Our Mission:
To assist families in need by providing a safe, home-like setting for children until they can be reunited with family or achieve independence.

We fulfill this Mission through:
- Quality Residential Care
- Parent Education & Counseling
- Spiritual, Academic & Social Skill Development
- Assistance with Higher Education
- Community Education
- Family Reintegration
- Independent Living Opportunities
- After-care & Follow-up Services

2006 Annual Achievement Report

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
600 College Street • Oxford, North Carolina 27565
919.693.5111 • Toll Free 888.505.HELP (4357)
www.mhc-oxford.org
Since 1873, The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford has been serving the community through quality residential care for children and related family services. In the year 2006 we continued that tradition of offering high quality services at reduced costs.

Rather than fret about an uncertain future and the uncertainties that lie ahead, we continued to conduct careful, highly structured reviews of all of our services and operations. We now use this information to ensure that we are making improvements and adjustments in programs that will carry us well into the future and continue us in a leadership role in the field of children and family services.

Contained in this year’s annual report is a glimpse of some of the activities we shared, as well as some of the data that we scrutinized over the past year and use to help us in our decision-making for the future. We thank all of our friends for their continued support and encourage you to continue to help us make your Masonic Home for Children at Oxford...
2006 – A YEAR OF GROWTH AND ACCOMPLISHMENT

Our Masons and their fundraising efforts demonstrate a commitment to the children of this state that spans over a century and has been as constant and as meaningful as any charity known. Their efforts continue to make a difference here at our Home.

From St. John’s Day, to our annual strategic planning meeting, with the words of Wilkerson College, to the treasured visits of Lodges and civic groups near and far, our campus teems with life, hope, and support. Homecoming remembers the past, while it plans for the future. Our museum and archives preserves the rich history of this Home for others to view and wonder. This sacred place means many things to many people but to all it is a special place filled with opportunity and a mission solid and valued in its purpose.

I am honored to be a part of this special place, and I invite anyone who is interested in supporting the life of a child to find out more. Visit our website, call or write, or visit the Home. As a Board Member, I look to 2007 as a year to continue to serve the needs of children everywhere; as a supporter, I look to contribute in the best way possible to assist with those needs; and as a friend, I will share the good works and possibilities of our Home with others. It is truly special to contribute to the care of children today while contributing to their life of tomorrow. Thank you for your special contribution for the life and future of a child.

Douglas Caudle
Chairman of the Board of Directors

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

MHCO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Douglas L. Caudle
Mr. Ronald D. Graves
Mrs. Patricia Fulcher
Mr. Dan C. Rice
W. Berry Rigdon
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Jacksonville, NC
Mr. James A. Wiley
New Bern, NC

Mr. William L. Dill, Jr., Observer
New Bern, NC
The founding principle for this Home, residential care, is at the cornerstone of our mission. The daily needs of our children are met in a family setting, addressing areas of adolescent development including educational, emotional, social, and spiritual.

From health care to recreation to daily needs, our Home is committed to providing the best environment for growth and success. With age specific activities and environments, our Home tailors its program to provide stability, support, and comfort.

**Residential Care**

Family style residential care means a setting much like your home with common gathering areas including a family oriented kitchen.

Fall colors provide the backdrop for an early Sunday morning walk to church, one of the many services offered to the residents.

**Our Program Values Focus On:**

- the highest quality of residential child care in a family setting;
- work with our residents’ families, including educational needs and counseling measures;
- social skills development for children and families;
- extensive academic services including tutoring, alternative learning, and a close partnership with Granville County Schools, which our children attend for public learning;
- assistance with higher educational learning with financial and program support for those children graduating high school and attending academic and vocational institutions;
- community education and child and family advocacy;
- family reintegration and assistance with reunification and permanency planning;
- transitional planning for children progressing into independent living;
- after-care and follow-up services.
INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

The Home modified its Independent Living Program for young adults, ages 18-23, in October of 2006. It is serving both males and females who are experiencing difficulty transitioning to adult life. Much like it did for orphaned children in 1873, the Home has created a program to meet the needs of an unstable and challenged niche of today’s society — young adults.

Whether aging out of foster care or removed from their home for a variety of reasons, many of our country’s young adults are in need of direction and support. The Home’s Independent Living Program was designed for that purpose, to provide assistance and meet daily needs, while imparting fundamental guidance in living as an adult in a caring environment.

