

## State of Gill

By Peyton Salavarría, Executive Director



Since taking the helm, I have come to know and love the mission of Gill Children's Services. Its purpose is beautifully simple: to be a window when so many doors are shut. I am proud to say we are poised to help more than 1,700 children this year, providing critical resources when no one else can.

As I share the Gill story with the community, I often hear, "Why didn't I know about Gill sooner?" At Gill Children's Services, one of our ongoing goals is to educate supporters

and fellow organizations about the resources we provide. After all, we rely on our strong network of area nonprofits to identify the children who need our help. However, raising awareness is often a difficult task to accomplish alone.

I encourage you to share the Gill story with your friends, family, and neighbors. In doing so, you will spread the message of hope to children facing closed doors. Thank you for your advocacy!

“Its purpose is beautifully simple: to be a window when so many doors are shut.”

### Match your Gift with Birdies for Charity

It's that time of year again! Gill Children's Services is honored to rejoin the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial Golf Tournament for their annual Birdies for Charity campaign.

Colonial Club Charities will match the first \$20,000 raised by 15%. All you have to do is send in your pledge before **May 15th**.

**Here's how it works.** Choose an amount to pledge for every birdie the pros make during the competitive rounds of the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial Golf Tournament. If you pledge a penny and the pros make 1,500 birdies, your total donation will be \$15.00.

**Donations received by May 15 can be matched by Birdies for Charity. Please make your check payable to Gill Children's Services: "Birdies for Charity." Visit [CrownePlazaInvitational.com](http://CrownePlazaInvitational.com)**



### A message from our Board President



Megan M. Boschini

A heartfelt thank you to all those listed in this spring's newsletter as donors to Gill. We know that there are countless worthy organizations that you could choose when giving from your treasure. It is with much gratitude and appreciation that we thank you for putting Gill Children's Services on your priority list.

To all donors, I promise you that your investment is making a real difference in children's lives every day. Our ability to provide last resort services to families in need often changes their futures. Because of donors like you, we can provide a safety net for children in need in Tarrant County. When families come to our door, it is because they have exhausted all other resources. They are quite literally hanging from a thread with nowhere else to turn. With great humility, our staff works with families often restoring their dignity and offering hope in what appeared to be a hopeless situation. Our vision, with your help, is to make sure that all the children seeking our help in Tarrant County walk away with the care they need to be happy and healthy.

I can also promise you that 100% of all donations received go directly to services provided. It has been the ongoing, deliberate intention of our Board of Directors to keep overhead low and services high. We are grateful for the trust you show in us by your donations and we will insure that your investment in Gill is well used.

Thank you donors! And if I might ask one small favor - please help us spread the word about the good work being done for families in your county at Gill Children's Services!



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Spring 2015 Newsletter

## Meet Liliana!



Liliana, age 5

Liliana left the dentist's office in pain. Her parents, Domingo and Rosa, were given a treatment plan that they could not afford. 5-year-old Liliana had extensively decayed primary, or "baby", teeth. She needed nine stainless steel crowns and five pulpotomies, which is a root canal for primary teeth. Because of her young age, Liliana would have to be put under anesthesia in a hospital operating room. The procedures, along with the facility and anesthesia fees, were too much for the Martinez family to

handle, even with dental insurance. Without options or a solution, Liliana's parents made the difficult decision to decline treatment.

Six months later, the Martinez family returned to Dr. Jason Zimmerman's office for their regular check-up. Liliana's decay had only worsened, leaving her in pain and discomfort. Rosa turned to the office staff for help. Dr. Zimmerman's office referred her to Gill Children's Services and provided an application for assistance. "Tooth decay is an epidemic among our youngest children," Dr. Zimmerman says. "Gill Children's Services has played an essential role in providing quality dental care to the young people of our area."

The Martinez family visited Gill, where Dental Case Manager Alice Espinoza put their fears at ease. Gill stepped in and paid for nine crowns and five pulpotomies and also provided the funding to cover the facility and anesthesia fees. Rosa says, "I really don't know what we would have done if Gill wouldn't have helped. Gill was a true blessing to our family." Today, Liliana is in kindergarden and is pain-free. She says, "I have new teeth and I look wonderful! I do not want to go through that pain again."

Dental care is Gill's most requested service, comprising 61% of total services. Last year we helped 455 children like Liliana get the dental assistance they needed.

"I have new teeth and I look wonderful! I do not want to go through that pain again."

## Diapers Needed

At Gill Children's Services one of the resources we regularly supply to Tarrant County families is disposable diapers. Last year 143 babies and toddlers received free diapers from Gill with a value of \$2,706. Mothers can pick up diapers, size newborn through pull-ups (1-6), once every three months, if needed.

Gill is in need of disposable diapers, especially sizes 3 and 4. Donations can be dropped off at the Gill Children's Services office at the corner of Hemphill Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Call (817) 332-5070 for information.

