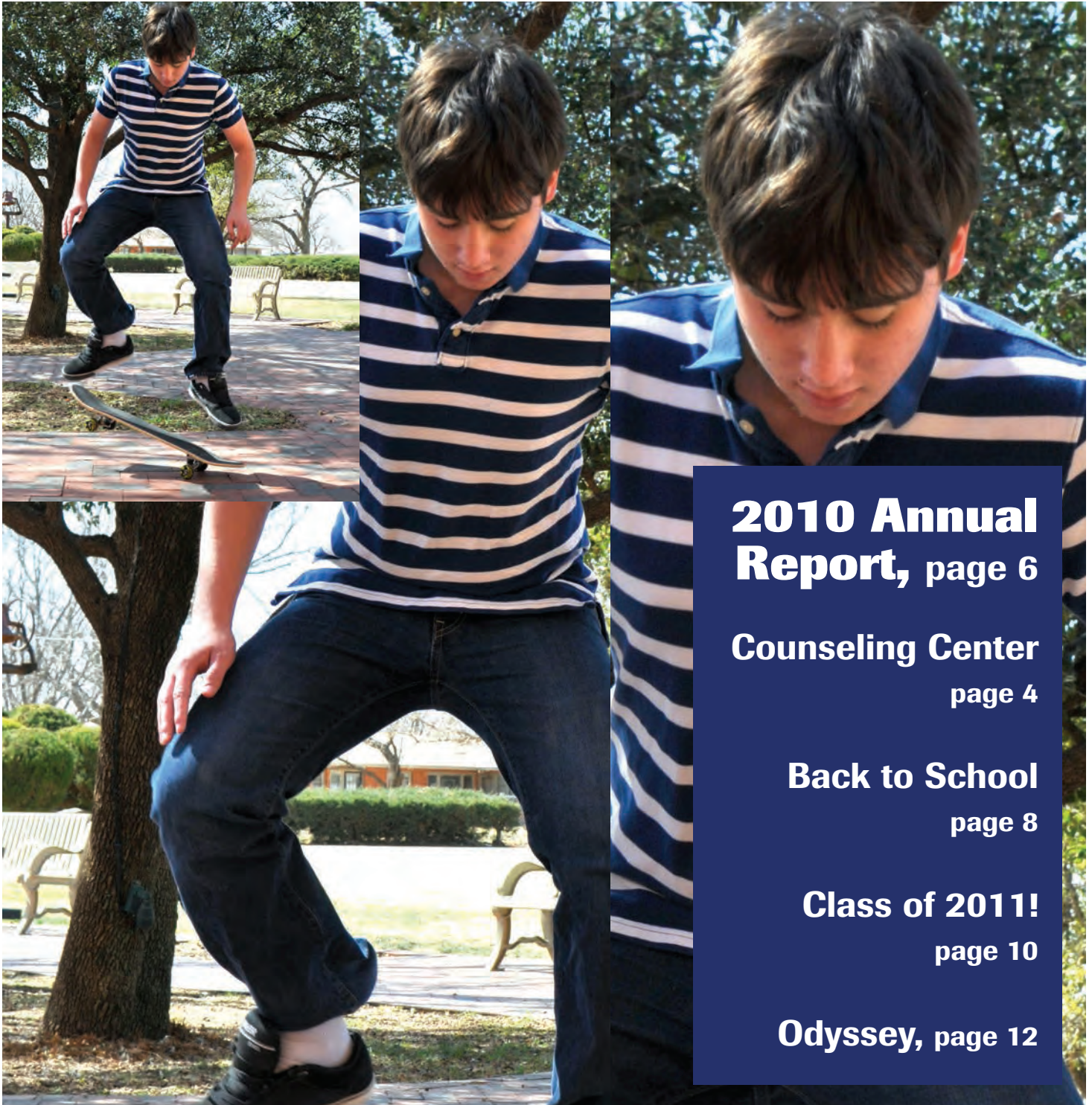


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The Children's Home of Lubbock | 2011 Issue 3

# h o m e



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# Education— beyond the classroom

...the total child – body, mind and spirit.

