



A home. A family. A future.

A Worthy Mission

Dream House increases the number of families and communities prepared to care for medically fragile children at home by:

1 Providing them safe, temporary homes;

2 Training families and caregivers;

3 Preparing specially-equipped and accessible homes;

4 Championing positive change via community and corporate partnerships.

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DELIVER DONATIONS

CORPORATE OFFICE
2092 SCENIC HWY, SUITE B
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501(c)3 NOT-FOR-PROFIT

The Silver Lining

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Volume 9: June 2010

From Our Family to Yours...

Word is out... the Dream House Transition Care Home in Lilburn is open for kids!



ABOVE: Hunter Watkins shows off his art project.

Inaugural 2010 Summer Respite Program

Hunter Watkins loves life. If it walks, talks, moves or cries, he laughs and laughs. Hunter had a great week of Summer Respite in early June. As he was having fun with activities Child Life Specialist Hannah Nabors lined up for him, his family had a chance to recharge their batteries.

Thanks to a *Jackson EMC Operation Round-Up*® grant, eight medically fragile children will each enjoy one week of respite during their summer vacation from school. This community outreach initiative between Jackson EMC and Dream House has reserved one of the six beds at the Transition Care Home for these children in June and July.

"I am a Jackson EMC customer and donate to *Operation Round-Up*® on my power bill each

month," Hunter's mom Christine Watkins said, "so it is exciting to see how these funds are helping children like Hunter in my community."

Parent to Parent Recommendations

Christine decided to apply for Dream House Summer Respite after hearing high praise about the *Family for Keeps*® Transition Care Program from the Williams and Sanocki families, whose children recently benefited from respite care. "I tell everyone I can about the top-notch care Terrell receives each time he comes to Dream House for respite," said Sherrell Williams.



ABOVE: Terrell Williams shares meal time with friends.

Caring for Georgia's Foster Children, too.

The afternoon of June 17, a Meriwether County DFCS case manager was faced with sending a medically fragile preemie



ABOVE: This precious baby has already captured our hearts!

to the hospital after calling 14 agencies throughout Georgia trying to find placement for her. Dream House was call 15, and the only agency able to accommodate placement and meet this child's extraordinary health care requirements.

Another foster child, whom we had been warned could not tolerate human touch, is now soothed when held. Placed with us by Walker County DFCS in March, Dream House continues to meet his complex care needs as permanency initiatives are being developed for him.

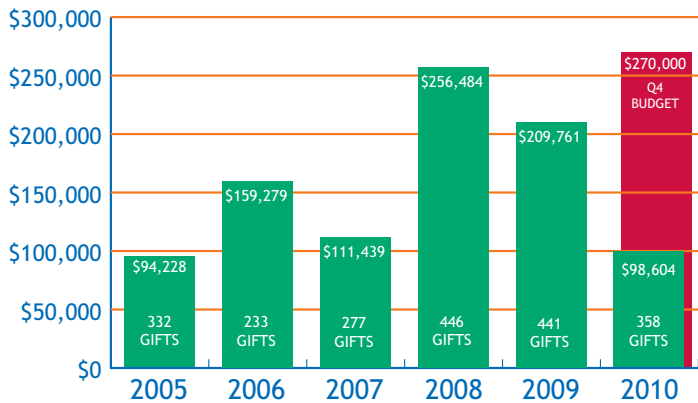


Referral Line: 678-485-4810

MEDICALLY FRAGILE RESPITE and TRANSITION CARE for GEORGIA'S BIOLOGICAL, ADOPTIVE and FOSTER CHILDREN

Year-over-Year Comparison
CASH DONATIONS RECEIVED BY DREAM HOUSE

April – May – June



Your Donations are Investments in a Child's Future

Our supporters keep the Dream House doors open so we are able to serve children who have no one else!

FACT: It takes \$500 in private donations to fund ONE DAY of care for a child at the Dream House Transition Care Home.

Since 2006, a total of 371 Georgia child caring/child placement agencies have closed their doors.

SOURCE: Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children/Welfare Watch, June 23, 2010 as reported at the June Department of Human Services Board meeting by Georgia's Office of Residential Care, the regulatory arm of the state for private residential child care.

Your donations make it possible for Dream House to offer shelter and specialized nursing services for children. This is a healing place. Today, one of our foster toddlers rolled over by himself for the very first time. Our clinical staff is giddy with excitement! Three months ago, he screamed whenever touched. Now, he is making incremental progress that will soon allow him to transition to his new home. Your donations have changed this little boy's life – forever!



As of June 21, 2010 Dream House financial supporters have funded \$45,000 in unreimbursed clinical care for this foster child.

Invest Your Pennies to Help a Dream House Child

As we close our fiscal year June 30th, the Dream House organization has a fourth quarter budget shortfall of \$171,396. In a brutal economy, we understand every penny you donate needs a purpose. Invest your pennies so a Dream House child may gain quality of life in a forever home with a family for keeps!

- Mail the enclosed postcard to a friend to share how you are supporting medically fragile children.
- Use the enclosed envelope to mail a donation to help a child.
- Visit us at www.DreamHouseForKids.org to give online, for the latest news, see fund raising event details, or to complete a volunteer application.
- Dream House is offering naming rights to the Transition Care Home in Lilburn, and to a number of special rooms and outdoor areas at the home for specific cash donation amounts. Please see the enclosed donation form, or you may call Laura Moore or Kim Marks at 770-717-7410 for details.



in Concert at the 8th Annual *Music on Main*
LILBURN CITY PARK • SATURDAY, SEPT. 11, 5:30–10 PM
\$10 General Admission • Bring Chairs • Buy Food/Drink in Park
Silent Auction • VIP Sponsorships Available • Volunteers Needed

Community Spotlight

Mary Thorn has logged 400 volunteer hours in 10 months at the Dream House corporate office. "After working for years, I was laid off. I am not used to staying at home, so I decided to volunteer in the Dream House office." Mary helps with data entry, manning the telephones and administrative tasks, volunteering about 15 hours each week. ▷



◁ Miss International Junior Teen, Kayla Watson, chose Dream House as the beneficiary of the Fantasy Fashion Show held June 5, 2010 at the Aurora Theater in Lawrenceville, Ga. Kayla presented Dream House with a check for \$510. Thank you to all participants and sponsors who helped Kayla.

May 28, 2010 The Rotary Club of Conyers dedicated the Children's Garden at Light House Village, which is the site of the future Dream House Resource Center. ▷



◁ The 7th Annual Dream House Golf Classic raised over \$38,000 to fund direct nursing care in April for children at the Transition Care Home in Lilburn.

Camp Inspiration, created and sponsored by the Jesse Mercer Stewards of Mercer University's Atlanta campus, was held in April for Dream House kids and their families. It was so successful, they are planning another event in the Fall. ▷



◁ The 7th Annual Family Fun Trail Ride raised nearly \$20,000 that helped fund direct nursing care in May for children at the Transition Care Home in Lilburn.

Katie Moore is home! Thank you for your prayers, cards, emails and letters. She is recovering from this latest rejection episode, regaining her strength and stamina. Katie took the CRCTs in June, and looks forward to entering 6th grade as a home-schooler this Fall. Above all, she continues to prove that "where there is a will, there is a way!" ▷



In Loving Memory



The Dream House Family is saddened by the passing of our friends; 3-year-old Gianni Shields and 7-year-old Dillon Beasley. We are grateful for the support Dream House volunteers and donors provided so these two boys could live at home with their families.

◁ Gianni pictured with mom Catherine. He passed June 23.

Dillon pictured with mom Debbie. He passed April 18. ▷

