

What we do matters

June 3, 2004

To: Keith Liederman
Executive Director

Please forgive me for writing this letter so late, I intended to write it many months ago but time is not on a caregiver's side. My mother was a participant there since 2000. When the care of my mother had become such that it required my attention full-time, I left my position with the Department of Health and Hospitals. However, I had planned to continue my education part time to complete my undergraduate work in my new position as caregiver. The intention was that my mother would go to Adult Day Care two days a week so I could attend class. Her doctor thought that it would be a good idea since she had started to withdraw socially. My thoughts were that she would not want to go but to my surprise she loved it. She brightened up with the thought of attending on a weekly basis. Her days at Kingsley House were happy ones and she had many pictures of the various activities she attended there.

Later, I was invited to the caregiver's support meetings. The participants were cared for while we could participate without worry and a meal was also prepared so there would not be a need to rush off and get dinner ready. To some this may seem small but to a caregiver, whose time is so limited, this meant a great deal – just ask any caregiver about their schedule. Speakers were invited to give us additional information that aided us in our care of our loved ones, information that helped us to make better decisions. Caregivers are always looking for better ways to get things done, and at these meetings we shared ideas and solutions. We laughed, cried and prayed together. And when we left, we knew we were not alone. These meetings helped us to get closer to our social workers who endeavored to do the very best job possible and we were introduced to other staff who also had a hand in taking care of our loved ones. I can't tell you how important these meetings are and I urge you to keep them going because we are all connected in the loving care of the elderly.

My mother died on Mother's Day this year and along with the memories I have of her, I will never forget those who gave of themselves to help me take care of her. There were many days when I so badly needed rest and Kingsley House was the only place I knew I could send her and not worry. She always came home with a smile as she spoke of the activities of her day. I want to thank you for allowing this program and do hope that it continues to grow, along with the Adult Services provided by Kingsley House. Thank you.

Patrick Taylor, President, Chairman and CEO of Taylor Energy Company, received the 2004 *Champion for Children Award* at the Child Welfare League of America's National Conference in Washington, DC. Kingsley House nominated Taylor because of his steadfast devotion to child well-being and commitment to the New Orleans community.



Keith Liederman, Kingsley House Executive Director, reminded the CWLA selection committee that "in Louisiana, Texas, and throughout our great nation, the name 'Patrick F. Taylor' is synonymous with access to quality education." Because of the Taylor Foundation's generous support, Kingsley House will soon more than double in size, allowing more lives to be touched and positively impacting an additional 1,500 persons of all ages annually.

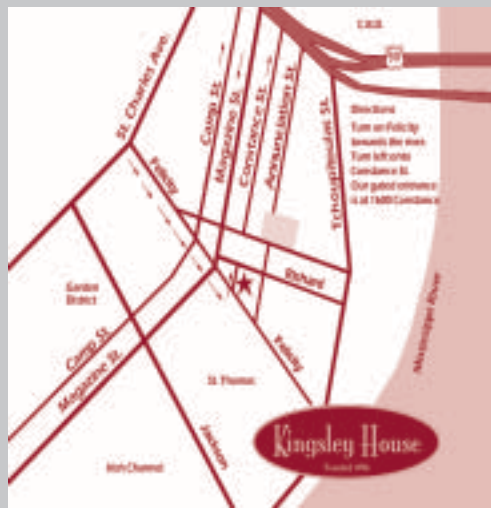
Shay Bilchik, President and CEO of CWLA, said Mr. Taylor's "passion, determination, and advocacy efforts are an inspiration to us all." CWLA awards are normally given to corporate entities for their good works. However, Mr. Taylor was the inspiration for, and became the very first recipient of a newly developed award category for individuals who sustain a pattern of activities that benefit children, youth and families. CWLA had over 2,000 legislators, child advocates, media representatives and child welfare professionals attend the *Children 2004: Vision, Action, Results* conference.

We Want Your Involvement!!

