

The Devereux *Report*

The Devereux Center of Massachusetts
A Continuum of Care for Children with Special Needs

Volume 1-07 • June 2007

Setting a Course for the Future

Devereux is very proud of what we have accomplished over many years, having made a difference in the lives of thousands of children and their families. Since our establishment in Massachusetts in 1965, we have developed and evolved in response to the changing environment. Devereux now encompasses residential care, special education, group homes and foster care.

We have specialized programs for adolescents with substance abuse and mental health issues, a Dialectical Behavior Therapy program for girls, and a special needs day school. We also are proud to be meeting the needs of the community with our treatment program for boys ages 10-16 with high functioning PDD/Asperger's disorder. As we move

forward, we will be further developing our expertise in this area. With all these programs in place, there is still a need to look ahead and plan for the future. This spring, we have undertaken a major strategic planning process to consider how best to build on our strengths and services to the community.

We have brought together a large group of people who have an important stake in Devereux's future, including employees, advisory board members, parents and foster parents. With input from all these areas, we are setting high expectations for the years ahead.

In the coming months, we will share with you the results of our discussions as we sharpen our focus on how to best provide vital services to children and families.

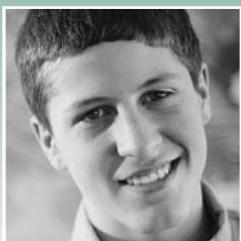
A Note of Thanks

We thank the many individuals and organizations throughout Central Massachusetts who have made it possible for us to provide the highest quality programs and services to children in need. As with any non-profit, despite prudent management, revenues seldom cover the full cost of all that must be done.

Your support provides the added measure necessary to meet the needs of our children, and to provide some extras, like presents at the holidays and special recreational activities throughout the year. We are pleased to present a list of our supporters in this newsletter.

Our Mission
Devereux changes lives and nurtures human potential. We inspire hope, ensure well-being, and promote meaningful life choices.

Our mission is achieved through a wide range of services and supports for individuals and their families.



From the Executive Director



Stephen Yerdon

This year, we have the distinct honor of celebrating the 10th anniversary of our Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) program, which has made a tremendous impact on many children's lives. We are pleased that we have been able to develop a network of offices and services throughout Massachusetts and Rhode Island that care for over 165 children from infancy through adolescence.

Even more importantly, we are extremely proud of the dedicated foster parents who give so much of themselves in caring for and loving the children who come into their homes. During the month of May, we celebrated National Foster Care Month with various appreciation events for our dedicated foster families. You may have seen articles in local newspapers or television about our celebrations and the benefits of being a foster parent.

While we were pleased to take this opportunity to hold special events, it is important to recognize the commitment that our foster families make on a daily basis. Foster care is not a 9 to 5 job; it is around the clock, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Our foster parents are wonderful people who welcome children into their homes and care for their special needs. What makes them willing to do so? There may be many personal reasons, but we find the common goal is that people want to offer a better life for children who desperately need hope for a brighter future.

Within the past few years, the MA Department of Social Services has emphasized the goal of caring for children in the home community. At Devereux, we believe in this worthwhile endeavor and have been growing our therapeutic foster care program to meet the demand. In addition to establishing foster homes, we provide continuous training and support, so our foster families can be as successful as possible. Essentially, we make certain that our foster parents are never alone in their work.

There is an ongoing need for foster homes as the list of children awaiting placement continues to grow. If you have ever considered being involved in this important and rewarding work, we would very much like to talk with you. Please call 877-446-3305 for more information.

DEVEREUX HAPPENINGS

Dedication of the Jean B. Davis Memorial Library

At a ceremony on May 18, 2007, we honored the many years of memorable service of Mrs. Davis, a beloved employee who later became a member of the Advisory Board, and we dedicated the school library with an endowment from her family.

June Events

Advisory Board Annual Meeting

Members of our staff and Advisory Board celebrated our achievements over the past year and awarded individuals whose special efforts have made an outstanding difference for Devereux.

Student/Staff Recognition Day

This fun-filled annual event gives us the opportunity to recognize great strides that make our experiences at Devereux worthwhile and rewarding.

Town Breakfast

During our tasty tribute to the town of Rutland, we thank members of the community and local business for their continuing support.

2006/07 Advisory Board Members

John Harrity, Chair	Kurt J. Mathias
John W. Anderson	J. Marty McDonald
Michael F. Baker	Linda McGowan
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Benjamin J. Hilliker	Stephen Wentzell
Kimberly A. Kennedy	

*Please visit our website:
www.DevereuxMA.org*

Chairman's Message

THE CHARITY OF CHOICE

Making a difference in children's lives and brightening their days is top priority at Devereux. We are grateful for support in this cause and for the wonderful ways that people found to give to the children, especially during holiday time.

- ◆ Associates at Acosta Sales & Marketing in Marlborough purchased holiday gifts based on the children's wish lists. Acosta also made Devereux their charity of choice for their "Jeans for Charity" event held in January '07.
- ◆ Once again, Billy Toomey and his staff at Ladd's Restaurant in Rutland hosted a fantastic holiday dinner event for children and staff of Devereux in what has become a real highlight of the year for everyone involved.
- ◆ Staff members at Bay State Savings Bank purchased toys and gifts for the children at holiday time.
- ◆ Rutland Business Association continued its warm tradition of providing winter jackets for the children.
- ◆ Members of the St. Patrick Church community provided a wide array of holiday gifts to meet the children's needs and wants.
- ◆ During the worst cold spell of the winter, the Wachusett Food Pantry donated new hats, gloves and scarves for the boys and girls.
- ◆ After learning about Devereux, the Society of Women Engineers at University of New Hampshire decided to hold a toy drive to benefit the children. The society hopes to make this an annual event.
- ◆ We received a generous response to our Annual Appeal, with 100% of the money raised going directly toward activities for the children.

