

A Place Like Home

A Place To

PLAY!



## Chair of the Board of Directors

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health. This milestone allows us to showcase our doctors and scientists who have developed new medical discoveries that have saved, lengthened and improved countless lives.

The Children's Inn at NIH has been an integral partner in pursuing that biomedical research. Through its core mission, The Inn makes families feel at home during their participation in groundbreaking medical research. More than 12,000 children and their families have stayed at The Inn since it opened in 1990.

The Inn enhanced its own mission statement this year to better reflect the dynamic relationship with the NIH:

*The Children's Inn at NIH is a private, nonprofit residence for families and their children who are participating in pediatric research at the National Institutes of Health's Clinical Center. The Inn enhances the opportunities for groundbreaking medical discoveries by providing a free "place like home" that reduces the burdens of illness through a supportive environment including therapeutic, educational and recreational programming.*

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend our deepest gratitude to all who have made a difference in the lives of our families. You have helped push the bounds of medical research.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Helman".

Lee J. Helman, MD  
Chair, Board of Directors

## Chief Executive Officer

The Inn is proud to provide families with even more than a place to stay, free of charge. We offer a place to heal, a place to be a kid—a place to play. This year, The Inn completed a new Playground and Park, thanks to a major gift from Leidos Health (formerly SAIC), which supports our mission.

More than 1,500 families stayed at The Inn this past year and enjoyed 1,000 therapeutic and diversionary programs, such as AdventureINN field trips to museums and monuments, ExploreINN science experiments with NIH fellows and the HeARTworks caregiver art workshops.

We opened one of two newly renovated kitchens in the original wing of The Inn. The spacious kitchen offers easier access to counters and cabinets, as well as ample open space for families to cook and share meals together. As part of these renovations, we replaced heat pumps and upgraded bathrooms and bedrooms in the original wing, including technology improvements, such as Google TV access and Blue-Ray players.

Our Woodmont House in Bethesda continues to thrive and fulfill a need. Since opening in 2010, more than 100 families have stayed there before transitioning back to their own homes and home countries. On behalf of all the families who find "A Place Like Home" at The Inn, thank you for your continued dedication and generosity. We are most grateful.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy L. Russell".

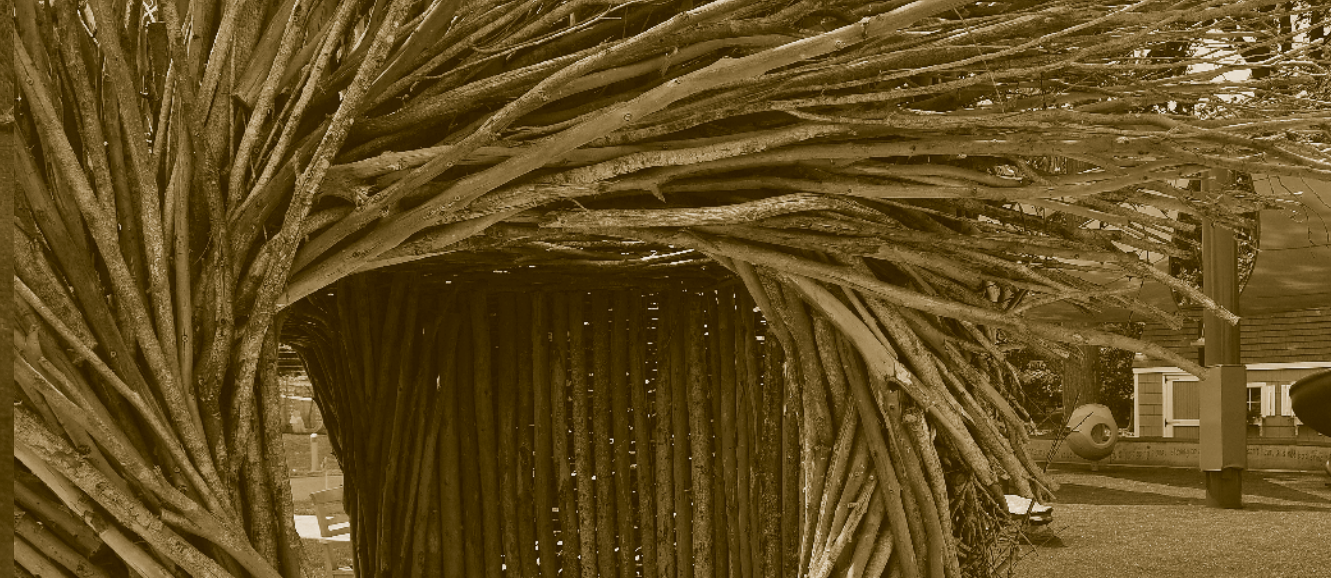
Kathy L. Russell  
Chief Executive Officer



