The Newsletter of Cardinal Hayes Home for Children

Fall 2023

# Providing Compassionate Care

## **Since 1941**

### A message from Mary Sontheimer, Executive Director...

Dear Friends,

As the world continues to recover from the pandemic, I am happy to share that life is returning to normal at Cardinal Hayes Home for Children and Hayes Day School. This means our individuals, students and colleagues are enjoying many exciting opportunities and experiences, while managing to stay healthy and safe. All our young people are thrilled to be together learning, growing, and thriving.

A major highlight of our summer was the return of Fun Day. Fun Day began at Cardinal Hayes in 1988 and was held every year. Due to the pandemic, the last time we were able to gather for Fun Day was in 2019. It was wonderful to welcome friends, family, staff, and our young people who worked together to celebrate the theme of "Belonging." One of our Fun Day traditions is to hold a contest to design a special t-shirt that everyone wears at the event. This year, one of our guys from our Red Hook home submitted the winning design and all attending proudly wore the teal-colored shirts. Everyone enjoyed the carnival atmosphere of face painting, games, hay rides, dancing, activity booths, a delicious

barbeque and even a dunking booth. The perfect weather added to the festivities. Planning has already begun for next year!!

Our Giving Garden project continues to be a major success. Our community partners from Stonewood Farm work closely with our WOW folks and the harvest is amazing. All were invited to and included in a very special Salsa Day.

Hayes Day School is thriving. We have a full census, with students from our program as well as from fifteen local school districts. Special activities are offered frequently, and receive rave reviews from students, family, and staff alike. These include science fairs, a prom, and regular visits with a therapy dog. Sister Martha Vu, fmm, continues to provide music therapy regularly to both our students and our individuals. We are so grateful to have her as part of our Hayes family.

We hope you enjoy our Newsletter. The following pages further highlight the events and projects that we are so happy to share with you. We look forward to Fall, Thanksgiving and most of all, the magic of Christmas!

We are blessed to have you, our loyal friends, as part of the Hayes family and thank you for your many gifts and prayers. All your gifts directly benefit the children and young adults in our care.



# Dutchess County Fair 4H Flourishing Farm Program



So very proud of our individuals who participated in the 4H Flourishing Farm Program. Here they are at the Dutchess County Fair displaying the posters they created and receiving their medals!!!!















# A message from our friends at Stonewood Farm.....

There are times on the farm that can seem overwhelming, but a day spent with our friends at the Cardinal Hayes Home for developmentally disabled young people reminds us why we do what we do. Three years ago, the Stonewood team created The Giving Garden, an edible garden on the Cardinal Hayes campus here in Millbrook, to provide fresh produce for its residents and, perhaps more importantly, to offer valuable learning and social opportunities in the garden. Throughout the growing season, The Giving Garden is



overflowing with organic vegetables and flowers. On a beautiful July day, we came together to celebrate the bountiful harvest and the joint effort it takes to grow it.

# Thank you to the incredible Cardinal Hayes residents and staff for your friendship and your hospitality.





# The Giving Garden



Thanks Stonewood Farm for all you do to support our work at Cardinal Hayes Home, our mission and our individuals.

We are so very grateful and cherish our partnership.

#### IN STEP WITH THE TIMES

Cardinal Hayes Home and Hayes Day School have Facebook and Instagram pages. Now more than ever, people are turning to their electronic devices to keep in touch with family and friends. Being part of social media has truly helped us stay connected when visiting is limited.

We also have a website www.cardinalhayeshome.org which shares the history of the Home, the sponsors, our programs and our administration. Through our website, you are also able to make online donations via safe and secure means.



### IT'S IMPORTANT! If you don't have a will, your state has one for you!

We all know it's important to have a valid will in place, but many of us delay beginning the process. However, once this is done, you will feel greatly relieved. Remember, you have the right to decide how your estate will be distributed in the event of your death.

If you currently have no will or need to update an existing will, we can help you. Our free leaflet, "Will your Will make a difference?" explains in easy terms what steps you need to take – tips on retaining an attorney, deciding where you want your estate to go, and how to remember a charity in your will.

If you would like a copy of this pamphlet, just fill in the request form and mail it back to us, or send an e-mail to mbroe@cardinalhayeshome.org or call us at 845-677-6363, ext. 1110. There will be no follow-up phone calls to your home.

If you want to designate Cardinal Hayes Home as a beneficiary, our legal name is Cardinal Hayes Home for Children at Millbrook, New York. Please let us know if you ever decide to do this so we can say, "thank you." Unless otherwise requested, bequests are placed in our Endowment Fund, thus helping to support programs for young people with disabilities, both now and in the future.

PLEASE SEND ME THE FREE PAMPHLET, "Will your Will make a difference?"
Name
Address
City/State/Zip

### Embracing the Inner Strength of People with Disabilities

Cardinal Hayes Home for Children P.O. Box CH, St. Joseph Dr., Millbrook, NY 12545 (845) 677-6363