



Seeds of Success

Grant for greenhouse expands garden therapy program



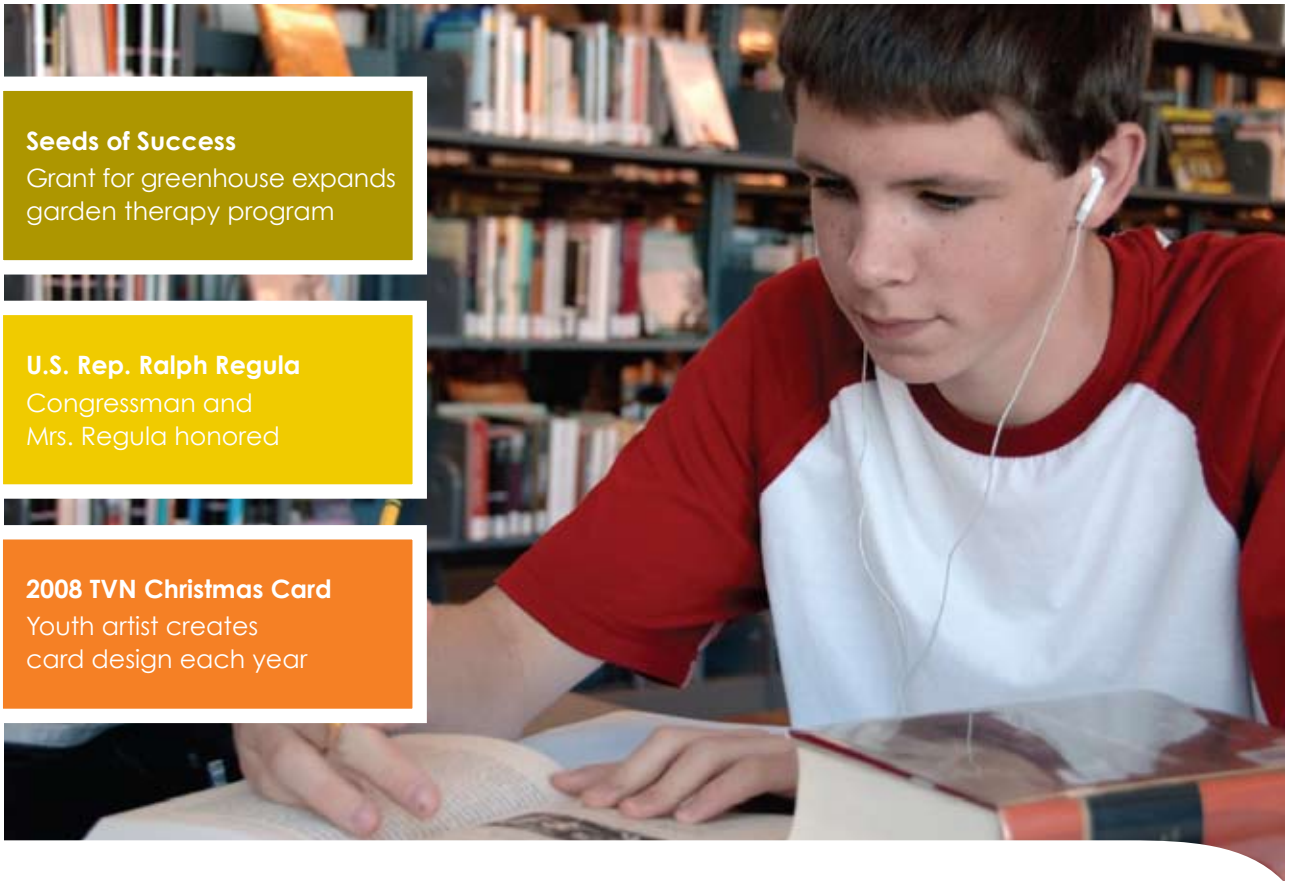
U.S. Rep. Ralph Regula

Congressman and Mrs. Regula honored



2008 TVN Christmas Card

Youth artist creates card design each year



Creating Positive Change for Responsible Living

Fall 2008

network news

Creating Positive Change for Responsible Living™

Extreme Makeover – The Village Network Edition

Eagles Cottage Renovations Complete

Call it Extreme Makeover – The Village Network Edition! Thanks to the generosity of the Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE) Ohio State Aerie and Auxiliary, renovation of the 12-bed cottage named for the organization is complete.