A Place To

PLAY!

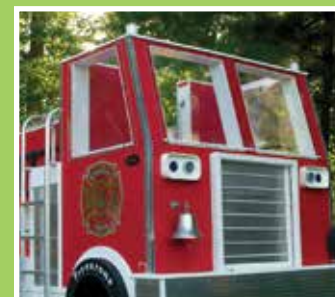
On May 22, 2013, The Children's Inn at NIH proudly opened a new state-of-the-art Playground and Park with help from major supporters, Leidos Health (formerly SAIC), MedImmune, KaBOOM!, AFCEA Bethesda, and the NIH Federal Credit Union. With features such as a putting green, sound garden, amphitheater, swings and sliding boards, this exciting space is critical to fulfilling The Inn's mission of providing "A Place Like Home" by creating a wonderful place to play!



Benjamin's Tree House is a special memorial to local resident Benjamin Memmott, 11, who loved the outdoors. This happy

place of wonder and discovery has a clubhouse with a storybook theme, monkey bars, and a tube slide.

The Fire Engine Play House, donated by Tom and Sonya Ricketts, is one of the structures built by Anthony Wilder Design/Build as part of the Rebuilding Together Montgomery County Play House project.



The Spirit Nest is constructed with Eucalyptus wood, known for strength and durability. The nest was built on site by the artist Jayson Fann and volunteers, who separated the wood by size and wove the branches together like fabric to integrate the structural integrity with the artistic flow.



The brightly colored kinetic sculptures of a mama and baby giraffe, created by sculptor Frederick Prescott, are eye-catching and fun, especially when their heads bob up and down in the wind.



The Donor Arch, which honors the leadership donors to the Playground and Park project, is made of whimsical figures who greet our guests as they enter the Park.



The Garden Kaleidoscope, honoring Playground and Park donor, Leidos Health (formerly SAIC), has two brass telescopes mounted at different heights. The lenses form beautiful kaleidoscopic patterns from objects outside the instrument.





# 2012-13 HIGHLIGHTS!

Each year we like to share our progress with friends and supporters of The Children's Inn at NIH. Because of you, much was accomplished this year, ranging from renovations of older spaces to upgraded technology for increased convenience and safety for Inn families. Residents participated in 1,043 therapeutic and diversionary programs. Your generous gifts allowed us to provide a place to stay and a place to play for the 1,566 children and families who spent more than 12,800 nights at The Inn from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

## Facilities Services

- Completed construction of the Playground and Park
- Created and implemented playground maintenance plan
- Replaced resident room heat pumps and completed renovations to kitchen and resident bathrooms in the A/B wings
- Renovated patio and addressed drainage issues at The Woodmont House

## Volunteer Program

- 193 volunteers and groups provided 18,590 hours of service, equating to nine full-time employees
- Developed new procedures/guidelines for welcome desk substitute program
- Formed new Volunteer Advisory Committee for 2013/2014 term
- Received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for The Inn's Volunteer Program, as well as 50 individual Inn volunteer awards received



## Resident Services

- Created monthly cultural education activities for families
- Expanded therapeutic programming to include child life theory and elements
- Completed compassion fatigue study and implemented suggestions for staff support program
- Formalized data collection procedures for facilities and resident services and used family satisfaction survey to enhance and expand support and services
- Completed needs assessment and approval process to begin an isolation room pilot
- Began an organization effectiveness project, including the development of a comprehensive family survey
- Enhanced crisis response training education and activities to include weekly education components

