

## *Guardian Angels Newsletter, August 2012*

At long last, after much praying, planning, permitting and preparing, our first two “Foster Family Homes” are under construction! Ground was broken in July and we anticipate the homes will be completed by the end of January. The retention pond has turned into a beautiful lake, dirty ditches have been sodded and become a vibrant green, and the once vacant property is beginning to look like the “Manasota Campus” of our dreams.

We have added two new social workers, Melissa Weber and Julie Wanbaugh, after our original worker moved away. They are working diligently to recruit, train, license and support traditional foster parents. We currently have 12 active licensed foster homes with 24 foster children in care. We anticipate 4 additional homes being licensed very soon and another MAPP class (a required 30 hour training class) will begin in September for prospective foster parents.



Since our November kick-off campaign and celebration, the funding for GA has continued to be steady. We currently have 7 churches who support our efforts on a regular basis, which is truly a blessing. We have received funding from several foundations including, but not limited to, Bradenton Kiwanis Club, Entre Nous Service Club, Graham Family Foundation, Manatee Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, The Manatee Community Foundation, The Uihlein Family Foundation, Publix, and Wal-Mart. We have also received generous discounts from construction trade partners, engineers, architects, web designers and free interior design consulting. It takes many caring individuals and companies to accomplish the goal of providing beautiful, safe and loving homes for these vulnerable children!



Your individual support through caring, praying and giving has been a tremendous encouragement to the GA Board, our Social Workers and our partner, The Florida Baptist Children's Homes. We greatly appreciate the willingness of FBCH to share the news and needs of our MANASOTA PROJECT with others throughout Florida. Their ongoing advice and expertise is invaluable as we continue to move forward in providing for the needs of neglected, abandoned and abused children.

Because of God's blessing our ministry through each of you, we are able to pursue our goal of bringing needy children from lives of hopelessness and despair to futures bright with hope and promise. Every gift and every prayer makes a difference in the lives of hurting children. We humbly and gratefully thank you for your faithfulness in praying and giving.

We look forward to inviting you to join us for a formal “ribbon cutting” when the homes are completed.