



RESPONSE

Fall. 2008

Because every child deserves a childhood

■ Many people don't realize that as many as 1 out of 10 children and adolescents experience mental health disorders so agonizing they can interfere with the way they think, feel and act. Left untreated, these disorders can lead to problems in school, family conflicts, drug abuse, violence and even suicide.

"Mental illness is a nondiscriminatory disease," said Colleen Baggs, RN, nurse manager Miller-Dwan Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health program. "It can affect children at any stage of

development and from all types of family backgrounds."

Miller-Dwan's child and adolescent inpatient and outpatient mental health programs provide care for children ages 4 through 12 and adolescents 13 through 18. These programs provide the supportive environment and intense family involvement children with acute emotional difficulties need to begin healing. Last year, more than 2,900 children were treated for mental health illnesses at Miller-Dwan—the majority from right here in Duluth.

"When kids come here there is no magical formula to help them get well," said Baggs. "We work in collaboration with their families and with community resources to give these wonderful kids the tools they need to get better. We want them all to find success in school and in society and to develop into unique, independent, loving people."

This year's Miller-Dwan Foundation ARTcetera event was held to raise funds to improve child and adolescent behavioral health care in our region. The Miller-Dwan Foundation hopes to make it possible for every child and adolescent to receive the mental health treatment they need to lead full, healthy lives. (See separate story inside for results of this year's ARTcetera event.)

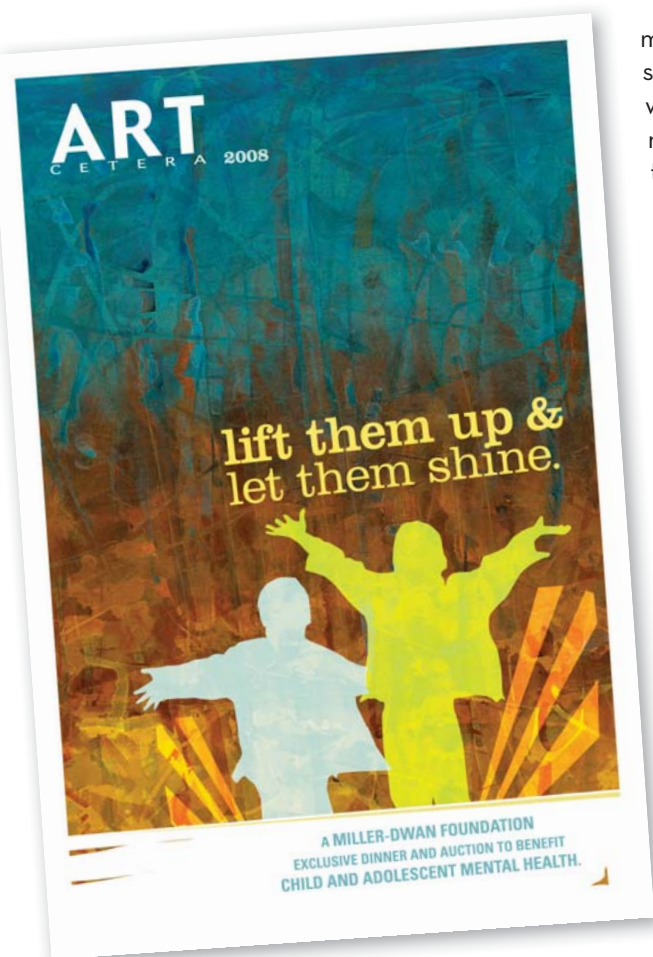
To find out more about Miller-Dwan Child and Adolescent Mental Health programs, visit millerdwanfoundation.org.

RECENT CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING

■ **\$4,000** to establish a mental health visioning team. This group of professionals will determine gaps and areas for improvement within child and adolescent mental health care in our community.

■ **\$13,000 (2008) and \$10,000 (2007)** for WarmLine, a statewide telephone support network. This innovative phone-in line provides information, support and referral services to people living with mental illness. WarmLine complements Miller-Dwan's Crisis Line, which is for those in urgent situations.

(See back page to learn more about other funding that supports children and adolescents in our region.)





