

Jessica & Friends community

✝ *Caring homes where Christ's love is accessible to all*

VOLUME V, ISSUE 4

FALL 2005

Jessica and Friends Community Fall Festival – A Day to Remember!

*M*any of you joined us in praying for a beautiful day September 17, 2005 and for an abundant turnout of old friends and family as well as new families interested in learning more about the ministry of Jessica and Friends Community. God answers prayer! The Lord granted us a beautiful September day—plenty of sunshine, warm temperatures, and a great turnout of new and old friends joining the festivities at John Rudy Park. Participants enjoyed activities that included pumpkin decorating, bracelet making, bingo, lawn bowling, beach ball croquet and entertainment provided by Word and Deed (creative movement team from Jessica and Friends Community), Potter's Clay from Christian School of York, and local singer, songwriter, and recording artist Mark Cable. No one went away hungry—participants enjoyed burgers, subs, ice cream, shaved ice, soft pretzels, baked goods provided by the Parent Support group, and more. One of the highlights of the day was the Cookie Baking Contest where prizes were awarded in various categories. Awards were presented to: (Elementary) Lauren Witman–1st, Rachel Lindsey–2nd, Josh Teague–3rd; (Jr. & Sr. High School) Kayla Keeney–1st, Andrew Kuhn–2nd. Adult award winners were Shirley Tucker–1st, Kris Tawney–2nd, Kathy Levey–3rd. A special "Friends of Jessica" category award winners were Amy Barczak–1st, Shannon Graham–2nd, The SKH trio (Ellen Hartman, Jessica Teague, Betsy Bailets)–3rd. Best of all, everyone had the pleasure of sampling the entries after the winners were announced. The day could not have been so successful without the help and devotion of those who volunteered their time, energy and talents. Over 60 loving friends of the ministry devoted countless hours to helping individuals with developmental disabilities and their family, friends, or caregivers enjoy a wonderful day at the park. We praise the Lord for these faithful partners in ministry! Please feel free to stop by our office; we will be happy to show you pictures from this special day.

We have more good news to share—we have reserved John Rudy Park for Saturday September 23, 2006 for the Second Annual Jessica and Friends Community Fall Festival. Please mark your calendars now to set aside this day. We anticipate next year's event to be even more exciting than this year. We hope to see you there!



Danielle Reed helps Sara paint a pumpkin.



Amy Barczak receives her blue ribbon for 1st Place in the Cookie Baking Contest.



Pumpkin Lady and Philip Genovese enjoyed the day at John Rudy Park.

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Jessica and Friends Community offers services and support to individuals with developmental disabilities within a faith-based environment. We seek to be a community which affirms the worth of all people, responds to families and individuals seeking a faith-based program, supports personal growth and wholeness, advocates for community and church inclusion, and provides opportunities for spiritual growth and service.

Jessica and Friends Community affirms the worth of each person who is developmentally disabled and strives to be a catalyst for their inclusion in the local community and the local Body of Christ.

Jessica and Friends Community provides supports and services within a faith-based environment to strengthen each and all persons while enabling them to attain their full potential.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dr. Peter W. Teague, Vice President
Mr. Lewis McCleaf, Treasurer
Mrs. Kathy Levey, Secretary
Mr. Dale Bubb
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Jessica & Friends Community Newsletter is published quarterly by Jessica & Friends Community, 207 Dew Drop Rd., York, PA, 17402. Please send all correspondence including address corrections to the above address.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On October 29th, Jessica and Friends Community celebrated its 7th birthday. Someone once said that time flies when you are having fun. Indeed, we have had fun serving individuals in our community who have developmental disabilities and we have experienced joy as we serve our Lord Jesus Christ through this ministry. If you are new to our circle of family and friends, you may wonder how this ministry was started. Even if you have been with us from the beginning, I think you will find this excerpt from our archives interesting and heartwarming...



A Message from the Founders

Carl Sandberg once said, "Nothing happens unless first a dream." On the evening of October 29, 1998, Paulette and I witnessed the birth of a dream right in our own home! Let us take you back twenty-two years. Our third child was born with significant brain damage resulting in her need for twenty-four-hour-a-day care, seven days a week. Over the years, in the midst of our struggles, heartache, and sometimes almost overwhelming difficulties of parenting Jessica, God's grace has been evident, His faithfulness shown time and again.

We have always tried to make Jessica the center of our family with everyone sacrificing and helping with her care. It has all been worthwhile as we see her smiling face, sweet temperament, and love for life. Since Jessica was born we have asked God HOW He is going to use her in our lives to bring Him glory. Over the years the Lord has given us many open doors of opportunity ministering to others with special needs and those who are hurting.