Education is a core element in our society and certainly affects everyone who knows a child. The school system is often the largest employer in a community; the center of community loyalty; the place where adults hold some of their most vivid memories. Education is a benchmark of our society – there is no denying that fact.

Certainly, around The Children’s Home of Lubbock, education is a major issue and focus. Education provides an opportunity for our kids to overcome the negative back-

grounds and experiences they have survived.

But education is not just centered on the classrooms, books and activities found at the community school. Education at The Children’s Home encompasses education of the total child – body, mind and spirit.

As we heal the wounded bodies and spirits of the youngsters, they begin to feel whole again. That gives them the freedom and safety to open themselves to the great teachers and opportunities at school.

The beginning of school is, in many ways, a more significant milestone than the beginning of a New Year. The children look forward to that first school bell ring, reuniting with friends, seeing favorite teachers, coaches and administrators. It’s the

beginning of new possibilities and fresh opportunities to succeed and achieve.

Your support of The Children’s Home is critical in the success of our kids as they grow in body, mind and spirit. Your gifts make it possible for us to offer the summer “bridge” programs that make success at school more likely. Your gifts ensure our kids go to school with the right supplies, appropriate clothes, good nutrition and healthier attitudes, all key ingredients necessary for success.

Thank you for blessing the lives of our children and giving each one of them the opportunities that will lead each one to a more successful life. May I ask you to keep our kids, the teachers and all school personnel in your prayers as the new school year commences?

*Lynn R. Harms*





Please don't forget me ...

You can remember  
the children in your Will.

*Please complete and mail to The Children's Home Foundation, P.O. Box 2449, Lubbock, TX 79408*

*Dear Friends at The Children's Home of Lubbock Foundation:*

*I would like more information on how I might create a legacy to  
bless the children. Please contact me.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Can we talk while

## The Counseling Center

The newly constructed Counseling Center is up and running. It is proving to be a wonderful place to do the work of helping our boys and girls learn how to deal with the scars of their past and acquire the skills they need to build a good future.

A visit to the Counseling Center would include a look at the play therapy room, where

children can express their deepest thoughts and feelings through play. There's a room where families can share a meal with their children, as they work to rebuild their family unit and learn new ways of relating to each other. There are individual offices where therapists visit with children or parents privately, helping them understand what has happened to

them, learn healthy ways of expressing their feelings, and plant the seeds of hope for a brighter future.

Virtually every child at the Home visits the Counseling Center. Though many of their experiences are similar, each perceives them in his or her own unique way. Each child has his own dreams for the future and his



## How do you play?

### - hope through insight

own ideas of how to make those dreams come true.

Many of the children are learning about adoption and what it can mean for their future. For a more in-depth look at this issue, please read the accompanying article written by Rich Capadagli, Clinical Director for the Counseling Center.

## “Why doesn’t any one pick me to be their son?”

One day, a sad ten year old boy who had been waiting for an adoptive family for many years entered my office and said, “All the kids in my cottage are going home to their families but me. Why doesn’t anyone want to pick me to be their son?”

Thus began a series of conversations over the next few months which led him to some very meaningful conclusions. The first was, “How can a family like me if they don’t get to meet me?” This sums up the frustration felt by many of our children who struggle to understand how a family can read a history on paper and decide whether to pursue the adoption without ever meeting the child.

A second conclusion was, “If I do get adopted, they will be my family forever. And since they picked me, it won’t be like with my mom and dad, because they know they want me.” Fear of abandonment is the key to this insightful conclusion, as well as the hope for permanency.

A third intriguing conclusion, “If I don’t get picked this time, it is not because I am bad. It’s just that the right family hasn’t found me yet.” This is a very powerful conclusion for a child, as he needs to recognize that his success in finding a family has many, many factors, none of which should indicate he is a “bad kid.”

Excitement and anxiety are the two most prevalent emotions for a young child awaiting adoption. Most children wait a long time. The reality is that there are

many more children in our care who are ready for adoption than there are homes prepared to embrace a child from our campus who has struggled through a history of neglect, abuse and abandonment.

Sometimes, families begin the adoption process only to discover it was not the match they were looking for and drop out. This fuels a deep and sincere doubt within a child, which began much earlier, when he learned his biological mother and father were unable or unwilling to care for him as parents should. The foundation of familial permanency is shaken. The doubt resurfaces as a fear he will not be chosen, because he is not a “good” boy; because he is “unwanted;” because he is “damaged goods.”

