



Appropos

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

HOLIDAY KINDNESS

(Contributed by Kim Kurtz, Volunteer Services)

Many people generously gave their time and support to the youth and families of Batshaw Youth and Family Centres during the holiday season. Below, we salute some of the individuals, organizations, companies and volunteers who helped make a difference.

- ◆ CHOM/ Mix 96 and Mega Bloks: over 500 new toys, part of the Annual CHOM/ Mix 96 Toy Drive.
- ◆ The Montreal Gazette: assisted 96 families with Gazette Christmas Fund cheques.
- ◆ The Sun Youth Organization; contributed over 50 food baskets.
- ◆ Geraldine Marchand and Fléchère Ferland from VIA Rail again coordinated gift giving to over 50 young people in group homes.
- ◆ Fred Anderson and John Mathers: contributed beautiful stuffed toy bears for foster family children.
- ◆ St. Thomas Church: again donated toys for our programs.

If you helped out in some way and you were not mentioned, please accept our apologies, and heartfelt thanks for your assistance.

HOLIDAY KINDNESS: TAKE TWO

(Contributed by Cathy Carroll, Manager, Therapeutic Support Services/ Mixed Bank Program/ Permanency Planning and Holiday Basket Head Elf)

Many thanks for your generous contribution to our 2003 Holiday Basket Drive. We were able to deliver a record number 60 Holiday Baskets to needy Batshaw families.

Every contribution was significant in preparing the baskets. Special thanks to Bono Fruits and Vegetables, Levinoff Meats and the Batshaw Foundation for a generous donation. Thanks to many staff who played significant roles...Maria Zanti, Mary Mariani, Linda Keeney, the Batshaw Children's Party Committee, Ola Dupelycz and the second floor elves, the Batshaw Transport Department, Kim Kurtz, my team, OT/Access Department, all the staff who contributed, my great gift wrapper Lila, my strong helpers Kyle and Serge and my Santa's helpers all under the age of 9...Marie Claire, Andy, Jordan, Anthony, Janina, Anna and Sophia. Thanks to all the private donors who sponsored a family. Lastly, thanks to those whose names I don't have room to include. Best wishes to all for 2004.

HOLIDAY KINDNESS: TAKE THREE

(Contributed by Josée Mirabella, Coordinator, Application of Measures)

We thank the following companies and individuals who donated funds, toys, clothes, food or time for the AM holiday party and gift giving campaign: Abbott Laboratories, Amersham Biosciences Inc, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation, Canadian Pacific Railway, Centco, Depanneur RDP, Distribution-Ben Mar, Family Games, General Electric of Canada, Golden Garden International, Grand Toys, Guaranteed Industries, Guzzo Cinema, Imperial Courier, Kraft Canada, Lalema, Novartis, Medical Plastic Devices, NTD Apparel, Paragraph Books Library, Pfizer, Restaurers Entreprises, Scanada Slipform Systems, Serta Montreal, STS, Super Club Videotron, Glen Toby, Jean-Guy Vezina, Patricia Zenza and Timothy Zyto.

Party volunteers: Daniella Altieri, Carol Antenucci, Chantal Bastien, Sandra Belanger, Jean Belhumeur, Alain Blais, Nicole Bigras, Nathalie Bourgeois, Kerry Burke, Claire-Clifton Newton, Cathy Carroll, Gina Carvalho, Keith Carvery, Hoda Choueri, Ray Coney, Linda Corbeil, Lisa Courte, Trevor Crawford, Marcel Croteau, Thelma De Jesus, Laura Deliva, Lucy Dematos, Anna Di Stefano, Dave Doulton, Felicia D'Orve, Sharon Edwards, Mike Flemming, Elizabeth Fast, Sheryl Foley, Gloria

Francis, Janet Garmaise, Gillian Hall, Nora Hanna, Toni Harper, Yvonne Hutchinson, Sandhya Karnick, Linda Keeney, Marcella Kirkpatrick, Robert Kirkpatrick, Jerbanoo Irani, Dru Johnson, Leigh Johnston, Julie Lapierre, Xavier Lefrancois, Harvey Leiberman, Patricia Lipska, David Lubert, Mary Mariani, Heather McIntosh, Lorne McNeil, Jaclyn Mestel, Jennifer Michelin, Rebecca Miller, Josée Mirabella, Diana Montanaro, Dor Mounsey, Kevin Newton, Berri Nsame, Sue Oliver, Peter Parkin, Linda Pelletier, Jim Petelle, Stephanie Pesner, Clara Pham, Linh Suong Pham, Susan Pinsky, Ed Potter-Mâl, Ruth Potts, Sharona Ramakeav, Yinka Renner, Maria Rink, Diane St-Pierre, Harley Schwartz, Linda See, Wanda Siklosi, David Spinner, Cynthia Svoronos, Hedy Taylor, Darlene Thevenin, Margaret Thomas, Michael Udy, Marie-Pierre Ulysse, Ruth Webber, Michelle Wickerson, Maria Zanti, Alla Zerabecky.

Finally, thanks to the members of the Christmas Organization Committee: Cathy Carroll, Anna Di Stefano, Felicia D'Orve, Sandhya Karnick, Linda Keeney, Mary Mariani, Josée Mirabella, Marie-Pierre Ulysse, Hermina Codjoe and Nicole Bigras.

WHAT A PARTY!

On Saturday, December 13th, the Batshaw Holiday party took place at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. Host Ted Larivière was back, joined by a gregarious Italian chef-turned animator, who quickly had everyone dancing. The guys from information services projected a collection of photographs from social events throughout the year onto giant screens above our heads. Ted's interpretation of what we were looking at was either hilarious or excruciating, depending on whether you were in the picture. Thanks to Denys Chamberland and Francis Sergerie for delivering so much enjoyment to their colleagues. The grand finale was provided by the well rehearsed and brave Batshaw Hip Hop dancers. This was without a doubt the best Batshaw party to date! Hats off to organizing committee chair Louise Jessop and her untiring assistants, Ola Dupelycz and France Lespérance.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

(Contributed by Felicia Agyekum, President, MR/MC Committee)

Every year, activities are organized to celebrate the history of the Black community. These provide excellent opportunities to learn more about this community and thus be able to respond more effectively to the needs of children and families.

Please note the following activities in your agenda:

- Friday, February 13, 1 p.m. - Panel Discussion
- Friday, February 20, 4 p.m. - Talent Extravaganza
- Friday, February 27, 12 p.m. - Luncheon

All the activities will be held in the Auditorium at 6 Weredale Park.

THE BATSHAW CALENDAR

- January 26th** **Batshaw Board Meeting**
6 Weredale Park
For further information contact:
Thérèse Gauthier at 989-1885, # 202
- February** **Black History Month**
For further information contact:
Denise Bertrand at 989-1885, # 203
- February 1st - 13th** **Suicide Prevention Weeks**
For further information contact:
Kees Maas at 937-9581, # 236, and
Wendy Lewis at 937-9581, # 210