

CIRCLE OF LIFE

PLANNED GIVING RECOGNITION SOCIETY KICKS OFF

ACH was founded by forward-thinking and innovative women with care and concern in their hearts for the community's children and families. What began in the second quarter of the 20th century has grown because of the generosity of bold women and men with a similar vision and values.

Karen Barlow is passionate about helping families.

"When the families we help are hit hard by crisis—they don't have the emotional stamina or financial resources to make things better. That's what we're here for."

As a volunteer of more than forty years, Karen says she is "awed by the resilience" of families in deeply stressful situations.

"It's amazing how much can be done to help with just a bit of time, money and understanding," says Karen.

A retired marriage and family counselor, Karen is committed to family service causes, noting that there are "a lot of Band-Aids out there," but ACH has developed programs that truly give long-term help.

"ACH has met the challenge of having diversified programs and raising

money to keep those programs going better than any other group. There's financial stability. The challenge is to keep it up," she says.

Karen is a true believer in "the circle of life," and is a founding member of ACH's new "Circle of Life." This is a new group organized late last fall with input from long-time ACH donors and volunteers. The goal is to recognize supporters who are making a legacy gift, such as a bequest in a will or trust. Karen has made charitable gifts to the organization through assets and envisions the new group doing something special for Circle of Life members who also have long records of volunteering.

Her legacy gift is a way that her own family has come full circle with ACH. Karen's great-aunt Esther Wilson was a founding member of ACH, and Karen is the third generation of

women in her family to be involved with ACH.

"I think our founders would be so proud."

There are many ways to support high-quality services that help youth and families overcome life's challenges:

- Your annual gift has an immediate impact. An outright gift is put to use supporting any one of ACH's 14 programs delivered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- Your legacy gift through your will/bequest puts your values into action. And you will qualify for recognition and membership into the newly formed Circle of Life.
- While taking care of loved ones, you may also designate a perpetual source of income to bring innovative solutions to meet complex child welfare issues here in local neighborhoods and communities. Recommended wording:

"I give to All Church Home for Children Foundation, a corporation having its principal office at 3712 Wichita Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76119, (___) % of my residuary estate to be used for the general purposes of supporting ACH Child and Family Services' mission."

Crisis can strike any family at any time, and ACH remains steadfast in our commitment to be there when it does.

We will be happy to visit with you and your family about your special interests upon request. Please contact Barbara Shelton, CFRE, at 817.886.7115 or barbara.shelton@ACHservices.org.



Karen Barlow with portraits of ACH's founders.