



PLEASE GET TO KNOW US. DON'T JUST DRIVE BY. STOP BY.



HALLOWEEN

Halloween was even more fun for our kids this past year. Thanks to Marit Molin, Hamptons Art, and her generosity, The Center had an amazing Halloween Party in October. There were costumes and games, arm wrestling with Superman, enormous bouncy castles and slides, cotton candy and popcorn. Marit, her husband Jonathan and friends brought their own kids too. It was a lovely afternoon. Our kids had a chance to make some new friends too. Thank you, Marit!

The fun continued on Halloween. Our kids trick or treated on Main Street in Sag Harbor, where most of the shops offered candy. The fire department had a hot dog stand and our kids and some of our parents enjoyed a pizza party back at The Center. A good time was had by all.

SUMMER CAMP

You might remember the story about our community service projects during the Summer. One group, our “middles,” collected \$320 for the Barbados Sea Turtle Project by operating a lemonade and home-made (actually Center made) cookie stand. They were very grateful for the support. The exchange rate worked in their favor and when they received our donation it equaled \$708 Barbados or \$345 US. Our kids received a nice thank you note and were very proud of their efforts.

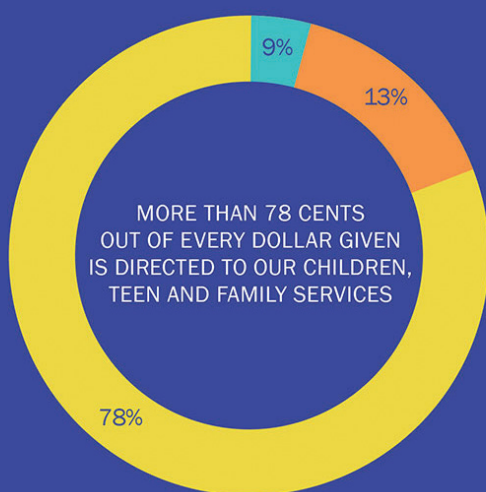
The children in each of our 5 groups picked different projects. Our “middles” were drawn by the vision of the Barbados Sea Turtle Project to restore local marine turtle populations and to support similar efforts in other countries of the Caribbean. These prehistoric looking creatures are fascinating, and we were very happy to help draw some attention to the work being done to save them.

OUR HISTORY

Born out of tragedy in 1949 when a fire killed two children in a local migrant camp, The Center rose out of the ashes. We continue to serve our community's children with educational and enrichment programs. For working families, The Center is a lifeline. Their children flourish in our many programs and play safely on the six-acre farm and fields donated to create The Center in the 1950's.

WHERE YOUR DONATIONS GO

- 78% Children, Teen and Family Services
- 9% Administrative
- 13% Fundraising and Public Awareness



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Center has partnered for many years with Island Harvest to provide a monthly food pantry for our families in need. Some months we have had as many as 48 families come to receive our help. We are proud to announce that Provisions in Sag Harbor will be part of the effort, too. We will be able to offer an even greater variety of much needed fresh food and staples for our families. Thank you Provisions and Island Harvest, for your generosity!

HAVE A HEART. BUY A BRICK.

Calling all Center Alumni and Friends! Here's your chance to give back and become a permanent part of The Center.



Buy a personalized brick for yourself, a family member, friend or in memory of a loved one. We will be breaking ground in 2020 for our new building. We want to have 100 ordered by Valentine's Day. Go to

www.bhccrc.org Thanks for caring about The Center!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Bonnie Michelle Cannon

Happy 2020! We have so much to look forward to and so many blessings to count. Thank you to all our friends and supporters. We are so grateful to all who donated for our children's Holiday gifts. It was wonderful to celebrate with our families and staff just before the break. All felt very blessed.

