

REACH OUT

Live Learn Earn



November 2011 Volume 25 Issue 3

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THANK YOU FOR COMING TOGETHER FOR REACH

You could feel the excitement in the air as over 600 people filled the ballroom at the Berry Center on October 6, 2011 for the Reach for the Stars Fundraising Luncheon. People from every segment of our community came together in support of the mission of Reach Unlimited. They gave over \$452,400. Thanks to underwriter Prime Mechanical and Construction, Inc., 100% of all funds donated will go towards unrestricted operating funds.

As the guests entered the ballroom, they were greeted by friendly Reach clients. The Rev. Justin Lindstrom, Priest of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church and President of the Reach Board of Directors, emceed the one-hour event. Texas State Representative, Allen Fletcher, led the Pledge of Allegiance with clients Marguerite and Mike. The Reach Client Choir under the direction of Linda Turman sang a heartfelt rendition of "You've Got A Friend in Me."

The theme of the luncheon was "Come

Together." It was reflected in the words of each speaker. "I realized the ministry and services Reach provides would be what parishioners of my church would need.", Rev. Lindstrom said. Kathi Schmidt, Executive Director of Reach, told of how the community came together and spoke out to protect Medicaid funding for our clients. Jim Eubank, father of Reach client Shawn, recounted how the staff of Reach has come together to help his son who suffered degenerative brain-damage when he fell from a horse. Leslie Martone, of the Cy-Fair Federal Credit Union and a Reach Board member, emphasized the importance of community support to ensure that Reach will be here for her son Nathan who has autism.



Above: The Reach Client Choir entertain the guests. Center, left: Leslie Martone asks everyone to support the mission of Reach. Center, right: Client father Jim Eubank thanked the dedicated Reach staff who work with his son Shawn everyday. Bottom left: Loretta greets Past President of the Reach Board of Directors and client mom, Gale Parker. Bottom right: Rev. Lindstrom, Representative Fletcher and clients lead the Pledge.

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Calendar of Events

- Holiday Extravaganza, Learning Activity Center
Two shows: 10 am and 2 pm.....December 16, 2011
- Chevron Houston Marathon.....January 15, 2012
- Reach Gala, Cypress United Methodist Church
6pm—8pm.....January 26, 2012
- Springfest 2012, Learning Activity Center
9:30 am—12pm.....March 24, 2012
- Reach Unlimited Classic Golf Tournament
1:00 pm, Houston Oaks Country Club... April 16, 2012
- Reach for the Stars Fundraising Luncheon
12 noon, The Berry Center..... October 4, 2012

Reach Out Tours

Wednesdays 12:00 noon

December 7 January 11, 25 February 8, 22
March 14, 28 April 11, 25 May 9, 23

Private group tours available upon request.

To schedule a tour or to make a reservation, please call Barbara Cooley at 281.213.8323 ext. 307.

Board of Directors 2011-2012

Rev. Justin Lindstrom <i>President</i>	Randall Thompson <i>Past President</i>
George Parker <i>Vice President</i>	Lisa Wilson <i>Secretary</i>
Doug Polk <i>Treasurer</i>	Kathi Schmidt <i>Executive Director</i>
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Leslie Martone	
Suzanne Naseman	*At Large Member



Kathi's Corner

"Time flies when you're having fun" as the saying goes; I must be having a lot of fun because I don't know where the past 28 years have gone so quickly! What I do know is my passion for our mission and love for the wonderful folks we serve has only grown over the years. As long as the fun, passion and love remain, I am committed to our awesome clients.

Some of those years have been about growth, some about just being able to maintain, some definitely about changing and improving services, others about expanding our vision. This past year has been a little of each of these.

Growth: In the past fiscal year, our Home & Community Based Services (HCS) program has grown by 11%; we are now serving 100 HCS clients. Hence, we grew to 16 group homes. The Learning Activity Center (LAC) has grown in the numbers served...there are 287 enrolled at the LAC, a 15% increase this year. We are able to do this with the expansion of the afternoon program.

Maintaining: Again, a huge thank you to all who called, wrote, and visited their legislators during this past session. Your efforts helped to ensure the Medicaid budget cuts were held at a minimum and therefore, Reach Unlimited did not have to make any cuts in programs or personnel. Maintaining the staff to client ratios at the LAC is crucial to the quality and safety of services.

Changes and Improvements: Last November, Jackie Boyd, a Reach QMRP for 23 years, was promoted to Director of ICF-MR services. In June, April Allen joined Reach as the new Director of HCS services. Each has done an outstanding job in leading her team. And in August, Kris Lusebrink was promoted to Director of Operations. As Reach has grown, it has necessitated the need for improved oversight of facilities and systems. Come see all the improvements in the group homes!

