastern PA Toy Run



Bros Toy Run



Toys for Tots



Halloween Party Sponsored by Carpenter Technology

**Thank You!  
For making the  
holidays so special  
for our children**

## It's A Wrap!

A very special thank you to Theresa Hornung our volunteer Gift Wrap Coordinator and all the volunteers who donated their time to help us at the Berkshire Mall this past holiday season. With your help, we grossed over \$8,900!

All proceeds raised help our mission of "Caring for the needs of children and families in crisis and preparing them for success in life."

Thank you again. We look forward to seeing you again next holiday season.



# Honors

October 6, 2015-January 31, 2016

## In Honor Of:

Conchita Brown  
Radaoui-Brown Family  
Jay Wagner  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Thomas Work Esq  
Kay Rider  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dieter  
Mark Harrington  
Mr. James Pauzer and Mrs. Joan Woll  
Richard Palmer Jr.  
Office Staff  
Robert Cagliola  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Seher  
Jim Connors  
Pete Connors  
Bob Leayman  
Steve Silverman  
Rob Cagliola  
Brian McCoy  
Steve Pottieger  
Mike Noon  
Lidia Zidik  
Connie Boyer  
Maria Hill  
Kate Moyer  
Sue Perfetto  
Jennfier Spinka  
Trudy Zerbe  
  
Physicians and Staff at Reading Pediatrics  
Wyomissing Pediatric Association  
Children's Clinic of Wyomissing,  
Exeter Pediatrics  
Carim Eye & Retina Center  
Dr. Christina Ohnsman

## Margaret J. Yeager Shoes for Children Fund

### In honor of:

Bradley Giardiello and Karen Marcus  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Giardeillo  
Joe and Leslie Giardiello  
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Bieniosek  
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Reuben  
Ted and Lauren Bieniosek  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Giardiello

### In memory of:

Margaret Yeager  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Giardiello

# Memorials

October 6, 2015-January 31, 2016

## In Memory Of:

Allison Reese  
Mrs. Virginia Reese  
Andrew and Maryanne Krishock  
Mr. John Krishock  
Ann and Frank Mecurio  
Dr. Teresa Mercurio  
Anthony Reilly  
Mr. and Mrs. James Reilly  
Barry Schaedler  
Mrs. Donna Schaedler  
Bettie Sifin  
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Barto  
David Miller and Mae Hollenbach  
Mr. David W Hollenbach  
Dennis Dickey  
Ms. Jacquelyn Bochniak  
Mauro Paolini  
Mrs. Nelda Paolini  
Eleanor George  
Mr. Harold George Jr  
Gena Rossi  
Mrs. Barbara Potts  
George Ellis  
Mrs. Kathryn Ellis  
Glenn and Helena Fecho  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Fecho  
Harley "Kid Jr" Monderwicz  
Mr. Emerick Dianna Jr  
HJ Pastirik  
Ms. Patricia Pastirik  
John White  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bohn  
Irene Bohn  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bohn  
Joseph Cunningham  
Ms. Carol Cunningham  
Leroy Snyder  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Snyder  
Louise Masano  
Mr. Thomas Masano  
Marie Hoffman  
The Catherine V. & Martin W.  
Hoffman Foundation

## Marlene Wert

Ms. Joyce McDonald

## Maude Royer

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Manderbach

## Max Nestler

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rothermel

## Robert Cardy

Ms. Judith Cardy

## Robert Daly

Mr. Gary Monger

## Robert Graul

Ms. Gertrude Graul

## Robert Roemmelt

Ms. Patricia Pastirik

## Robert Tornquist

Mrs. Isla Tornquist

## Stella Jobe

Ms. Charlene Jobe

## Tawni Krol

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Barto

## Thomas Masano

Associated Construction Inc

Reinsel Kuntz Lesher LLP

Jimmie Kramer's Peanut Bar

Sun Motor Cars Inc

Mr. Ray Volatta

Neil Fleischood

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weiss

Mrs. Marsha Carlino

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Shaw

Ms. Sandra High

Mr. and Mrs. Kody Sandusky

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schnee

Mr. and Mrs. John Mazzo

Carman Ford Lincoln Inc

Chapman Management Corp

Power Kunkle

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Lausch

Dr. and Mrs. Cyril Leddy

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Paris



Your  
Planned Gift  
Makes a  
Difference

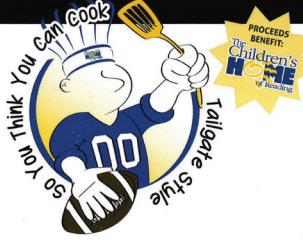
Help ensure that our mission is supported well into the future. Join our  
Planned Giving Society by including CHOR in your will and helping  
children heal for years to come.

