



HEALTHY



Fall 2008

An occasional newsletter from Crossroads: Success stories and more...



A+ Program is One-of-a-Kind in Lake County

Before Crossroads began its **A+** Autism Spectrum Disorders Education and Treatment Program, many junior high-aged children with autism endured the long bus ride to Cleveland in order to receive an appropriate education. The noisy bus ride alone could be a challenge for a child with the sensory issues often related to autism. Now, autistic children have the option of going to Crossroads each morning for a comprehensive education and treatment experience that has proved invaluable to families in Lake County.

“It’s amazing. He is like a different child,” says one mother whose son was among the first to participate in the new **A+** Program. “His personality has not changed, but he is learning to cope. He is happy and that makes life much easier at home.”

The family has witnessed the learned skills that help their son avoid major meltdowns. “When he is under stress, he now goes to his room. He no longer needs to be the center of attention,” says his mother, relieved that her son has also been able to reduce his reliance on anti-anxiety medication.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that

one in 150 children have an Autism Spectrum Disorder and evidence shows that a significant number of these children have at least one co-occurring mental health diagnosis. Although most autistic children are able to learn in a public school setting, some cannot succeed there. Through collaboration between Crossroads and the Lake County Educational Service Center, with additional funding from the Lake County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board, the desire for an alternative educational setting in the **A+** Program has been realized.

A+ can serve up to six students at a time and combines therapeutic approaches, calming techniques, specific academic work and anger management. Crossroads **A+** Program Director Bill White expects that **A+** will soon be at full capacity and is looking to expand to additional classrooms.

White invites parents with autistic children to come and observe the classrooms without having to make a commitment. For Lake County families with autistic children that is a much anticipated, welcome invitation!

*For more information on Crossroads **A+** Program for Autism Spectrum Disorders Education and Treatment, contact Bill White at (440) 255-1700 ext. 1232.*



Making a Brighter, Happier and Healthier World for Children

8445 Munson Road
Mentor, Ohio 44060
(440) 255-1700

Para información en Español llame:
(440) 205-2444

www.crossroads-lake.org



SAVE THE DATES! Special Events 2009

March 28 Crossroads Carousel Cabaret featuring *Janis Ian*

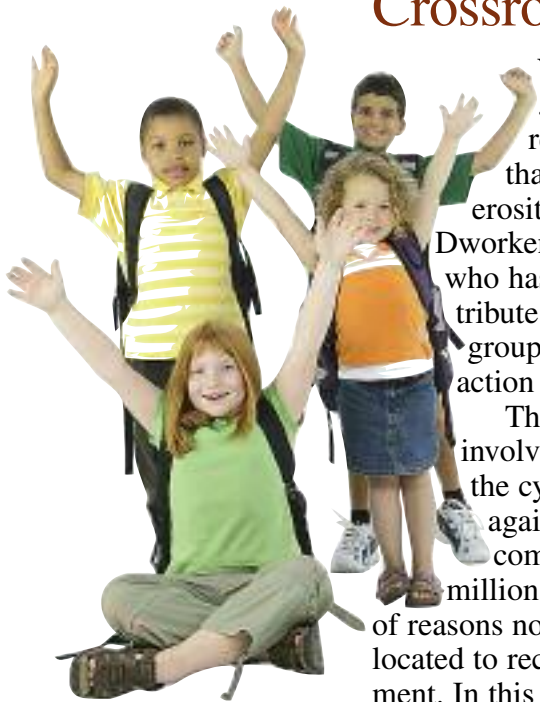
August 10 5th Annual Crossroads Charity Golf Outing at *Quail Hollow Country Club*

For more information, call (440) 255-1700

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Crossroads Receives Share of \$14 Million



You could call it Christmas in July. That's when Crossroads received a \$453,368 award thanks to the diligence and generosity of attorney Patrick Perotti of Dworken & Bernstein Co., L.P.A., who has made it his mission to distribute cy-près* awards to non-profit groups from funds left over in class action lawsuit settlements.

The original case, which did not involve Crossroads or any other of the cy-près recipients, was settled against Grange Mutual Insurance company. Grange agreed to a \$52 million settlement, but for a number of reasons not all class members could be located to receive their share of the settlement. In this case, \$14 million dollars remained for distribution. Perotti spearheaded efforts to put together the largest cy-près award ever – one that benefited 34 local and statewide charities, including Crossroads.

"In my three decades of working in the non-profit social services realm, I have really never experienced anything quite like this. It is not just the magnitude of the gift, it is the magnitude of the thought behind it and the effort that went into it," stated

Wayne W. Lindstrom, Ph.D., Crossroads Chief Executive Officer.

The award will be used by Crossroads in part to help establish a model Child Development Center for residents of Lake County. The center will serve youngsters from birth to age five and as a center of excellence in providing state-of-the art childcare and in helping train area preschool providers in the latest evidence-based programs and techniques in day care and early childhood development.

Perotti is continuing his efforts to obtain cy-près awards so that unclaimed moneys can help the whole community through charitable gifts. A generous spirit and efforts to portray lawyers in a positive light drive his work.