Vision: The vision to grow our services by expanding the Learning Activity Center is underway. With the existing building now paid for, many thanks to a generous donation, we have retained the services of a professional fund raising team to complete a feasibility study regarding initiating a capital campaign to raise funds for Phase II. The need for this grows daily with 180 individuals on the current wait list. We will have our report from Latimer & Associates in January.

As we wrap up 2011, Reach and I are truly blessed and most grateful to each and every one of you for your support: prayers, volunteers, donations, legislative action, advocacy, and ambassadors. YOU have made all of our accomplishments this year possible! Thank you to our Board of Directors for your leadership and to the wonderful staff who carry out the Reach mission.

Have a safe and blessed holiday season. Let the fun begin for 2012!

Staff Appreciation

Recently, a client family and friend provided a lovely luncheon for the staff of the Learning Activity Center, complete with individual gifts. *“It is with sincere thanks and appreciation to Reach teachers and staff for your dedication to our loved ones; we are blessed to have each one of you!”* said Terry Johnson, mother of client Andy.



From left: Hope Houlton, Terry Johnson and Lucille “Mamaw” Johns served staff a delicious lasagna lunch and lots of smiles.

Calling All Golfers

The Bear Creek Copperfield Rotary Club invites you to participate in the Second Annual Reach Unlimited Classic Golf Tournament. Join client Marguerite, (right), and play to win over \$10,000 in prizes. It’s a scramble with contests, door prizes, silent/live auction, lunch and dinner. April 16, 2012 at the Houston Oaks Country Club. For more information, contact Aaron Jablonsky at Aaron_Jablonski@us.aflac.com.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND INSPIRATION



Community leaders came together in support of our mission at the Reach for the Stars Fundraising Luncheon. From left to right, front row: Mary Evans, President, Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce; Leonard Cash, District Director for US Congressman Michael McCaul; Kathi Schmidt, Executive Director, Reach Unlimited; Mark Fury, Office of Commissioner Steve Radack; Leslie Martone, Cy-Fair Federal Credit Union and Reach Board member. Back row: Jim Eubank, client father; Albert Cheng, Regional Director for US Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison; Ron Hickman, Constable Harris County Precinct 4; Allen Fletcher, State Rep. District 130; Dan Patrick, State Senator, District 7; Dr. Mark Henry, Cy-Fair ISD Superintendent; and, the Rev. Justin Lindstrom, pastor of St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church and President of the Reach Board of Directors.



Come Together

The following individuals and companies took a leadership role at the Reach for the Stars Fundraising Luncheon by pledging their support of the mission of Reach in advance of the luncheon to inspire others to give.

- Mike and Terri Zacharias and Scott Magee of Cougar Sales
- Larry, Linda and Joey Andrews
- Susan Caraway
- Carlton and Ying Chen
- Karen Gilligan
- Jan Johnson
- Janelle Jordan
- Carolyn Keating
- Liberty Mutual Insurance
- Mike and Leslie Martone
- PipeLine Machinery
- Prime Mechanical

Thank You to Our Generous

Don and Winnie Adams
 Ann Aguilar
 Cynthia Aguilar
 Matt Ahmed
 Kathye Allen
 Paula Allen
 Jamie Andrepost
 Marjorie Andreo
 Rex and Sandra Andrews
 David Anthony
 Regan Armstrong
 James Armstrong
 Martha Ashton
 Gerald and Gloria June Avant
 Derrilyn Babin
 Wally Babington
 Kent Baggett
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 JL Butler Resources
 Susan Caldwell
 Angela Callier
 William Campbell
 Mary Canada
 Susan Caraway
 Lucas Auto Care
 Arthur Carlos
 Becky Carson
 Charles and Judith Ann Cayley
 Rose Marie Cesmirosky

Scott Chaffey
 Champion Forest Baptist Church
 Susan Charba
 Law Offices of Brett S. Charles PLLC
 Dr. and Mrs. Edward Charlesworth
 Carlton and Ying Chen
 Albert Cheng
 Chevron Corporation
 Christ Covenant Church
 Steve and Sherri Clegg
 Gregg and Virginia Cleveland
 Copperfield Women's Club
 Beth Coleman
 ConocoPhillips
 Sally Cook
 Bev Cooper
 David and Connie Cope
 Mark and Lisa Copeland
 Mark Cottrell
 Bob and Kathleen Covey
 Lisa Covington
 Janet Craft
 Karen Crain
 Anna Crow
 Sally Crowder
 Jose Cruz
 Lamar Curtis
 Tracy Dang
 Paul Darmitzel
 Candice Daubin
 Carol Davis
 Jill Davis
 Suzanne Davis
 Tim Davis
 Lea Demontrond
 Terri Demontrond
 Tom DeScioli
 Monica Deskins
 Charles and Kris Dewees
 Malcolm and Vivian Doak
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 Wanda Duff
 Sharon Dunnam
 Susan Durchholz
 Steve Durio
 David Easterling
 Eileen Edmonds
 James and Wilma Egloff
 Sheila Elwell
 Brenda Erickson
 Curtis and Angila Ervin
 Bob and Betty Ervin
 Jerome and Agnes Essinger
 Jim and Janet Eubank
 Link Evans
 ExxonMobil Foundation
 Juliet Howard Fallah
 Robin Fallowfield
 Marilyn Farrell
 J. C. and Martha Fassino
 Sally Feist
 Dick and Kaylon Fenner

