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**Gabriel's Story: "Staying out of trouble is  
 a better feeling than being in trouble."**

Gabriel, a troubled 17-year-old boy, had tremendous instability and stress in his life. His mother, a former crack addict, has six children, all with different fathers. The children were all placed in foster care due to their mother's addiction and inability to care for them. Eventually, she became sober and regained custody of the children, but for Gabriel, the damage was already done. He dropped out of school, became entrenched in street life and got into trouble, and was eventually kicked out of his mother's home. Gabriel moved in with his grandparents but continued to go down the same path and was eventually arrested for strong-armed robbery and sent to juvenile detention.

Once released, Gabriel was sent to one of theVillage's In-Home Services Programs. Now 18 years old, Gabriel lives with his grandparents again. While he was reluctant to receive help at first, theVillage case manager was able to break through and identify things important to Gabriel. He observed the strong bond between Gabriel and his grandmother

and leveraged this by encouraging Gabriel to stay out of trouble to reduce his grandmother's stress.

The case manager also discovered that Gabriel is a natural athlete and passionate about boxing. He helped him re-enroll in school and a special boxing program that have both been positive steps for Gabriel. He must achieve good grades, regularly attend school and have no disciplinary issues to remain in the boxing program. Gabriel was successfully discharged from In-Home Services and remains on an upward trajectory. He continues to receive Outpatient Counseling and talking about his anger helps Gabriel release tension. He plans to obtain his high school diploma, vows to remain trouble-free and is planning for a career as an auto mechanic. Gabriel has finally found a purpose in his life and in his words, "Staying out of trouble is a better feeling than being in trouble." TheVillage has helped him gain the skills he needs to stay on course and have hope for a brighter future. •

**Top five ways  
 you can help**

- 1 Your gift of cash helps where it is most needed for our children and families.
- 2 Donating goods, services and other real property can help reduce our expenses, while directly benefiting the children and families in our programs.
- 3 Share your time and talents with the children and families served by theVillage.
- 4 Sponsor an event, workplace giving, corporate matching gifts or EITC grants.
- 5 Planned gifts are ways to support theVillage well into the future. These gifts provide you with important tax benefits and don't affect your current lifestyle or your family's security.

For more information, contact Jory Barrad at 610.519.1605 or [jbarrad@village1877.org](mailto:jbarrad@village1877.org).



**Children in theVillage's Out of School Time program with hats they created for their "Cat in the Hat" project**

## Letter from the Board Chair

As we enter 2016, I'd like to share some important updates with you. Six months into the fiscal year, the Pennsylvania legislature and Governor Wolf still have not passed a state budget. While the governor did approve a partial spending plan, lacking a full budget puts many of Pennsylvania's most vulnerable children at risk of not receiving necessary services that child service agencies aren't currently being reimbursed for. This stalemate is costing theVillage thousands of dollars in interest charges that may never be recovered. Please write your local legislators and the governor to demand immediate passage of a state budget. Nonetheless, theVillage remains steadfast in its mission. We are focused on providing innovative, evidence-based therapies, growing our Residential Treatment Programs for adolescent and teenage girls, and providing greater access to services to children and families in Southwest Philadelphia. TheVillage now provides outpatient mental and behavioral therapy to children and families at our Preheim Center, as well as three satellite offices throughout the Southwest. We hope to see you on May 5 at Art Works, our annual fundraiser, benefitting children and families. There are still so many vulnerable children and families that need a helping hand. We rely on you — our generous donors and supporters — to provide vital services that help them heal and that provide hope for a brighter future. On behalf of the board of directors, thank you, so much, for all you do!

*Andrew Nehrbas*

Andrew Nehrbas, Chair, theVillage Board of Directors

## AmerisourceBergen: A New Corporate Partner

In December, two divisions of AmerisourceBergen contributed their time, talent and treasure to help kids in theVillage's programs. The Human Resources department decorated gift bags and filled them with goodies for girls in our Residential Treatment Programs who were unable to go home for the holidays. Over 200 employees from the drug company division assembled 30 new bicycles for boys and girls as part of a team building event. Kids from theVillage's Foster Care program will receive these bikes, along with helmets and bike safety instruction, as soon as the weather warms up!



**Clockwise: Helen Hammerschmidt and Noreen Ramsey with Christmas Day Bags assembled by AmerisourceBergen's HR Department; Foster Care Supervisor Sam Wojnilower reads letter from a foster child; AmerisourceBergen Drug Company teams building bikes for theVillage**



## Christmas at theVillage

### Making Holidays Bright!

Children and families receiving services from theVillage were able to celebrate a joyous Christmas thanks to the generosity of our donors, supporters and volunteers. TheVillage case managers delivered gifts of toys, household necessities, warm winter clothing and coats, and more to 33 of our neediest families that were "adopted." More than 400 additional children awoke on Christmas morning to find gifts under the tree. Additionally, girls in our three Residential Treatment Programs received gifts from their wish lists, plus new hooded sweatshirts, jewelry and stocking stuffers. Many volunteers contributed by decorating theVillage, wrapping gifts, making stockings and cards,

as well as hosting craft tables, singing and taking photos at our community-based party. It really does take a village — we thank all who did their part to make the holidays bright and special for our kids and families.



