

Spring 2004



Boyer
children's
clinic

Tomorrow's Child

Serving children with Cerebral Palsy and Other Developmental Delays for over 60 Years

Ode to Boyer

by a mom and her son

We are honored to share with you this lovely poem written by the mother of a child attending Boyer.

Hello, little baby Nevin! You are welcome here!
We call you angel baby, so happy and so dear.
But we begin to realize that something is not right:
You cannot walk; and slides and stairs cause intense fright.
Oh Nevin, you need help and we don't know what to do;
We are just a Mom and Dad and we aren't enough for you!

Our search for help led us to Boyer Clinic, thankfully;
For everyone here opened up your hearts just like family.
Meeting with Sandra and Debbie gave me hope not to fret;
And then Nevin began to get his needs met!
One day, I asked Nevin, with much curiosity,
"How are you learning so much and so quickly?"

"Oh Mama, it is easy, so easy you see...
The folks at Boyer take such good care of me!
Robin and Triston sing songs and play,
Helping us take turns and put stuff away.
Shannon and me play in this room or that,
Sometimes we snack, but mostly we chat.
Brooke lets my tumbler out and about,
With her I like to laugh and to shout!"

So many children, so much love,
The staff here at Boyer have angels above.
With gratitude, we graduate and continue to grow and thrive;
Taking each of you with us in our hearts and souls alive!

With Much Love and Many Blessings,

Jennifer and Nevin Tousley

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A Touch of the Tropics

On Saturday, November 8, over 250 guests arrived at the Shilshole Bay Beach Club in Ballard, dressed in their brightest tropical attire, to escape the chilly Seattle November for a few hours. Uncle Ed, a native Hawaiian and longtime friend of Boyer, greeted arriving guests, together with Gloria Fujii and Halau Hula O Napualani who performed traditional Hawaiian music and dance. Guests received tropical beverages as they entered; vibrant leis available for purchase added a tropical scent to the air.

Three silent auctions contained close to 300 items for bid. Competition for popular items heated up as the time for bidding ran out. Following the close of the

third silent auction, guests were seated for a delicious tropical dinner and the start of the live auction.

Former Mariners pitcher Bill Krueger was the emcee for the evening. Lively auctioneer Jeff Stokes took over for the bidding on 27 live auction items and a bidding frenzy containing 12 gift certificates to several popular local restaurants. Bill Krueger also led the Fund-A-Need segment with a touching personal story, helping boost the total raised through Fund-A-Need to over \$17,000.

The evening ended with dancing and live music by local band

Anything But Hip. Boyer's annual auction was enjoyed by all and was a great success! Sponsors, donors, and guests together raised over \$70,000 in support of the services Boyer provides to children with developmental delays.

This event could not have taken place without the help



photo by Randy Sherwood

Bill Krueger, a former pitcher for the Mariners, made a superb emcee for the evening.

of many people. Over 300 donors contributed to the silent and live auctions with the help of more than 50 volunteers. The Helping Hands for Boyer Guild spent hours putting together auction displays and setting up on auction morning. Event night was run by members from the Seahawks Booster Club, Chi Sigma Alpha National Sorority, and several Boyer staff members.

Our deepest thanks goes out to all guests, volunteers, donors, and especially to our sponsors Pioneer Masonry, Sunterra Pacific, DeLaunay Communications and Premera Blue Cross. Their dedication and support makes our success possible. We hope to see all of you at our 2004 auction!

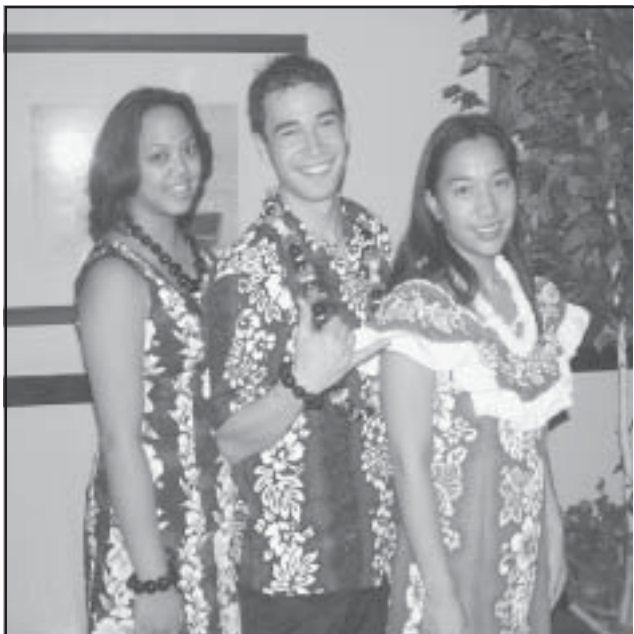


photo by Randy Sherwood

Members of Halau Hula O Napualani performed traditional Hawaiian dances and songs for auction attendees.

