



# The Children's Aid Society Foundation

Volume 4 - Spring/Summer – 2018

## *Message from the President:*

### ***“My Humble Thank You and Lesson Learned”***

I am humbled by the generosity and support of our “friends” over the years. This year has been no exception. The gifts of Christmas and birthday presents, food, time, activities and money has been tremendous. Your support allows us to provide the services and care for the children that they both need and deserve. Your concern for our children will help them to work through the challenges they face as well as grow and develop into successful and productive adults. For this, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

When I see the help and support provided by our “friends”, I can't help but think, what a valuable lesson for our children to learn. The lesson of helping those in need or less fortunate is an important value to learn. We have helped and encouraged the children to do community service projects throughout the year. They do them very willingly and I believe, are very much concerned for those they are helping. Community service projects have included:

- Conducting a food drive to support the Food Pantry
- Conducting a drive to gather supplies needed by the Humane Society
- Volunteered to load food for the Mobile Food Bank
- Sent care packages to our troops
- Made cookies for the Hospice patients
- Assisted the Rotary Club of Somerset by labeling 360 dictionaries for third graders in several area districts

As you can see, some great community service provided by the children. Thank you for leading the way and setting the example.

Robert C. Miller, Jr.  
President

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## ***“Our Children – Their Future***

### **DID YOU KNOW:**

**You can find us on Facebook “Children's Aid Society Foundation” – we will post upcoming events at the benefitting children and keep you up to date with latest news. Please like and share our page!**



## **“Education – One of Our Best Gifts”**

*One of the greatest gifts we can provide our children is a quality educational experience. This experience not only includes academics but also the relationships developed in school as well as the things most of us take for granted with learning. Things like good sleep, nutritious meals, and the equipment needed, i.e. pens, paper, notebooks, books, maps and technology. The staff at the Children’s Aid Home Programs, along with us at the Foundation, want our children to have the opportunity for an enjoyable and successful school experience.*

*Toward that end, and in addition to the passionate work of the Program’s staff, the Foundation is supporting the educational services at the Children’s Home in a number of ways. When public funding for the Reading Specialist and tutor ran out, the Foundation stepped in to fund these services. When children came to school hungry, the Foundation was able to provide breakfast and an afternoon snack for them. Along with our EITC friends, the Foundation is supporting the technology and software resources available for the children.*

*The five classrooms operated by the Children’s Aid Home Programs serving up to 40 students is continually working to make learning fun, exciting and successful.*

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### ***Meeting the Needs of Our Children***

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*The challenges, temptations, issues, as well as opportunities young people face today can be overwhelming. The same can be said for parents and families in today’s society. For children and young adults, the challenge is to navigate what life presents and as they do this, learn and develop the skills necessary to be responsible members of our communities.*

*I have realized that there are still many folks who think the only program offered by the Children’s Aid Home is a place for children to live when they can’t live at home. They do provide this service, but also provide Foster Family Care, Partial Hospitalization Programming (mental health day treatment), Adoption Services, Educational Programming for Junior and Senior High School Students, Elementary School Day Treatment, Parent/Family Supervised Visitation, and Sexting Prevention Education. All of these offerings are designed to meet the complex needs of our communities’ children.*

*Another part of the evolution was the creation of the Children’s Aid Society Foundation. The Foundation is a stand-alone 501 (c) (3) charitable organization with the simple mission of developing funds and resources which are used to help children and families in need. We are all aware of tight budgets and shrinking funding hindering our community services.*

*Our Foundation hopes to build our resources to a level with which there will always be help available for children and families no matter what happens with public funding. The Foundation can be in a position not only to help with the day to day expenses of serving children, but also aiding in a variety of other initiatives. These initiatives could include funding to develop new programs, specialized staff training to address the challenging issues of our children, post high school education of children, helping young adults get started with living independently, providing a safe and secure Children’s Home and so forth.*

*Yes, these are big dreams, but we also face big challenges. We have served children for over 100 years with the support and help of our communities. For that, we sincerely thank you. We can serve children for another 100 years or more if we all work together on behalf of their best interests. I invite you to contact us for a tour of the Children’s Home, see our programs and services up close, and discuss how you might join our Foundation’s Mission.*

## EVENTS HAPPENING WITH OUR CHILDREN:

### Children at CAHP Giving Back to Our Community

*The resident and caring community members together collected canned goods and non-perishable food items for the local Food Pantry this past Thanksgiving. Children and staff members delivered these items for distribution to local families in need.*

Food Drive



The Children along with the Staff of the Children's Aid Home packed gifts for military members to be shipped overseas this past Christmas. The gifts were greatly appreciated by our brave servicemen and women.



The residents were working on a community project for The Humane Society of Somerset County. The kids have used some of their weekly allowances to purchase items for the Humane Society. Collections from the community by the children helped our local shelter as well. These projects help to promote a caring and positive attitude towards animals and the community.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Children's Aid Home Golf Tournament

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Aid Home Memorial Mens' and Ladies' Golf Tournament was held Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the Somerset Country Club. Much to the delight of all our golfers, the sun came out to warm the good will and fun on the golf course. This year, the memory of Mr. Harold W. Wheeler, Jr. was honored in the Memorial Tournament. The proceeds are being awarded to the Children's Aid Home Elementary Day Treatment/Education Program and Adoption Services for Infants and Toddlers



### Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community



The 2018 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community Johnstown was held on Saturday, May 19, 2018, at Central Park in downtown Johnstown. The walk benefited 18 health and human service organizations with the Children's Aid Home Programs of Somerset being one of those organizations.

***Thanks to all who participated! The support of the community is so important and greatly appreciated.***



## **NOTEWORTHY NEWS**

*The Somerset County Child Advocacy Center has opened a new office in April this year. The CAC was developed through the efforts of the District Attorney's Office, Pennsylvania State Police, Children and Youth Services, Victim Services Inc. and Somerset Hospital. State funding was supplemented by local community donations. The center was developed to help children who are victims of abuse who may have otherwise been directed to the Somerset State Police barracks for interviewing or other city centers for counseling and investigation.*

***Children's Aid Home Programs  
Wheeler Campus***

### **Contact Us**

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Quote To Live By:

"Young people need models, not critics"

- John Wooden

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### **CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY FOUNDATION**

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**Recipient Name**

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code