## Community Outreach Program

- 1,228 individuals, businesses, organizations, and faith-based groups provided in-kind donations of goods and services
- Developed a donor recognition program to recognize long-term in-kind donors
- Created Amazon.com wish list for in-kind donations
- Created a brochure highlighting community volunteer opportunities
- Hosted four large-scale volunteer service days for Playground build project

## Human Resources and Business Operations

- Designed and delivered manager training to all supervisors
- Conducted review and benchmarking of benefits program
- Implemented Talent Review process to develop and retain employees
- Completed review of and implemented changes to 401K funds



## Information Technology

- Upgraded perimeter security/video to ensure safety
- Worked with Booz Allen Hamilton programmers in their pro-bono effort to upgrade resident check-in process
- Installed volunteer/staff appreciation video display in volunteer lounge
- Upgraded resident Verizon FIOS network

## Finance

- Hired new Investment Manager; all long-term investments moved to new funds
- Completed FY12 Audit with an unqualified opinion and no management letter
- Revised Investment Policy to ensure appropriate benchmarking and oversight of investment manager performance
- Ensured FDIC coverage for all short-term operating funds

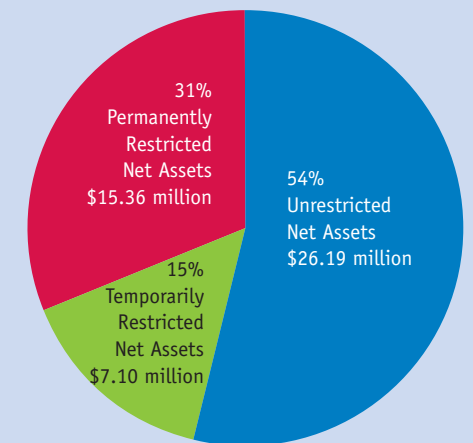
# 2012-13 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



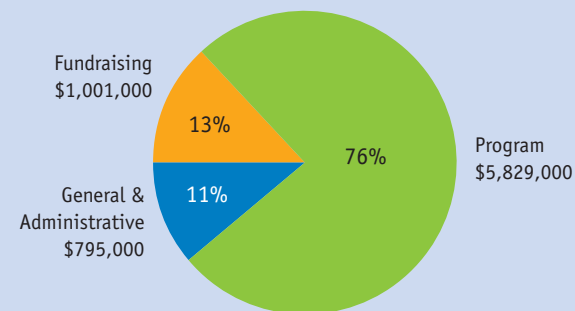
The Children's Inn at NIH and The Woodmont House are a haven of hope for up to 64 families each day, from across the country and around the world, seeking help for their children's medical conditions and hoping for a cure while participating in research studies at the National Institutes of Health—the nation's premier biomedical research center. More than 12,000 children and their families, from 50 states and more than 80 countries, have stayed at The Inn since it opened in 1990. The Inn continues to enhance programs and services for residents that fulfill our mission of keeping the family together during a child's illness and providing a healing environment through mutual support.

## Net Assets as of June 30, 2013: \$48.65 million

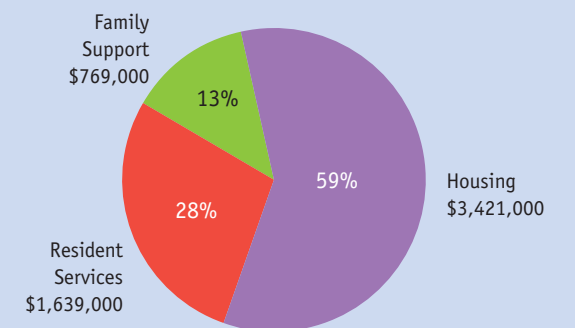
Total Income for FY2013=\$14.12 million  
(including in-kind contributions of \$5.85 million)



