

---

---

# Hestia's Voice

A Semi-Annual Newsletter For Friends Of Hestia's Children, Inc.

---

Volume 4 Issue 1

July 2001

---

## *Ashley Likes Lettuce*

I'd like to tell you about my new friend Ashley. She is six years old and just graduated from kindergarten. Ashley and her mom joined our program last fall.

Ashley's mom prefers work in office administration, data entry, etc. Right now she is upgrading her computer skills by taking evening classes.

Anyway, we have been beautifying the yard with flowers and we even planted a small vegetable garden. We began with tomatoes, then carrots, and then lettuce. Ashley likes lettuce. I've taken pains to explain to her that the resident bunny, who is not the least bit shy, may also like the lettuce and has not learned how to share. Ashley, however, remains optimistic.

Somewhere between the carrots and the lettuce, I realized that we'd forgotten the peas and cucumber seeds. Ashley and I went to the store in search of seeds. My little friend entertained herself by spelling the colors she saw.

"Red. R-E-D. Red. Blue. B-L-U-E. Blue. Yellow. Y-E-L---L-O-W. Yellow."

"Wow," I said, "You did that really well."

"Yep," she beamed, "and all by myself!"

By the time we were back in the yard planting the cucumbers, five-year-old Tyler next door was calling "Ashley, what ya doin'?"

"Planting a garden," she replied. "I can't play now."

"Can I help?"

Soon Tyler was helping plant peas, carefully packing the soil over his buried treasure. Last were the "Cinderella" pumpkins. Now we wait.

It is the well-being of the children that has always inspired me in this work. Ashley is learning about life, nurturance, and our responsibility in the whole scheme of things. She can do that because her mother is making sincere efforts to become self-sufficient both emotionally and financially. She wants good things for her daughter: a good education, stability, and a safe place to live. She knows that the stronger and more self-assured she becomes, the more she provides a healthy role model for Ashley.

There are and have been other cultures - wiser than ours, I think - who realized that, in order to ensure the healthy survival of their people, the children must come first. The children are our hope and our very survival as a culture.

After the garden was in, Ashley kicked her soccer ball around the yard - sometimes to her mom.

"I want to play soccer, Mom. I'll need a soccer shirt, though!"

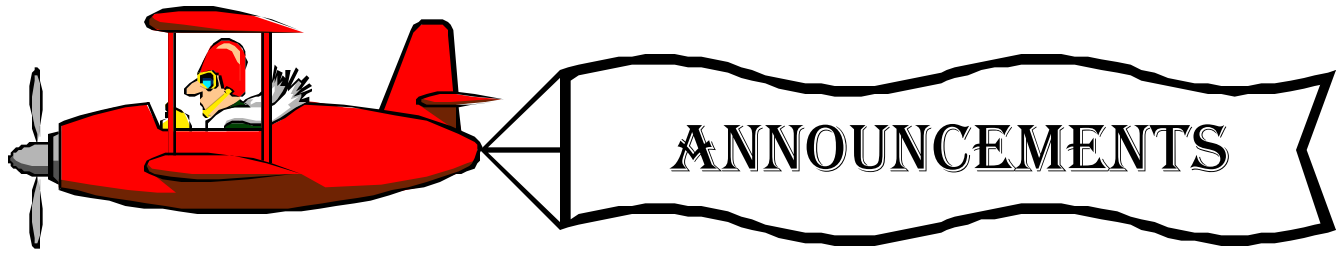
Mom smiled. "You do, huh?"

She looked toward me still with a proud smile, which began to be mixed with other thoughts. I knew what she was thinking - "soccer shirt, fees, gas money, driving time..." - all a challenge for a single mom still working on financial independence.

She spoke none of these thoughts out loud. But I sincerely hope Ashley is able to play soccer and do all the other things bright little girls deserve to do. At Hestia's Children, we are trying to make "all things possible" for my new friend Ashley.

Thank you.

Carol



## Financial Report

Hestia's Children submits annual financial reports to the Internal Revenue Service (Form 990) and the Minnesota Attorney General's Office. Hestia's Children honors the trust of our donors and strives to use funds wisely. Since inception, no Board member received direct, or indirect, financial benefit. A "mini 990" report follows:

**Checkbook Balance - December 31, 1999** \$1,765.95

### Income

Cash / Non-Cash	\$20,955.66
Program Service Revenue	\$800.00

### Expenses

Direct Program Expenses	\$6,441.80
Grant Central	\$330.00
Insurance	\$300.00
Postage / Printing	\$288.33
Minnesota Attorney General's Office	\$25.00
Bank Fees; Etc.	51.56

**Checkbook Balance - December 31, 2000** \$16,084.92

All financial records are available for inspection. Grant Central provides technical support in developing grant proposals, assists with locating sources of funding, and similar services. They **do not** take on the role of fundraiser.