### Diaper Stats

- 1 in 3 mothers have had to choose between diapers and basic needs like food.
- Moms struggling with diaper need are likely to keep their babies out of daycare, which requires a full day's supply of diapers.
- 2% of mothers have had to reuse soiled diapers.



Statistics gathered from the 2010 Huggies® "Every Little Bottom" Study

## Our Generous Donors: Thank you!

Donations from July 2014- present

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## Special Thanks

Gill Children's Services is honored to receive support from many community events, awareness campaigns, and local groups. We would like to thank those who have contributed to Gill's mission in unique and special ways!

### Design Inspirations

The 22nd Annual Design Inspirations fundraiser, benefiting Gill Children's Services and Child Study Center, was held March 4 -5. Guests braved the ice to see elaborately decorated tablescapes and hear talented interior designer Suzanne Kasler. Design Inspirations is hosted by the Kappa Kappa Gamma and Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Associations. Gill's gorgeous table was designed by Ms. Christy Hill, owner of CHI Interior Designs. Christy and her staff lent their time and talent to create a beautiful design that incorporated Gill's mission and purpose. Thank you to the Design Inspirations Committee and to CHI Interior Design!



### Greatest Gift Catalog Ever

Gill Children's Services is honored to have participated in the 2014 Greatest Gift Catalog Ever. Fifteen local organizations were featured in this year's catalog, which gives the community the opportunity to give back during the holiday season. Since its inception six years ago, the catalog has raised over \$5,000,000 to local causes. This year, the Greatest Gift Catalog Ever raised over \$25,000 for Gill Children's Services. Thank you to the Greatest Gift Catalog Ever Board of Directors and Staff!



### Play A Round Charity Golf Tournament

The first annual Play A Round charity golf tournament, presented by Fat Daddy's Sports & Spirits Café and House of Hotrods & Classics, will be held on June 20, 2015. The tournament will be hosted at Southern Oaks Golf Club in Burleson. Proceeds will benefit Gill Children's Services. Sponsorships are available. For details, visit [www.fatdaddyslive.com/playaround](http://www.fatdaddyslive.com/playaround) and sign up your team today!



### Fort Worth Association of Health Underwriters

The Fort Worth Association of Health Underwriter's annual Golf Tournament was held on April 13, 2015 at the Sky Creek Ranch in Keller. Proceeds from the tournament will be given to Gill Children's Services. For more information, visit [www.fwahu.org](http://www.fwahu.org).



### Our Mission

Gill Children's Services is a funding source of last resort that provides a safety net for Tarrant County Children whose medical, dental, physical, social, psychological and educational needs have not been met by other community resources.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”  
-Margaret Mead



Gill Children's Services, in partnership with the Children's Oral Health Coalition of Cook Children's Medical Center, helped assemble thousands of oral health kits. The kits contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, and information about oral hygiene; they will be distributed to children ages Pre-K through 3rd grade in Tarrant County. Gill's Board Members spent their lunch hour in an assembly line. Gill Co-Founder Mrs. Ginny Richards, 89, stuffed the bags with toothpaste.

## Your Gift at Work

At Gill Children's Services 100% of every donated dollar goes directly to Tarrant County children in need. Last year it cost \$262 to provide a critical service such as hearing aids, root canals, medications, summer school tuition, diapers, and much more.

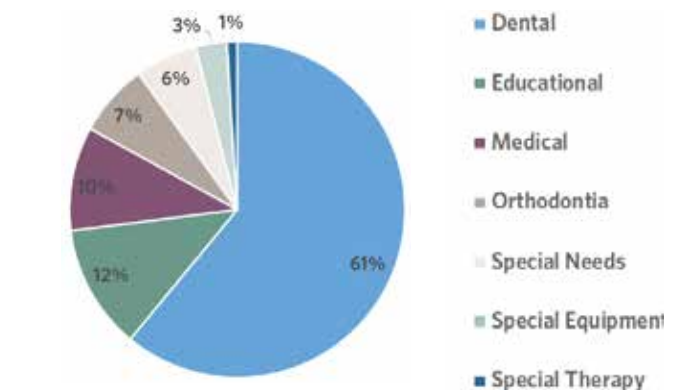
So far this year, Gill has served 960 local children, a record high since 2011. With needs for dental and educational services on the rise, we anticipate serving more kids than ever.

With every decade, Gill has experienced different needs in the community. This past year, we tracked a few trends.

- 142% increase in dental anesthesia and facility fee cases
- 11% increase in summer school tuition cases
- 85% increase in eye exam and surgery cases
- 26% decrease in special equipment clients

To keep costs manageable, Gill works with a number of trusted local service providers. Dentists, pediatricians, audiologists, retailers, etc. give Gill Children's Services a reduced or pro bono rate, allowing precious resources to go further. Because of these strong relationships, this year's price per service has decreased from \$262 to \$208, allowing us to serve more children per dollar.

### Fund Allocation in 2014: \$439,167



### Number of Children Served in 2014: 1,673