As a result of this series of events, counselors in the Counseling Center must prepare children for their new adoptive home, as well as help them cope with the absence of adoptive candidates, and worse still, the failure of a successful adoption once the process has begun.

What about our ten year old? He doesn’t have a family yet. Two adoptions haven’t worked out, but now, another family is interested, and the process has begun again. He remains optimistic and excited about finally finding a family.

He is hoping for a family who will have the faith and courage to embrace a once traumatized child and bring him into their home to raise as their own.

- Rich Capadagli

# 2010 Annual Report

## What's it like at The Children's Home?

The average age of children who live at the Home is about 8.5 years old. The average age of children in foster care is 6.5 years old. Fifty-two percent the children are girls, 48% are boys. Twenty-two percent are Anglo, 47% are Hispanic, 25% of the children are African-American, and 6% are bi-racial.

Eighty-two percent of our children say they like it here, while 7% have mixed



## Operating Income

Child Care Support .....	963,778	18.1%
Adoptive Programs .....	285,701	5.4%
Foster Care .....	707,547	13.3%
Shelter/Assessment Center .....	567,734	10.7%
Therapeutic Group Home .....	601,578	11.3%
Foundations and Grants .....	106,459	2.0%
Churches .....	373,769	7.0%
* not including non-cash gifts to Big Heart Campaign \$77,912.15		
** including Dollar Day Campaign \$62,177.30		
*** including Broadway's Children's Home Special \$106,502.12		
Individuals .....	775,577	14.6%
Memorials .....	85,789	1.6%
Farm Operations .....	7,078	0.1%
Trusts and Endowments .....	713,431	13.4%
Royalties .....	47,828	1%
Miscellaneous .....	75,157	1.5%
Total Operating Income .....	\$5,311,425	

## Operating Expenses

Adoption Services .....	\$314,338	6%
Development and PR .....	482,445	9.1%
Education and Recreation .....	249,768	4.7%
Shelter/Assessment Center .....	604,941	11.4%
Therapeutic Group Care .....	608,831	11.5%
Residential Group Care .....	1,421,388	26.9%
Foster Care .....	626,812	11.9%
Administration .....	460,843	8.7%
Campus/Farm/Maintenance .....	519,275	9.8%
Total Operating Expenses .....	\$5,288,641	

feelings. One percent say they don't like it here. Eighty-eight percent of the boys and girls say they are doing better living at The Children's Home, 12% say they are about the same, and none say they are worse.

Of the children who were discharged from the Home last year, 74% were able to go home to their parents or another relative, and 28% went to adoptive or foster homes.



*Each year The Children's Home of Lubbock distributes its annual report disclosing income and expenses in an unaudited statement for the previous fiscal year. In July, the Board of Directors receives Audited Financial Statements prepared by an independent auditor. Form 990 is filed each year with the Internal Revenue Service and becomes public record. Additional financial information may be obtained by making a request to Lynn R. Harms, President.*

## Services Overview

Total number of individuals served .....	524
Children in basic care .....	91
Children in the Shelter/Assessment Center.....	98
Children in foster homes.....	119
Children in therapeutic group care.....	28
Adoptions finalized .....	20
Individuals provided post-adoption services.....	166

## Board of Directors

Jerry Hoover, Chairman of the Board	
Marcelino Banda	Craig McDonald
Jenny Cardelli	Nancy Mack
Amy Cary	Brent Magers
Melissa Collier	Roderick Syrus
Jody Davis	David Sanderson
Gloria Gonzales	Danny Soliz
Jeffrey W. Hannel, M. D.	Connie Templeton
Sam Hawthorne, J. D.	Rodney Thomas, Ph.D.
Rose Johnson	Celeste Thompson
Brandon Joy	Royce Wittie

## Administration

Lynn R. Harms, President
Vickie G. Russell,
Vice President of Children's and Family Services
Tom Spoons, Vice President for Development
R. Brooks Loveless, Controller

# BACK TO SCHOOL

You can help our kids start back to school with the hope of new adventures and great success!