Holiday Gift Program a Hit

For several years Boyer has conducted an Adopt-a-Family program to help brighten the holidays for low-income families with children at Boyer. Boyer's family resource coordinators find out what families need. Then those anonymous lists are given to friends of Boyer who get right to work finding those gifts.

The response to Boyer's Adopt-a-Family program in 2003 was bigger than ever before. Several

dedicated groups from **Nordstrom**, **Washington Mutual**, and **Perkins Coie** combined forces with many other individuals to make our families' holiday dreams come true. They brought in so many gifts that Boyer bore a strong resemblance to a legendary North Pole workshop!

All of the staff at Boyer were amazed by the incredible display of generosity. Even more astonished were the families who received gifts.

It was wonderful to see the surprise and delight on the faces of those families as their arms were laden with just the gifts they needed.

None of that joy would have been possible without the hard work and support of all the volunteers who enthusiastically took on this project. They spent their time during the holiday season shopping for, wrapping, and delivering gifts for Boyer's families. We are very grateful for their time and support.



United Way Update

When you make a contribution to United Way's Community Safety Net, the whole community benefits. In addition to allocating money to 150 agencies, the Safety Net Fund provides training opportunities and volunteers. It also helps finance political advocacy so legislators can learn how the bills they pass will affect our community. These are just a few examples of what the Community Safety Net Fund does for King County, and we're proud to be a part of it. Whether you choose to designate your donation directly to Boyer Children's Clinic or support the Community Safety Net Fund, we deeply appreciate your continued support.

KOMO Radio Visits Boyer

Boyer had a special visitor in January—Brian Calvert and a crew from the KOMO 1000 NEWS radio station. They spent most of the morning observing Boyer's classrooms, learning about the work we do here. During their visit they were able to watch the children singing songs, learning colors, and playing together. Interviews with teachers and other program staff gave them a broader idea of the work done by Boyer, including physical, occupational, and speech therapy in addition to the

classrooms, medical clinic, and family services.

KOMO 1000 NEWS listeners were treated to a trip through Boyer the next day, hearing the sounds of the classroom. Their insight into Boyer Children's Clinic was captured nicely in a quote by educator Mary-Ellen Buchanan: "No child is a puzzle that can't be solved," she said. "With myself, the parents, and the rest of the team, there's always a way to reach the child."



To learn more about the KOMO 1000 NEWS story highlighting Boyer Children's Clinic, visit our new website at www.boyercc.org and scroll down to "In the News."

Boyer's Winter Festival

What do you get when you take thirty-plus Boyer staff members, rearrange everything in the Detlef and Mari Schrempf Foundation Gym, add over fifty Boyer families and their children, sprinkle well with delicious holiday treats, and top it all off with one former Mariners player dressed as Santa Claus? Why, it's the Boyer Children's Clinic Winter Festival, of course.

During the last week of classes before the holiday break in December, Boyer cancelled classes for one day to allow everyone to gather and have fun before the break began. With food provided by families and the Helping Hands for Boyer Guild, and the gym

adorned with festive decorations, families and staff enjoyed the time to relax.

One highlight of this year's party was former Mariner Dave Henderson dressed up in full Santa Claus costume. Many families had holiday pictures taken with the jolly baseball player. The party was a nice break for staff and families alike, and we look forward to continuing this fine tradition in future years.

Former Mariner and current broadcaster Dave Henderson listens to the holiday wishes of Jayden, Tracy, and Jada Yamada at Boyer's Winter Festival.



photo by Dan Lee

New Website Unveiled

How's this for a reason to visit Boyer on the Web? We have completely redesigned our website! Now any information you need is even easier to find. As always, you can check out our homepage to find recent news articles or radio spots featuring Boyer Children's Clinic, or browse through past newsletters.

A new feature we have added is a Resources page with helpful links and information for families who have children with developmental delays. And for your convenience, you can make a secure donation in support of our programs without using a check or a stamp. Let your



friends and family know that they can also register to receive this newsletter without making a donation. Visit us at www.boyercc.org to see the new face of Boyer. We always love to hear from you, so feel free to leave us an email.

Looking to the Future

Small steps today have a lasting impact on the shape of tomorrow . . .

Boyer's new Endowment Fund continues to grow, ensuring that Boyer Children's Clinic will have a stable financial resource for years to come. Your gift to this fund represents a strong commitment to Boyer's future since even small gifts continue to grow over time. Please email us at info@boyercc.org, or call (206) 325-8477, and we will send you a brochure with more information on how you can help ensure Boyer's future.

Contributions from September 1, 2003 - February 29, 2004

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Serving Children and Families for over 60 Years

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