We are all back and busy. Our programs for our children and youth are thriving. Our 2020 lecture series is falling into place already and it is very exciting. We are looking forward to our art show at the Julie Keyes Gallery in Sag Harbor April 3rd-5th with the theme the "Color of Freedom." Our amazing artist teachers are already working on the show with our children. Hope you will mark your calendars for our opening April 3rd. Thank you, Julie, for making this happen for The Center. And we have the Maidstone Club for this year's golf outing. We are feeling blessed.

*Peace and Blessings,
Bonnie*

NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Paul Jeffers, Jr

We had a long holiday break this year and it is good to have our children back. I was so proud of our teens at our Topping Rose House Holiday dinner in December. I was especially proud to hear Nakai Davis give his testimonial. Hearing the importance of The Center, from a young participant is very powerful. The Center does change and shape lives!

*Love, peace and harmony,
PJ*

JAZZ FOR JENNINGS 2020

This is our most important fundraiser and it promises to be an extraordinary afternoon of exceptional jazz, food, wine and lots of good feelings at the amazing Watermill Center. Evan Sherman and his Band will be back once again. Mark your calendars for Sunday June 28th. Reserve at www.bhccrc.org or by contacting Deb McEneaney mcsanzo@hopeworksltd.com.

OUR TEENS SPEAK

The teens had a ball at the play, *Raisin in the Sun*, at Bay Street Theater. Thank you, Bay Street, for providing discounted tickets for The Center.



From Ryeasia "The play was really good. It was very powerful and uplifting, to me. The overall message was that no matter the problem, you can overcome it. I overall really enjoyed it!"

From Nakai "There should have definitely been a sequel. Sharing the story once the family arrived in their new neighborhood. I thoroughly enjoyed the play."

Our teens and "middles" were part of the Kwanzaa Celebration in Bellport with the Boys & Girls Club. It was such a positive experience to get together with so many kids from all over Suffolk County.

TOPPING ROSE HOUSE HOLIDAY DINNER

What a lovely evening many of us enjoyed at Topping Rose to benefit The Center. It was our 5th Holiday dinner there. Thank you, Topping Rose House. From the cocktails and passed hors-d'oeuvres in the 'barn', to the delicious four-course dinner of salad, shrimp risotto, lamb chops and an unbelievably delicious dessert with a myriad of flavors. The food was amazing! The evening was truly a celebration of the holiday spirit. Thank you.

We believe the Center is worthy of such a celebration. For over 65 years, the Center has been serving local families and children. (It is thought to be one of the oldest institutions in Bridgehampton!)

We will be taking a giant leap forward in 2020 when we break ground for our new building. The thoroughly modern Center will be able to offer our children state-of-the-art computer systems as well as room for our other programs including a chess club, Scrabble teams and SAT prep for our college-bound teens.

As exciting as our new building will be, we need to paint it, furnish it, provide the computers, and fit out the classrooms, so many things.

Thanks so much to those of you who filled out the pledge cards at the dinner and shopped our auction. Your investment in the future of our children will be paid back ten-fold. Thank you!



THINKING FORWARD LECTURE SERIES

We will be starting the 2020 season with talk to kick off Black History Month with Kofi Appenteng, President of the Africa-America Institute on Feb 1st at 5:30 at The Center. It will be an important conversation about the need to include knowledge about the role of Africa in the world and the achievements of Afro-descendants in the core of our educational curriculum. It will be moderated by long time advisory board member, Ken Miller.

Appenteng has 30 years of domestic and international experience as a corporate lawyer, investment banker and board director. He served as board chair of the Ford Foundation. In recognition of his work in business and philanthropy, he was named a "Great American Immigrant" by the Carnegie Corporation in 2013. He began his career as a corporate lawyer and, in 1994, became the first Black African to become a partner at a major New York City law firm.



Born in Ghana, West Africa, Appenteng began his education in England where he completed his primary and secondary education and then came to the United States to attend college at Wesleyan University.

On Feb 29th we will have a "Well, Well, Well" segment. It will be the screening of "Death by Delivery" with a panel discussion to follow. The screening will be at 3:30 at The Center. The panel afterwards will be moderated by Rev. Tisha Williams, Pastor First Baptist Church and include Dr. Florence Rolston. We are blessed to have them both as Center board members.

