

# *Breaking the Cycle*

*Danielle's Story*

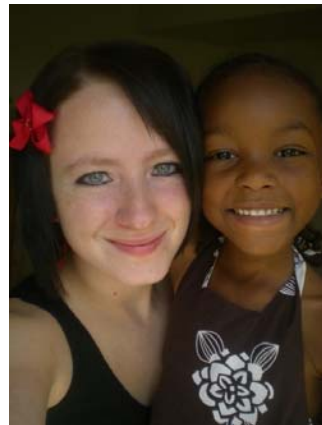
“As a pre-teen it can be difficult to hear that you’re moving into a place designated as a home for homeless mothers and their children. I wondered what my friends would think. I wondered what it would be like living with children around all the time. I really didn’t know what to think. I was twelve years old when we moved into the MERCY House. It turned out to be a great thing for me. Aside from the obvious fact that it kept my family and me from living on the street, living at MERCY was a blessing. It exposed me to women from all different walks of life. I had the opportunity to hear their situations and to learn from their mistakes. I gained very pertinent skills when it comes to childcare that will help me in my future when the time comes to have children of my own. In the two years that we lived at MERCY, I not only gained that knowledge and those skills, I gained friends. At MERCY I met people who will be my friends for life. One young woman who lived at MERCY is now my best friend and I can’t imagine what I would do without her. Without the support of the people I met through MERCY Communities, I would probably not be where I am today. I learned about the kind of woman I want to be and the decisions I am making in order to better my life now and forever.”

Where is Danielle today?

She is a junior at McKendree College in Lebanon, IL. Danielle will be the first member of her family to attend, and graduate, from college.



Danielle at 12  
(left)



Danielle today  
(Right)

*M.E.R.C.Y. Communities*  
*Mentors, Empowerment, and Resources*  
*for Change in Young families*



*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*Annual Report*  
*1999-2009*

Dear Friends,

Within these pages, you'll find M.E.R.C.Y. Community's 2009 Annual Report, filled with names, numbers, and programs. It's a summary, sometimes written in "social service-speak." It can't possibly relate to you exactly what we're really about: giving mothers with children who would be homeless, living chaotic, impoverished existences, a structured place to live with the counseling and training they need to gain a much better, independent life.

Although this is our yearly report, it is also the report of the end of our first decade. M.E.R.C.Y. was created ten years ago, on a shoestring, with seed money from the generous Dominican Sisters. Since then, we've helped 134 families. But the need has never been greater. We continue to expand, adding more programs and families.

Our success stories also continue to add up. Close to the edge of our wildest dreams, four of our graduates are now homeowners and another has a daughter in college.

Throughout our existence, there has been one shining constant -- our director Mary Stone. Mary has had the vision, the tireless energy, the special know-how, and the strength of personality and will to guide M.E.R.C.Y. from its birth to the well-respected, financially-sound, multifaceted agency that we are today. An agency takes on the traits of its leader. Thank goodness we have had Mary as ours.

We look forward to another great decade.

Yours very truly,

Bob Hall  
President



M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Grand Opening of the Furniture Store  
October 13, 2001

## *M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Team* 2009-2010

### *Board of Directors*

President: Bob Hall  
Vice President: Vickie Evans  
Treasurer: Katherine Elsner  
Secretary: Sr. Marilyn Jean Runkel, OP  
Past President: Carolyn Houston  
Members:  
Lisa Belz  
Andrew Hartman  
Danielle Hunt  
Darryl Jones  
Andrea Judd  
Gwenn Klingler  
Nancy Eckert Martin  
Pat McGuigan  
A. Nathan Mihelich  
Jennifer Ondrey  
Joseph Sgro