"We were incredibly proud to give Crossroads nearly a half million dollars to sponsor its critical work in the community, and nearly \$14 million dollars total to over 30 other organizations," says Perotti.

*The cy-près doctrine (pronounced, "sigh-PRAY") is a legal doctrine that first arose in common law courts of equity. The term can be translated (from old Norman French to English) as "as near as possible" or "as near as may be." [1] The doctrine originated in the law of charitable trusts, but has been applied in the context of class action settlements in the United States. [2]

The award will be used by Crossroads in part to help establish a model Child Development Center

CROSSROADS CHARITY GOLF OUTING RETURNS TO QUAIL HOLLOW AUGUST 10

For the fifth year, the Crossroads Charity Golf Outing will return to Quail Hollow Country Club on Monday, August 10. The Crossroads Charity Golf Outing is a four-person scramble starting at 1 p.m. Proceeds will benefit severely emotionally disturbed children in Lake County.

The day includes 18 holes of golf on one of the finest courses in Ohio, lunch, dinner and a silent auction. Each player will also receive a coupon for a free round of golf at Quail Hollow Country Club. Registration and practice begin at noon. Space is limited. The 2008 event was a complete sellout. *To find out more about ticket or sponsorship information for Crossroads Charity Golf Outing at Quail Hollow Country Club, contact Ed Mayer:*

(440) 255-1700 or golf@crossroads-lake.org



Photo: (l to r) Frank and Diana Felice, Tricia Cody and Fred Stout

Blair Family Honored As Foster Parents at Carousel Cabaret Held Earlier this Year.

“Without the support of Crossroads, we couldn’t have done it,” remarks Julie Blair, who with her husband Greg provided foster and respite care for nearly 40 children over the past 14 years. The Blairs, along with their son Brandon, were honored at the Crossroads Carousel Cabaret held earlier this year.

Julie and Greg had heard about the Crossroads Foster Care Program from another foster parent and welcomed the opportunity to make life a little better for a child. “We liked the idea that Crossroads was working with the parents at the same time that the children were in our custody,” says Julie.

Crossroads Foster Care Program works to reunify children with their parents and does not go after permanent custody. Children in foster care benefit from counseling services while parents also commit to home visits and therapy sessions. Most children are in foster placement for up to one year.

The Blair’s declare that it was the children who enriched their lives and credit Foster Care Supervisor Sheldon Hess and counselors for the quality of the program. Julie adds, “We can’t thank them enough. We have learned so much from them that

will help us as we begin a new part of our life.” The Blair’s are ‘retiring’ from foster care, but not from helping children. They have adopted two girls, ages 8 and 10.

“While everyone wishes Julie and Greg great success in their adoption, they will be sorely missed from our program. Their presence and many contributions will be felt for a long time to come,” states Hess.



(l-r) Crossroads Chief Executive Officer Wayne Lindstrom honors Julie and Greg Blair.

If you would like more information on becoming a Crossroads Foster Parent, please contact Sheldon Hess at (440) 255-1700.



“We liked the idea that Crossroads was working with the parents at the same time that the children were in our custody,” says Julie Blair.



LIVE HEALTHY



Fall 2008



Janis Ian to headline 2009 Carousel Cabaret!



2009 Crossroads CAROUSEL Cabaret

Singer/songwriter Janis Ian
will present a cabaret-style benefit
performance on Saturday, March 28, 2009

for Crossroads.

Crossroads Carousel Cabaret Featuring Janis Ian will be held at the Quail Hollow Resort in Concord. Ian will perform original works including her Grammy-winning hits "Society's Child," "Jesse" and "At Seventeen." She will also be available at a post-event reception to autograph her recent autobiography, "Society's Child: My Autobiography" and her latest CD, "The Best of Janis Ian: The Autobiography Songs."

The evening will begin at 5:30 with a cocktail reception and silent auction, followed by dinner in the Grand Ballroom. The concert will feature intimate staging with Ian performing on guitar. Tickets will be available for sale after Jan. 1. VIP tickets will also include a post-concert reception where guests will have an opportunity to meet the star up close and personal.

To purchase tickets for **Crossroads Carousel Cabaret Featuring Janis Ian** or for more information, call (440) 255-1700. Additional information is also available at www.crossroads-lake.org.

SAVE THE DAY...

Be part of the Excitement!

Crossroads 2009 Calendar of Special Events!

Please join us for an evening with Singer/Songwriter Janis Ian and a day of fun on a championship golf course.

Make a difference in the lives of emotionally disturbed children and adolescents in Lake County.

For more information: visit www.crossroads-lake.org
or contact us at 440-255-1700

NEED HELP?

Call Crossroads at (440) 255-1700.

Hours: 9 am - 9 pm Mon - Thurs;

9 am - 5 pm Fri; Sat - appointment only.

Emergency mental health services are
available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

by calling the Lake County Crisis Hotline:

(440) 953-8255



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Early Head Start

