

Teaching needed life skills and offering shelter from abuse and neglect.

WELCOME

New Board Members!

- ◆ Carlos Johnson
- ◆ Leigh Anne Langley
- ◆ Caleb Loring
- ◆ Dodi Williams

- Volunteer p. 2
- 2nd Annual Tea Party p.2
- Winners of Annual Library Teen Age Group Contest p.3
- Patron Society p.3
- Residential Care

YOGAlicious!

YOGAlicious Studio located at 147 E. Main St., held a free yoga day to help support the Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home. Participants in the classes were asked to bring donations instead of a fee for the class, which was then given to EHS GH. Over 80 participants came to the free yoga day and YOGAlicious was able to raise \$337. EHS GH is thankful for the support of such a wonderful community.

P.O. Box 1731
Spartanburg, SC 29304
(864) 573-9223
www.spgirlshome.com

Taking Our Quality Services out into the Community

One day, a little eight year old girl we will call "Grace" was picked up from school by strangers and taken to a new home- a group home not even located in her home community of Spartanburg. She did not really understand what was going on. She knew her mother had been hanging out with a rough crowd and doing drugs and she worried that if she wasn't there, her mom might become sadder. She didn't mind that her mother did not come home some nights; she had her four siblings.

Her oldest sibling had learned to take care of her. Her siblings made sure that she was up in the morning and ready to catch the bus with her teeth brushed, her hair combed back and with her barrette in place. Now, how could she get up and face the world without her siblings? Where were they now?

She would now have to lay her head down on a pillow that was not her own, separated from the teddy bear that she cuddled with at night. She now had a strange child laying in the bed next to her. She would wake up and go to a strange school in a different county with strange landmarks that she did not recognize. Suddenly, she found herself in a

place where she knew no one- no teachers or friends. She did not even have her favorite dress and shoes to wear—those were all at home with her mother.

EHS GH community based services made such an impact on this little girl and answered all of her



questions (and prayers)! Because of the support provided by Women Giving for Spartanburg, Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home has been able to work successfully with this family.

Grace no longer has to wonder what is going on with her siblings because she sees them regularly. **After some great work with the family, she now lives back in Spartanburg with her grandmother.** Our staff worked to combine resources among family, friends and a concerned grandmother. Grace is now able to go to the school where she has

Continued on page 2

Since 1974, the Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home has provided safe, around-the-clock care in a home-like environment and teaches sustainable skills for their futures. The girls served are between 11 and 19 years old and are currently unable to return to their homes, most often due to abuse or neglect.

A Family's Success is Full of Hard Work and Progress

Taking Our Quality Service...article continued

friends and knows her teachers. She is able to attend the church where she grew up. She is on the honor roll and is glad to be see her mother from time to time. Her grandmother supervises this contact.

Grace lives with her oldest sibling now and her other two siblings live in walking distance from her house with relatives. She sees them regularly and the grandma lets them all spend the night. The family continues to encourage the children's mother to get the help that she needs. This is what this new program is all about: empowering families with what they need to stay together!

These services are an expansion of the Teaching-Family model used within our residential program. This evidence-based model allows flexibility to meet the diverse

2nd Annual Girls' Tea Party!



At the second annual tea party, girls and women of all ages gathered to sip tea and soak in the importance of our relationships with each other and differences that we each make in our communities. The event helps to celebrate the great work that is going on at the Girls' Home. EHS GH was honored to have Dr. Lisa Wimberly-Allen, as the guest speaker. Dr. Wimberly-Allen, Pastor at Fernwood Baptist Church, talked about the importance of spending time together, of remembering the women and girls around us in need and of celebrating all that we've overcome together!

needs of families, but includes a prescribed process based upon decades of research to ensure that the intervention really works. This new program successfully broadens our services from simply removing the child from the home to removing the risk from the family situation!

Volunteer!!!!

EHS GH thrives through your volunteer support!

Possible opportunities to volunteer

- After school tutors
- Bring a meal
- Help with a mailing
- Paint a room



Before



After

A very special Thank You to the volunteers from AFL Telecommunications who spent the afternoon pressure washing buildings, planting flowers, laying brick, spreading mulch and various work on other beautification projects on our campus.