Ruth Fink
 Sheri Flores
 Julie Fontenot
 Tracy Foreman
 Harry S. and Isabel C. Cameron
 Foundation
 Laurie Freeman
 Lori Gaddie
 Gail Gallien
 Chuck Galliger
 Kathy Gamble
 Beverly Gibson
 Kevin Gibson
 John and Colleen Gilbert
 John, Sr. and Nancy Gilbert
 Phoebe Gilchrist
 Bill and Sandy Gilcoat
 John and Kathleen Gilligan
 Karen Gilligan
 Kevin and Cheryl Gilligan
 John Ginder
 Sara Goeke
 Hans and Maria Goetti
 Louise Goforth
 Larry and Sharon Goldsberry
 Steve and Margaret Golightly
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 Charles and Katherine Grace
 Gary Gray
 Lynn and Susan Gray
 Andrea Green
 Barbara Guidry
 Gulf Coast Combined Federal Campaign
 Denya Guntur
 Stewart and Kelli Guss
 Darlene Hajduk
 Linda Hale
 Kate Hall
 Halliburton
 Laura Elwell-Ham
 Kelly Hamann
 James and Karen Hamilton
 Kelly Hammons
 James and Barbara Hardin
 Jimmy Hardin
 Jamie Harper
 Shirley Klein Harrington
 Paula Harvey
 Anna Haydock
 William and Karen Hayes
 Antoinette Hebert
 Patricia Heckler
 Ingeborg Heller
 Debra Hernandez
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 Scott LeDoux
 Autumn Lee
 Linda Lee
 Adrienne Leigh
 John Lemos
 Dorothy Lewellen
 Regina Lewis
 Risher Lewis
 David and Christy Lieder
 Lawrence and Mildred Lieder

Donors June—October 2011

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 Angela Lindsey-Franklin
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 Becky Locke
 Elizabeth Long
 Stacy Look
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 Rebekah Lorenz
 Bill and Judy Low
 Dolores Lowe
 VKC Management LP
 Lucas Auto Care
 Gayla Lutz
 PipeLine Machinery
 Scott Magee
 Eric Makowski
 Jalayn Maldonado
 Jill Manty
 Marie Marchand
 Marine Aquarium Systems
 Douglas B. Marshall, Jr. Family Foundation
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 Beverly Martin
 Diane Marusik
 Viola Mata
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 Kathy Matt
 Anita Matthews
 Martha Mauldin
 Nancy Mauller
 Genita Maxie
 Marie Maxwell
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 Tamara Mayne
 Eric McCampbell
 Donna McCarty
 Schacht and Kaye McCollum
 Elena McCreery
 Kim McCully
 John McDonald
 Nancy McElhinney
 Marilyn McGuire
 Stephanie McGuire
 Doug and Michelle McKissick
 Kay McMullin
 Teri Medina
 Allyn and Lillie Mae Meischen
 Gayle Merkl
 Grace Mielke
 Dr. Phillip and Lise Miller
 Cael Miller
 Darren and Julie Miller
 Dianne Millican
 Darcy Mingoia
 Penny Mitchell
 Peggy Moore
 Pat Morgan
 Kathy Morley
 Dana Mowe
 Orlando Munoz
 Orville and Jerry Musch
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 Judy Nanz
 Michael Navolio
 NCL - Cypress Belles

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 Ronnie and Courtney Nespeca
 CY-FEN Express Network
 Richard New
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 Naegeli Transportation
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 Jesse Noland
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 Gary O'Neal
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 Carlos Ortiz
 Martha Owens
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 Susan Parker
 Matthew Parkin
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 Valeria Pavalock
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 Anna Perry
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 Becky Pitre
 Hobert Plunkett
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 Point/Counterpoint Etc.
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 Medallion Poteet
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 Joyce Pugh
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 Patty Rabel
 Krishnan Rahuram
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 Suzanne Schorr
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 Alley Schupp
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 Steve and Paula Scianna
 Pam Scott
 Charles and Andrea Seay
 Debbie Seidel
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 Patty Sheffield
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 Virginia Smith
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 Shelley Spears
 Dawn Stafford
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 Alan Stumbaugh
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Donate Online!
www.reachunlimited.org

Join the Friends of Reach Society

Fund the future of Reach. Pledge \$1,000 or more a year for 5 years to help pay for much needed operating expenses. Please join today. Thank you.

