



Helping children thrive by serving families with children; pregnant or parenting teens and young adults; and adoptive families.

SUMMER 2006

Lund Family Center

NEWS

\$1.5 MILLION MARK REACHED WITH U.S. SENATOR JEFFORDS SUPPORT

On February 26th, Lund Family Center held a press conference announcing a \$360,000 federal appropriation secured by U.S. Senator Jim Jeffords for the Lund Family Center Capital Campaign. This earmark placed the \$3.7 million campaign over the \$1.5 million mark. Senator Jeffords spoke eloquently about the importance of Lund, and why he felt so strongly about securing this vital source of funding.

"It has been my absolute pleasure to secure this federal grant for Lund Family Center to help them kick off their capital campaign," commented Senator Jeffords. "I do not know of a better way for the federal government to spend money than by supporting programs such as these."

Everyone at Lund again extends their sincere thanks to Senator Jeffords for his hard work on behalf of Lund's clients, and all of Vermont's children and families.

Lund Building Project is on the Move!

After years of dedicated work by Lund Family Center staff, board, and volunteers, Lund has a permit in hand to begin renovation and expansion of our main site at 76 Glen Road! The 36-year-old building has become much too small given the wide range of specialized services Lund offers today. Lund will be adding a third floor and renovating the outdated and cramped building, which was originally designed as a maternity home.

According to plan, the renovation and expansion will take up to 18 months. Once the work is finished, the Residential and Community Treatment Program will move into its permanent home, which will feature:

- New suite-based room designs for residents – these rooms will foster community, enhance ease of caring for children, and increase essential privacy;
- Spacious private area for nursing and medical care, which now takes place in a small office that doesn't even have room for an exam table;
- Confidential space for substance abuse treatment, counseling, and therapeutic treatment;
- Improved parking;
- And above all, a modern, more spacious, efficient and effective space for our clients!

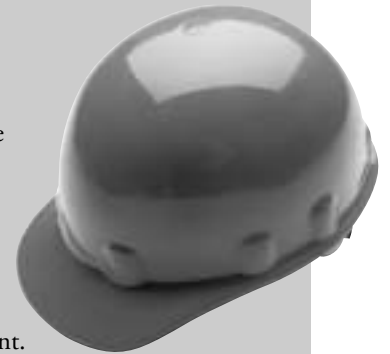
With the additional space, the Residential program will have the capacity to add up to 12 more bedrooms, giving it the capability to house and serve 30 pregnant or parenting young women and their children. In taking this step forward, Lund will be able to better serve increased community demand for the only facility of its kind in Vermont.

During the renovation, Lund programs will take up residence in temporary spaces:

- The Residential program will move to a community care home in Richmond;
- Residential and Community Treatment staff will work from offices at Pine and Kilburn Streets in Burlington;
- The Early Childhood Program and New Horizons Educational Programs will move to Fayette Street in South Burlington.

Lund will lease buses to transport residents to and from services in Burlington and South Burlington.

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WHO NEEDS SNAIL MAIL WHEN YOU CAN GET EMAIL?

Lund Family Center is looking to be more efficient, timely and in the 21st century. Please send your name, home and email addresses to pamc@lundfamilycenter.org. Also indicate how you prefer to receive communications. We will use this information to send you our newsletter, holiday mail, invitations to Lund Family Center events, etc. *These addresses will only be used internally and not be sold.*



Lund Family Center's Search and Reunion Program

Lund Family Center's Search and Reunion program, which serves over 1,200 people each year, is an integral part of the lifelong adoption services on which Lund prides itself. The program performs four general services for adoptees, adoptive parents, and birth parents according to the requirements and limitations of the Vermont Adoption Act. These services are:

- Searches for non-identifying health, genetic, or social information;
- Court-ordered searches for the location of birth parents;
- Mutual consent searches on behalf of adult adoptees and birth families, often resulting in the reunions of those who wish to reconnect.

While it is impossible to describe the "standard" search or reunion and no two situations are the same, we share the story of this recent reunion to give readers a real life example of the search and reunion process.

MEET HEATHER:

Heather was born at "The Elizabeth Lund Home" in the '60s and was adopted by loving parents who nurtured her and were by her side as she grew up. Heather first contacted Lund in 1988 for information about her birth parents, but at that point, Lund was only able to share non-identifying information.