FOE built Eagles Cottage located on the Boys' Village Campus of The Village Network in 1958. It also built Eagles Chapel in 1988 on the Wooster campus. Today FOE remains the largest, consistent donor to TVN averaging \$85,000 to \$100,000 each year.

"It is a testament to the mission and motto of the Eagles," said Allan Martin, development director at TVN. "The Eagles are 'hometown builders' and take pride in making a difference inside their communities. The troubled and traumatized youth under our (cont.)



The Ohio State Aerie as well as Akron Aerie #555 and North Canton Aerie #2223 were instrumental in providing support for the renovation of Eagles Cottage.

\$15,000 Austin-Bailey Health & Wellness Grant Builds Greenhouse



Potatoes are only one of several vegetables farmed in the Garden Therapy Program. The youth not only work the gardens, they develop a marketing plan, establish work groups and sell the produce.

When you walk by the garden in the summer, it looks like any normal garden during August. The potatoes are pretty much done. Tomato vines are hanging low with plenty of fruit. The flower garden is thinning but colorful.

And just like everyone's garden, The Village Network – Boys' Village Campus garden provides a peaceful form of therapy in addition to good eats!

Now thanks to a recent \$15,000 grant from the Austin-Bailey Health & Wellness Foundation, Canton, Ohio, garden therapy at The Village Network will become a year-round activity. The funds will be used to build a greenhouse and purchase the needed items to start an expanded horticulture therapy program.

Austin-Bailey's mission is to promote programs that support the physical and mental well being of those in Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas and Wayne counties. The foundation was formed in late 1996 from the sale of Doctors Hospital in Massillon.

"This is a wonderful testimony to the boys who have worked hard inside the program, not just in the care of the produce and flowers, but in lessons that will help them live more responsible lives," said Brooke Winkler, clinical therapist for the Day Treatment program.

TVN's garden therapy program started with a grant from The Charity School of Kendal, Massillon, Ohio, according to Reza Khoramshahi, foundation-government funding manager at TVN. The Charity School of Kendal was established in 1826 as a result of the will of Charity Rotch. The purpose of the foundation is to help raise and educate children in need.

All the boys in The Village Network Day Treatment program participate in planting, caring and harvesting two gardens according to Winkler.

The TVN Day Treatment program is for youth ages 10 to 18-years-old in need of intensive mental health services in conjunction with academic instruction. It is also available for youth stepping down from residential treatment said Winkler. Many of the youth reside in treatment foster care homes. The average age at the Boys' Village Campus Day Treatment is 16. There are currently 14 boys in the program from all across the state.

The Village Network Opens Uhrichsville Office

The New Philadelphia office of The Village Network has moved to 117 E. 3rd St., Rear, Uhrichsville. TVN-Uhrichsville offers daily group and weekly individual counseling for adolescents and their families. Psychological assessments are also available on site according to Robert Draman, program coordinator.

Draman, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC-S) at the supervisory level has been with The Village Network for 19 years. Cheryl Urban, a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), also works from the Uhrichsville location as well as Cynthia Akers, administrative assistant. The new location will serve as a satellite office for the TVN-Newcomerstown Treatment Foster Care Network which is currently recruiting new foster homes to expand services in Tuscarawas County.

Before the move, the team was located at 1888 E. High Ave., New Philadelphia, where they shared space with the STAR Alternative School. The new location provides more room for existing programs and the ability to expand. It also places the office in a central location to the communities it serves.

"Referrals to our programs come from several school districts in Tuscarawas County, Tuscarawas County Job & Family Services, the Juvenile Court system and several other agencies and families," said Draman.

Services

TVN-Akron Provides In-Home Family Stability Services

The Akron office of The Village Network has entered into a contract with Summit County Children Services (SCCS) to provide In-Home Family Stability Services for children and families already receiving SCCS services. SCCS is the only agency within Summit County mandated to provide services to abused and neglected children.

