Wendt Center today

Wishing you and your loved ones a beautiful holiday season...

December 2012

Lots of Laughs and Tears at This Year's Magical 37th Anniversary Benefit

It's always good, but everyone agrees that this year's gathering of Wendt Center supporters at our 37th annual benefit on October 25th was REALLY special. Speaker Carole Geithner touched the audience with her heartfelt personal story. Malik Hylton and Jessye Jairrels (shown below), two young performers from our Voices of Now collaboration with Arena Stage, brought tears to many eyes as they gave a powerful voice to the impact of grief on youth. And David Gregory? He brought the house down.

Congratulations to this year's Wendt Hero. Former staff member and child therapist Dottie Ward Wimmer was honored at our recent benefit for her groundbreaking initiatives and her ability to "help make miracles happen." Laura Hughes, who benefitted from Dottie's skills as a therapist when she was an 11-year-old, was on hand to present the award.

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Makes Award to Wendt Center

It was a magical night. Hilarious,
The Center received a $25,000 grant from Care First BCBS to enhance sustain ability and support expansion of services to underserved children and families through effective client and program data collection and outcome measurement. The Center is extremely grateful to CareFirst for this important contribution.

Happy Hour at Madhatter

Former Wendt intern Liz Kelly put on her fundraising shoes and pulled off a great event to help cover the costs of the Center's participation in this year's Voices of Now collaboration with Arena Stage. More than 60 friends of the Center came out to offer their support and make a donation. They were welcomed and thanked by Interim Director Michelle Palmer. Click here to view photos.

Plans for Services Targeting Military Underway at the Wendt Center

A focused effort to reach out to military personnel and their families is underway at the Wendt Center. While we have always had military personnel and their families among our clients, we are now seeking to partner specifically with local military bases to provide more direct support to the many who are not accessing services. The need for more services has been documented by mental health experts inside and outside the military. By providing our expertise to servicemen/women and their families, the Wendt Center can answer the call to serve the needs of those who are serving our country. Watch out for news about specific services and dates on our website.

Like Our Memories, the Butterflies Cling, and Soar . . .

With the simple, beautiful gesture of releasing a butterfly and hearing the name of your loved one, there is a special kind of peace and an unexpected kind of communion with others. The Wendt Center offered this healing ritual to our community once again on September 8th at Garfield Park. Thank you to many wonderful people,
their loved ones and write messages to honor them. Video messages can be uploaded and shared as well! We hope this will give our supporters and community a meaningful, wonderful way to remember and honor a loved one who has died.

Watch for the launch of our Forget-Me-Not Garden before the holidays!

Do your holiday shopping to benefit the Wendt Center!

Click here to find gift items on-line! Through the Wendt Center’s partnership with Recoup, 10% comes back to support our services! Happy shopping! Click here.

Upcoming Events

Admin Night Schedule
January 30
February 27
March 27
April 24
May 29
June 26

Volunteer Training
(March 2013 TBD)

Camp Forget-Me-Not/
Camp Erin DC June 21-23

Camp Applications
(March 1; Deadline for submission April 15, 2013)

For questions about volunteering, contact Keicia Hill
khill@wendtcenter.org

For questions about camp

including Barbara Harrison for acting as emcee, and volunteers Virginia Henderson, Mildred Johnson, Dina Recor, Melanie Bryant, Audrey Thomas, Chaz Holman, Angela Melvin, Laura Thacher and Sharon Kenthack, who made this healing day possible. Look for it again next year. Click here for photos.

Special Recognition for Some VERY Special Volunteers

Tom Cooke (former Board President), Mickey Cook, Deshon Eason, and Megan Riley were the recipients of honors at this year’s Volunteer Appreciation Event on November 8, 2012 at Venable Law Firm.

Tom was recognized not only for his years of service as a Board member and Board President, but for his selfless contributions as a volunteer at our candlelight vigils. Deshon Eason has volunteered for many years at Camp and has also provided outstanding support and friendship as a mentor for over four years to a young former Wendt Center client. Mickey Cook steps forward each year to take on huge chunks of vital administrative duties in preparation for Camp, as well as serving in a variety of key capacities each year at Camp. Also a longtime camp volunteer, Megan Riley devotes countless hours each year to designing and creating a beautiful, personalized sign for every camper. Each year, we look forward to seeing these masterpieces and the delight of the children who receive them.

These four volunteers have each dedicated themselves in a unique and inspiring way to the Wendt Center and they have our admiration, our appreciation, our deepest respect and our most profound gratitude.

David Schwarz Architects
Sweeten Our Holidays Again!

Each year we look forward to Schwarz Architects gingerbread delivery to our office!! Staff and clients -particularly the children - are delighted by the intricate candy constructions. Next year, they have invited us to bring some kids and participate in their gingerbread-making festivities. We can't wait!
placement for children, contact Stephanie Handel
shandel@wendtcenter.org

To learn more about groups and services, contact Intake Coordinator Sarah Jo Albertson.
salbertson@wendtcenter.org

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Please continue your kind support of our work during this season of giving.

Make a donation to our Annual Appeal.
Contact Ricarda Dowling at rdowling@wendtcenter.org with questions.

Donate today! Support the Wendt Center’s work.

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