MEET RICK:

After enduring a broken heart from an abrupt break-up with his high school sweetheart, Rick married, raised a family, and subsequently divorced. Now happily remarried and an avid marathon runner, Rick maintains a positive outlook on life and a strong will.

MEET LESLIE:

Leslie is Lund Family Center's Search Coordinator. She also works for the Vermont Adoption Registry through a job share arrangement with the Department for Children and Families and has been doing search and reunion work for 10 years.

FAST FORWARD TO 2004

In 2004, Rick's high school sweetheart disclosed that Rick was Heather's father. Rick, who had no previous knowledge of his sweetheart's pregnancy or Heather's adoption, contacted Lund Family Center in December of 2004 to obtain more information. With Leslie's counsel, Rick signed a consent form to be contacted by Heather. Because of Heather's previous search, Leslie was able to contact her regarding this new development. In January of 2005, Heather also signed a consent form and she and Rick began exchanging identifying information through Leslie, who provided support and guidance throughout the process.

In February of 2005, Rick and Heather decided to learn more about each other and contacted each other by email and telephone.

Distance and hectic lives kept them from meeting for some time. Heather gave birth to her second child, Rick ran a number of marathons, and finally, in late 2005, Rick, Heather, and Leslie worked out plans for everyone to travel to Burlington, where

Heather was born, for a face-to-face reunion. Accent Travel, a wonderful partner to Lund Family Center, donated all five airline tickets to make this reunion possible.

Finally, the big day came and, due to an ice storm, Heather, her husband, and their two daughters missed their original flight. Luckily, thanks to suggestions from Cathie at Accent, they were able to get seats on a later flight. As he and his sister eagerly awaited the arrival, Rick commented to Leslie that even after all of these years, he felt like Heather's father as he worried about her arriving safely.

At last, Heather and Rick greeted each other with big hugs and then spent the weekend in Burlington talking, looking at picture albums, and exchanging innumerable questions. Afterward, Rick said "the meeting sealed an open wound in my heart. I could not have prayed for a better family for Heather to grow up with... Even if the meeting was only once, it was a privilege and I am very thankful and proud to show that the adoption program works".

Although this story has spanned many years, it isn't over yet. Evidence shows that five years may be necessary for a comfortable relationship to develop between a birth parent and an adoptive child, but Rick and Heather are well on their way.

Not Your Typical S'mores and Campfire Songs

Lund Family Center held its 3rd annual Adoption Day Camp the week of June 26, 2006. For these children, camp is a place to see friendly faces and reunite with old friends on a much smaller scale than a traditional camp setting. This year six children participated. The camp was at Lund Family Center with day trips to the ferry, Shelburne Farms, Pizza Putt and the Travelodge pool. They expressed their creativity in daily craft projects such as decorating t-shirts, visors and door hangers and scrapbooking. Can't wait until next year!



Fore!!!

On Thursday, August 3rd, Vermont National Country Club's Ladies Golf Team raised over \$34,000 for Lund Family Center's Capital Campaign at the "Fabulous 50's" member/guest tournament. Eighty eight club members and guests participated. Barbara Rachelson, Executive Director of Lund Family Center, Jeff Small, Board President, and other Board members were there to applaud the ladies' efforts and thank the group.

The golf tournament proceeds will put a new roof on our soon-to-be renovated and expanded building. (For more on our Capital Campaign, see our cover story.)

Barbara Rachelson thanked the members of the Ladies' Team for all

their hard work: "Lund Family Center is overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness. You and your supporters will enable us to continue our services to women and children. We are extremely grateful to each and every one of you for your efforts on our behalf."



Clockwise from left: Erin Pichiotino, Board member; Jeff Small, Board President; Barbara Rachelson, Executive Director

Volunteer Opportunities at Lund

LUND FAMILY CENTER'S 10TH ANNUAL ADOPTION PICNIC

Come join our Adoption department staff on September 16th in celebration of families joined through adoption! Looking for volunteers to help with set-up, run games, supervise bouncers and pony-rides, face-painting and activities, and clean-up. Looking for people who can do part of the event or the entire event 9:30am-4pm. This is a wonderful and fun day! All volunteers receive free t-shirts and food and drinks are provided

PEERS BABYSITTER

Provide childcare services for children ranging in age from infant to toddler while their mothers participate in a bi-weekly support group. Great way to support young mothers! Group is Tuesdays 5-8pm.

