

# HOMEtown News

The Official Newsletter of the House of Mercy and Encouragement

Fall 2014



## From the Director

*"You are precious to Him. He loves you, and He loves you so tenderly that he carved you on the palm of His hand. When your heart feels restless, when your heart feels hurt, when your heart feels like breaking, remember; I am precious to him, He loves me. He has called me by my name. I am His." – Mother Teresa*



I am overwhelmed by the goodness of family, friends and our community. It was a rather rapid decision to move. Sometimes God holds surprises and this was one of them. Many people came together to help move, pack, clean, paint, advise, donate and generally get an overwhelmingly difficult job done smoothly, quickly and with such a wonderful spirit of generosity and support. We are blessed at the House of Mercy and Encouragement to have the donation of time, talent and treasure of so many individuals. For without you, we simply would not exist and many families would be forgotten.

As we settle in to our new home, we would like to extend a warm invitation to all of you who haven't seen our place to come and visit. Call us first so we can be sure it is a time when the rooms are available to show you and we can spend time to welcome and talk with you.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Mayor Dave Eggers who took time out of his busy schedule to help us cut our ribbon for our Open House. We would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to Commissioner Heather Gracy who gave the beautiful invocation.

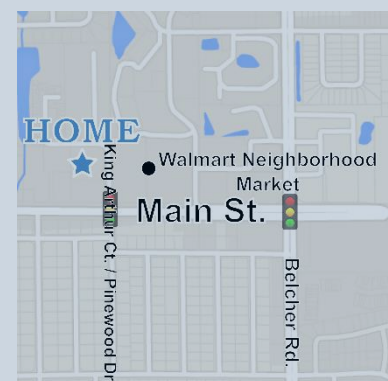
God Bless all of you and may God continue to bless the work we do with children and families. I know He has all of us in the "palm of His hand."

In His Peace,  
Dolores

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Our NEW HOME at  
2030 Main St.  
Dunedin, FL 34698



## My Story

I am using an e-mail we got from one of the parents for the "My Story" column. It demonstrates how we try to connect the home, school and counseling to encourage the success of the children we help. We love hearing success stories! We work with the most awesome parents and children!

"Dear Miss Dolores,

I just wanted to let you know my son had an awesome week at school. He got all 5 stars everyday! He also got to call me for doing so good. At home he is doing awesome as well. I do "Stop, think, and Look" and "1, 2, 3, Turtle" as well. I also gave copies [of the posters] to his teacher so I think the consistency of doing it at home and at school really helps.

My son also has filled and colored the whole rocket and he chose as his reward this time to go to the Florida Aquarium :-). He was going to bring it with us today to show you, but since we won't see you today, I told him we would send you a picture. I am so proud of him! Thank you for all of your help. We will see you next Saturday!"

From, A Proud Mom

*"My Story" is a true story written by a parent, guardian, or student who found help through HOME. Our deepest gratitude to the author!*

## Open House Ribbon Cutting Event

On Friday October 19, 2014, HOME sponsored an open house and ribbon cutting event. We were very pleased and honored that Mayor Dave Eggers took time out his busy schedule to be with us and help cut the ribbon. We were also honored to have Commissioner Heather Gracy deliver the innovation. It is wonderful to know that the City of Dunedin care about the children and families who come to us for help. Our deepest appreciation to all who attended!



Mayor Dave Eggers



Commissioner  
Heather Gracy

# Open House Ribbon Cutting Event (continued)

## *In Times of Transition for House of Mercy and Encouragement*

God of Love, You are with us in every transition and change.  
As we celebrate House of Mercy & Encouragement's entrance into this new location  
With excitement and maybe even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence,  
and abounding love.

Together with Dolores and her staff, we thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you  
have blessed them. –

We thank you for the play therapy and counseling experiences that have brought children,  
families and all of us to this moment. –

We thank you for the work of House of Mercy and Encouragement that gives breadth and  
depth to our own work in this community. –

Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. –

We ask this in your Holy Name. - Amen.

*Adapted by Commissioner Heather Gracy; Joseph P. Shadle, author*



Kiwanis Club of  
Dunedin

Rotary Club of  
Dunedin

Rotary Club of  
Dunedin North

Walmart  
Neighborhood  
Market - Dunedin

LogoPro.com

Kalamazoo Olive  
Company

Dennison Funeral  
Home

Holiday Inn Express  
& Suites – Dunedin

Amberlea Motel

Eddie's Bar and Grill

Dunedin Chamber  
of Commerce

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Catholic Church



Dana Beck Francher Foundation – First  
Presbyterian Church of Dunedin



## AND THE WINNER IS...

Robbi Garrison! We gave the opportunity for any teachers who came to open house to enter their name in a drawing for a \$50 classroom sponsorship. Robbi is a reading teacher at McMullen Booth Elementary. She has even been one of our awesome volunteers! Thank you for coming to our open house! Congratulations!

## *Our Volunteer Angels...*

P.A. Kushner – Beach room: "Footprints in the Sand"  
M'rissa Rosenthal – Playroom: "Rainforest"

Thank you to two very talented friends and artists! Your gift of art is a blessing to HOME!





## The British Invade HOME



GUARENTEED to be a night of FUN AND NOSTALGIA! The Hollies, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Kinks....how many bands can you think of and how many songs do you remember? We will have an "authentic" British dinner, music, dancing, karaoke, silent auction and more. Join us for a really great time at a really GREAT PRICE @ \$35 per ticket! OR bring your friends and be a table sponsor FOR \$245. Our opportunities are listed below. Just call the office to make your reservations with credit card or complete the following information.

Please fill out the following and mail back to us. Thank you.

- ☐ Presenting Sponsor ---- \$1,500 Gift Table of 8 plus funds one child for 10 individual counseling sessions and one child for 8 behavior modification sessions
- ☐ Gold Sponsor ----- \$750 Gift Table of 8 plus funds one child for 10 individual play therapy sessions or one child for 8 behavior modification sessions
- ☐ Silver Sponsor ----- \$500 Gift Table of 8 plus funds one family for 5 family counseling sessions
- ☐ Bronze Sponsor ----- \$300 Gift Table of 8 in choice location
- ☐ Table of 8 ----- \$245 Gift Table of 8 (includes one free ticket)
- ☐ Individual Ticket(s) @ \$35.00 each
- ☐ Donation ----- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Gift      TOTAL      \$
- 

WE CAN NOT DO IT WITHOUT ALL OF YOUR HELP

Total \$\_\_\_\_\_ Please make checks payable to: HOME or complete Credit/Debit Card payment below or go online at [www.houseofmercy-fl.org](http://www.houseofmercy-fl.org) and click on Donations.

Credit Card Payment: Circle One – VISA    MASTERCARD    DISCOVER    AMERICAN EXPRESS

Name on Credit Card    First \_\_\_\_\_    Last \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address    Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_    State \_\_\_\_\_    ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_    Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_    Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_    Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

If you don't see your insurance please contact us. We also offer a sliding fee scale and scholarships. Please call for more details.

BayCare • Children's Medical Services (CMS)  
Cigna • CompSych • Humana (LifeSynch)  
MHNNet Behavioral Health • New Directions  
Sunshine State Health Plan • Tricare  
ValueOptions • Vocational Rehab

Currently a Provider for:

## Need Help??

Our vision is to compassionately serve as a resource for those children and families who are affected by mental health, learning, emotional, or behavioral issues. We are a faith-based provider who believes in the God given dignity of every child and family. All families are treated with respect and kindness.

HOME is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to helping children and families.

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2030 Main Street  
Dunedin, Florida 34698

*play therapy, counseling, tutoring  
help for children and families*



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