## Total FY2013 Operating Expense: \$7.63 million



## Programming Expense Breakdown: \$5.83 million



## Fundraising

- Increased charitable contributions to The Inn by 5% to \$5,127,604
- Held the second annual Young Ambassadors WINNter Affair, raising more than \$50,000
- Raised funds to construct and open the new Park and Playground
- Held several major fundraisers to raise money for the kitchen and dining room renovations:
  - 24th Annual Congressional Gala honoring Drs. Anthony Fauci and P. Roy Vagelos

- Meet and Greet with celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis in conjunction with the Metropolitan Cooking and Entertaining Show

## Public Relations

- Investigated redesign of website with expected implementation in early 2014
- Increased online presence through social media

Source: Audited financial statements as of June 30, 2013; Available upon request.

The Children's Inn holds the Better Business Bureau seal of approval and is recognized by Charity Navigator, indicating that we fulfill our mission in a fiscally responsible way. These exceptional designations demonstrate to supporters that we are worthy of their trust.







M

## Marijka Michmershuizen

Ten-year-old Marijka Michmershuizen, from Pella, Iowa, the oldest of Joe and Leisa Michmershuizen's four daughters, recently wrote her own bio on the family's online community site, called "Carepages:"

*"My favorite food is anything that looks like or tastes like or is made of chocolate. I enjoy school very much, just not the work part of it. God made me special in several ways, one of which is that my immune system doesn't work very well. Because of this I can sometimes get sick. I think that getting sick is very boring. My favorite color is purple and I love rainbows of any kind. My life long dream is to be a princess."*

Marijka has been in and out of hospitals most of her young life, battling a rare disorder called Job's Syndrome, which affects the immune system and often the bones and teeth. She has endured strokes, brain surgery, meningitis, encephalitis and hydrocephalus.

"Marijka is a walking, talking miracle; any number of illnesses should have taken her life," says Joe. Despite the pronounced limp on her left side, paralyzed from a stroke at age four, despite her inability to run or jump, Marijka is quick with a smile and a positive word.

"I like when daddy stays overnight at the hospital with me," she says. Her father is often close by her side; he's come so close to losing her. When little Marijka was only four and gravely ill, Joe didn't hesitate to "suit up" at the hospital, putting on scrubs and insisting on carrying his daughter into the operating room for lifesaving surgery. He also remembers insisting that the doctors allow him to lay Marijka on the operating table and hold her hand until the anesthesia had taken hold.

Bottom left, Marijka and sister Metje on The Inn's Playground; top left, with their parents, Joe and Leisa, in the Spirit Nest; above during an appointment at the Clinical Center with Dr. Alexandra Freeman of the Laboratory of Clinical Infectious Diseases at the NIAID.

Since Leisa was pregnant or nursing during Marijka's early hospital treatments, Joe took the lead role at the doctor appointments. Marijka's sister, Metje, 8, often comes along to The Inn while younger sisters Mariel, 4, and Miriam, 3, stay home with their grandparents. "We play games," Marijka says. "Apples to Apples or Trouble," says her sister Metje.

Since 2008, the family has traveled to The Inn for one week every year so Marijka may be treated at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the National Institutes of Health.

"The Inn is a place to come and just relax," says Leisa. "I'm so happy she can have fun here." For Joe, just being with his girls brings joy: "Marijka is my source of strength," he says. "When you're 10 years old, you've been on medication your entire life, you've had so many blood draws and endured all that she has—often without complaints or tears—how can you not gain strength from her?"





## M Matthew Temby

Steve and Matthew Temby from Victoria, Australia have found a second home at The Children's Inn, and a squadron of supporters among the NIH and Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad firefighters. Steve, a volunteer firefighter back home, and his son, Matthew, have been coming to The Inn since 2009.

During their initial ten-week stay, they were treated as family, invited to weekly dinners at the NIH Fire Department while staying at The Inn.

"They were fantastic to us," said Steve, who stopped by both departments during their first visit in 2009 to introduce himself. Since then, both the NIH and Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad have opened their doors and welcomed them as family, he says.

