

Boyer  
children's  
clinic



# Tomorrow's Child

*Serving children with Cerebral Palsy and Other Developmental Delays for Almost 60 Years*

## Vision Group

One day a week teacher Mary-ellen Buchanan leads Vision Group, a special Boyer class which helps children with developmental delays who are also blind or have low visual ability.

Many of the children attending Vision Group have difficulty with their vision because of a condition called cortical vision impairment (CVI). When a child has CVI there is damage to the visual cortex to the brain. This hinders the brain from understanding the messages and signals from the eyes. Each child's visual ability is very different and can change from day to day and even hour-to-hour so it is important to capitalize on the moments when a child is more visually aware. The staff in the Vision Group teaches parents and caregivers to recognize these moments and helps them maximize each child's potential.

Most children with developmental delays use their visual skills such as "eye gaze" to communicate their wants and understanding. For the children in the Vision Group, many of whom have significant developmental delays, communication is especially difficult. Learning to use vision, no matter how limited, is Vision Group's goal, and specialized approaches using environmental and equipment modifications are used in the class.

One such approach is using a high contrast environment. When a toy is illuminated in a dark room or a dark

screen is used to separate the toy from background objects and distractions, children with CVI can more easily see the toy. Too much visual stimulation can be confusing for children with CVI, but a high contrast environment can help the children differentiate between objects



*A Boyer child at play in the "Little Room."*

and hopefully later identify the objects and indicate preferences.

Another approach utilized by the Vision Group is the "Little Room." Children with developmental delays and low vision often do not reach out and explore their surrounding areas. However, the "Little Room" gives these children a small and very stimulating space to explore. Enclosed in plastic walls, the "Little Room" is filled with common household objects such as measuring cups and bells suspended from the ceil-

ing with elastic. When the children's fingers become "caught" among the suspended items, the children are stimulated by the different textures and sounds and interaction is prolonged. In addition, a wood resonance board is used as the floor of the "Little Room" to accentuate the sounds within the area.

The Vision Group is unique to Boyer Children's Clinic and the children in the Vision Group meet for hour-long sessions once a week. Ultimately, the goal is for the children to participate in the other classrooms at Boyer and in any other community settings their families choose. Boyer believes that Vision Group is an important part of helping children with low visual ability reach their developmental goals.

## Inside

**Santa's Secret Helpers**

**Special Events**

**Contributors**

**And Much More.....**



## A Note from the Director

### History Repeats Itself, Successfully

Boyer Children's Clinic was originally established as the Spastic Aid Council, Inc. in 1947. Its membership was the Spastic Aid Auxiliary Units. At one time there were over 70 units with 900 members. Most were women.

In the early days the Auxiliary did it all. They managed the agency, raised the money, were the volunteers, provided public relations, etc. They had their own thrift shop, built three additions to the facility and paid off mortgages.

Through the seventies and eighties, volunteerism changed. Women were working outside the home and did not have time for daytime volunteering and fundraising teas. The Auxiliary membership slipped away as the existing membership aged.

In 1998, the idea arose again. A young woman with a lot of energy and dedication, Heidi Westling, became



involved with Boyer Children's Clinic and looked to see how she could make a contribution. She decided that she knew many young professional women who were looking for ways to support the community. She formed the Helping Hands for Boyer Guild and the rest is history. There

are currently 10 active members.

Since inception, the "Guild" has been instrumental in many of Boyer's activities. The women volunteer to help at Boyer and at special events. They conduct their own fund raisers, such as the Wine Tasting party planned this fall for Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup> and the Apple Cup party scheduled for Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. They find volunteers for specific needs, such as designing web pages and photographing events. They procure items for auctions and help coordinate functions.

*Our thanks to Heidi and the Helping Hands for Boyer Guild!*

- Judith A. Moore

### Make a Difference Through the United Way

**D**id you know Boyer is a United Way agency? Since 1968 the United Way and its contributors have played a tremendous role in helping children with developmental delays.

When you make a contribution through the United Way, you can designate your donation for Boyer Children's Clinic. You can also help by telling your friends, family, and co-worker that they too can contribute through the United Way.



Spring 2001, Page 2

### Planning Ahead Ensures Savings

**L**eaving a will ensures that you, not the government, decide how and to whom your estate will be distributed. You can designate your estate to go to your heirs, a charity, or both. A will that includes contributions to a charity ensures that your heirs will pay the least amount of taxes possible.