The Home’s current Independent Living Program is an extension of the Home’s 135-year tradition of preparing children to live and succeed as adults. The Masonic Home has used existing buildings and constructed beautiful two-person apartments. One building houses females and the other males. There is a Resident Advisor living in each building. In and around this program is one premise, the preparation of today’s youth to leave and contribute positively to society, while achieving a level of success.

The focus of the program is threefold:

- to prepare youth to be successfully employed;
- to have each participant obtain at least GED diploma; and
- to teach daily living skills based on independent needs

THE SERVICES OFFERED ARE:

- individual assessments to determine independent living needs
- case planning
- apartment living
- staff support, guidance, and advocacy
- training in daily living skills
- assistance with career planning, pre-vocational skills, and finding and retaining employment
- assistance in furthering education
- establishing ongoing support networks
- assistance with locating permanent housing
- after-care and follow-up services

FALL & SPRING FAMILY FEST

The Home works not only with children, but also their families in developing strong and healthy relationships benefiting growth and success for both the child and parent.

The opportunities for positive interactions come in the form of parent-teacher conferences, school athletics, extracurricular activities, and Home-sponsored events.

Twice in 2006, the Home specifically designated weekends for such interactions. With the help of sponsoring Masonic Lodges providing food and planned activities by the staff, children and their families enjoyed a fun weekend together while addressing family issues and permanency planning.

An extension of the Home’s residential program, Independent Living is another example of MHCO meeting the needs of children today.
Since its founding, the Home has placed a premium on the education and educational opportunities of its residents. Originally founded as St. John’s College in 1855, the Home has always had primary to its mission the academic success of its children. That tradition continues today as the Home is partnered with Granville County Public Schools to provide K-12 grade education to all its residents. A proud supporter of the Granville County Education Foundation, the Home invests a great deal of resources for the academic accomplishments of its children.

An on-campus transitional school exists to address the various educational needs of children new to the Home or those having trouble adjusting to the traditional school setting. The Home operates a homework club and utilizes well qualified tutors to further enhance the educational progress of our children.

For children in the Home’s care beyond graduation, opportunities and funding exist thanks to a strong network of staff support and designated scholarships. Currently, the Home has a graduate enrolled in undergraduate programs at Wake Forest University, as well as two graduates in Masters level programs, one at UNC-Wilmington and another participating in on-line programs with Capella University.

Young adults who are part of the Independent Living Program are eligible to attend Vance-Granville Community College to pursue an Associates degree.

The Home is able to offer extensive educational opportunities thanks to the support of many generous patrons. Most of the education needs of our children are supported through special funds and scholarships which are given by or in honor of benefactors who recognized the value of education and its benefits to the lives and futures of our children.

Through the years, a number of funds have been established to generate annual income to encourage and support the education of our children. The Carl and Nerata Burt Trust, established in 1979, provides funds annually to assist with on-campus education programs as well as college expenses. Income from the Troutman Fund, established by Cornelia and John Troutman in 1988, provides incentives for our students who do well academically and for those who show significant progress and improvement in school from one grading period to the next. The annual income from a number of other designated funds is consolidated into the memorial scholarship fund and is used to help defray education expenses beyond high school.
The alumni of the Home have consistently contributed to on-campus education programs as well as donating to the local schools which educate our children. The alumni for years have presented citizenship awards to deserving students. Our Home is also proud to recognize those donors who provide scholarships and awards annually to current residents and graduates.

Heath Stafford (left) received the Norman Garland Hines Memorial Scholarship, presented by Chris Richardson.

Sonisha received the Dan C. Rice Award for Journalism, presented by Eddie Dickerson, for her accomplishments as editor of Campus Tracks (campus newsletter).

The Home’s newest scholarship is special for many reasons. It is the first scholarship designated for a child at The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford to attend Vance-Granville Community College. It is also special because of its sponsor and her story.

The scholarship’s sponsor, Katharine Horner of Durham, is making gifts to endow two scholarships at Vance-Granville Community College, one designated for the Home, and in the process she is honoring her family heritage. Ms. Horner, who is originally from Henderson, has worked as a nurse at Duke Hospital for over 17 years. The Home’s scholarship is named in memory of Ms. Horner’s grandparents and her father, Guy T. Horner, Jr.