Education at The Children's Home encompasses education of the total child - body, mind and spirit.



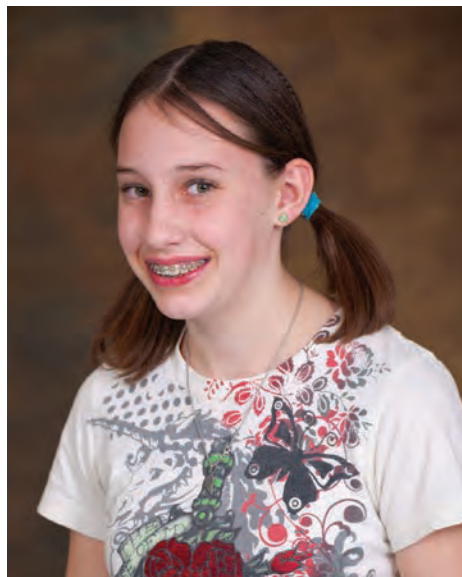


**Our kids need good clothes and school supplies to help them face the new school year with confidence.**



Here are some of the things your gift will help provide:

- Jeans
- Shirts
- Tops
- Shoes
- Hoodies
- Backpacks
- Eye Glasses
- Pencils
- Pens
- Crayolas
- Markers





# Best wishes to our high school graduates!



**Robyn Slayter** graduated from Lubbock High School on May 28th. During her time there, she was active in the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and maintained a high academic standard. In addition, Robyn has mothered her son Ryan and considers him to be an important part of her accomplishments.

This fall Robyn will attend South Plains College to fulfill her basic course requirements before transferring to Texas Tech University to complete a degree in nursing. She is excited about the opportunity to build an independent life for herself and her son.



**Jazmine Leonard**, having attended four different high schools in her career, is proud to have received her high school diploma. She is planning to attend South Plains College this fall and begin her educational goal of becoming a social worker, with plans to complete her bachelor work at Texas Tech University. She would like to work with Children's Protective Services and help as many people as possible.



**Jordan Burrow** graduated from South Plains Academy and has plans to enroll in South Plains College in the fall as a nursing major. After completing her basics she plans to transfer to Texas Tech to become a surgical or x-ray technician. Jordan sees a bright future as a successful career woman and as a good mother to her young daughter Anistynn.



**Krishna Patel** graduated from Lubbock High School and is looking forward to living in the dorms at Texas Tech University this fall. She plans to prepare for a career in the dental or medical field.



**Jacob Markwell** finished high school in the spring, to become one of the first high school graduates in his family! Jacob is very good with computers; he is hoping to become an apprentice and learn to be an information systems assistant.

**O**dysey is a bright, charming 11-year-old whose favorite sport is: eating! That's right. Odyssey LOVES to eat. If you should take her out for ice cream late in the afternoon, there is no worry that she won't eat her supper, because she will definitely be hungry again by supper time. Her ideal meal would be a hamburger with everything on it, French fries, and a large drink. But really, you could hardly offer her food that she wouldn't like.

Odyssey also likes to dress up and do her hair, and she loves dolls, especially her doll that looks like her. She enjoys school, too, and her favorite subjects in the fifth grade last year were science and social studies. In science she studied the body and learned that the skin is the largest organ. In social studies, each student was assigned a different state to learn about, and Odyssey learned about New Mexico. The capital is Santa Fe. She presented the report to her class and then went to other classes to give the report. This was a good assignment for Odyssey, because she loves to travel. The furthest place she has ever been is New York, where she saw the Statue of Liberty.

Odyssey loves being at The Children's Home, but she is definitely excited about adoption. She's not picky about the kind of family she wants, although she would prefer a family that goes lots of places. It could have a mom and dad, or a mom, or a dad, and it could have brothers and sisters and babies, or it could just be for Odyssey.

Are YOU the family for Odyssey? Do you love to eat? And travel? Do you have lots of love and wisdom to share with a witty and lovable girl? If there's room in your heart and at your table for Odyssey, give us a call at 806.762.0481, ext. 205, or you can email Janet Lemons at [jlemons@childshome.org](mailto:jlemons@childshome.org).

## ...an odyssey of joy for a forever family