When planning your estate, please consider Boyer Children's Clinic. Bequeathing part of your estate to our tax-deductible organization not only offers tax relief to your heirs, it is also a great way to make sure that an organization you care about will thrive well into the future.

### Upcoming Special Events

*The Outrigger Canoe Regatta*

**July 23rd  
Chandler's Cove  
9 AM**

*Thunder Ride 3*

**Pre-Ride Dinner  
August 18th**

**Thunder Ride Caravan  
Barbeque & Concert  
August 19th**

## Santa's Secret Helpers

As Santa made his way through the Boyer holiday party, children giggled with delight as he provided each of them with a very special teddy bear. Yet these bears did not travel all the way from Santa's workshop in the north pole. These bears came from Bellevue!

For years now, Dan and Irene Hunter have been Santa's secret supplier. With their very own assembly line style of production, the Hunters have repeatedly made hundreds of holiday bears for Boyer kids. The Hunters have provided happy holiday memories for countless numbers of Boyer children and families.



*Dan and Irene Hunter and just a few of their special bears*

*Thank you Dan and Irene for your tireless support of Boyer Children's Clinic.*



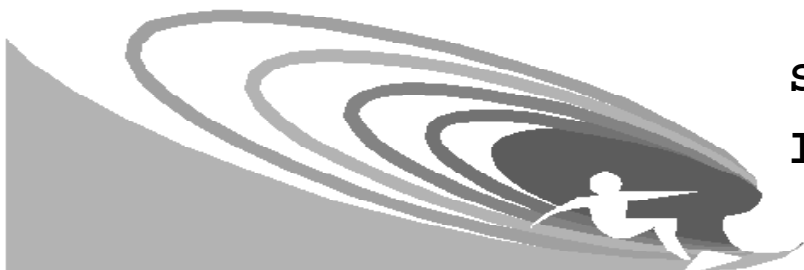
*Cameron Mease, right, celebrates his 15th Birthday with friend Keith Morse.*

## Happy Birthday Cameron!

For most of us, birthdays mean cake and presents. But ninth grader Cameron Mease saw an opportunity to help Boyer. For his 15th birthday, Cameron asked that his friends celebrate not by giving him gifts, but by making contributions to Boyer. Cameron's thoughtful idea and the generosity of his friends helped raise \$250.

Cameron volunteered at Boyer when he was in third grade and it is nice to know Boyer is still in his heart. *A big THANK YOU to Cameron Mease and all of his friends as well as a hearty HAPPY BIRTHDAY CAMERON!*

WWW • BOYERCC • ORG



**Surf on over for the latest in Boyer news!**

# Boyer Wish List

Small See-N-Say  
Toys w/Levers

Children's Cd's  
or Tapes

Bags of  
Cotton Balls

Kid's Broom &  
Dustpan w/Stand

Simple Puzzles  
w/Large Knobs

Small Bottles  
of White Glue

Red Lentils  
& Flaxseed  
(20 lb Bags)

Shape Sorters  
w/Light & Sound

Large Toy Zoo  
& Farm Animals

.....

## Contributions From October 1, 2000 - March 31, 2001

.....

**Over \$25,000**

Detlef Schrempf Foundation

Alfred & Ruth Goddard  
Crippled Children's Trust of  
Washington

**\$5,000**

Horace Dawson Foundation

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Alice Claire S. Montgomery Trust  
Century 21 North Homes Realty-  
Everett