Matthew was 13-years-old when he first left Australia, escorted to the airport in Melbourne by a fleet of fire trucks and rescue vehicles, lights ablaze to wish him luck. He is one of a dozen youngsters in a research study for Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma at the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

Doctors in Australia discovered a large tumor in his throat after Matthew was initially diagnosed with acute asthma. Further imaging scans revealed a cancerous mass blocking his windpipe. Doctors told the family it was too risky to remove the tumor. Since then, Matthew has lived with a tracheostomy tube, learning how to clean it and change it on his own.

For the past four years, Matthew and his dad have been coming to The Inn to participate in a research study for his rare cancer; their next trip in January 2014 will be their fourteenth visit. While the tumor is still present, it is smaller and Matthew is more stable and active, even able to swim.

Bottom left, Matthew by the fire truck on The Inn's Playground; top left, with his dad; above during an appointment at the Clinical Center with Dr. Brigitte Widemann, Head of the Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics Section of the Pediatric Oncology Branch at the NCI.

"Before we came to the NIH, we had no options," says Steve. "Doctors gave Matthew 18 to 24 months to live. Without the NIH, Matthew just would not be here."

Steve also credits his son's easy-going, upbeat personality. "His attitude is doing as much good as the drugs," he says.

For Matthew, The Inn has helped him stay positive. "The Inn has atmosphere. It has light," Matthew says.

During their visits, the pair often takes time to tour and sightsee around the DC area. They have been to many museums and monuments and enjoy eating at Chili's and Chipotle, which they don't have in Australia. The outings, the camaraderie at The Inn, the visits to the fire departments, are a big boost, Steve says.

"There is no way on the face of this Earth that we would be able to stay as long as we have stayed without The Children's Inn," says Steve. "It feels like home—or as close to home as you can get."





## Kayla Martinez

Nine-year-old Kayla Martinez from Elmwood Park, Illinois, has been coming to The Children's Inn and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with her mother Dorelia and father Carlos since she was one. She navigates through The Inn like it's a second home, showing off her fashion sense in bright dresses and matching nail polish. "She's grown up here," says Dorelia. "This is her favorite place."

When Kayla was four months old, she started developing fevers and rashes and was not eating. Persistent in their efforts to find out what was wrong with their daughter, Kayla's parents took her to 22 different specialists. When Kayla was 15 months old, her parents met a rare disease professor at the Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago who suggested that Kayla might have neonatal onset multisystem inflammatory disease (NOMID) – a disorder that causes persistent inflammation and tissue damage affecting the nervous system, skin, and joints. With this possibility, Kayla's parents started talking to other parents in the online community, who recommended that they go to the NIH.

Within one day of being at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), Kayla was officially diagnosed with NOMID. At the time, she was the youngest patient to receive this diagnosis. Since then, Kayla has been taking a daily injection of Anakinra and has not experienced any other rashes. With only about 100 diagnosed cases worldwide, Kayla's early diagnosis and treatment was crucial to her health and development. While the sight that she lost in one eye when she was 11 months old was never regained, her hearing has improved and Kayla has not experienced any other major developmental issues.

Bottom left, musical Kayla enjoys the life-size xylophone on The Inn's Playground; top left, with her father and mother; above during an appointment at the Clinical Center with Dr. Raphaela Goldbach-Mansky, Acting Chief, Translational Autoinflammatory Disease Section at the NIAMS.

When she was younger, Kayla made multiple visits to the NIH each year, but because she has been doing so well, she only came once this year and will likely come even less frequently in years to come.

Leaving three dogs back home, Kayla enjoys playing with therapy dog Vi when she is at The Inn. She also loves playing air hockey in the Game Room and hopping from the life-size xylophone to the putting green out on the Playground and Park. Dorelia enjoys the activities that The Inn offers. She especially enjoys Family Dinners because they give her the opportunity to interact with other families.

Kayla also engages in other fun, therapeutic activities that help strengthen her body. She enjoys yoga, which helps with her arthritic symptoms, horseback riding and playing the piano. Recently, Kayla even ran her first 5k race while in Mexico. "I don't think she would be here if it wasn't for the NIH," says Dorelia. "It's been life-saving."