We have plans set already in partnership with the Parrish for a Talk with Susan Taylor on Aug 14th, moderated by Lynn Sherr.

TAKE A BOOK FRIDAYS

We have added a new event to our calendars. Take a Book Fridays. Once a month our kids get to choose a book to take home with them. Reading is so critical. The Center continues the Math and Reading clubs every Saturday. Mr. Robert is making it all so much fun! We are grateful to the Bodenchaks for helping to make this happen.



OUR AFTER-SCHOOL

The Center is grateful to have received the donation of 300 daffodil bulbs from Fowler's Garden Center in Southampton and 19 Garden Bulb diggers from Marders in Bridgehampton. Mr. Graves tilled our soil and our after-school children were blessed by sunny and unseasonal weather one afternoon in late November for their gardening lesson. Thank you, Fowlers and Marders, for caring about our kids!

Lots of special things took place for the Holidays. Our grateful celebration for Thanksgiving included presentations by our children. The Studio was filled with posters made by our kids showing all they were grateful for- family, friends, homes, the East End, pets, churches and of course, The Center. Some of our kids, teachers and family members went to see the "Holiday Wishes" show by CIRQUE MUSICA at the Nassau Coliseum.

They also visited the holiday light show in Riverhead and we had their annual holiday gathering at The Center for all our children, youth and families. There was lots of good cheer, presentations, food and of course, lots of donated gifts for every child. We were all feeling blessed.

SCRABBLE CLUB

Our team is meeting every Monday with Ms. Kathy. They are practicing hard and having lots of fun preparing for the Regional competition in the Spring. Let us know if you would like to be a sponsor for our Scrabble Club and travels. Our dream is to go to the National's again, too.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CHESS CLUB	Wednesdays-6-7 PM with Mr. Ulysses Contact info@bhccrc.org
THINKING FORWARD LECTURE SERIES 2020	Saturday, Jan 18th <i>JUST MERCY</i> screening, East Hampton Theater. In Partnership with Hayground School. Saturday Feb 1st Kofi Appenteng at 5:30 at The Center. Ken Miller moderating. Saturday Feb 29th Screening of <i>DEATH BY DELIVERY</i> and panel discussion at 3:30 at The Center. Friday Aug 14th Susan Taylor at the Parrish, moderated by Lynn Sherr.
THE COLOR OF FREEDOM ART SHOW	Opening Friday April 3rd 5-7. Creations by our kids at the Julie Keyes Gallery.
JAZZ FOR JENNINGS 2020	Sunday June 28th at 12:30 luncheon and concert at the Watermill Center.
MAIDSTONE GOLF OUTING	Wednesday Sept 30th
BLACK FILM FESTIVAL	Saturday, Nov 21st, Parrish Art Museum

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Bonnie Michelle Cannon

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Paul Jeffers Jr - Chairman, Dan Rattiner-Vice President, Jerlean Hopson -Treasurer, Arlean Van Slyke-Secretary, Jack Botero, Roger Blaugh, Steve Grossman, Dr. Florence Rolston, Jerome Walker, Rev. Tisha Dixon Williams

TRUSTEE EMERITUS: Audrey Gaul, Kathy Tucker

ADVISORY BOARD: Joan Ganz Cooney, Linda Bird Francke, Dan Gasby, Kimberly Goff, Joan Hamburg, Joyce Mullins Jackson, Kayce Freed Jennings, Carol Konner, Jackie Leo, Shahara Ahmad-Llewellyn, Sivia Loria, Gia de Picciotto, Susan Lazarus Reimen, Barbara Slifka, Ken Miller & Lybess Sweezy, Chris Wasserstein

MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT: Debra McEneaney

551 Sag Harbor Turnpike, P.O. Box 1197, Bridgehampton, New York, 11932

T: 631.537.0616 | www.bhccrc.org | michelle@bhccrc.org