For more information about  
Planned Giving and the  
Legacy Society:

Call 610-478-8266

Visit [www.choreading.org](http://www.choreading.org)

## QUEST FOR THE GOLDEN SPATULA



Eric Esterbrook has earned the highly coveted Golden Spatula award at the 2nd Annual Celebrity Chef event on February 3, 2016 benefiting The Children's Home of Reading.

Almost 40 community and business leaders shared their culinary talents and recipes to

the guests attending the event. After filling their bellies with the delicious creations, the guests got to vote on their top 3 chefs with the top vote receiving the Golden Spatula award.

The delicacies served included chilis, dips, desserts and alcohol infused treats.

We thank those who shared their talents, those who attended the event and especially Marge Bligh, our Board Chairperson, who is the visionary behind the event.



Winner Eric Esterbrook with Dr. Vince LaSorsa and Marge Bligh

**Save the date for next year  
Feb 1st, 2017!**



Jonathan Encarnacion taste testing  
Ron Velez's Wolverine Chili



Mike Schmidlein with the very popular Hypnotic Ice



Dr. and Mrs. Barbera serving  
Shrimp Cervicé

## Penny/HWH Update

Less than 3 months until Penny, our 2007 Harley Davidson Fat Boy rebuilt motorcycle will be raffled off and driven home by one lucky winner! The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the Raising Awareness the Classic Way at Denver Memorial Park and Playground on May 21, 2016 at 5:00PM.

We are in the final stretch of Penny's tour. Thank you to the numerous companies and community events that hosted Penny and helped get the word out and sell raffle tickets.

This Helping With Horsepower program of rebuilding a motorcycle that has a dreary background is correlated with the children rebuilding their lives and coming up with an amazing result!

The motorcycle was named "Penny" after Angel R. won a naming contest for the bike. He chose Penny because he feels pennies are often discarded and unvalued - which is how he felt at times in his life.

Ticket prices are \$10 each, 3 for \$25, and 7 for \$50 and are available for purchase online, at The Children's Home of Reading, Reading Cycles, and at events and festivals throughout the coming months. Please check our website for up to date listings. [www.choreading.org](http://www.choreading.org).

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, May 21st!





Non - Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Reading, PA  
Permit NO.352

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

**MAY 2 2016**  
DINNER & AUCTION

**MAY 3 2016**  
GOLF TOURNAMENT

The official registration and financial information of The Children's Home of Reading may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

[www.choreading.org](http://www.choreading.org)



Legos	Small radios/bombboxes	Manicure Kits	Nail Polish Kits	CDs: such as NOW! CDs	Teen Girl Pajamas	Waawa or Sheetz Gift Cards	Sport Team T-Shirts	Sports cards	Magazines (for Teen Boys and Girls)	Hats (baseball and beanies)	Axe or Old Spice Hygiene products	Feminine Hygiene Products	Posters	Plastic mirrors	Socks	Habitbrushes
Blow Dryers/Curling irons																

## Wish List

MAY 2, 2016 .....	Annual Dinner and Live Auction	Margaret M. Bigham .....	Chairperson	W.Lee Prussman .....	Treasurer	Robert J. Cagliola, .....	Assistant Treasurer	Louis D. Manzano, M.D. ....	Secretary	Jonathan H. Kuraland, Esq. ....	Assistant Secretary	Andy P. Berger, Esq. ....	Mike Schmidlein	Jonathonan D. Encarnacion	Mike Schoenberger	Bruce D. Kraft	Daniel C. Nevins, Esq.	Thomas Nimitito	Olubummi K. Ojikutu, MD

## 2016 Board of Directors

MAY 3, 2016 .....	Golf Tournament	MAY 21, 2016 .....	Penny Drawing	Please join us on BCTV. The show airs live on the
				3rd Tuesday of each month at 11:30 am.

## Mark These Dates!