



## Bryan's House 20th Anniversary and Rededication Ceremony



Martin Woodall and Adam Carriker with Bryan's House Co-founder, Stefanie Held at the 20th Anniversary Celebration

In June of 1987, Stefanie Held and nurse Lydia Allen recognized the need to care for HIV-infected children and were deeply concerned about the absence of such services in Dallas. These brave women created a compassionate and cost-effective non-profit organization called, "Open Arms, Inc." In 1988, Stephanie and Lydia leased and renovated a two-story home and named it "Bryan's House". It was named after Lydia's son, who was one of the first children in the Dallas area to die from AIDS.

On Tuesday, March 27, their efforts were honored at the Bryan's House 20th Anniversary and Mission Rededication Reception. Dr. Jimmy Allen, the late Lydia Allen's father, spoke to those in attendance and shared stories about the

early days and how the organization got its start. Bryan's House co-founder, Stefanie Held, was also present and shared her insight about the vision to care for those children affected by HIV and AIDS. Bryan's House, as a child care facility, has come a long way in its 20 years. First, it expanded its original structure in 1990. Then, in December of 2000, thanks largely to a generous grant by the Martin Woodall Foundation, Bryan's House moved into a brand-new, one-of-a-kind building where it has been ever since. This permanent facility has allowed Stefanie and Lydia's dream of caring for children to grow and continue its evolution.

## Woodall Foundation Fundraiser at The Cape

On Thursday, April 19, the Woodall Foundation hosted a special fundraiser at one of Dallas' newest restaurants, The Cape. The Cape is located at 2704 Worthington Street in Uptown Dallas. Several friends and supporters were on hand, and in total, helped donate over \$1600 to the Woodall Foundation. Those in attendance were treated to live jazz music and enjoyed food and drink specials for the entire evening. The highlight of the event was, of course, the raffle where one lucky winner received two tickets to a Dallas Mavericks' playoff game. Other prizes included salon services, artwork, dinner at The Cape, passes to the Dallas Summer Musicals and several gift certificates for the Smoothie Factory.

**FUNDRAISER ALERT-** The Woodall Foundation is in need of donations to help purchase tickets to this year's



The Cape proprietor, Jeff Sweeny, helps Woodall Foundation volunteer, Chris Joll, sell raffle tickets.

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus for some very deserving children and their families. Please contact Adam Carriker (214) 902-7888 for more information.

## Immunization Outreach Report



The Woodall Foundation and Dallas Mavericks Care Van visited this year's Wildflower Festival

The Care Van, sponsored by the Woodall Foundation and the Dallas Mavericks Foundation, was very busy during the first quarter of 2007. By visiting several schools, churches, recreational parks, public housing projects and various local events, the Care Van program was able to screen 2,896 children and provide 5,994 immunizations in communities across the Dallas area. That constitutes 30% of its goal set for this year. The Care Van program sees very few patients during the summer months, but the Caring for Children Foundation has already begun to plan for its annual "Back to School" immunization drive. For more information on the Care Van program or to schedule a Care Van appearance, please visit [www.bcbstx.com/carevan](http://www.bcbstx.com/carevan).

## Autism Treatment Center Students "Blossom" at the Texas Discovery Gardens

On Friday, April 27 the Woodall Foundation sponsored a field trip to the Texas Discovery Gardens for the youth members of the Autism Treatment Center. As part of its educational program, the ATC often schedules weekly outings, such as this, designated to enhance teaching and help develop environmental awareness.

The group was given a guided tour of the gardens and was able to utilize their senses of sight, smell and touch throughout the exploration. This trip ultimately proved to be a very effective form of sensory integration therapy that helped these kids learn to manage and respond to sensory information found in the environment. ATC staff members were amazed at the progress made by several of the children who are often less responsive than others. In addition to the tour, each child was also allowed to create their own terrarium to take home as a souvenir from the Texas Discovery Gardens.



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