



Center for Human Services

Building a stronger community...one family at a time

CHS RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS



I am deeply moved by being able to present awards for "Outstanding Community Support" for CHS in my mother, Dorrit Pealy's, name. Mother was a founding board member of the Center for Human Services and continued her active board service and commitment to CHS until she passed away in 2001. Now, I am carrying on her legacy.

THE 2009 PEALY AWARD FOR AN ORGANIZATION GOES TO THE VINEYARD. [The Vineyard](#) could serve as a model for others to show how a faith-based community can work with a human services provider in a non-denominational, non-judgmental, and all-inclusive manner. They partner with CHS in various ways, such as allowing us to use their space to conduct some of our programming, sponsoring the "Festival of Lights" celebration at Ballinger Homes each year supplying the food and gifts for the families, providing lunches for our Summer Explorers Program, participating in the back-to-school consortium and school supply drives, and much more. We are very grateful to the Vineyard for partnering with us and promoting our work in the community. Rose and Rich Swetman accepted the award for the Vineyard at our March 6th Community Connections Dinner and Auction.

Because of my mother's work with the Fircrest Community, I know she would be very pleased with our ***2009 PEALY AWARD FOR AN INDIVIDUAL in her honor, recognizing BETSY GEIB*** as a founding member of [Northshore Special Families](#), a parent-led program of CHS that aims to increase opportunities for social inclusion for children with special needs and their families through support, advocacy and education. Northshore Special Families (NSF) now has a membership of over 115 families and provides the following services as part of CHS: Sibshop, Family Dinners, Special Santa, Family Outings, Parenting classes, & Parents Night Out.

From the beginning in 2004, Betsy brought energy and passion to this program. Her own history as a runner and commitment to wellness, led her to promote the idea of a local race to raise funds for NSF and awareness in the community that together everyone ***CAN DO*** something. In 2009, NSF held its inaugural CanDo 5K, with a goal of 200 participants and breaking even. On a cold morning in March, more than 600 people participated in the event, raising over \$20,000 for NSF. Please save the date for next spring's ***5K AND 10K CANDO RACE ON MARCH 27TH.***

Sincerely,

Nick Pealy
CHS Past President