Winners of the Annual Library Teen Age Group Contest!

EHSGH is proud to announce that three residents competed in the Annual Library Teen Age Group Contest at Spartanburg Library and won first place! The project celebrated the library's 125th year of service. The topic for the project consisted of "What does the library mean to you?" The girls, along with their teacher Sunshine Furner, were able to brainstorm a list of items as a class and then came up with images for a diorama. The list included: the words *acceptance*, *peaceful*, *arts and crafts*, and a computer, two librarians, and three books. They all were able to collaborate together in an effective manner in order to produce an outstanding display.

The project was originally meant to be an individual effort, but none of the girls believed that they had come up

with the ideas on their own so they decided to join the contest together, and will now split the prize money of \$125. The girls provided great team work and succeeded in a common



goal.
GREAT
JOB!

Patron Society

The Patron Society is a newly formed group of young community leaders who believe in, and want to support the mission of the Girls' Home. This new society consists of 25-35 young leaders from our area who are interested in impacting our important mission and more specifically, the lives of the young girls in our care.

Through their membership, society members serve as ambassadors for the Girls' Home, are in the process of developing a fundraising event scheduled for the fall, and show commitment to the success of the Girls' Home through joining the Society with an annual minimum gift of \$100.

The society meets once a quarter to get an update on the needs and happenings of the Girls' Home. Members also have the opportunity to get involved at other levels throughout the organization such as mentoring, and other volunteer efforts.

If you are interested in learning more about the Young Patron Society, please contact Tony Payne at tony@spgirlshome.com or at 864-573-9223.

Residential Care

Since 1974, the Ellen Hines Smith Girls Home (EHSGH) has offered around the clock residential care for girls ages eleven to nineteen who have been victims of abuse and neglect. Two levels of Residential Care are currently offered: Low Management and Intermediate Group Care, with the latter serving youths who have more intense needs (e.g., mental health diagnoses).

EHSGH helps girls who have minimal family support to transition into adulthood. Many girls have never learned to dream or set goals for themselves; they have spent much of their lives surviving. With the support of caring staff, the girls are able to learn that hard work will help them to realize their full potential.

EHSGH has numerous success stories including a previous client now working as a detective in South Carolina with gang-involved youths. Two girls currently in the program are graduating seniors both actively involved with ROTC. One senior is waiting to hear back from several colleges on possible admission and an ROTC scholarship. The other, toured the campus at Lander University many months ago and was able to sit in on some college classes in session. Recently, she received a package in the mail with an acceptance letter to Lander University! Her squeals of excitement were heard across our campus! Strengthening the community by impacting lives, one at a time, is what EHSGH is all about!

Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home
P. O. Box 1731
Spartanburg SC 29304

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
Permit #173
Spartanburg SC 29306



Corie Culp, from AFL Telecommunications presents Chamlee Loscuito a grant after her team of volunteers completed various volunteer projects around the campus.

Congratulations to Marianna Habisreutinger, current board member and past President of EHS GH, for receiving the 2011 South Carolina Mother of the Year Award!!

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Inez Anders, Volunteer Coordinator
Maria Barber, Family Specialist
Beverly Harris, Program Consultant
Chamlee Loscuito, Executive Director
Crystal McMillan, Program Director
Tony Payne, Director of Development
Jackie Tomlin, Business Manager

*Prefer to receive this newsletter electronically?
Please let us know!*



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matthew Gilley, President
Jane Easler, Vice President
Jada McAbee, Treasurer
Lou Lindsey, Secretary

Jennifer Britanisky	Susan Hoffman
Grant Calhoun	Carlos Johnson
Mary Ann Cleland	Cheryl Lang
Robyn Conner	Leigh Anne Langley
Isaac Dickson, Jr.	Oran Logan, Jr.
Carroll Easterling	Caleb Loring
Wanda Greenfield	Elizabeth Phillips
Marianna Habisreutinger	Mitch Riese
Emma Harrill, <i>Governance Chair</i>	Caroline Smith
Sheila Davis Henderson	Dodi Williams