A Cup of Care

A WARM PARTNERSHIP

- This holiday season, Miller-Dwan Foundation and Super One are partnering to encourage people to bring compassionate care to the lives of Solvay Hospice House patients and their families. A special house ornament has been designed for Super One patrons to purchase, decorate, sign or dedicate and hang on a special tree in Super One stores. All proceeds will go to Solvay Hospice House. When you shop Super One this season, make sure you pick up one or more of these special ornaments—it will make a difference in the lives of those at Solvay.

Find out more at
millerdwanfoundation.org.



THE MISSION

of the Miller-Dwan Foundation is to promote the health and well-being of the people of our region. We are committed to carrying out the wishes of donors. We support health care education, medical research, the historical specialty areas of the Miller-Dwan Medical Center, Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation, Solvay Hospice House and future initiatives of the region's health.

Building An Endowment for Solvay

DONATION HELPS BUILD NEW FUND

■ Eleanor S. Hanson was 86 when she passed away this past April. She grew up in Carlton and was known for her intelligence, independence, strong opinions and being the unofficial “historian” to the people and places that make up Carlton County.

“She wanted to leave a legacy to Solvay Hospice House because she was extremely grateful there was a place like Solvay,” said Rita Hughes, Eleanor’s longtime friend. “She watched her mother, two brothers and a sister all die of cancer and knew the value of the type of end of life care provided at Solvay.”

Eleanor’s generous \$10,000 donation is growing the Solvay Hospice House Endowment Fund. Proceeds from the fund will be invested in order to provide a regular revenue stream to support the Compassionate Care Fund which will, in turn, ensure Solvay is open to everyone regardless of financial circumstances and contribute to the care and upkeep of Solvay Hospice House.

If you would like to learn more about the Solvay Hospice House Endowment Fund, please contact the Foundation office at (218) 786-5829.

Introducing



Laura Neffs

LAURA NEFFS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND MARKETING

■ Laura has a strong background in event management, marketing and development. She has worked for Mall of America as an event coordinator and community relations specialist. Prior to joining the Foundation, Laura was a district director for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in St. Paul.

11th Annual ARTcetera
SAVE THE DATE:
September 18, 2009

Together, we will lift them up & let them shine

ARTCETERA SUPPORTS CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH

■ The 10th annual ARTcetera was held on September 12, 2008. The evening was filled with enchantment as guests opened their hearts and came together to raise almost \$170,000 to support children and adolescents in need of mental health services.

Thank you to everyone who participated in ARTcetera this year. Together, we can reach these children and help them shine.

2008
ART
C E T E R A
A MILLER-DWAN FOUNDATION EXCLUSIVE DINNER AND
AUCTION TO BENEFIT CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH



The evening's speaker, Christina, and her mother, Maria



Diane Meierhoff, Toby Markovich, Sharon Marcovich, and Bob Meierhoff



Suzi Vandersteen, Jennifer Widstrom, ARTcetera 2008 co-chair, Lisa Starr and Jim Starr



Dr. John Sandford and Dr. Julie Moller



Volunteer, Mary Bombadier, Shelia Hawk and Christie Erickson



ARTcetera co-chair, Dr. Sarah Seidelmann, Mary Morehouse and Wendy Sandelin



Jeffrey Amendola and Dr. Irene Carr



Sonda Strom-Larson and Mary Ellen Owens



Miller-Dwan Foundation president, Pat Burns and Ginger Strom



Patricia O'Day, John Grabowski, Gudrun Witrak, and Laura Witrak-Belcastro



Ron Niemi, Beth Egan, Jill Niemi, and Dr. Timothy Egan



John and Pamela Smylie

Recent grants in support of health care services and education in our region were made by the Miller-Dwan Foundation and its Van Gorden Fund for the following projects:

MILLER-DWAN FOUNDATION FUND

Miller-Dwan Medical Center Surgical Services Department – \$29,000 to purchase six surgical lounge stretchers to enhance patient comfort.

Miller-Dwan Medical Center Surgical Services Department – \$75,000 to help purchase high-level operating room equipment that allows patients to receive the best in world-class care.