PEERS DINNER PROVIDER

Prepare and deliver dinner for a bi-weekly support group for mothers. Group consists of 10-20 adults and children. Sign up for one or more dinners. Work can be done at home! Group is Tuesdays 5-8pm.

REACH UP ASSISTANT

Provide office and filing support to the Reach Up Office. Great way to improve organizational and office skills. Help support a small team with a large caseload. Flexible timing between 8am-5pm Monday through Friday. *Cannot be a current or former Reach Up participant.*

HOLIDAY ASSISTANT

Assist Lund's busy Development Office in planning and facilitating the Holiday Adopt-a-Family Program. Work includes communicating with community donors and sponsors, matching families with donors, organizing delivery/drop-off times, and overseeing database entry. Last year, through generous community support, over 130 families were given a holiday. Help us make this year a success too! This is an immensely rewarding experience. *Time commitment required.*

To learn more information, please contact Jamie Tourangeau, Volunteer Coordinator, at jamiet@lundfamilycenter.org or 802-861-2572.

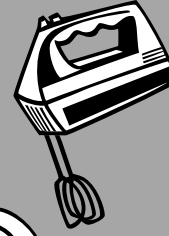
Many thanks to all who have donated to Lund Family Center.*

LUND FRIENDS WHO HAVE DONATED OVER \$1,000 FROM DECEMBER 1, 2005-AUGUST 1, 2006:

Agnes M. Lindsay Trust
 Anonymous (2)
 Ben & Jerry's Foundation
 Chuck & Carol Bookwalter
 Tom & Lynn Brennan
 John & Connie Carpenter
 Charlotte Congregational Church
 Chittenden Bank Card for Kids
 Citizens Bank
 Rob Flint & Kevin Burns
 John & Martha Hoehl
 Honey Pot Fund
 IDX Fund
 JB Kennedy Associates
 Jeffery Small, CPA
 Key Bank
 Dawn LeBaron
 Randall & Mary Jo Miller
 Norma and Milton Mann Foundation
 One Four Three Charitable Lead Trust
 Carol F. Phillips
 James & Judy Pizzagalli
 Peter & Phyllis Reed
 Gene & Julie Richards
 Robert Fleming & Jane Howe Patrick Foundation
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Burlington, VT
 Santa Night
 Jeffery & Martha Small
 State of Vermont Department of Buildings & Grounds
 Roger & Kit Stone
 Stone Investment Advisory
 TDBanknorth
 Turrell Fund
 United Way of Chittenden County
 Vermont Children's Trust Fund
 Vermont Community Foundation

* We apologize for any errors or omissions

Lund Wish List



- Inkjet printer
- Laptop computer
- Bibs
- Washcloths
- Towels
- Large bulletin board
- 50 folders with clasps
- Duct tape
- Poster board (50)
- File cabinet – 3 or 4 drawer
- Unbreakable bowls and platters
- Microwaveable bowls (1 1/2 quart or larger)
- Manual Swing can opener
- Mesh strainers 8-10" diameter
- Serving spoons (notched, slotted, solid)
- Vinyl table cloths (Round, rectangle 70" x 52")
- Cuisinart (large size one with attachments)
- Brazier (sturdy, large diameter cooking pan for braising large pieces of meat – 24 quart with lid)
- Restaurant grade heavy stock pots (20, 25, 32 or 40 quart sizes)
- Roasting Pans (9 1/2" x 13 1/2", 10 7/8" x 16", 11 7/8" x 17 1/2")
- Sauce pans with handle (3 1/2 quart and larger)
- Serving platters & bowls for holiday parties, honoring ceremony & other special events (any shape)
- Shelving brackets and wood shelves to go on them (12 shelves, 24 brackets)
- Refrigerator (2)
- Upright freezer
- Convection oven
- Stove top/oven
- Microwave
- Hand-held mixer
- Blender
- 2 shelf bookshelf
- College size refrigerator
- Pillows
- Sheets
- Comforters
- Computer stand
- Desk
- Plug-in flashlights (6)
- Round meeting table/chairs
- Low barrier walls to assemble office cubicles

Call Pam at 864-7467 or email pamc@lundfamilycenter.org to make arrangements.

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Once construction is complete, the Residential and Community Treatment Program will move back into 76 Glen Road. Lund hopes to buy or lease space within a few blocks of Glen Road that will house all other Lund programs, including Adoption, Family Support and Resource services, the Early Childhood Program, and the business offices.