“I’m excited to be involved with Vance-Granville, and I’m anxious to see who the first winner of this scholarship will be,” Ms. Horner said. “I look forward to the payoff — seeing the impact of these scholarships on the students five and ten years down the line.”

Used with permission from Vance-Granville Community College’s Information Office.

ANNUAL AWARDS
The Bruce Nichols Memorial Scholarship — established 1991
The Norman Garland Hines Memorial Scholarship — established 2003
The Arthur L. Johnson Memorial Scholarship — established 2005
The Mel Davis Children’s Award — established 2001
The Daniel and Nellie Beck Scholarship — established 1962
The Umphlet Scholarship — established 1994
Dan C. Rice Journalism Award — established 1994

“Education is the ticket to a better future,” Ms. Horner (center) said, during the presentation with Vance-Granville Community College President, Mr. Randy Parker (right) and Endowment Specialist Kay Cumin.
A total of 115 children were served by the Masonic Home for Children in 2006. These children come from a variety of backgrounds and are referred to the Home through various sources.

Information regarding their length of stay in care, discharge disposition, and other vital information is located in the figures and graphs that follow.

This information is important not only for the operation of the Home today, it is crucial for planning for the future of the Home. It outlines the Home’s clients served, while mapping the future needs of children requiring the services of our Home. By comparing these statistics over the past three years, trends can be determined, while traditional figures and their outcome measures are examined for relevancy relating to future programs at the Home.

The Average Number of Children Per Day at the Home in 2006 was 68. These children came to the Home primarily through private referrals from sources such as school guidance counselors, relatives, guardians, and others in the community concerned with the welfare of children. A large majority were referred to the Home by members of the Masonic community, who have supported and promoted the advantages of the Home for over 135 years and continue to do so today.
The number of days in care for 2006 was 24,666, compared to 25,839 days in 2005 and 26,254 in 2004. Our family of children represents different ages, races, creeds, religions and colors. It is a family with many different backgrounds, yet all needing the same caring, stable environment.

When possible, children are reunited with their families in a renewed, positive, and stable environment. After a child leaves, the Home continues to monitor the outcomes and growth of the child, contacting family and trying to establish a line of stable communication for the benefit of the child and the family.

Facts and figures help determine what the Home is doing today and where it is headed in the future. As the average age of the children in care has increased from 11 years old to 14 years old in the past ten years, programs have been created to help the needs and address the issues of young adults. While the average length of stay has been reduced considerably, certain family situations necessitate long-term residence at the Home. Several of our children have lived here much longer than the average, some as much as seven years.

The family style model of care we use in our homes creates stable, positive, home-like atmospheres. Much like your home and your family, children enjoy individual rooms, family living areas, study areas, and large kitchen and dining areas, the most common areas for families to gather and share time together. By constantly measuring data and its outcome measures, the Home can continue to serve and be a great place to be a kid.
people make the difference in caring for our kids

A highly quoted African proverb states, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Our village of child care workers, support staff, and administration is first and foremost here to care for children. Regardless of job assignment, it is always the primary mission to care for the needs of our children, every day. To do this in the homes, 30 child care workers (15 couples), averaging nearly three years experience, care for the daily and changing needs of our children. They educate, train, guide, listen and share with our children, all in a family-style living environment.

It takes a special person supplemented by special training and skills to care for our children. The Home provides this training to our child care workers and others through the University of Oklahoma’s Residential Child and Youth Care Professionals Certification Program. This program is taught on our campus and focuses on:

- Understanding and developing a culture of care for children;
- Emphasizing child development and how it affects children and their needs;
- The importance of relationships to help children reconnect with society;
- How to use appropriate discipline to teach children to make good choices and be responsible.

Certification continues and sixteen of our current staff are nationally certified Registered Child Care Workers. Classes continue throughout the year to reach our goal of 100% certification for all child care workers in 2007.

Training goes beyond certification, into all areas relating to the quality care of our children. One hundred twenty-seven hours of in-service training for our staff included Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting, CPR/First Aid, Behavior De-escalation (Non-Physical) Techniques, Separation and Loss, Effective Communication, Resident and Employee Rights, Confidentiality, Anger Management, Public Relations and Family Coping Skills, as well as Group/Family Activities for Values Clarification.

third annual strategic planning forum

In August of 2006, The Masonic Home for Children held its third annual Strategic Planning Forum at the Cobb Center at Dunn Cottage.