Larry, Linda and Joey Andrews*	Cy-Fair Rotary	Robert and Sue Hulme	Chilli May and Lori Noack-May	Glen and Linda Snider
Rex and Sandra Andrews	Charles and Kris Dewees	Aaron and Abby Jablonski	Ted and Liz Orihel	Susan Snyder
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Mark and Lisa Copeland	Jimmy Hardin	Tommy and Marcia Mazingo	Stephanie Scianna	David and Lisa Wilson
Leo and Danielle Corley	Harold and Linda Harris	Darren and Julie Miller	Steve and Paula Scianna	Wilson and Lorene Windle
Cotton Foundation	William and Karen Hayes	Bob and Darcy Mingoia	Steve Scianna, Jr.	Connie Wolfe
Charlie and Meg Crady	Jesse and Marilyn Hildenbrand	Penny Mitchell	Debbie Seidel	Mel and Beth Wood
Karen Crain	Norm and Joann Hoyer	Stan and Sam Mramor	David and Carmen Shell	Mike and Terri Zacharias and Scott Magee*
Christine Cundiff	Bert and Theda Hoyt	Orville and Jerry Musch	Sim-Tex	
Cy-Fair Federal Credit Union	Smoot and Paige Hull	Bill and Suzanne Naseman	Judy Smith	

**Lead Gifts for the Reach for the Stars Fundraising Luncheon*

Selling Glass and Telling Our Story

Recently, Enterprise had a “Glass Day” in the conference room at the LAC. Our clients crafted 105 crosses in school colors for Jesuit Cristo Rey High School. In this same week, we received an order for 50 ornaments for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School and an order for 50 wine stoppers from one of our board members for a fundraiser. Just days before, we’d completed a very large order for client gifts for Burnett Staffing. More than 185 clients worked to make glass and napkins this October, setting a record for the biggest payroll ever! And the orders just keep coming in! We’re taking our glass on the road in a big way this season, participating in 9 different craft shows and markets.

We have two goals: to sell the glass our clients make, and to let people know about Reach. It’s working! Shoppers are first attracted to our wonderful fused glass, then touched by our story. We’ve invited count-

less people to come on a Reach Out Tour and see us in action. Shoppers and other vendors have volunteered their time and talents, and some have made donations on the spot. We’re so proud of our clients’ hard work, and absolutely delighted that they’re being recognized for it. Come soon to see what we’re doing—on a tour, at the Reach Unlimited Gift Shop, or at a craft show! You’ll be impressed!



Community Church Youth Groups Volunteer—Thank You



Top left to right: Cypress United Methodist Church, Kinsmen Lutheran Church.

Middle left to right: Celebration Church, Windwood Presbyterian Church.

Bottom left to right: John Knox Presbyterian Church, Gateway Baptist Church.



This is the last printed Reach Out Newsletter We are going paperless in 2012

The reduction in Medicaid funding this year means that we have to continue to reduce costs. That's why the *Reach Out* Newsletter is going to be an all electronic newsletter. To stay abreast of everything that is happening at Reach, send your email address to Barbara Schneider at bschneider@reachunlimited.org. As always, your contact information will be kept confidential and will only be used to communicate directly with you.

Reach Unlimited, Inc.
12777 Jones Rd., Ste. 103
Houston, TX 77070
281-469-8058

We are going paperless in 2012 to save money. See inside....



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UPCOMING REACH EVENTS

Holiday Extravaganza at the Learning Activity Center December 16th

Celebrate the holidays with the Reach Clients and Staff on December 16. Join us for joyful and heartfelt performances of poetry, skits and holiday songs. Enjoy the program and light refreshments.

**There will be two performances:
10 am and 2 pm.**

Support Our Runners

Support our marathon runners as they run for Reach on January 15, 2012. **Go to our website and click on this logo:**



This is a great opportunity for company sponsorship. It brings you city-wide exposure and much needed donations to Reach.

Reach Gift Shop Hours

If you are looking for special gifts made by special people for the fall or holidays, come to the Reach Gift Shop. The Gift Shop is open:

- ◊ Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 am—3 pm
- ◊ November 29 and 30 from 4—7pm
- ◊ December 7 and 8 from 4—7pm

For a personal shopping experience, please contact Colleen Gilbert at cgilbert@reachunlimited.org or 281-213-8323 ext. 309.

Celebrate the 7th Anniversary of the Learning Activity Center Reach Gala

January 26, 2012
6 pm—8pm

Cypress United Methodist Church
13403 Cypress N. Houston @ Huffmeister
Cypress, TX 77429

For more information, contact
Barbara Cooley at bcooley@reachunlimited.org

www.reachunlimited.org