Miller-Dwan Medical Center Adult Mental Health Department – \$2,000 to purchase new chairs for the patient dining room area.

SMDC Organizational Learning and Development Department – \$12,500 to create and distribute a diversity awareness DVD.

Mental Health Consumer Survivor Network – \$13,000 to maintain and expand outreach, training, and support services for individuals who suffer with mental illness.

Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault – \$12,000 to provide professional counseling to adolescents who've experienced sexual violence.

Memorial Blood Centers – \$5,000 to purchase a specialized chair called an E-Chair that provides blood plasma donors with multi-media and Internet access during plasma donations. Since plasma donations can often take up to two hours, the E-Chair encourages more people to give life-saving plasma.

Fond du Lac Human Services – \$2,900 to fund a daylong cancer prevention and early detection

training for community health workers from tribes and urban programs throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Woodland Hills – \$20,000 to help construct a new wing where services can be tailored to the unique and ever-increasing needs of girls.

AIDS Information Duluth – \$10,000 to provide HIV/AIDS prevention education to adolescent males.

The College of St. Scholastica – \$20,315 to help plan a comprehensive recovery school that will help students succeed both with their recovery from addiction and with academic performance.

North Shore Horizons – \$10,000 to provide supportive services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Union Gospel Mission – \$15,000 to help pay for kitchen replacement and repair.

VAN GORDEN FUND OF THE MILLER-DWAN FOUNDATION

Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation Center – \$13,880 to purchase state-of-the-art rehabilitation equipment to help patients learn to swallow again.

Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation Center – \$6,000 to purchase *Therapy-is-Fun* kits for children who have language difficulties. The kits contain family homework and games that target language skills used during therapy sessions.

Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation Center – \$5,625 to fund a comprehensive shoulder workshop for rehabilitation staff.

Miller-Dwan Medical Center – \$3,000 to host nationally renowned motivational speaker, author and health educator, Mike Patrick, during National Rehabilitation Week's Journey Award presentation.

Scottish Rite Foundation of Duluth – \$13,212 to update and expand technology that will better serve children with language difficulties.

Courage Duluth – \$6,000 to fund a program that allows people with disabilities to downhill ski.

Midwest Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics – \$20,700 to purchase an Omega® Tracer®, a laser scanner that provides a less traumatic means of supplying patients, especially children, with the devices they need for rehabilitation.

Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation Center – \$72,000 to help remodel space for a new, specialized Dizziness and Balance program.

Miller-Dwan Medical Center Regional Rehabilitation Center – \$44,230 to purchase state-of-the-art hand/arm re-education equipment for people suffering from stroke and other neurological disorders.

SMDC Rehabilitation Services – \$7,388 to purchase cardiopulmonary exercise testing equipment that will benefit both the weight loss candidate and the elite athlete.

Minnesota Ballet – \$3,000 to allow children with cognitive or physical challenges to experience dance training.

Superior Senior High School – \$5,000 to help purchase equipment for a new movement/sensory room.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Caring Ways Cancer Resource Center – \$44,166 to provide additional resources, patient- and family-centered programs, and staffing.

Solvay Hospice House – \$205,366 to complete construction, purchase additional patient care equipment and implement a teen volunteer program.

Abilities First Fund – \$5,018 to purchase rehabilitation equipment for seven individuals that will allow them to live and enjoy life more independently.

Donor Designated Funds – \$30,603 was awarded for 25 projects focusing on the specialty areas of Miller-Dwan Medical Center and Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation Center.

We're online. LOG ON TO millerdwanfoundation.org TO FIND INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS, RECENT GRANT AWARDS AND THE MANY WAYS YOU CAN GIVE, AS WELL AS STORIES FROM THOSE WHO HAVE BENEFITED FROM THE FOUNDATION'S WORK.

Help us communicate with you! If your name or address is incorrect on this newsletter, please call us at (218) 786-5829 or send the corrected information to us via mail or e-mail at: giving@mdfoundation.org. We appreciate your help.



Miller-Dwan Foundation

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