

HEARTS
for
HOPE



to benefit Incarnation Children's Center
Thursday, March 12th, 2009

ABOUT INCARNATION CHILDREN'S CENTER...

In the mid-1980's, large numbers of children with HIV/AIDS were abandoned, orphaned, or removed from their parents because of drug use, neglect or abuse. The foster care system was unable to find foster parents willing to care for these children. As a result, these so-called "boarder babies," who had nowhere to live, languished for months, even years on New York City's hospital wards.

In response to these conditions, the Incarnation Children's Center (ICC) was created. In 1988, a four-story, red brick, former convent in upper Manhattan was converted into a homelike residence for twenty-four HIV positive children. ICC was dubbed "the Ellis Island for homeless children with AIDS." During the program's first three years, two-thirds of New York City's AIDS boarder babies were admitted to ICC. After an average stay of one month, these children went into foster care. After three years, there was actually a surplus of foster parents, for all but the sickest children. New York City's "AIDS boarder baby crisis" had ended and ICC had played a pivotal role in this success story.

ICC then turned it's attention to the plight of those children with AIDS who were too sick to live at home, but not sick enough to require hospitalization. Having learned that very ill children often improved dramatically with proper nurturing and high-quality medical and nursing care, ICC pioneered the concept of convalescent care for them. Many children presumed terminally ill improved clinically and returned to a home setting. For other children, ICC remained a sanctuary full of love.

In 2000, ICC became licensed as a Skilled Nursing Facility and is licensed by the New York State Department of Health. On average, we have 21 children residing with us at any given time and have served over 500 children since ICC opened in 1989. Our children range in age from birth to twenty-one years of age. They represent all five boroughs of New York and a growing number have recently emigrated from Africa.

The Incarnation Children's Center (ICC) is New York City's only skilled nursing facility providing specialized care in a nurturing environment exclusively for children and adolescents with HIV/AIDS. ICC's unique combination of expertise and support provides the child and his/her family with an interdisciplinary service designed to meet the challenges of pediatric HIV/AIDS and minimize its effects on the quality of their life. We are dedicated to serving as advocates for these infants, children and adolescents in all matters pertaining to their health care. An internationally recognized model of family and community-based care for pediatric HIV/AIDS, ICC is a joint venture between the Archdiocese of New York and the Columbia University Department of Pediatrics.

ICC is the only pediatric skilled nursing facility exclusively serving HIV-infected children from natural, adoptive and foster families.



Please join us for the
Premiere Fundraising Event

“Hearts for Hope”

benefiting Incarnation Children’s Center

**Thursday, March 12, 2008
7 - 10pm**

Join us for music, entertainment, silent auction, hors
d’oeuvres, cocktails, and more!

**The Prince George Ballroom
15 E. 27th Street
New York, NY**

Kindly RSVP by March 1st by mail or online at
www.incarnationchildrenscenter.org

Special Thanks to...

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- Please reserve _____ tickets at \$100 each.
- Please reserve one silver sponsorship package,
including program listing and 5 tickets at \$1,000.
- Please reserve one gold sponsorship package,
including program listing, VIP table and 10 tickets at \$2,500.
- Please reserve one platinum sponsorship package,
including program listing, 2 VIP tables and 20 tickets at \$5,000.
- Please reserve one diamond sponsorship package,
including program listing, 3 VIP tables and 30 tickets at \$10,000.
- I am unable to attend but wish to contribute \$ _____

_____ **TOTAL**

- Check enclosed payable to:
Incarnation Children's Center
- Please charge my credit card: VISA /MC/ Amex

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Please use return envelope or send to:
Incarnation Children's Center, 142 Audubon Avenue, New York, NY 10032



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New York, NY 10032