

A message from our Board President...

Every non-profit organization relies on its founders to guide it from inception through the growth process, and then to hopefully ensure its longevity and that it continues to be true to its mission and purpose. Sadly, Gill Children's Services lost one of its founders, Martine H. Ginsburg, last fall on November 16th. At 96 years of age, Martine was actively engaged in the work of Gill until shortly before her death: voting to approve a special request for medical assistance for a child in need.



Shannon Ray

Martine died peacefully in the home that she and her husband, Marcus, built and in which she lived for over sixty three years. It was also in this home, at the dining room table, that at the age of 63 Martine and her dear friend, Ginny Richards, initially created Gill Children's Services in response to a \$1,000,000 bequest by A. Smith Gill, a relatively unknown local benefactor. The original intent was to give the money away as quickly as possible to the children of Tarrant

County with unmet needs. However, as they soon discovered, there was a great need for an organization that would be a last resort for children, after all other sources of funding had been tapped. In 2010, as Martine mused upon seeing the new Gill permanent offices, "this may really outlive me and continue to provide for the children long after I am gone. That's something Ginny and I never even dreamed was a possibility." Now, 34 years later, Gill has provided almost \$10,000,000 to approximately 50,000 children in Tarrant County.

“This may really outlive me and continue to provide for the children long after I am gone.”

While Martine was instrumental in founding or guiding several other social organizations in Tarrant County, her greatest community achievement was the establishment of Gill as the only organization in Tarrant County, and perhaps in Texas and the United States, with the sole purpose of taking care of the unmet needs of children. **No child has ever been turned away from Gill as a last resort.**

As Gill approaches its 35th anniversary in 2014, the Board of Directors reaffirms its commitment to improving the lives of children, in recognition of the wishes of Martine, and with the continued guidance of co-founder Ginny Richards. We thank our donors for their continued support and we look forward to being available to any child who truly needs Gill's assistance!

As I settled in on a flight to Washington, D.C., recently holding a copy of the Star-Telegram, I read of the passing of my long-time friend, Martine Ginsburg. My first reaction was one of sadness until I began thinking of the many contributions of this remarkable woman and the legacy she leaves.

Martine spent a goodly portion of her life tirelessly working for the benefit of those less fortunate than she, especially children with various needs. She served on the board of directors of several children's agencies, but the one especially dear to her heart was Gill Children's Services, an agency she helped establish some 30 years ago. Over the years, thousands of children with special needs received a variety of life-improving benefits under the aegis of this organization, and Martine was right there to see that they did. That was her mission, and she took that responsibility very seriously.

I'm sorry I missed attending her memorial service, but I know that Martine forgives my absence. Somehow, she is aware that I raised a glass and toasted her in Washington. Goodbye, my friend.

- James S. Kersey, Fort Worth

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~ a daily deal for your everyday ~

Online shoppers raised money for Gill and enjoyed great deals at the same time!

"Our Hometown Deal" recently featured Gill Children's Services.

The site features great deals from businesses in our community, and during the month of March, a portion of purchases went back to Gill! "Our Hometown Deal" is a local, daily website that features amazing deals to restaurants, nail salons, spas and many other types of businesses in our community.

How it worked:

1. Log on to www.OurHometownDeal.com
2. Sign up to get great deals delivered to you by e-mail.
3. Purchase any of the great deals, choose Gill from the dropdown list at checkout, and a portion of all our purchases were given back to Gill!



children's services



Spring 2013 Newsletter



Martine H. Ginsburg

1916-2012



State of Gill

By Amanda Stallings, Executive Director

As always, Gill's team is hard at work to continue Martine's legacy of making sure no child goes without needed services. Most services are consistent with years past, but we are seeing an increase in several areas. Prescriptions, birth certificates, and specialized medical equipment are the main areas where Gill is seeing a higher demand for assistance. As the end of April approaches, Gill will begin to see our yearly requests for summer school assistance.

Many families struggle with maintaining Medicaid and CHIP and often these services lapse and families need temporary assistance to fill their child's prescription. Other times, families who have traditional insurance, but may need an unexpected temporary prescription, require help for the amount that exceeds their uncovered insurance costs. Gill has seen an increase of 27%, already this year.

Birth certificates are needed to apply for Medicaid and CHIP, food stamps, housing, or to enroll your child in school. The \$23 required to purchase a birth certificate is a stumbling block for families trying to obtain these services for their child(ren). The 10% increase in requests indicates this is becoming a more significant problem.

