



# Newsletter

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of CBH,

As I travel around the state of Delaware and tell people where I work, more often than not, they say something like, "Oh the summer camp for kids!"

To which I say yes. And no.

Yes, Children's Beach House runs summer camp programs. In fact, we run amazing summer camp programs. We have a beautiful location on the Delaware Bay where we teach boating and swimming, make s'mores over bonfires, and study nature. Our facility is gorgeous, with a ropes course, art room, and bayfront dining room where kids play, create, and spend time together.

But the truth is, we're so much more than that. Our summer camps are just the most visible component of CBH's year-round Youth Development Program (YDP). In addition to the camp session, the YDP also hosts weekend activities during the school year here in Lewes that give the kids opportunities to socialize while also learning important life skills. The largest part and the heart of the YDP program is much less visible, though. The ongoing year-round support that is provided by our family engagement coordinators (often referred to as case managers) to families and children across the state of Delaware makes up the bulk of the YDP. The family engagement coordinators work closely with each

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## Learning and Laughing at the Margaret H. Rollins Child Development Center

Delaware's unusually cold winter hasn't chilled the exuberant learning at CBH's Margaret H. Rollins Child Development Center. It can be heard everywhere. On one day it can be heard as a group of preschoolers is being led down the hall waddling like penguins. Another day they are lumbering dinosaurs. In both cases, and in everything we do at the Rollins Center, our goal is to build a collection of common experiences that foster connections between the children and adults and makes them eager to learn about the world around them.

This relational aspect of education is essential. In the Margaret H. Rollins Child Development Center relationships provide the context for our youngest learners to learn the skills most often requested by Kindergarten teachers: taking turns, raising hands, waiting in line, and sharing. By engaging in learning activities with others, the children learn new ways of looking at things and new questions they might ask.

During one recent activity, the children placed an egg in soda and, using their "scientist brains," made predictions about what would happen. Seeing how the soda stained the egg brown and weakened the shell they speculated on how that might be comparable to the effects of sugar on their teeth. While the kids' most present emotions

were of curiosity and fun, they were also learning how to explore topics, design experiments, observe responses, and make comparisons – all are essential skills to continued learning in school and living lives that engage the world with a sense of wonder.

There is something else that happens through all this fun group learning that may be less clear to the children: As they play together and learn together, friendships form and trust develops. Through these social connections, the children's emotional intelligence deepens. They notice details in the world around them, become more empathetic, learn to collaborate, and value the different perspectives of others.



### CBH Mission Statement

The mission of Children's Beach House is to improve the lives of children, youth, families and communities by helping them to identify, understand and utilize their own strengths, talents and resources.



*Message from the Executive Director, continued from page 1*

family to get to know their individual needs. Throughout the year, they meet with and coordinate services with the kid's teachers and school counselors to make sure our work supports the educational plans and goals of each child. They also arrange wrap-around support services that meet the needs of the families as they arise.

If the year-round support of family engagement coordinators is the heart of the Youth Development Program, then the relationships that are fostered here are the program's connective tissue. Research has shown that supportive relationships can be some of the most powerful defenses against the many threats faced by young people. This is especially true for the children we serve. Children with communicative challenges often have difficulty connecting with their peers. As a result, they are often isolated at school and in their communities. They risk becoming the targets of bullying and are at risk of dropping out of school. At Children's Beach House, however, these kids can connect with others and form friendships. They don't feel isolated, scared, or different here. Through positive feedback from peers and adults, they develop a better understanding of their gifts and talents and muster the confidence to utilize and develop those gifts. These relationships help them learn to be good team members, navigate difficult conversations, and resolve conflicts peacefully.

This ability to form and manage relationships is a skill that will help the YDP kids throughout their lives. As adults, we know that our own authentic relationships help us to understand other people and perspectives, and help us to learn to empathize. Empathy and understanding make us better learners, better workers, and better community members. Empathy and understanding also enable each of us to better tackle the critical issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. In short, relationships provide the opportunity for change in our lives and in our communities. These are all essential skills the Youth Development Program offers the children we serve.

To them, though, it just feels like a lot of fun.

Thank you for being in relationship with CBH and supporting real change. Thank you for bringing fun to our kids' lives. We remain in awe of your kind and generous support of our mission.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich'.

Richard T. Garrett  
Executive Director

## Educere Institute Partners With Public Allies Delaware

One of Educere Institute's main initiatives is building long-lasting relationships with nonprofits, schools, and businesses. Educere strives to bring people together through professional development and technical assistance. These relationships between organizations foster thought partners and spark initiatives that benefit the entire community. Educere seeks to actively collaborate with organizations to develop structures, processes, and skills that advance organizations and the people who serve them.

Since 2010, Educere Institute has partnered with Public Allies Delaware in advancing social justice and equity by engaging and activating leadership through workshops, retreat facilitation, and mentoring. Public Allies is a national movement committed to advancing social justice and equity by engaging and activating the leadership capacities of our young people. Public Allies partners with organizations on the frontlines of social change, placing underrepresented young leaders in meaningful internships that place them on successful pathways to higher education and careers.

Working together, Public Allies and Educere Institute have increased their knowledge, expanded their expertise, and increased resources available to both organizations. Through technical assistance and an annual slate of workshops, Educere has assisted Public Allies with bringing greater talent to the forefront.