The public phase of the Capital Campaign kicked off in February, and is now in high gear. Lund must raise a total of \$3.7 million in contributions to fund the project, so Lund and its supporters have a significant task ahead in the coming months. Our goal is to build the foundation for the next 115 years of Lund's service to Vermont's children and families, so that we may continue the essential work that we have been performing for the past 115 years. Lund's early investors in this project have already made generous contributions totaling \$1.7 million to this effort, giving Lund tremendous momentum toward raising the remaining \$2 million needed to fund the project. In addition to individual contributions, we continue to seek challenge grants and matching grants to help us gain the support of all those in Vermont and beyond who are dedicated to our mission of helping children and families thrive.

For information about making a campaign gift of any kind, please contact Kitty Bartlett at kittyb@lundfamilycenter.org or (802) 861-2580.

And the Honor Goes to...

Each spring Lund Family Center's New Horizons and Learning Edge programs have a lot to celebrate at Lund's annual Honoring Ceremony. Kris Hoffman and Kiley Shea, Educational Services Coordinator and New Horizons teacher, respectively, facilitated this heartwarming day where students are honored in front of family, friends and Lund staff and board members for academic achievement, grade completion, G.E.D.



completion or graduation. If they graduate with New Horizons, they are also able to celebrate graduation with their sending schools.

This year, students received pre-celebratory makeovers by volunteers Jennifer and Melissa of Moon Studio Day Spa which was greatly appreciated by all who participated. They were then treated to an inspiring speech by Senator Hinda Miller. The students then received certificates of achievement diplomas and diplomas followed by a celebratory lunch.



At the honoring ceremony this year, Lund Family Center celebrated the success of: four young women who graduated with their diplomas, three who received their G.E.D.'s, four who completed a grade and four who demonstrated academic achievement. Three students had also taken college courses while still working on High School and G.E.D. preparations. Two of these students were minors and two students were proudly the first ever in their families to ever have taken college coursework!

Special thanks to board member Kit Stone for her help in coordinating this event. We commend all of our students for a job VERY well done.

Lund Family Center Names Two New Members to Its Board

Lund Family Center recently selected Mary Jo Miller of South Burlington, VT and Erin Pichiotino of Burlington, VT to serve on its Board of Trustees.

Mary Jo Miller lives in South Burlington, VT with her husband Randy and three children and she is employed as a hygienist and bookkeeper in Randy's dental practice. Ms. Miller has been a volunteer with various organizations in both Boston, MA and Burlington for some time, including Women Helping Battered Women, The Angel Fund (for ALS research), and YMCA. Her most recent work has involved events and fundraisers for Mater Christi School and Rice Memorial High School.

Erin Pichiotino, a UVM student and Burlington High School graduate, has been involved in a number of community service projects such as Habitat for Humanity and CROP Walk. Additionally, she has held different positions in Student Council and helped with fundraisers for Burlington High School and the First Congregational Church in Burlington. Ms. Pichiotino states that her interest in working with Lund stems from a desire to "continue [her] investment in our community."

Have Fun and Help Lund

Looking for the perfect birthday party place? Need a place to have "Girls Night Out"? Do you just enjoy pretty things? If so, visit Beads & Things in Shelburne. It's a great new bead store where you can make earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc. and all you pay for is materials; tools and assistance are free. **Owner Helena Maxwell has offered to donate 20% of all proceeds for the month of September for anything purchased from her line, Charmed by Helena.** Shop till you drop while you're there having fun with friends and family.

Beads & Things

Open 6 days, closed Tuesday
2538 Shelburne Road
(802) 985-3304
www.BeadsThings.com

Festival of Families

StoryLund

On Wednesday, May 31st, Lund Family Center staged its annual Festival of Families fundraising dinner. Held at the Wyndham Hotel in Burlington, this year's Festival honored outstanding volunteers and community members who have devoted their time and energy to furthering the well-being of children and families. The fundraiser, whose proceeds go to Lund's work with families, was decorated to reflect the theme *StoryLund*, a theme that stems from the power and impact of stories in all of our lives. The evening's main event included guests such as WCAX-TV reporter Jessica Abo and children's author Elizabeth Bluemle telling the powerful stories of a few of Lund's families. In addition, awards were presented to a few deserving guests.

