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CEO and Executive Director

April 20, 2006

Mr. W. Kish
NBI
1392 High Street
Wadsworth, OH 44281

Dear Mr. Kish,

We are excited to be a part of the "Building A Dream" home tour project in partnership with you, WSB-TV and Echelon, Home of The Georgia Tech Club.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to The Bridge and share with you the impact that your partnership has on our organization. With community partnerships like "Building A Dream" The Bridge's ability to build futures for youth and families who have suffered from violence will continue to be strong.

For 36 years, The Bridge has been dedicated to helping abused adolescents and their families achieve independence by offering residential treatment with an on-campus school that emphasizes educational and vocational readiness, solution-oriented therapy, family counseling and community-based activities. Youth, ages 12 to 17, arrive to The Bridge with histories of severe physical or sexual abuse and neglect, high acuity levels and lags in academics. Clinically, our youth are Severely Emotionally Disturbed (SED) and have mental health diagnoses that include Oppositional Defiant Disorder, ADHD, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Personality and Schizoaffective Disorders. Suicidal ideation and depression is common, and the vast majority of our youth have been witness to intense family violence.

We are proud of the impact that The Bridge has made on our community and would like to share some of our recent accomplishments:

The Bridge is continuing to discharge youth to a less restrictive lower level of care in the community, with significant numbers returning directly to their family. Over the past two years the average length of stay dropped 2.9 months as we continue our commitment to return youth to the community as quickly as possible (from 12.4 months to 9.5 months).

At the beginning of the 2004-2005 school year, students entering The Bridge School tested at an average 5.9 grade reading level. This is a drop of 1.5 years in reading comprehension over the past four years. Despite this challenge, the school continues to improve students' academic scores. This year students advanced an average of 1.9 years in reading and 1.4 years in math scores within a 9-month period, with some students advancing as many as four years.

The Mutual of America Foundation nominated The Bridge and its partnership with NFL Veteran Chuck Wiley's 99 Wayz to Win Mentoring Program as a 2005 Merit Finalist for their national Community Partnership Award.



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For the second straight year a member of The Bridge executive management team was recognized by the Georgia Association of Homes and Services to Children (GAHSC) as "Administrator of the Year". Associate Director Twilynn Jourdain Smith joins CEO Tom Russell, last year's recipient in bringing The Bridge this vote of excellence.

Also in 2004, Therapist Michael Frazier was honored as "Social Service Worker of the Year" and then Clinical Director Doug Joiner was bestowed with the "Gail Bayes Vision For Children Award" by the Georgia Association of Homes and Services to Children.

Thanks to community supporters like you and WSB-TV, The Bridge is able to continue offering quality services to these special youth and families. If this introduction has peaked your interest to visit The Bridge, we would be delighted to host a tour of our seven acre campus. Please contact Beth Pann, or Development Director at 404-446-1536 and she will gladly schedule your tour.

Thank you for helping The Bridge to build futures for the youth and families that make our community strong.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Russell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas H. Russell
CEO and Executive Director