Educere further deepened its relationship with Public Allies Delaware by welcoming Chai Darien, a Public Allies intern, to the CBH/Educere Institute staff in September 2021. During her internship with us, Chai has helped us re-launch a series of workshops open to the general public and increase our presence on social media. She has brought new energy, insight, and design to the program.



## CBH in Milton

Efforts are underway to bring CBH's Youth Development Program (YDP) to the town of Milton, Delaware. Because the YDP works with children from across the state of Delaware, we have served children from Milton in the past, and we currently have children from Milton enrolled. During our recent strategic planning process, we learned through demographic data and conversations with officials from the Cape Henlopen School District that there are more children in Milton's two elementary schools and one middle school who might benefit from our approach.

We don't know exactly what a Milton-based Youth Development Program might look like right now. We want to develop the program in response to the very specific and unique needs of the families and children in Milton and not simply create a copy of our existing program and wedge it into the community. Therefore, CBH staff has started to spend time in Milton to meet members of the community. We are building the important foundational relationships on which our program expansion will be built. These many conversations, and eventually town hall meetings, are designed to engage community members in a conversation about what is best about Milton and what assets should be leveraged to expose and develop opportunities for the kids and families being served and for the town itself. We anticipate an advisory committee will be established in Milton which will guide CBH through the process of designing the program and ensure that it is responsive to local needs and is deeply rooted in the community.

There are many wonderful things to imagine about how the CBH expansion will unfold in Milton. Perhaps it might include a partnership between CBH and the Milton business community so that,



in some time in the not-too-distant future, Milton's CBH kids will be getting hired for part time and summer jobs – meeting the needs of businesses while giving kids a way to explore careers and develop marketable job skills. Perhaps we will be asked to build on our experience with the Margaret H. Rollins Child Development Center to offer a similar high-quality preschool program. Whatever form the new Milton program takes, it will build on our expertise in and commitment to creating relationships that support kids and help them to thrive.

Our efforts in Milton will be supported by a new Youth Development Program Director, who will be joining us this spring. We look forward to watching that person continue to build relationships with schools, businesses, town leaders, members of the faith communities, and the community at large. As the program begins, CBH will depend on these relationships to help identify children who might need our support and help us create new ways to offer it.

CBH is so excited by the many new opportunities this expansion will bring. IMAGINE!!

# charity GOLF EVENT

to benefit Children's Beach House

**Monday, May 23, 2022**  
at The Peninsula on the Indian River Bay  
32981 Peninsula Esp., Millsboro, DE 19966

**Register today!**  
TEXT **GOLF4CBH** TO **41444**  
Or visit [www.cbhinc.org/golf](http://www.cbhinc.org/golf)

**SCHEDULE**  
10am: Driving Range Opens  
12 Noon: Shotgun Start

**GOLFER AMENITIES**

- Complimentary Bloody Mary and Orange Crush Bar
- Gourmet Boxed Lunch
- On-course Refreshments
- On-Course Games and Prizes
- Dinner Buffet
- Silent/Virtual Auction

**REGISTRATION**

- Single Golfer: \$250
- Foursome: \$1,000

**just do it for our kids!**

**SCAN ME!**

**Children's Beach House honors the memories of the following people whose families and friends made gifts to support our work in their names:**

Bruce Chappelle  
Rosemary Cummings  
Brooke Dean  
Dylan  
Joan Gildea  
James Hake  
Mary Helms  
Jerry Ingley  
Nancy Katz  
Glenn W Materniak  
Ernie Sando  
Stephan Christopher Tosi  
William H Walters, Sr  
Keith Yarnell

**Children's Beach House gratefully acknowledges gifts to support our work made in honor of:**

Brenda Butterfield  
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Ellison Carey  
Don Coburn  
Patrick Crouse  
Mary & Jim Culley  
Patti Garrett & Jamie Lewis  
Carl Grimm  
Edie & Jim Herron  
Megan Huff & Greg McGrann  
Tom Jamison  
Kathy Jennings & David White  
Kathy Jimenez  
Billy & Sherri Leeks  
Susanne Lontar & Bobbi O'Neil  
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The Ulmenstine Family  
Lorrie Walker



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**When you are making your estate plans, please consider a gift to Children's Beach House.**

Visit [cbhinc.org/plannedgiving](http://cbhinc.org/plannedgiving) or contact [ptosi@cbhinc.org](mailto:ptosi@cbhinc.org) for more information.

**CBH relies on the support of volunteers for a wide range of activities.**

Please contact [aorman@cbhinc.org](mailto:aorman@cbhinc.org) to learn how you can help.



# 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To Benefit Children's Beach House



**May 23**

**Charity Golf Event**

The Peninsula on the Indian River Bay  
32981 Peninsula Esplanade, Millsboro, DE 19966



**August 27**

**Beach BBQ**

Children's Beach House  
1800 Bay Avenue, Lewes, DE 19958



**October 15**

**Ashley Furio 5K Run/Walk**

Crooked Hammock Brewery  
36707 Crooked Hammock Way, Lewes, DE 19958



**November 11**

**Plein Air Brandywine Valley**

*Art competition, show and sale*  
Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library  
5105 Kennett Pike, Winterthur, DE 19735



**December 2**

**Winter Wonder Holiday Celebration**

Children's Beach House  
1800 Bay Avenue, Lewes, DE 19958