At this year's annual meeting of the Devereux Advisory Board, I will be handing over my gavel to Linda McGowan, who will become the new Chair. I am completing my sixth year of serving on the board, and it has been very rewarding to be part of a group supporting the important work of Devereux.



John Harrity

Like most of the terrific people who choose to serve on the board, I realize the work that Devereux does for children today will have a great impact on their future, with the goal of helping them become well-adjusted, productive members of our society.

In my three years as Chair, I have been very proud to work with some outstanding individuals of the community. I also have approached many people to serve on the board, and I thank them for their commitment and dedication to such a wonderful cause.

During this time, the Advisory Board has accomplished a great deal. In particular, we held two wonderful fund-raising events, "The Big Block Party" and "Sunset at the Speakeasy," that raised close to \$150,000. In addition, the board has worked closely with the Devereux management team to plan for the future of the agency. Recently, we began a strategic planning process that will carry Devereux through the next 3 – 5 years. We also have been working more closely with state legislators to help them be better informed of the needs of private schools and the children they serve. Ultimately, I believe we have been able to influence legislators and help Devereux and other private schools receive an increased tuition rate that will improve services to children.

Although I am sad to be leaving, I feel very optimistic for the board and Devereux with Linda McGowan stepping up as Chair. Ms. McGowan, who works for Hanover Insurance as a business architect, has been heavily involved with the board for a number of years. Her energy, enthusiasm and skill will lead the board and Devereux successfully into the future.

The Devereux Report is published by The Devereux Center of Massachusetts, a private, not-for-profit organization established in 1965 to treat children and adolescents with special emotional and behavioral needs. We provide quality treatment within a supportive, multi-disciplinary continuum of care, including: Residential Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Care, Behavioral Treatment Residences—campus and group home, Substance Abuse Treatment, Diagnostic Assessment, Special Needs Day School.



The Legacy of a Lifetime

Helping Devereux to Help Future Generations

People often ask how they can support a charity of choice in some significant way, while balancing their own needs and those of their families. Just as we plan for our own financial futures, we can plan support for an institution like Devereux, thereby ensuring its ability to meet the needs of generations to come.

Such “planned gifts” can be advantageous to both the donor and the charity. People usually provide planned gifts out of their overall assets – assets that might exceed personal or family needs – rather than from current income. There are often tax advantages for the donor, and the charity often receives a much larger gift than would otherwise be the case. Planned gifts are sometimes referred to as a donor’s “gift of a lifetime” and can have a profound effect on the ability of a charity to carry out its mission.

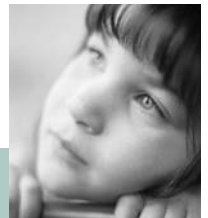
To provide a planned gift, it can be as simple as making a provision in your will to leave a certain amount or proportion of assets to Devereux. There may be a specification to delay distribution until the needs of minor children or aging parents have been met.

Some planned gifts provide assets to a charity in exchange for a predictable flow of income to the donor at a given amount or over a given period of time. Or, in the case of a gift of real property, such as a house, it can be given in exchange for continued use of the property for a predetermined period of time. Other types of planned gifts may include cash, marketable securities, closely held stock, real estate, life insurance, retirement funds or other tangible property (e.g. art, jewelry, automobiles, etc.).

If you have made some provision for Devereux in your estate planning, we would like to be aware of it and recognize your support of our future in some appropriate fashion.

If you would like more information or direction on gift planning, please contact the Development Office at 508-886-4746, ext. 228.

We will be happy to assist you in working with your financial advisors to make your dreams, and ours, a reality.



We thank the following organizations for their support

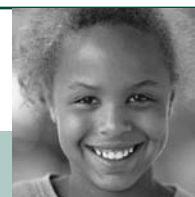
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Devereux thanks the following individuals who have made donations since our last newsletter. We greatly appreciate your continued support.



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**Great care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of our donor lists.
Please accept our apologies for any discrepancies, and let us know if you are incorrectly listed.**

Fundraising Celebrations

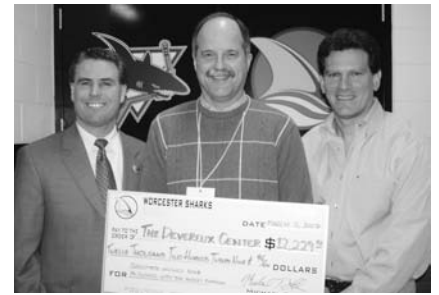
Devereux was thrilled with the generous efforts of local organizations who planned and promoted successful events that will go a long way in support of our programs.

During "A Night with the Sharks," Bay State Savings Bank teamed up with the Worcester Sharks to raise money for Devereux and other Shark charities. Pictured below (left to right): Diane Giampa, Bay State Savings Bank; Lukas Kasper, Worcester Sharks; Paul Gilbody, Bay State Savings; Steve Yerdon, Devereux Executive Director; Robert Lewis, President & CEO, Bay State Savings Bank.



Benjamin Hilliker, Devereux Advisory Board member and UMass Medical School student, led a rousing auction event, as part of the medical school's annual COMECC campaign, that raised over \$9,000 to benefit the children at Devereux.

Devereux was proud to receive more than \$12,000 from the Sharks event. Steve Yerdon (center) with Michael Mudd (left), Assistant General Manager, Worcester Sharks, and Paul Gilbody (right).



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