The primary goal of the program is to maintain children in their own home or stabilize kinship placements as needed if children enter agency care. The program provides parents with social, emotional, parental and educational support to reduce the family's stress and minimize the risks of abuse and neglect to the children.

"Responding to the needs of a community with efficient and effective service programs is our hallmark," said James T. Miller, Executive Director. "In this instance we mirrored an existing service for the agencies. In most cases, we initiated a program to service the need."

The program is offered in part through an agreement with Summit County Department of Job and Family Services

(SCDJFS) and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding. SCCS initiated a pilot in August 2005 and continued services through the use of TANF funds beginning in February of 2006.

"We provide the family with the help needed to get through whatever the crisis while safely maintaining the child in their own home or kinship placement," said Dave Stauffer, The Village Network In-Home Family Stability program manager. "Services may include home-based counseling, case management, identifying and strengthening the families' support systems and connecting families to available community resources. Services are available 24/7 for 90 to 120 days."

TVN-Akron is currently working with five families and has a program capacity of 10 to 12 families at any one time. The TVN staff is housed at the N. Main St. facility along with the TVN foster care program which has been situated inside Summit County since 1990. The Akron Network also operates Residential and Day Treatment programs.

Eagles Cottage Renovations *(continued)*

care have benefited greatly from their involvement."

The renovations to Eagles Cottage were completed in three months and cost over \$210,000. The end results are a much larger living space, a complete kitchen make-over and a fully remodeled youth bathroom with handicap accessibility. Other updates include new wiring and insulation, a new entrance door, new flooring, paint, drapes and some new furniture.

Eagles Cottage is one of six residential buildings on TVN-Boys' Village Campus. The campus also houses the Gault Youth & Family Enrichment Center that includes 11 classrooms, a library and cafeteria in addition to clinical offices.

FOE Ohio State Aerie began its support of The Village Network in June, 1954 when the organization bought beds for the boys. Later that year at the state convention, \$20,000 was donated to establish a vocational school wing onto

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the administration building. Over the next ten years, various Ohio Aeries hosted special days and parties for the residents including Christmas celebrations.

In 1971, Eagles member Don Case joined the TVN board. Case was instrumental in fostering the relationship between The Village Network and FOE according to Martin, so much so, that the main driveway into the Wooster campus is called Don Case Independence Blvd.

Over the years FOE has provided dollars for clinical services renovations, scholarships for boys entering college and recreational trips for residential youth. Each year TVN staff is invited to attend the Ohio State Convention where a current youth has the opportunity to speak to the membership.

"The Eagles are more than financial support to The Village Network and our youth," said Martin. "They are symbols of strength, perseverance, dedication, hard work and responsible living. Those are qualities our youth will remember throughout their life's journey."

From Village Youth

Sending holiday cards is a wonderful way to stay connected. At The Village Network, the tradition is to feature a design by one of our youth inside the Art Therapy Program. This year John's beautiful evergreen tree and guiding star was chosen from 10 entries.

John has been at The Village Network for over two years. Woodworking is his favorite form of therapy and his goal is to be a carpenter and study architecture. John's holiday design will grace the front of over 18,000 cards this year.



Artwork by John, Art Therapy Program

John's Story

My first year and half at The Village Network I didn't change a thing. I was very destructive to others, to things and myself. I had problems and bad habits that were hard to break and I was full of hate. The help I received here showed me fighting doesn't get you anywhere. I began to grow up and mature. I got caught up on my schooling.

I work very hard at not being the person I was in the past and I use the coping skills I learned here to keep me focused. I still remember how my behavior affected everyone around me and myself. I don't want to be that person. This program has done a lot for me.



News From The Village: Sweet Jubilation Creates A Picture Perfect Night

Over 250 people enjoyed the sweet success of The Village Network's seventh annual dinner, dance and auction Saturday, Oct. 11 at the Lowry Center on the campus of The College of Wooster. Dollars from the annual black-tie-optional event benefit the youth in care across all 11 TVN Ohio networks.

