



The Nursery Foundation Learning Center News

Volume I, Summer/Fall 2008

The Power of \$1.00!

You probably have one in your pocket right now. It is one of the humblest among our medium of exchange. It is the \$1 bill.

Sometimes we don't think to give in small amounts, because we don't think it will be enough to make a difference. Giving a donation of \$1 to a cause or organization seems almost a joke. Consider, however, an often-cited statistic in the discourse of international development aid: "Half of the world's population live on less than \$1 a day." This fact turns that kind of thinking on its head. \$1 can mean life, education, food, water and health to millions of people around the world. And \$1 mobilized from each person in a community or network has the power to effect a great deal of change (*the pun, of course, is intended*).

This, the first newsletter of The Nursery Foundation is being sent to you and countless others to describe the good work, and commitment of dedicated staff and board members in providing quality child care and early educational services to families in our community.

However, in order for our services to continue, we count on the help and support of individuals such as you.



We are asking that you contribute \$1 to our **Power of One Campaign**. This campaign will be an ongoing one, in which with your help will increase our funding to continue providing low income families with the quality child care and early educational services they have become accustomed to throughout the 61 years of The Nursery Foundation.

Remember "every dollar helps!"

For The Love of Children

Director's Letter



Dear Friends,

Thus far 2008 has been both a great, and challenging year for The Nursery Foundation.

There are lots of exciting things happening around our center! One of which, is our much needed playground renovation project. The project is currently under way, and the children will soon be enjoying outside recreation on a state of the art, beautiful playground.

As many of you may know, our current playground is well over 30 years old, and was in need of an overhaul. Thanks to funding from The Annual St. Louis Bookfair, Macy's Department Stores and Cardinals Care, the long awaited new playground will become a reality.

One of the challenges we faced in late spring was the vandalism and destruction of three of our HVAC units. It was a trying time attempting to keep our doors open for our families, but am glad to say the challenge was short lived due to an outpouring of concern and donations from generous and concerned individuals throughout the community.

Also, we are continuing to work with our friends at Our Little Haven to offer parenting skills classes, which include parents and their children.

I hope everyone is having a great year! And as always, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me or stop by our offices.

Sincerely,

A black and white image of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Terri Olack". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Terri Olack,
Executive Director

For The Love of Children

Spring Concert/Dinner Dance

We would like to thank all of you who supported, or attended our spring fundraiser featuring, "Perfect Images' Motown Revue", in which over \$1,100.00 was raised. With the sound, music and feel of Hitsville U.S.A., Perfect Images gave a two hour extravaganza on May 10th, at The Omega Center. The concert was spectacular!



Rose Mary Talley, Curtis and Richard of Perfect Images Motown Revue



Board treasurer Dr. Stanley Buck and his wife Victoria



*l-r: Kym Stewart, Board President
Linda Clark, Indira Murray, Althea Landrum and Audrey Grimes*



l-r: Carol C., Valerie Williams, Geraldine Bell and Irene Belton



Parker and Debra Loveless



l-r: Linda Fields, Joseph and Ernestine Buck



Brenda Moore and Indira Murray



Indira Murray, Executive Director Terri Olack, Melissa Feldhaus and Deborah Blount



Suesan Dailey and Indira Murray

Photos provided by
Blacktie St. Louis

For The Love of Children

DOCTORS ARE NOT SO SCARY AFTERALL!



In April, 2008 the children at The Nursery Foundation learned about doctor exams. They were informed why those scary shots are important and exactly what the doctor is doing when they shine lights in their nose, ears and throats.

Melissa L. Hollie, M.D. (*a former student at The Nursery Foundation*), took time out of her busy schedule to de-mystify the doctor visit. She not only explained to the children the purpose of a physical exam, and why they and shots are important, but allowed them to handle some of the exam instruments such as the stethoscope.

The children truly enjoyed her visit, and learned a lot. The Nursery Foundation thanks Dr. Hollie for her visit, and looks forward to her next.

Dr. Hollie wasn't the only medical professional to visit with the children. We also had the pleasure to receive a visit from Ms. Carolyn Gau, MA, CCLS who is a Certified

Child Life Specialist at Cardinal Glennon. She, and intern ChaRae Kingsley spoke with the children about healthy habits such as handwashing and good hygiene in order to prevent colds and flus. They also talked to the children about annual physical exams and vaccinations.

The children and teachers where able to dress up in exam gowns and listen to each others' heart-beats, along with learning how to prevent communicable diseases. Thank you Ms. Gau and Ms. Kingsley. The children really enjoyed the time you spent with them.



For The Love of Children

FIELD TRIPS!

Going on field trips is vital to children's overall educational and social development. Field trips are not just fun outings for children, but are an essential and important tool of introducing young children to experiences outside of their normal everyday routines.

The Nursery Foundation endeavors to expand our students minds with outings to the St. Louis Zoo, Magic House and Science Center.

We would like to increase our outside class learning experiences with additional trips to local museums, monuments and historical sites within our community. However, this can be quite an expense, and your donation to The Nursery Foundation will provide additional funds needed to allow our children to have more out of class activities.