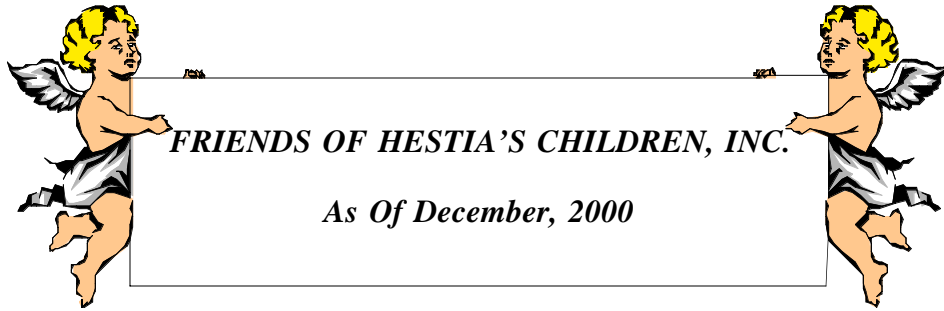
A final note – a more detailed financial statement can be found on the Minnesota Attorney General's web site ([www.ag.state.mn.us](http://www.ag.state.mn.us)).

## Tax Considerations

Our 501(c)3 designation with the Internal Revenue Service has been made **permanent!** Since 1996, Hestia's Children has been operating with a temporary 501(c)3 designation. This change came about after the Internal Revenue Service received a formal request from Hestia's Children. Our financial records were reviewed, along with supporting documentation. Donations to an organization with a 501(c)3 designation are eligible for a deduction on Federal (and perhaps State) tax returns. Check with your tax professional.

## Welcome Volunteers!

We bless and welcome all your skills! Please consider talking with a Board member about the role you can have in fulfilling the mission of Hestia's Children.



Anoka Electric Cooperative  
 Bachynsky, Joan  
 Bell, Bruce & Cathleen  
 Bona, Susan  
 Caterer, Cindy  
 Community Solutions Fund  
 Connexus Energy Trust, Inc.  
 Cooperating Fund  
 Coppola, Lisa  
 Cunningham, Yvonne

Dependable Software Solutions, Inc.  
 ECM Publishers, Inc.  
 Grinsell, Howard  
 Hueners, Dorcas  
 Kniskern, Carol  
 LaMaur, Inc.  
 McKelvey, Debra  
 Medical Arts Press  
 Meehan, Helen  
 Meehan, Michael

Piela, Kathryn  
 Porter, Kathy  
 Pospisil, Charles  
 Reichow, Barbara  
 United Way of Minneapolis \*  
 United Way of St. Paul \*  
 United Way of Tri-State \*  
 Unity North Church  
 Vickerman, Lynn

\* Hestia's Children, Inc. is not a United Way agency. However, there is a space on the form to designate all, or part of, your United Way contribution to a non-agency organization. Hestia's Children meets the requirements for this designation. Simply enter "Hestia's Children, Inc., 242 Northdale Blvd., Coon Rapids, MN 55448" in the space provided. United Way will take care of forwarding your contribution to us. Unfortunately, United Way does not provide the name of the donor.

## How To Contact Us

Jean Gage (763) 754-6489  
 Mike Meehan (763) 754-6489

Carol Kniskern (763) 754-6489  
 Debbie Schuster (763) 754-6489

### Address and Telephone:

242 Northdale Boulevard NW  
 Coon Rapids, MN 55448  
 (763) 754-6489

### E-Mail:

hestiaschildren@unitynorthchurch.org

### Visit our Web Site at:

<http://www.unitynorthchurch.org/hestias>



## Mission Statement

Hestia's Children will provide a strong mentoring program combined with clean, safe, affordable housing without duplicating existing community resources.

Count me in! I'm contributing:

\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please add me to your mailing list.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer. Please contact me.



*Double your contribution? Check with your employer for the availability of matching donations.*

Make check payable to: Hestia's Children, Inc. Your contribution is tax deductible.

Hestia's Children is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and is registered as a charitable organization with the Minnesota Attorney General.



**Hestia's Children, Inc.**  
**242 Northdale Boulevard NW**  
**Coon Rapids, MN 55448**  
**(763) 754-6489**