As Jessica is getting older (along with us), we realize that we will not always be here to care for her. As are many other parents who have special needs children, we are burdened for her future. Thus God has given us a desire to provide Christ-centered homes where developmentally disabled adults can sense the love of Christ and, through compassionate care and training, be given the opportunity to reach their potential.

As we have talked with individuals in various agencies across York County who are providers for employment, and group homes for the disabled, all agree that there are waiting lists for both of these services. This solidifies the need in our mind to provide this kind of home from a Christian perspective.

For many months prior to our first meeting, we had been talking to interested individuals, asking if they would be willing to share this burden with us and serve on an Advisory Committee. Now let us take you back to October 29, 1998, when we had our first meeting with twelve in attendance. After sharing our vision, at the stroke of 9:00 p.m. the name Jessica and Friends Community was adopted and the birth of our dream was realized!

Dr. and Mrs. Peter W. Teague

Our desire in the years ahead is to see and experience the expansion of that dream. As the ministry of Jessica and Friends Community touches more lives in South Central Pennsylvania, the joy of serving Jesus will be shared with more and more families. We look forward to that.

Happy Birthday Jessica and Friends Community—Board, staff, caregivers, residents and others we are blessed and privileged to serve. May God grant us many more!

Executive Director

You may be interested to know that the furnace at our home and office on Dew Drop Road is being replaced and that we are converting from oil heat to natural gas. The furnace needed serviced several times during last year's heating season and has reached the point where it needs to be replaced. As you probably know, the cost of heating with natural gas is increasing dramatically and we will face this added burden in converting to natural gas in addition to the cost of the new furnace. If interested in helping Jessica and Friends Community meet these additional costs, you may send a special contribution to "The Furnace Fund" for the Dew Drop office. Donations may be sent to Jessica and Friends Community, 207 Dew Drop Road, York, PA 17402.

Would you like Jessica and Friends Community to make a presentation during Sunday School, Sunday Worship, Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting, etc.? We would be pleased to present the ministry of Jessica and Friends Community and opportunities for local churches to minister to those with developmental disabilities and their families. Call 747-9000 to schedule a date and time.

Are you interested in becoming a Lifesharing Provider Family?

What would a Lifesharing provider family provide?

- A caring, loving, stable home environment
- Transportation
- Training in daily living skills
- Family activities and participation

What would Jessica and Friends Community provide to the Lifesharing provider family?

- Training
- Weekly oversight and communication
- Program development and monitoring of State regulations
- 24X7 on-call and emergency assistance
- Respite Care
- Tax-free compensation

What does a Lifesharing family receive?

- Immeasurable blessings and a new member of the family

Contact Ted Witman, Executive Director or Darlene Kuhn, Director of Programs (717) 747-9000 if interested in learning more about becoming a Lifesharing Provider Family.

Jessica and Friends Community has openings in the following positions providing personal care and services and training in daily living skills to individuals with developmental disabilities:

- Residential Services—Awake Night Staff
- Lifesharing Provider Family
- In-Home Respite Care Support Staff—York County
- In-Home Respite Care Support Staff—Adams County

Full and Part Time positions available with competitive wages. Attractive benefits package for full time staff persons. Jessica and Friends Community provides exceptional care to individuals with developmental disabilities within a faith-based environment.

Applications are available online at www.jandfcommunity.org or at our office:

Jessica and Friends Community
207 Dew Drop Road
York, PA 17402
(717) 747-9000



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Saturday, December 10th—Jessica and Friends Community Christmas Party
Location: Church of the Open Door of Shiloh • Time: 6pm
Sponsored by Jessica and Friends Community Parents Support Group
No cost to attend



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MEMORIAL/HONOR GIFTS

Jessica and Friends Community receives contributions given in memory or in honor of loved ones and friends. Each gift is gratefully acknowledged to further ministry in the disabled community.

In Memory of:

Doris King
Richard Striley
Robert W. Teague

Given by:

Harry D. King Insurance
Glenn & Betty Keenan
Glenn & Betty Keenan
Henry & Edna Christ
Ned Kauffman, D.D.S.
Eva Swartzbaugh
Robert & Cindy Shelley
Barbara Watson

In Honor of:

Lew and Nancy McCleaf
Keren Warnemuende's 3rd Birthday

Given by:

Roger & Donna Healey
David & Elizabeth Givens

SAVE THE DATE...

September 23, 2006
The Second Annual
Jessica and Friends Community
Fall Festival
At John Rudy Park

• food, fun and fellowship •



Want to know more about Jessica and Friends Community?
Check our website
www.jandfcommunity.org

