



Our Children's Place  
P.O. Box 1086  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Phone: (919) 843-2670  
Fax: (919) 962-3725

www.ourchildrensplace.com  
ourchildrensplace@gmail.com

*The enclosed heart was handcrafted by an inmate at the  
North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women.*

May 2008

Dear Supporter of Our Children's Place:

With boundless energy, a small child darts through the grass, picking wildflowers and weeds, creating a colorful gift for his mother.

His sticky little hands grasp the stems as he hands the bouquet to her. Her face lights up as she gives him a hug, then puts the flowers in a vase on the table. "They're so pretty!" she exclaims, her eyes shiny with tears of joy.

Weeds and wildflowers . . . maybe. But to her, they are a thing of beauty.

With Mother's Day upon us, scenes like this one remind us of the important bond between children and their mothers. However, for too many children in our community, such memories are difficult, if not impossible, to create because their mothers are incarcerated.

As you may know, the Board and staff of Our Children's Place (OCP) and a number of community members are working to change that. We are in the planning and developing stages to become a residence for young children to live with their mothers who are serving sentences for non-violent crimes. An environment will be created to encourage the crucial bond between a mother and her children. Educational, mental health, parenting, and substance abuse treatment services, among others, will be provided to the women, while the children will be cared for in a licensed child care center with their mothers actively involved in their care.

Please consider donating to OCP in honor or memory of your mother or another important mother in your life. Your contribution will go towards the continued development of the quality programs and services needed for the women and children who will be the heart and soul of OCP. Donors will be acknowledged in our summer newsletter.

Thank you for your support of OCP and the work being done to create change for incarcerated women and their children.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Shapley-Quinn  
Chair, Board of Directors

*Our Children's Place is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is recognized by the State of North Carolina.  
Our tax identification number is 75-3151152.*

...uniting families...

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