## Kamryn Brumbeloe

With a contagious laugh and a vivid imagination, two-year-old Kamryn Brumbeloe, from Guntersville, Alabama, commands the attention of everyone she encounters. Now that she is old enough to run, she bounces around The Inn from one toy or play area to another. Kamryn has been coming to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and The Inn with her mother, Kayla, and father, Will, since January 2012 to participate in a research study at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

After taking two-month-old Kamryn to the doctor for a bloated stomach, the Brumbeloe's learned that she had an enlarged spleen and liver and were referred to the Children's Hospital in Birmingham. When Kamryn was four months old, she was diagnosed with Niemann-Pick Disease Type C (NPC). NPC is a genetic, neurodegenerative disorder that interferes with the body's ability to metabolize cholesterol and is often referred to as "childhood Alzheimer's." With only about 500 cases diagnosed worldwide, another mother of a child with NPC contacted Kayla and informed her about the research studies at the NIH.

Kamryn has not had any neurological symptoms associated with NPC and is not yet taking medication or receiving treatment for her condition, but her parents are grateful to be involved in a research study at the NIH. "It's a blessing to feel like we're doing something, even if it's just testing," says Kayla.

The Brumbeloe's visit to The Inn this summer was extra special because Kamryn is now old enough to make full use of The Inn's play areas, including the new Park and Playground, where she climbs up every slide—even the big ones. Kamryn's parents had a hard

Bottom left, little Kamryn loves so many fun parts of The Inn's new Playground; top left, with her mommy and daddy; above during an appointment at the Clinical Center with Dr. Forbes Porter, Senior Investigator and Clinical Director at the NICHD.

time getting her to come inside. Kayla enjoys spending time in the Reflection Space, where she can get away from everything for a while and meditate or pray. Both Kayla and Will welcome the diverse environment of The Inn, where they have met people from all over the world. They also got a taste of home during one visit when they met another family from Alabama. "[The Inn] does feel like a second home to us," says Will.

Kamryn's family started a foundation called "Kure 4 Kamryn" that holds events and fundraisers in their town every year to raise awareness about NPC. Kayla, a fifth-grade teacher, also helped start a Rare Disease Day at her school to educate others about rare conditions like Kamryn's. Meanwhile, Will is studying physical therapy so that he can help Kamryn with symptoms she likely will develop from the disease as she gets older.

"We want her to change as many people's hearts as possible and make a name for herself," says Will.





## Dalvin Atkins

When Dalvin Atkins, from Chattahoochee, Florida, was nine years old, he and his mother Bridgett began noticing strange bruises on his body. After tests revealed extremely low blood counts, their family doctor assumed he had leukemia and advised Bridgett to take Dalvin to the hospital immediately. After another week of tests, the family found some relief in Dalvin's diagnosis; he did not have leukemia, but he did have aplastic anemia — a blood disorder in which the body's bone marrow does not make enough new blood cells.

Throughout the next 11 years, Dalvin received five trials of anti-thymocyte globulin (ATG), an immunosuppressive therapy, and numerous blood transfusions. However, these treatments only temporarily raised his blood cell counts and they never returned to normal. Earlier this year, Dalvin's condition worsened and the need for a bone marrow transplant was dire. With no match among his relatives or through the national bone marrow registry, Dalvin needed a special transplant, with stem cell donations from multiple sources. Having never done such a transplant, his home doctor contacted Dr. Richard Childs at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and asked him to take on Dalvin's case.

Dalvin, now 20, and Bridgett arrived at the NIH in February 2013 and stayed at The Inn until Dalvin received his transplant, including another round of the ATG, on April 2. The stem cells came from Bridgett as well as from an unknown umbilical cord blood source. Dalvin also suffers from myotonia congenita, a neuromuscular disorder that often makes it difficult for him to walk. Dalvin's muscle condition flared and

Bottom left, Dalvin plays board games at The Inn's Woodmont House; top left, with his mom; above during an appointment at the Clinical Center with Dr. Richard Childs, Senior Investigator, Laboratory of Transplantation Immunotherapy and Acting Clinical Director of the Division of Intramural Research at the NHLBI.