This year’s meeting featured a large turnout, a variety of child care professionals, and a very special and respected moderator, Mrs. Susan Dreyfus, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Alliance for Families and Children. Mrs. Dreyfus brought her wealth of knowledge and experience to this year’s meeting which included professionals from the Division of Social Services in four counties, local law enforcement and juvenile justice departments, the Child Welfare League of America, Duke Endowment, the Superintendent of Granville County Schools, Vance-Granville Community College, the Home’s Board of Directors, NC Child and Family Services, Granville County Commissioners, Chamber of Commerce, and City of Oxford Commissioners. Also in attendance were director’s from five other residential children’s homes in North Carolina.

This year’s meeting focused on the future of residential child care in North Carolina and the U.S. The day long event is scheduled again this year in August to once again bring professionals together for the benefit of our Home and child care across North Carolina.
The various backgrounds and personalities of our children demand a model of care that encompasses all, while identifying the special needs of each child. Our Family Living model places a couple in each Home, creating a family setting. Homes are designed with family living spaces. With no more than eight children to each home (six for the youngest home) the model of care focuses on natural and logical consequences, problem ownership, and helping children develop problem solving skills. The model creates an environment of stability, development, and most important, care and support.

The formal education of our child care workers, support and administrative staff further validates the quality and level of care provided at our Home. The professional staff hold undergraduate or graduate degrees and are licensed or certified in their fields. Our staff includes a licensed Professional Counselor, as well as certifications and licenses in professional child care, recreational therapy, assessment testing, measurement and social work, financial development, and nursing.

The skills of our staff and their continuing education extended beyond the Home to the various conferences, retreats, and educational opportunities attended throughout the year. Currently, eight staff members are attending an associate, bachelor, or master’s degree program at local or on-line universities.

The constant pursuit of knowledge and learning makes our staff better and consequently our Home and level of care better. Constant improvement means meeting the changing needs of our children, every day. Working with others in the professional child care community is one way to continue learning, and to meet the needs of our children. The Home hosted its own educational opportunity in August of 2006 with the Annual Strategic Planning Forum on the campus of The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. This meeting brought members of the professional child care community from across North Carolina and the United States to the Home and offered another opportunity to learn and grow, as a home and as a human service organization.

NOTE: 100% of staff hold at least a high school diploma or GED.

Participants from across the child care community made the 3rd annual Strategic Planning Forum successful and productive.
MHCO IS . . . COMMUNITY

From our annual Red Cross Blood Drive, to hosting a local Relay For Life Auction, our Home is focused on being an integral part of the community by giving and supporting. When we contribute to a healthy society, we contribute to the futures of all children, including those in our care.

Here are just a few of the groups the Home contributed facilities, people, and services to in 2006 for the betterment of our community and its citizens.

Mary Jameson Woman’s Club • Oxford Jr. Woman’s Club • Granville County Department of Social Services Chamber of Commerce • Granville County Schools Boy Scouts of America • Pines of NC Girl Scouts Kerr Vance Land Preservation Council • Live Well Granville • Relay for Life Chapter – Granville Central Children’s Home • Oxford Youth Soccer Vance-Granville Community College • Leadership Granville • NC Highway Patrol • NC State • UNCH-Chapel Hill • ACIM Food Pantry • Granville County Oxford City Recreation

MHCO IS . . . COLLABORATION

The Home continues to work in concert with various agencies to benefit our Home and our children and to provide a service to society. This is seen in our work with Granville County Schools, our local DSS agencies, and other child care agencies. A hallmark collaboration for 2006 occurred when our Home, in partnership with Vance-Granville Community College, provided space for their newest academic degree program in Culinary Arts. The side article provides more information about this unique and useful alliance.

MHCO IS . . . CARING

Documents from as early as 1872 emphasize the Home’s primary mission as “caring for and supporting” children. The Home’s programs, campus and even name, have changed in 135 years, many, many times. But after all that time, what hasn’t changed is the Home’s calling to care for children and their changing needs.

