



Katie's House, Inc.
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Hi Everyone,

I would like to introduce you to Lauren. She is a new house member at Katie's House. Mary Kate and I are so happy that she joined us. I met Lauren about a year ago, and we became friends. Lauren is very active as a volunteer. She volunteered in a nursing home, animal shelter, now at Bristol Glen and also for Arthur and Friends at the Sussex County Fairgrounds. Lauren loves horseback riding, bowling and her computer. She attends our Activity Center learning sign language and our dance class. She has also joined our Service Group and Friendship Group. On the left is **Lauren** at the Magic Show for the Friendship Group.

Love, Katie

Katie's House Elevator Project on Hold: In our planning for 2008 Katie's House included provisions for the installation of an elevator that would enable

our residents with physical disabilities to more easily reach their bedrooms. But the economic developments during the year affected us, as they affected you. Thanks to the hard work of our volunteers and the generosity of our supporters, we were successful in covering all of our general operating costs. However, it was necessary to postpone our elevator project. At this point, 2009 looks to be as financially challenging as was 2008... but we are looking to 2011 with hope and optimism. With your help, we are confident that we can still get those improvements completed so Katie's House can truly be a supportive place for our residents.

Activity Center a Major Success: We announced our Activity Center in our spring 2008 newsletter, and we achieved full operation during the year. The Center was open to the Katie's House residents as well as others with developmental disabilities. Classes and workshops in:

- Sign Language Habilitation: from February through December
- Special Needs Trust Workshop for Parents-October
- Dancing Habilitation: from June through December
- Bell Choir: started in December

We plan to build on the success of the Activity Center and to hopefully expand our course offerings to include such things as art and cooking. During the year, Katie's House Activity Center was recognized by the State of New Jersey as an authorized provider, which will open our classes to even more young adults with disabilities.

"Respite Care" was also provided several times throughout the year to young adults with developmental disabilities when families required help because of illness in the family.

Katie's House Gives Back to the Community: We like to believe that the Katie's House mission extends beyond simply providing supportive housing for developmentally disabled young adults. We see our mission as helping both our residents and others who are disadvantaged to live a fuller life through education, group activities and community service. Part of that mission is achieved through the efforts of our **Activity Center**. But we engage in other "out-reach" activities that further enrich the lives of our participants. For example, Katie's House sponsors "**The Friendship Group**", organizing social activities for young adults with disabilities. This group meets on Friday evenings with planned activities that are well organized, fun and safe. Our young adults gain from the opportunity to be together with their peers. Last is **The Service Group**. This group meets once a month and was started to reach out and help others who are less fortunate than themselves by collecting, packing and delivering items and gifts to local hospitals and shelters. Pictured above are our **Service Group** members surrounded by toys and gifts which were collected for St. Joseph's Children's Hospital annual Pediatric Oncology Christmas party valued at \$2300. Our **Service Group** delivered gifts to Martin de Porres and toothbrushes to the Sparta United Methodist Church for needy families valued at \$1500. Over 200 children received gifts, plus families were provided with much needed items and clothes. Adults with disabilities can make a difference if given a chance.



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We Can Make a Difference

Just Give US A Chance

**2008
Katie's House
Financial Summary**

Income

Gifts & Grants	\$15,000
Contributions	5,234
Fundraising	34,250
Other	750
Total	\$ 55,234

Expenses

Administration	\$ 5,642
Fundraising	7,585
Capital Improvements	5,023
Home Operating Exp	29,715
Activity Center	5,627
Total	\$52,000

Income vs. expense \$ 1,662