Century 21 North Homes Realty-  
Snohomish

Harry E. Teasley, Jr. Foundation

Helen M. Schiff Foundation

Helping Hands for Boyer Guild

Kiwanis Club of Issaquah

Seattle Police Employees Charity  
Fund

Susan Smith Stephens

Washington Women's Foundation  
Elizabeth Wheelwright

**\$500 - \$999**

Derek & Susan Arndt

Ehrlich Donnan Foundation

Harley Owners Group-Seattle

Dan & Irene Hunter

David & Camille Jassny

Kiwanis Club of Providence Point

Robert & Betty Moore

Perkins Coie, LLP

**\$100 - \$499**

Anonymous  
US West Foundation  
Don & Jane Abel  
J.H. & Doris Abramson  
Lee & Jennifer Alexander  
Teryn Allen & Family  
BP Amoco Foundation  
Dr. F.Curt & Barbara Bennett  
Don & Candace Buethorn  
J.W. & Elaine Clark  
John Clark  
Coinstar  
Downtown Harley Davidson  
Gary & Nancy Eliassen  
Joseph Epler  
Jack & Dorothy Fidler  
Leon & Erika Giles  
Valerie Anne Hagger  
Peggy Halwachs  
Dr. Vanja Holm  
Diane Holmgren  
Morton & Beverly Holmgren  
Ann Huber  
Joyce Irish  
Kiwanis Club of Providence Point  
Thomas & Melinda Lentz  
Betty Loomis  
Marriott Residence Inn-Lake Union  
Michael McCarthy  
Cameron Mease  
G-Marie Miyata  
Gerald & Margaret Pomeroy  
Queen City Yacht Club  
STAR Physical Therapy  
Laurel Treiber  
Vernon Publications  
Jerry Vitus  
Washington Mutual Savings Bank  
Foundation  
James & Donna Weller  
Dr. & Mrs. J. Thomas Ylvisaker

**\$99 & Under**

Anonymous  
Richard Adams  
Aimonetto & Sons

Leonard & Madeleine Anderson  
David & Joyce Brewster  
Doris Baxter Burns  
Century 21 Northgate  
Elizabeth Clark  
Taylor & Anita Collings  
EDS  
Sue Farley  
Wayne Favre & Christina Hellwich  
The Krauter Family  
Jack & Katherine High  
Genevieve Holter  
Robert & Evelyn Jackson  
Samuel & Marty Jacobs  
Kari Knutson  
Richard & Helen Lone  
Elizabeth F. Myers  
George & Alice Nichols  
John & Elizabeth Sherris  
Dr. Margaret Sigley  
Phillip Sustad  
R.W. & Marion Thomas, Jr.  
Sylvia Vargas  
Louise Walker  
Shirley White

***United Way Contributors***

Kenneth & Linda Adkins  
Karen Alexander  
Judith Alexander McGovern  
Debbie Butler  
Fay Chapman  
Sabrina Cook  
Robert & Mary Jo Culliton  
Alex Dorn  
Stacy Dorn  
Lauren Feaux & Jose Oglesby  
Mark & Linda Greenlaw  
Alfred Hyde  
Lauren Kopec  
Lydia Krukowski  
Dave Maag  
Microsoft Corporation  
Gay Naganuma  
Jennifer Richards  
Union Bank of California-Non Bay  
Area

***In Memory or Honor of***

Bullivant Houser Bailey  
From:  
JRP Engineering  
  
Robert Edwards  
From:  
Steve & Melody Edwards  
John, Susan, & Cindy Johnson  
  
Darcy Goodman  
From:  
Anonymous  
  
William Charles Hardman  
From:  
John & Wendy Hagan  
  
Tina Marmon  
From:  
IDD Aerospace  
  
Abigail McCarthy  
From:  
Gus & Ami Nikaitani  
  
Eduardo I. & Norma Pina  
From:  
Kenneth & Coralie  
Krummeck  
  
Andrew Price, III  
From:  
Manson & Frances Backus

***Significant In Kind  
Contributions***

Wizy Wig



*We value all contributions and try very hard to list and spell all names correctly. If you find we made a mistake, we would appreciate it if you brought it to our attention. Thank you.*

**Board of Directors, March 2001**

Mark Rossi, President; Michael P. Verchot, Vice-President; Sean Corry, Treasurer; Heidi Westling, Secretary; Derek Arndt, Director at Large; Mary Jo. Culliton, Laurie Demeritt, Anne K. Huber, Son Pham, Jennifer Ridewood, Leonard Sorrin, Rutha Thomas, Judith A. Moore, Executive Director.

**BOYER CHILDREN'S CLINIC**

*Serving Children and Families for Almost 60 Years*

**Yes, I want to help Boyer's children!**

**Your generous support will help us meet the future challenges of providing physical, occupational and speech therapy, early childhood special education, family services, comprehensive medical evaluations and transportation to clinic services. Please give as generously as you can...**

I have enclosed:  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$150  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name *(as you would like it to appear on acknowledgement)* \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark here if you would like your gift to be anonymous.

My company has a matching gift program. Name of company \_\_\_\_\_

*(Many companies have matching gift programs. Please contact your personnel office for details.)*

**Please print & mail to Boyer Children's Clinic, 1850 Boyer Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112**