The Home has a history of identifying and meeting needs and did so again in 2006, by initiating the extension of the Home’s current independent living program. This program utilizes existing cottages, renovated into apartment suites, and includes an on-site resident advisor in each home; one for young males and one for young females, ages 18-22. By serving children aging out of foster care, abandoned by their families, or those graduating from the Home’s residential program, we can continue to care for youth beyond their adolescence and help a population of young adults, struggling to survive and succeed in today’s society. Another example, just as in 1872, of this Home’s ability to identify the needs of children and society.

MHCO-VGCC PARTNERSHIP

At a late morning press conference attended by community leaders, Board Members from both institutions, staff and faculty members, and local print and television media, Mr. Randy Parker, President of Vance-Granville Community College, and Doug McConnell, Administrator of The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, announced a public-private partnership allowing VGCC to utilize the Masonic Home for Children’s cafeteria, kitchen, and dining area as part of the college’s newly approved Culinary Technology Applied Sciences Degree Program, which began in the fall of 2006.

Visit the VGCC website at www.vgcc.cc.nc.us for more information on the Culinary Arts Program.
2006 A GOOD YEAR FOR SGA

The School of Graphic Arts is once again fulfilling its promise of becoming a shining star on the campus of the Masonic Home for Children. The whole staff has worked hard to complete the transformation that was started four years ago, and now believe that we are on sound financial footing once again. We can thank all the businesses, trade groups, and Masonic organizations that provided us with financial and personal support throughout all of 2006.

The upgrade of our prepress department has now come full circle with the addition of a state-of-the-art computer to plate system which, in addition to the new computers added the previous year, now provide us with one of the most modern and technologically advanced departments in the immediate area. The plate system was purchased in early 2006 and almost completely paid for in the same calendar year. While revenues decreased slightly, the continued reduction in our expenses allowed us to once again exceed our budget expectations.

The Kids Earn program was once again a success at the School of Graphic Arts, with the school employing more kids that any other department on campus. The Student of the Month award continued throughout the year and was instrumental in helping the students realize that they are being judged daily and that positive attitudes and efforts reap positive outcomes. We also published a Student Handbook to assist the students in helping them understand what is expected of them. One key addition was the inclusion of a Community Service Project that every student at the School of Graphic Arts must be involved in each semester. This will allow them to experience the rich rewards of giving something back to people less fortunate than themselves.
The year 2006 was a very fortunate period for the Home. Income was up 29.4% from the previous year thanks to several major gifts and legacies and an improved economy. Revenues for the year exceeded total expenditures, including construction and renovation costs, by $732,000. Planned giving continued to be the major source of revenue, as 78% of the income was from wills and trusts and the investment income from those gifts. Receipts from the Department of Social Services and the Federal Breakfast and Lunch Program, a new source of funds, accounted for 1.1% of the income.

Operating expenses for the year were up 8.6%, due primarily to major capital improvements for maintenance and upgrade of the administration building, chapel, gymnasium, parking areas, and campus beautification. Overall operating expenses for 2006 were 2.4% below the approved annual budget despite increased expenses to implement a Child Care Worker (CCW) certification program and a new Independent Living/Preparation for Adult Living (IL/PAL) Program. Reorganization and realignment of duties enabled the administration to eliminate five (5) full time support staff positions, resulting in reduction of payroll expenses.

The revenue surplus provided the funds necessary to continue campus renovations, as four (4) of the older cottages were converted from dormitory-style to one- and two-bedroom suites. These renovations provide a number of options to meet future requirements in addition to housing for the new IL/PAL Program. Costs of major renovations and interest and principal payments for the construction bonds are not shown as part of the expenditures for daily operations of the Home.

The condition and appearance of the campus facilities and grounds has been improved significantly. The Board and administration have been proactive by implementing preventive measures to prepare for emergencies and to avoid major maintenance problems with the aging facilities and infrastructure. Coupled with Board and administration efforts to maintain and preserve the facilities, the Cobb Foundation has generously contributed to help preserve the history of the Home.
GIFTS FOR THE LIVES AND FUTURES OF CHILDREN

Our Home is blessed with the financial support of donors who give in so many ways. The gifts help meet the needs of our children, provide special opportunities and memories, and allow the Home to plan for the future, ensuring our ability to care for others in the years ahead.

GENERAL PUBLIC DONATIONS

Memorial gifts continue to be a large part of our general public giving. These gifts, given in memory of family, friends, and influential people, honor the memory of others and pay tribute to them through gifts for the children. Several individuals and community groups regularly contribute to the Home. Their support has helped the success and survival of our Home. The story below is an example of one such group and their perpetual support of our children.