Cash, pledges, securities and other gifts enable us to benefit the thousands who pass through our doors.

These donations, as well as in-kind contributions, memorial/honorary gifts and bequests are further detailed on our website or dial extension 163 for more information.

www.kingsleyhouse.org



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Spirit

Our Mission:
"Educating children, strengthening families, building community"

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Spirit Leaders

What I did during my summer vacation...

I conquered the highest peaks at Kingsley House when I climbed the Rock Climbing Wall!



I realized how many people love me and want me to accomplish great things after spending time with my camp counselors!



I prepared myself for Hollywood glitz and glamour after I received a standing ovation at this year's Talent Show!



I swam an entire lap in the Kingsley House swimming pool on only one breath!

I clapped and stomped to the beat at the loudest concert I've ever heard, when the University of Arkansas Percussion Group performed in the gym!



Thanks to all those who helped make the 2004 Kingsley House Summer Camp a success!! 200 children had a fun and enriching summer in a safe and secure environment. With a newly renovated gym and a spacious courtyard, we provide our campers with arts and crafts, sports, drama and the all-important summer pastime of swimming in our historic pool.

"Who is Early Head Start?"

Early Head Start is our young learners, their parents and child care providers.



Ms. Makeisha Casey, child care provider, knows that love and patience benefit every child.



We might have small bodies, but we have great, big hearts!



Graduation Day: Don't we look so grown up!

On Grandparent's Day, everyone comes to play.



Inspiring your Spirit

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love."

Lao-Tzu

? Still want more Kingsley House news??

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, and you can see how each day at Kingsley House is an event. Just send an email with your info to khinfo@kingsleyhouse.org or click on "e-news" at www.kingsleyhouse.org and follow the options. Or you can always call **523-6221 x127** to get the latest photographs that will brighten up your day. It's free, easy and fun!

Kingsley House Board of Directors strategically plans for the future

Kingsley House's mission, core values, and visions for the future were recently refined to further develop and enhance the important work of the agency. Board members and Administrative staff held a Strategic Planning Retreat to address resource management, goal setting and priority action plans.



To capture the importance of all our programs and services into just a few words was quite a difficult task, but what emerged was our powerful new mission statement: **"Educating children, strengthening families, building community."**

Towards that end, committee members identified four primary strategic plan goals: Building Phase 1 of the Taylor Campus; growing the Endowment fund; increasing community visibility/viability; and diversifying funding. Through analyzing specific long- and short-term goals, fund development emerged as the most pressing issue. With the help of current supporters and extending our donor network, we are confident that these goals will become a reality.

Jeff Bormaster, Western Regional Consultation Director of the Child Welfare League of America, facilitated the retreat. Bormaster, along with Kimberley Love, a graphic illustrator, utilized innovative approaches and visual enhancements to assist the creative process.



"I thought the retreat was a good mixture to see the board and staff struggle together for the future of the agency," said Tammi Fleming, Health Care For All Program Manager.

President & Director's Corner



What does it mean to be a "mission-based" agency? Peter Senge, internationally renowned organizational guru and Chairman of the Society for Organizational Learning, states that "to be truly mission-based means that key decisions can be referred back to the mission - our reason for being."

We are proud to say that for over 108 years, Kingsley House has stayed true to our mission - "Educating children, strengthening families, building community." The mission guides all of our planning activities and decision making processes. Essentially, everything that we do as a human service organization is directly connected to that primary purpose. Being a completely mission-centered institution also requires that our Board of Directors and staff continually assess whether new and existing programs are consistent with the mission. It is a constant process of introspection and reflection that continually clarifies and supports the integrity of the important capacity building, life-enhancing work of Kingsley House. And that, friends, is what it means to be a "mission-based" agency.



Thank you for your continued support, which helps Kingsley House remain steadfast to our mission and makes it possible for us to positively impact the lives of over 7,000 program participants throughout the greater New Orleans community each year.

Sincerely,

Madlyn B. Bagneris
President

Keith Liederman, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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