Bridgett struggled to get him to the NIH Clinical Center for post-transplant appointments.

Bridgett and Dalvin were able to transition into The Inn's Woodmont House. Since moving to Woodmont, Dalvin's muscle condition has improved, his platelet counts have been optimal and his white blood cell counts are back to normal. Dalvin still visits the Clinical Center three times a week for check-ups, but has not needed a transfusion in months. "His energy is back," Bridgett says. "I got my baby back."

Dalvin enjoys interacting with Woodmont staff, whether it is sharing his mom's home-cooked meals, watching movies or playing games. Dalvin and his mom also enjoy the opportunity to be outside more often and shop at the local mall. The Woodmont House feels like home to them, and Bridgett relishes the effect that it has had on Dalvin. "We've been taken in and everyone is so great to us," she says. "I see joy within him now."



# A Place Like Home

## 2012-13

# DONORS

The Children's Inn at NIH is deeply grateful to the generous donors who gave gifts of cash and pledges between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. The following list recognizes cash gifts of \$250 or more as well as Planned Gifts and our Northern Stars supporters. (The Inn also appreciates the many in-kind gifts and services that we receive throughout the year.) Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our records. Please contact Lucy Merkley at seagraveslf@mail.nih.gov or 301-451-9455, if we need to make a correction.

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## Leidos Health Inc.

Leidos Health Inc. (formerly Science Applications International Corp. or "SAIC") has had a long-standing relationship with The Children's Inn, and the more than 5,000 members of the Leidos Health team are looking forward to continuing their support in the years ahead. This year's involvement with The Inn was extra special, given Leidos Health's active involvement with the new Playground and Park. Leidos Health donated more than \$325,000 and hundreds of volunteer hours to help make this fun space a reality.

After more than a year of construction, the Leidos Health team took great joy in watching Inn residents and their families discover the many features the Playground and Park offers.

"Our relationship with The Inn is a natural and successful fit," says Steve Comber, President of the Health Solutions Group at Leidos Health. "Our scientists and technical personnel work side-by-side with researchers and program staff at the National Institutes of Health every day to help discover the causes of and treatments for diseases. Our employees want to show their appreciation for the amazing work that NIH does for so many people."

Comber adds that the team's continued dedication to The Inn reflects Leidos Health's deep commitment to supporting the NIH mission of advancing biomedical research and discovery, while also supporting The Inn as it makes life more comfortable for children receiving life-saving treatment, and their families.

"We are not only honored by their financial support, but also by the generosity of Leidos Health employees who donate their time to help make The Inn a better place. The support of Leidos Health helps us fulfill our mission," says Inn CEO Kathy Russell.

"We are passionate about helping our customers across the healthcare industry find ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat illnesses," Comber says. "And we are proud to continue our legacy of supporting a healthy future for our families, our communities, and our world."



## Helen Olson

Helen and Donald Olson devoted their lives to helping children. Unable to have children of their own, the couple resolved to do whatever they could to help other children.



They learned about The Children's Inn many years ago through Helen's work at Bradley Shopping Center in Bethesda, which she manages. One day at the shopping center, Donald met the parent of a child staying at The Inn. When he recounted his experience to Helen, they both knew immediately that they wanted to help.

Helen's tenants at Bradley Shopping Center had requested having a sidewalk sale, so she decided to hold annual spring and fall festivals. At the fall festival, approximately 200 small pumpkins, loaded on bales of hay, were displayed and sold, with proceeds going to The Inn. She also placed a jug in the pumpkin patch for additional donations. At the spring festival, potted plants were sold to benefit The Inn.

"I like that [The Inn] is available for parents to be with their children during serious illness," says Helen. "We would have done anything that we could for The Inn."

Although the festivals do not take place anymore, Helen is still dedicated to supporting The Inn. She makes an annual donation in memory of Donald, who passed away in 2006. Helen is also a member of The Innkeepers Society, which recognizes individuals who have made gifts to The Inn through their estate plans.