LITTLE MISS QUEEN MAKES GENEROUS DONATION AT ST. JOHN’S CELEBRATION

Little Miss North Carolina Queen, Alexis Massengill, organized and conducted a reverse raffle and presented The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford a check in the amount of $15,000, all generated by this single fundraiser. With this gift the 2005-2006 Court donated over $22,000 to the Home. The Queens of the Little Miss NC pageant program have chosen the Home as their charity for the past nine years and have donated more than $75,000 during that time.

MAasonic Giving

The Masons of North Carolina continued a 135-year tradition of giving to the Home in 2006. Their gifts are measured not only in donations, but in their demonstration of support and commitment throughout this Home’s history. Masonic donations to the Home increased by 25% in 2006, and included individual gifts, Masonic Lodge fundraisers, a Grand Lodge appropriation, and other gifts related to the work of Masonic members, totaling $860,378. The average gift per Lodge, per member can be seen on page 17. This amount does not include over $75,000 from the annual calendar campaign. The Masonic fraternity of North Carolina contributes in so many ways to our Home, and their support continues to serve as the foundation of our giving. Below is just one example of the unbroken aid that has sustained our Home for well over a century.

A TOURNAMENT OF FELLOWSHIP

For over nineteen years the members of Fellowship Masonic Lodge No. 687 in Durham, North Carolina have conducted a golf tournament. The tournament, like many Masonic fundraisers, has grown from a humble start and a simple idea to raise money for charity. The tournament has netted in its history an estimated $95,000 and continues to grow. This tournament is just one of the examples of established Lodge fundraisers in North Carolina and how a simple idea can provide so much.
PLANNED GIFTS – THE HOME’S GIFTS OF A LIFETIME

Planned giving through its different methods is vital to the success and future of the Home. Planned gifts and associated earnings account for over 70% of the 2006 income. While this was an exceptional year, planned giving usually generates over 56% of the donation income received each year. These major gift types include wills and estates, gifts of real estate, trusts and annuities, and other potential income-producing gift types.

Planned gifts are so important because of their impact on the future of the Home and the stability they add to the financial well-being. Such gifts offer several advantages to our donors including benefits to family members, relief on income taxes and estate taxes, and a life-long legacy of giving to help generations of children with recognition opportunities.

Planned giving is an opportunity for you and your family to provide the gift of a lifetime. For more information you can call the Home at 1-888-505-4357, visit the Home’s website at www.mhc-oxford.org, or visit your personal finance advisor, accountant, or legal counsel to see what options are available regarding planned giving.

THE HAYES SOCIETY AND THE NEAL SOCIETY

Many times a major planned gift has changed the course of history at the Home, ensuring its operation and allowing it to remain open for those in need. To recognize the importance of planned giving and to honor those who have supported the Home and its children through planned gifts, the Home announced the formation of The Hayes Society and The Neal Society in 2005.

The societies roll is listed in the Cobb Center at Dunn Cottage Museum and Archives and will be updated each spring to honor those whose gifts in the preceding year qualified for status in one of the societies.

2006 MEMBERS OF THE HAYES SOCIETY AND NEAL SOCIETY

DIAMOND LEVEL
Society Member Veneratio, Mr. Brady C. Jefcoat

GOLD LEVEL
Mrs. Margaret W. Moore
Society Member Veneratio, Mr. Ron Horton, Sr.

SILVER LEVEL
Mr. William Scott S. Border, Mrs. Reta S. Godbey, Mr. Joseph H. Holmes, Mrs. Elizabeth P. Murdock

BRONZE LEVEL
Society Member Veneratio, Mr. Cecil Lowe

LEGACY LEVEL
Mr. James Howerton and Mrs. Elise Alexander (Trust), Mr. Ernest B. Autry, Mr. Roy L. Finch, Mr. Harvey E. Johnson, Mr. John O. Tilson

BENEFACTOR LEVEL
Mrs. Mary C. Biggs, Mr. S. A. Jackson
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FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The table above provides a summary of gifts received by each charitable organization in the year 2006. The data includes the number of gifts per person, the total number of gifts, and the total receipts for the year. The table is sorted by the number of gifts per person, with the highest numbers at the top.

