

GROWING HOME SOUTHEAST FOUNDATIONS



'08 FALL ISSUE, VOLUME 9

Leaphart Place Accepts Tenants

Leaphart Place construction was completed with first tenants moving in at the end of August. Leaphart Place is a beautiful, supportive community located in West Columbia. If you get a chance, please attend our Open House on November 12th at 10:30 a.m. or stop by and take a tour. Mrs. Tangenia Stroman, Facility Director, would love to show you around.



Leaphart Place has come a long way ~ Photos of the completed project

Building families. Building futures. more than just a tagline.

Over the past few years Growing Home Southeast (GHSE) has begun to use a tagline or a slogan to reinforce and make memorable the agency's mission, vision and values. Building families. Building futures. reinforces what we hope we (staff, treatment parents, board of directors and other volunteers and partners) do for the hundreds of clients we serve each day.

Our definition of Building families. Building futures. is the following:

The future does not just happen it is created. Families that are supported, educated and presented with opportunities not only create a strong and healthy family but also help to create better communities. Growing Home Southeast, Inc. is committed to providing services that strengthen families so that they have a greater chance of building futures for themselves and the children they love; either their own or children they foster or adopt.

The following story is just one of the hundreds of stories that illustrate how valuable each of us are at GHSE in helping to strengthen children and families so that they have a better chance of building futures for themselves. Jason's story shows how our staff and treatment parents, working together, are able to provide the needed support and treatment to help build the future this child deserves.

Jason, an 8 year old, was referred to GHSE with the requirement that he be placed in his home county. While we did not have a home available in that county we were able to offer another home whose treatment parent was a nurse and a good match for Jason. The referral worker accepted the home and Jason was placed in the foster home in a nearby county.

Jason is developmentally delayed and has significant behavioral challenges. His treatment parent was immediately confronted with an ever growing list of behaviors Jason exhibited. She found herself being very negative with Jason and she knew this was not appropriate and certainly not what had been reinforced by her GHSE worker and behavior management training offered by the agency. Our GHSE worker sensing the treatment parent's frustration and exhaustion in dealing with Jason developed a plan which included a daily schedule and behavior management techniques for Jason. She checked in with the treatment parent daily to reinforce the plan for Jason and provide her with the support she needed.

Building families. Building futures. more than just a tagline. (continued)

During this same time the referral worker was demanding that Jason be moved to another foster home in his home county. Our GHSE worker advocated that Jason remain in his current foster home as he was beginning to make progress and a significant bond had been developed between him and his treatment parent. The referral worker agreed.

Jason is doing much better today; he exhibits fewer behaviors and while there is still a lot of work to be done progress has been made. Additionally, our treatment parent is more relaxed and is able to respond more appropriately to Jason.

TREATMENT PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS APPOINTED

New Treatment Parent Advisory Committee Members have recently been appointed. The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the senior leadership at GHSE. Members of the Committee provide input on issues and decisions that may directly affect treatment parents. Additionally, members serve as a liaison between the treatment parents in each region or support group(s) and the senior leadership of the agency.

Treatment Parent Advisory Committee Members are elected from each region and/or support group. They serve on the Committee for a two year term. Meetings are held at least 4 times per year in the corporate office in Columbia. Committee Members are reimbursed for travel.

The following Treatment Parents have been elected to the Advisory Committee:

Midlands

Bobby Holland
Colleen Knight

Low Country

James Davis
Russell & Elisa Harrison

Pee Dee

Joseph Epps
Jester McCoy

Upstate

Bobby Moore

GHSE Joins the United Way ~ Day of Action

GHSE was selected to be part of the United Way ~ Day of Action held on September 26, 2008. Leaphart Place was the recipient of the day of volunteer action. Our volunteers and staff built a privacy fence at Leaphart Place. It was a great success.



*Leaphart Place fence building project
Photos from the "Day of Action"*

BRAG CORNER—WE LOVE TO BRAG ON OUR KIDS!!

Willie, Archie and **James** play for their Schools football team.
Spencer was awarded the following certificates in school: Name writing award, Telling time to the hour award, writing and recognizing numbers award.

Jasmine and **Amari** participated in the Summer Experience Camp over the summer.

Randasha participated in The Federation of Families of SC Camp "Get the Conversation Started".

Jasmin successfully transitioned home in August.

Kimberlee & Amber received passing grades on their progress report.

Jeffery will be graduating High School in December.

Sierra worked at the last two Clemson games with her ROTC program.

Brandon is enjoying playing the trumpet in the middle school band.

Julia has taken her GED and planning to enroll in Trident.

Rebecca will be trying out for the High School Basketball team.

Natoya has learned to ride a bike.

Samuel obtained his 1st Job!

Courtney made all A's & one B on her interim report card.

WHAT A GREAT GROUP OF KIDS!!