



Executive Director Note



Renee Touhey-Childress, LICSW

Dear Friends,

In the blink of an eye, another year has passed, one more trip around the sun; bringing about change, growth, challenges, opportunities, and a new outlook for the coming year. I am honored to be able to share with all of you what has been happening with our youth and with the program as a whole!

It seems like a lifetime ago, we embarked on the largest renovation project that DCH has undergone in over 30 years. With the complete renovation of every bathroom, and both front and side porches, we took on 14 full months of construction with a house full of patient and understanding teenagers and staff. The end result has left me beyond grateful to everyone who was involved, and later in this publication, you will be able to read about and see some of the incredible transformations.

And amidst physical changes, our youth continued to thrive and succeed. Some of our most notable successes included: 4 residents completing driver's education; one youth attending and participating in learn-to-skate programs throughout the year; in June, all 9 residents who were at DCH at the time, were promoted in grade-level; at least ten youth obtained and maintained employment in the community; and one of our talented youth was awarded with a NH Art Award for her incredible paintings. Every year, I have no shortage of stories to share about how our youth overcome obstacles and work toward securing their futures. We are so very proud of our youth for all their accomplishments.

This past year, Dover Children's Home was fortunate enough to be the recipients of the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce's Small Non-Profit of the Year award. We are so grateful to the community for the recognition of the work being done to support NH's youth and their families. It is also with immense gratitude that I thank all our friends for helping DCH continue to provide the necessary services that allow our youth to thrive! With this help, DCH was able to exceed fundraising and donation goals for the year; bringing in critical funds to provide not just the necessary, but also the creative supports and services that will put our youth on a positive trajectory into their next phase of life.

On behalf of the children and staff of Dover Children's Home, we send our sincerest thanks to the community for continuing to support our mission by supporting our youth! 126 years and counting!

Renee Touhey-Childress, LICSW Executive Director