**Danielle Feole and Kellsey Turner of Vault Communications with gifts donated for kids and families**



**Clockwise: CHOP's Cobbs Creek Facility; Max Greenspan, LCSW, outpatient therapist for theVillage**

## TheVillage Partners With CHOP Primary Care, Cobbs Creek

TheVillage is pleased to announce a new partnership with The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), the region's leading provider of pediatric care. TheVillage Outpatient Therapy Program operates at our Preheim Center in Southwest Philadelphia and three satellite locations, including CHOP Primary Care, Cobbs Creek. Max Greenspan, LCSW, outpatient therapist for theVillage, began seeing patients at the Cobbs Creek facility in November

and carries a caseload of clients, including children who have suffered trauma.

We partnered with CHOP Cobbs Creek's doctors and social workers to provide long-term therapy focused on trauma, specifically Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. During children's routine medical visits, doctors often discover trauma history that impacts the child's quality of life. In these instances, once the client provides consent they are immediately referred to theVillage for outpatient treatment, circumventing delays and challenges in receiving therapy that helps them heal. Prior to partnering with theVillage, patients were referred to outside trauma therapy

providers, but often families did not follow through.

According to Beth Richey, director of outpatient therapy at theVillage, "Our satellite locations — including this new partnership with CHOP — have allowed us to make services more accessible and convenient to children and families in the community that wouldn't otherwise seek out services. This provides them with the opportunity to heal from the trauma they've experienced."

Like the physicians and practitioners at CHOP, theVillage Outpatient Therapy team is committed to providing the highest quality care for children and families in the community.

## What's Happening at theVillage

### Moore College of Art & Design: Another Great Partnership

TheVillage was selected to display works of art from our Creative Arts Therapy Program at a special exhibition at Moore College of Art & Design entitled, "The Art of Exceptionality." This exhibit ran from November — December. We are also partnering with Moore art therapy students for a new student internship program at theVillage.

### The Organic Farm at theVillage Enters Year Two

The organic farm at theVillage is entering its second year. This year, we plan to incorporate organic farming

into the school curriculum, have cooking classes with organic produce for our Supervised Independent Living Program and launch a farm market stand, so that our girls can learn about commerce.

### Art Works — Growing the Dream, May 5, 2016

This year, we will be honoring Loren Preheim as our Healing Spirits Honoree and Bryn Mawr Trust Company as our Corporate Dream Builder honoree. This event benefits theVillage's innovative programs and therapies for children and families that have experienced trauma. See back cover for more information about sponsorship opportunities.

### TheVillage Spearheads New Southwest Children's Wellness Collaborative

TheVillage is collaborating with more than 20 other organizations interested in improving access to vital programs and services for children and families in Southwest Philadelphia. Stay tuned for more information.



**Volunteer helping out at theVillage's organic farm, which is now entering its second year on the Rosemont campus**



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### TheVillage Leadership

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Helping children and families  
create a brighter future.



**FIND WISH LISTS  
FOR MANY NEEDS AT  
[www.village1877.org](http://www.village1877.org)**

DON'T FORGET TO **"LIKE"** US  
AND **"SHARE"** OUR STORIES ON  
FACEBOOK, TWITTER & GOOGLE+.

#### WAYS TO GIVE

There are many ways to  
support theVillage.

For more information, visit:  
<http://village1877.org/give-help>

#### UNITED WAY

Designate your SEPA UNITED WAY  
gift to theVillage with #1867.

#### JOIN THE TEAM - FULFILLING CAREERS AT TheVILLAGE

TheVillage is a great place to work  
where every day offers the opportunity  
to make a difference in the lives of  
children, families and communities.  
Do you know anyone that might want to  
join the team? More information about  
careers at theVillage can be found at:  
[www.village1877.org/careers](http://www.village1877.org/careers)

## Join us for Faith in Action, Saturday, February 20, 2016, 9-11 am

Learn about theVillage's programs and services, and help disadvantaged children  
in our Residential Treatment, Foster Care and Outside of School Time programs  
have a fun-filled Easter celebration. Join us on February 20 to help fill Easter  
eggs and decorate Easter bags.

## Save the Date: Art Works

Thursday, May 5, 2016, 6:00 to 8:30 pm  
Lutheran Deaconess House, Gladwyne, PA

Sponsorships available: Contact **Jory Barrad**  
([jbarrad@village1877.org](mailto:jbarrad@village1877.org), 610.519.1605)  
or **Greg Smith** ([gsmith@village1877.org](mailto:gsmith@village1877.org),  
610.520.1417).