Thank you in advance for your donation, and staying committed to help children grow, develop and learn in a caring and positive environment.



*Pic from
The Magic House field trip,
Summer 2008*



*Pics from Zoo field trip,
Summer 2008*



*Pic from Science Center field trip,
Summer 2008*

For The Love of Children

UNITED WAY MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT!

As a committed member of this community, The Nursery Foundation of St. Louis continuously strives to improve our services for you.

One way we do this is to work closely with United Way of Greater St. Louis. As many readers know, The Nursery Foundation is one of nearly 200 United Way-funded local agencies.

Aside from receiving that yearly funding from United Way, being a United Way-funded agency means so much more. We're required to uphold what are known as quality standards, we are offered management trainings, we are kept abreast of great offers from United Way and its partners, we are part of an infrastructure that works together, and so much more.

Quality Standards were developed to help any not-for-profit know if they are on track to being a good, solid, well-performing agency. The standards are broken down into the four performance areas of finance, administration, programs and governance.

As a United Way-funded agency we are reviewed annually and the quality standards play an important role in that process. During the assessment, a team of volunteers visits our agency and learns how we're upholding the standards. It's an important evaluation and one that helps us grow and be a better agency for everyone we serve.

"These standards have helped our agency tremendously," said Terri Olack, Executive Director. "We take our commitment to this community and to being a United Way-funded agency seriously. We endeavor to bring our clients the best services we can, and with United Way's support and network, the future of The Nursery Foundation is brighter than ever before."

For more information about the United Way, its mission, vision and more visit www.stl.unitedway.org.

For The Love of Children

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR DONORS AND FUNDERS

Suzanne Allen/First Bank	Lucy Harrison	William K. Purcell
Elizabeth Ashwell	Frances Horvath, M.D.	St. Louis Christmas Carols
James and Susan Ashwell	Robert & Megan Huether	St. Louis Community Credit Union
Patricia Ball	Ann Husch	Carol A. Schepers
Deborah Blount	Kelly Johnson	Edith Schiele
Laura S. Blumfeld	Daniel J. Katz	Herbert Schiele
Boeing	Katz Cooling	James E. Schiele
Stanley Buck, M.D.	Brenda Kincaide	Joan S. Schiele
Denise Casey	Lawrence and Honey Langsam	Thomas Schmitt
Cardinals Care	Patricia Lintzenich	Shop N' Save
Linda Clark	Macy's Department Stores	Daniel E. Singer
JoAnne Crider	Suzanne McGahan	Lynn Stauffer
Suesan Dailey	Lisa Merenda	United Way of Greater St. Louis
Betty J. Delong, TTEE	Indira Murray	Wal-Mart Store Number 51850
B. S. Demerath	Nike, IHM	Tom Walukonis
Michael and Kate Duffield	Terri Olack	Helen Weiss
Jos Echrich Roofing Company, Inc.	Jeffrey J. Pattison	Bette J. Welch
Stacey M. Edwards	Rosie O'Donnell (<i>Rosie For All Kids</i>)	Corey Williams
Melissa Feldhaus	Peter Roose	YWCA Head Start
Linda Buck Fields	Old Newsboys	
Greater St. Louis Book Fair		

WISH LIST

The Nursery Foundation is in need of many items. The following list includes items that we are in immediate need of. To learn about other needed items and how you may donate to our center, please contact our offices at 314-533+-0671.

Classroom Furnishing

(Chairs, Tables, etc.)

Play Activities

*(Dolls, Dramatic Play
Costumes, Toys, etc.)*

Educational Play Supply

*(Puzzles, Books, Arts &
Crafts supplies, etc.)*

Office Furniture

*(Desks, Computer
Workstations, etc.)*

Playground Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Please be on the lookout in the mail for a special invite to the ribbon cutting/dedication of our newly renovated playground.

The new playground will be named in honor of one of The Nursery Foundation's biggest advocate, supporter and long-time friend, Mrs. Helen Wiess.

Board of Directors

Linda Clark, President
Denise Casey, Vice President
Stanley Buck, M.D., Treasurer
Suzanne McGahan, Secretary
Elizabeth Ashwell
Sheryl Butler
Bridget Halquist
Frances Horvath, M.D.
Daniel J. Katz
Kacy Seals
Bette Welch
Corey Williams
Donna Zuroweste

Terri Olack, *Executive Director*
Deborah Blount, *Program Director*

Written, designed and edited by:
Indira Murray, *Development Director*



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THE NURSERY FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Nursery Foundation's mission is to provide quality, developmentally appropriate childcare and education to preschool children.

The Nursery Foundation offers comprehensive, high quality early childhood programs and a nurturing environment led by trained and committed staff dedicated to helping each child reach his or her maximum developmental potential, regardless of what that developmental level may be.

The Nursery Foundation offers its services whenever possible regardless of the family's ability to pay.



314-533-0671 (Phone)

314-533-0646 (Fax)

www.nurseryfoundation.org