Medicaid and CHIP are constantly changing the services they will cover for children. As new services are provided to families, Gill will see changes in the services requested of our agency. Therefore, while Gill provided literally no funding for medical equipment in 2012, already this year we have spent over \$3,000.

As the end of the school year draws near, Gill will be inundated with applications for summer school assistance. Last year, Gill provided 272 children with summer school assistance, and this year we expect

that number to increase. Most children attending public school are required to pay for summer school assistance. Gill only assists those children who did not gain the skills necessary to advance to the next grade. For some of these families, if Gill did not help, they would be forced to repeat the grade.

In an effort to ensure that as many as possible know of our services, the Gill team has met throughout the year

with school principals, vice principals, counselors, and nurses to educate them on how we can help children in their schools. Although our relationship with Tarrant County schools has been in place for over 30 years, turn-over, job relocation, and new hires always present a challenge. Gill works diligently to remind them yearly about our program, so that every child will receive the needed services they require.

“Last year, Gill provided 272 children with summer school assistance, and this year, we expect that number to increase.”

Your Donations at Work:

Dental: Teeth Cleaning, Fillings, Root Canals, Extractions

Special Therapy: Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Testing

Education: Testing & Evaluations, Tuition, Tutoring

Orthodontia: Evaluation, Braces, Oral Surgery

Special Needs: Diapers, Birth Certifications, Emergency Day Care

Medical Services: General Exams, Eye Exams, Surgery, X-Rays, Medication, Lab Work

Special Equipment: Wheelchairs, Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, Special Chairs, Orthopedic Shoes/Braces

Medical Equipment: Nebulizers, Apnea Monitors, Oxygen/Compressors, Suction Machines, Catheters, Diabetic Supplies

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.

Our Generous Donors

The following donors have made gifts in memory of Martine H. Ginsburg. Thank you for your support of Gill in memory of Martine!

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Match your Gift with Birdies for Charity

Gill Children's Services is again teaming up with the PGA Tour and the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial Golf Tournament for a very unique and fun fundraising opportunity called *Birdies for Charity*. The idea is easy: individuals and businesses pledge a certain monetary amount for every birdie made at the tournament, which will be held May 20-26.

After all the scores are tallied, Colonial Club Charities will contribute an additional 10-15% to the total amount of the pledges collected.

This program has been a significant benefit to Gill in the past and the children we serve. Thank you, *Birdies for Charity!*

A Special Thanks to Design Inspirations

The 20th year for *Design Inspirations*, a joint fundraiser of the Fort Worth Kappa and Pi Phi alumnae groups, was held at Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth. The event benefitted Gill Children's Services and Communities in Schools of Fort Worth. Guests viewed the tables at the Preview Party on Tuesday, February 26th and enjoyed a presentation from guest speaker, Steven Gambrel at the lunch on Wednesday, February 27th.

Steven Gambrel is the founder and president of S.R. Gambrel, Inc., an influential interior design firm specializing in both residential and commercial commissions, as well as custom product and furnishings. Having founded S.R. Gambrel, Inc. in 1996, only three years after earning a degree in architecture from the University of Virginia, Steven has been recognized for his endless dedication to creating highly customized interiors and architectural details for each project. Whether he is designing a polished uptown duplex, a rambling country house, or a weekend beach retreat, Steven serves the needs of each client with his passion for timeless, comfortable homes that improve with age. He draws inspiration from vernacular architectural details of the particular region of each commission. Steven subscribes to the importance of properly proportioned structures and details, partnered always with a carefully curated collection of vintage, antique, and custom furniture designed by Steven himself.

A special thank you to Christy Hill at CHI Interior Designs for designing Gill's "Helping at Home" table at this year's event.



Kappa Kappa Gamma & Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Present
Design Inspirations

How it Works:

If the pros make 1,500 birdies (a score of 1-under par on a hole) and your pledge is a penny, your total pledge amount is \$15.00. Of course, you can pledge more if you like, or make a flat contribution. All contributions and donations will go directly to last resort needs for Tarrant County children.

Previous Crowne Plaza Invitational Birdie Totals:



2012.....	1,143
2011.....	1,200*
2010	1,500*
2009	1,400*
2008	1,200*

Donations received by May 17 can be matched by *Birdies for Charity*. Please note on your check: "Birdies for Charity."

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