Lodges with a per lodger member contribution of $100 or more to the annual report includes one or more donations dated in 2007, but received before, 2007.

Those donations received in 2007 are included in the audited receipts of 2006.
GIVING MORE THAN A GIFT: DONOR AND FRIEND, BRADY C. JEFCOAT

Mr. Brady C. Jefcoat has given many gifts in his lifetime and The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford was fortunate enough to be the recipient of one such gift in 2006. The Home and its children received one of the largest single donations in its history, thanks to the generosity, kindness, and true charity of one of the most unique and special friends this Home has ever had.

Because of Brady’s historic and generous gift, one of the new homes at MHCO will be named in his honor in 2007. Below is an excerpt from a story featured in the NC Mason from May/June of 2006 about this Home’s very special friend and supporter, Brady C. Jefcoat.

The circa 1922 Murfreesboro High School stands today as the Brady C. Jefcoat Museum of Americana; another testament to the generosity of Brady. Wanting to display all that he had been given and acquired, Brady set out to find a place to present the treasures of his life for the benefit of others. The collection of items, ranging from cooking equipment, to air rifles, to game birds is only a small portion of Brady’s anthology. These items and the stories behind them are the result of gifts and “finds”, many trips to many flea markets, and a genuine love of learning. For every piece Brady has in his collection, there is a story. And for many pieces in his collection, Brady has used his mind’s eye and his talent to restore them to their previous glory. Brady continues to this day, taking unique collectibles and reconditioning them, spending time and investing heart into each piece. In the same fashion, through his public speaking (several hundred in his lifetime) or through small talks on his carport, Brady has reconditioned the lives of people, investing that same amount of time and a greater amount of heart to make a difference and help people realize their greatest gifts.

Stacks of letters can be found throughout Brady’s home from people who have been touched by his story. They speak to Brady and remind him of his opportunity to share with others and of the many people that have been affected by his life. In speaking of these letters, Brady displays surprise and reverence and cherishes them as the greatest piece in his collection. They come because of his speaking engagements, another treasure in Brady’s life. Brady loves the opportunity to speak to others and share with them. An even greater thrill comes when his audience asks questions or sends a message of thanks. For it is his words that have touched a chord in the hearts and minds of many and his words that he cradles as his greatest gift to others.

In January 2006, Mr. Brady Jefcoat donated a piece of his homestead to The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. The donation was part of a plan developed by Mr. Jefcoat and Wake County Parks, Recreation and Land Use Department to construct a park for residents located in the southern part of the county. The park would be yet another way to affect the lives of others,
especially the very young lives of the future. Once again, Brady was taking his life’s work and giving it back so that generations after him could enjoy it. Wake County received an additional part of the property, the result of another donation by Brady, to secure land for the plan. Mr. Jefcoat’s gift to the Masonic Home for Children equaled over $1.3 million dollars; a tremendous gift for the future of our Home and its children and one which will forever live at this Home as historic in its generosity. Brady is not a Mason, nor was his family affiliated with the craft, but his life is an example of our Masonic tenets realized; faith, hope and charity. For it is with faith in God that Brady has lived his life, hope in all people that they can succeed as he did and charity for the many, many blessings he has imparted to others, especially this Home and its children. His gift will be recognized permanently later this year with the naming of the Brady C. Jefcoat Cottage, one of seven resident homes at MHCO that opened in 2003. While Mr. Jefcoat’s generosity will be remembered through the naming of a home, his words and his story will be remembered in the minds and hearts of all he has met throughout his life, including the author of this story.
The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc. is a licensed, residential children’s home through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (www.dhhs.state.nc.us).

Our Home’s quality care, precise fiscal management, and focus on continuous improvement are validated by our accreditation:

**The Council on Accreditation** (www.coanet.org) which partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards.

**EAGLE** – (www.umassassociation.org) accredits faith based, health, and wholeness organizations to enhance the quality of services provided for their clients.

In addition, the Home is proudly affiliated with the following health and human service organizations, which enhance the services offered for our children and their families.

- The Child Welfare League of America
- Southeastern Group Child Care Association
- The Association for Child and Youth Care Practice, Inc.
- The Children and Family Services Association - North Carolina (CFSA-NC)
- Alliance for Children and Families
- The North Carolina Center for Nonprofits