Helen continues to manage Bradley Shopping Center from her home in Arlington, VA, where she has lived for 50 years. The Inn is deeply grateful to Helen and Donald for their annual support and their special estate commitment that will ensure that there will always be "a place like home" to keep children and families together during serious illness.

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## Margaret Smith Ford and John B. Ford

Margaret and John Ford have been long-time, generous supporters of The Children's Inn. Since the opening of The Inn more than 20 years ago, the Fords have provided financial support, as well as Thoughtful Treasures and special gifts for Inn residents.



"When we first walked in to The Inn, we could feel how

warm and welcoming it is," says Margaret. "We love what you do for the families and we know how important a warm environment is for them."

The Ford's support of The Inn and other organizations that support cancer research is due in part to having been touched personally by cancer. Margaret's brother, Steven, died tragically when he was in his 20s from melanoma. As a way to honor Steven, the Fords began bringing gifts to The Inn every year on his birthday. In the early 1980's, John's father was diagnosed and treated for lymphoma at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and lived 15 more years following the successful treatment of his disease.

"We have many connections to children, cancer and the NIH," John says, and The Inn touches all three.

The couple says that contributing to The Inn is very rewarding. "You can see how your gifts are being used—directly helping the families."

Residents of Chevy Chase, Maryland, Margaret is a partner with Woodfield Investments, LLC, a real estate development firm, and John is president of *jfordmedia*, a company specializing in video properties management, program development and production, non-fiction series creation, and media research. He is a former executive at the Discovery Channel and National Geographic Channel. In addition to their support of The Inn and cancer research, the Fords are also active with the Washington Jesuit Academy in Washington, DC.

The Inn is deeply grateful to the Fords for their generous support over many years and appreciates all they have done for Inn children and families.

## Emma McNamara

Emma McNamara has spent a lifetime in high-level diplomatic circles and as a web manager for the Environmental Protection Agency. Now, at 70, she enjoys sitting in low chairs with little ones, playing board games and reading children's books. Born in Cuba, Emma has lived in Russia, France, Colombia and Zaire with her husband Thomas "Ted" McNamara, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Colombia as well as numerous other Foreign Service posts.

The couple is retired and lives in Chevy Chase, D.C. Emma traded cocktail parties with foreign officials for pretend tea parties at The Inn's Woodmont House, located

on the corner of Woodmont Avenue and Battery Lane. Woodmont can serve up to five families who are in the process of transitioning home from The Children's Inn at NIH.



Since opening in 2010, more than 100 families, many from other countries, have stayed at Woodmont. Emma's multilingual skills are used often at Woodmont. She is known affectionately as "Miss Emma," and spends Tuesday afternoons immersed in games of Chutes and Ladders and Candy Land or teaching knitting lessons to residents through her "Knitting Circle" class.

Families stay at The Woodmont House when they no longer need daily treatment at the NIH, but aren't yet well enough to return home. The neighborhood setting allows for greater integration into the Bethesda community. Emma revels in helping families, whether tutoring, translating or simply taking the time to talk and visit with families.

"I am lucky that I get to work directly with the kids," Emma says. In her many travels, she has seen world tensions up close. At The Inn, she has witnessed the strength and tenacity of the world's youngest residents.

"The fact that these young children believe they are going to make it, that they are invincible, well, it's very uplifting," Emma says. "They think about today, the very present."



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# MISSION & VALUES

The Children's Inn at NIH is a private, nonprofit residence for families and their children who are participating in pediatric research at the National Institutes of Health's Clinical Center. The Inn enhances the opportunities for groundbreaking medical discoveries by providing a free "place like home" that reduces the burdens of illness through a supportive environment including therapeutic, educational and recreational programming.

**Integrity** We are honest and trustworthy and take personal responsibility for our actions.

**Open Communication** We listen and encourage others to share their ideas and knowledge in a cooperative manner.

**Community** We share a passion to create "a place like home," where all feel a sense of belonging, safety, support and care.

**Helping Others** We respond to the needs of others as we individually and collectively care for and work with each other.

**Respect** We honor the unique qualities of each individual, treat others with kindness, and value the strength that comes from our diversity.





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