U.S. Rep. Ralph Regula and Mrs. Regula were honored guests at the fundraising event. The congressman and his wife Mary are long-time supporters of The Village Network. Congressman Regula was named the first honorary citizen in 2002.

TVN Executive Director James T. Miller presented the Regulas with a hand-made pack basket. More than 50 youth in the residential program at the TVN-Boys' Village Campus contributed time in building the basket.

This year's red carpet event was titled A Night at the OSCARS. LuK USA LLC was the primary sponsor for the fund raising event and has been since the inception of Sweet Jubilation. The evening generated over \$85,000.

In addition to live auction items, there were several silent auction tables featuring everything from restaurant and local merchant gift certificates to autographed sports memorabilia. Live auction items included a South African safari trip, a week's stay in Key West, Fla., and a home-cooked lobster dinner for six.



CRUISE FOR KIDS Raises \$6,416



Race day excitement came in the form of remote control cars at the annual TVN-Boys' Village Campus Corvette Show. Corvette owners sponsored their favorite car and driver in the friendly competition. The cars were raced by the youth in Boys' Village residential program.

More than 150 Corvettes converged at The Village Network –Boys' Village Campus Sunday, Aug. 24th for the 10th annual Mid-Ohio Corvette Club Show. When the day's activities were over, \$6,416 was raised for the Wooster Recreational Therapy program.

Some of the Corvette owners were local. Others were from New Philadelphia, Mansfield and Canton. For most of them, it is an annual trek. The Corvette owners do not pay to participate in the event. The funds collected are from club donations, a live auction and sponsorships of the remote control car races.

The official remote control car track on Boys' Village Campus is a result of dollars raised by the Mid-Ohio Corvette Show and several private donations. The track is an important part of the recreational therapy program for Boys' Village Campus residents.

"These Corvette owners not only open their wallets, they give total access to their cars," said Kirk Spurgeon, owner of Spurgeon Chevrolet and founding father of the Wooster event. "They trust these boys more than they trust the average citizen. At most shows, these owners go out of their way to keep the crowds at a distance. Here they let the kids touch and sit inside the cars."

Classic Glass Corvette Club out of New Philadelphia brought half of their members to the event and the Buckeye Corvette Club, Canton, Ohio, has been a regular at the Mid-Ohio outing for over eight years.

"We really promote this event to our membership because we strongly support the work done here for the kids," said Roger Flading, membership vice president, Buckeye Corvette Club. "We love the cause and everyone has a good time and a great meal."

"The mission of The Village Network is to promote responsible living and positive change in troubled children through partnerships with families and communities."

Your Support Counts

Without your support, treating troubled children with emotional and behavioral problems would not be possible. Fight the battle of treating at-risk youth in Ohio today... with your donation. It's safe. It's fast. It's online.

www.thevillagenetwork.org

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The Village Network Ohio locations, addresses and phone numbers:

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3445 South Main St.
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Akron, Ohio 44319
Phone: 330.245.1041
Crisis Hotline: 330.201.0637
Fax: 330.245.1149

Canton

3757 Cleveland Ave. NW, Ste 102
Canton, Ohio 44709
Phone: 330.493.8250
Fax: 330.493.9386

Cleveland

6804 Lansing Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44105
Phone: 216.641.8820
Fax: 216.641.8830

Columbus

4440 Poth Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43213
Phone: 614.751.9068
Fax: 614.751.9130

Delaware

575 B Sunbury Rd.
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone: 740.363.7234
Fax: 740.369.5931

Mt. Vernon/Knox County

17606 Coshocton Rd.
Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050
Phone: 740.397.7568 or 740.397.7582
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Newark

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Newcomerstown

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117 E. 3rd St. Rear
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Wooster

*(Administrative Offices and
Boys' Village Campus)*

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 518
Smithville, Ohio 44677

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3011 Akron Rd.
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1.800.638.3232

Services Provided for Troubled Youth: Residential Treatment, Day Treatment, Treatment Foster Care, Crisis Assessment Services, Transitional Living, Responsible Living Program, Wrap-Around Programming and Alternative Schooling



Creating Positive Change for Responsible Living

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