Katie Goodrow, winner of the *Gibney Family Foundation Volunteer Award*, has devoted countless hours of her own time to Lund and has also recruited and organized other volunteers; she and the groups she has brought together are always available to help with the planning and execution of any activity or event, and Katie maintains an unflagging compassion for Lund's clients.

Cynthia and Robert Hoehl were awarded the *Elizabeth Lund Leadership Award* for their constant commitment and support; the pair are generous investors in the community and loyal friends to Lund. They have also helped to jump start Lund's capital campaign.

In a tie, two pairs of individuals were named as recipients of this year's *It Takes a Village Award*. The first, Sue and George Correia, are humble yet devoted advocates of children in need of homes, and in addition to their extensive work with the Adopt America Network, the couple have adopted 16 of their 24 children and acted as foster parents to 100 more. The second are Ted and Debby Kessler, who helped establish the tuition-free Camp Ta-Kum-Ta; located in Colchester, VT. The camp provides a week away from hospitals and worries for cancer patients between the ages of 7 and 17.



The Carpenter Family, It Takes a Village award nominees



Above: Board of Trustees President Jeff Small and Master of Ceremonies, Tom Brennan. Below: Goodnight Moon





From top: Citizens Bank presenting sponsors; Gibney Family Foundation Volunteer Award winner Katie Goodrow with Frank Gibney; the Correia family, It Takes a Village award winners

Sharon, author of this poem and mother of four-year-old Hannah, suffered a great tragedy. As a result of a shattered ankle, she was in a wheelchair for three months, was on crutches for one month and underwent eight surgeries. Here's how she made it through:

SPECIAL ONE

Written By: Sharon G. Carpentier

Look at all we've been through
I couldn't have done it without you
I remember waking up every morning to see that chair
I wouldn't have gotten out of bed if you hadn't been there
I'd get up, get dressed,
Sit in my chair and be depressed
Every day was filled with pain
But it was you who kept me somewhat sane
I thought you were too young to understand
But you'd always give a helping hand
I couldn't do things the way I use to
I was learning a life that was very new
I think you'd agree that it was hard
I wish I were never dealt that card
I would just sit & watch you play
Impatiently awaiting that day
The day when I would walk again
I still think about it now and then
Thank you for all your strength
We have traveled a great length
It's been eight months since that day
Thank you for being with me along the way
If you weren't there I don't know what I'd have done
You are my very special one
I love you Hannah!



The Hoehl family and friends



A special thanks to Duncan-Wisniewski Architecture for underwriting a portion of this newsletter.



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Someone You Should Know

Kris Hoffman, Educational Services Coordinator, is without question someone you should know – if for no other reason than to make you laugh. Kris has the challenging job of running Lund Family Center's on-site, state approved high school and G.E.D. programs, New Horizons and Learning Edge. The program is tailored to each individual's needs, and Kris may be found tutoring two young women in English, one woman in Algebra and three in History; all are from different schools and at different grade levels. This year there are 18 high school and 10 G.E.D. students in the class, which makes for a lot of juggling of the various class requirements.

The individualized classes and large amount of creativity in the curriculum are all attributed to Kris' guidance and leadership. They have been on visits to various cemeteries for "Graveyard English". At the cemetery, Kris gives the students puzzles to solve and searches to conduct by following directions. The students recently attended the Georgia O'Keefe exhibit at Shelburne Museum, a place they use often for class, and then returned to school to dissect flowers and press them. These creative lessons make learning fun and take into account that everyone learns differently.

Kim Coe, Director of Residential and Community Treatment, says, "Kris Hoffman deserves recognition for her outstanding work in the field of education. Kris is a strong advocate of ensuring that all people receive a quality education in accordance with Vermont



Standards while recognizing that all people learn differently and have different life experiences that directly impact their ability to receive this education. Kris focuses on people's strengths and maximizes existing resources to achieve these results. Kris' sense of humor and sense of teamwork are invaluable to those lucky enough to cross her path."

In addition to teaching year round, Kris coordinates Lund's Annual Honoring Ceremony (see story on page 5). She, along with a small committee, organizes the event and presents each student with the appropriate certificate. This is a heartwarming day where her students are honored for academic achievement, grade completion, G.E.D. completion or graduation. If they graduate with New Horizons, they are also able to graduate with their sending schools.

Kris has been a part of the Lund family part-time since 1999 and full-time since 2000. When she is not juggling classes you can find Kris buried in a great book, enjoying time with her family, immersed in her kitchen, or caring for her brood of 14 egg-laying chickens.