### *Staff*

Executive Director: Mary F. Stone  
Fund Development & Marketing  
Director: Brian Ganz  
Finance Manager: Joan Hysler  
Program Director: Cathy Annerino  
Transitional Living Program Service  
Coordinator: Cathy Miller Moushon  
Permanent Supportive Housing Ser-  
vice Coordinator: Mandy Lehr  
Children Services Coordinator:  
Lesli Garretson  
Housing Resource Coordinator:  
Christy Hopper  
Weekend/PRN Staff: Lana Kern  
Weekend PRN Staff: Marcy Roach  
Furniture Store Sales Manager:  
Stephanie Lazar  
Furniture Store Assistant: Nick  
Goedecke



M.E.R.C.Y. Board with Mayor Tim Davlin at 5 Year Reunion

### *Past Presidents*

David Henebry  
1999-2001  
Judy Yeager  
2001-2002  
Nancy Eckert Martin  
2002-2005

Marcia Milliken  
2005-2007  
Carolyn Houston  
2007-2009  
Bob Hall  
2009-Current

# The Starfish Story

*The M.E.R.C.Y. Starfish logo is a reminder that every human life, however fragile, deserves respect, care and nurturing.*

*An old woman was picking up objects off the beach and tossing them out into the sea. A young man approached her and saw that the objects were starfish. "Why in the world are you throwing starfish into the water?"*

*"If the starfish are still on the beach when the tide goes out and the sun rises high in the sky, they will die," replied the old woman.*

*"That is ridiculous. There are thousands of miles of beach and millions of starfish. You can't really believe that what you're doing could possibly make a difference!"*

*The wise old woman picked up another starfish, paused thoughtfully, and remarked as she tossed it out into the waves,*

*"It makes a difference to this one."*

*From The Star Thrower (1979) by Loren Eiseley*



## Mission

*To provide housing and supportive services to foster the independence of homeless and at-risk families.*

## Vision

*To empower families to live in dignity and healthy independence.*

## HISTORY

*In 1997, the Dominican Sisters of Springfield, Illinois gathered for their General Chapter, a governing session held every four years, to review their mission, renew their vision, and set directions for the future.*

*In response to the God of compassion, the Congregation committed themselves "...to be inclusive in our relationships, to embrace the rich diversity of people, and to stand in solidarity with and for persons who are marginalized."*

*Following the General Chapter, a Visioning Committee of Dominican Sisters shaped the vision and created a Task Force to Study the feasibility of a transitional living program in the Springfield community.*

*This Task Force included representatives from social service agencies, businesses, religious communities and other concerned individuals.*

*Beginning in June 1998, this group of twenty-three individuals focused on establishing a long-term transitional living program that offered comprehensive, multi-faceted services for at-risk families.*

*Two factors were determined critical to the program's success: That it neither duplicate nor compete with already existing services, and*

*That collaboration with other agencies be a core component.*

*On February 26, 1999, members of the Task Force, having diligently identified the need for supportive housing in our community, presented a request for start-up funds to the Dominican Sisters' leadership team. Later that afternoon, with the request granted, M.E.R.C.Y. Communities was born.*

# M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Timeline

*April 15, 1999, MƐRƐY Communities was granted its 501c3 determination letter to operate a not-for-profit.*

*August 1, 1999 Offices opened at 108 East Cook Street through the generosity of the Springfield Catholic Diocese*

*October, 1999 Entered into a Partnership with the Springfield Housing Authority to operate a ten unit transitional living program at 1111 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St.*

*On December 20, 1999, MƐRƐY Communities accepted its first mother and child into the Transitional Living Program.*

*Oct. 13, 2001 – M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Furniture Store, a social enterprise to support the programs and services of M.E.R.C.Y. Communities through the resale of donated and consigned home furnishings, was established on Stanford Ave.*

*May 2003 -- M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Furniture Store Moved to South Grand & 4<sup>th</sup> St.*

*September, 2005 – M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Furniture Store relocated to 1650 Wabash Ave. in the Yard Shopping Center (Current Location)*

*September 2005 – 10 Units of scattered site Permanent Supportive Housing launched in Enos Park Neighborhood*

*April 20, 2006 – Church Partnership Program began with Rochester United Methodist Church*

*May 1, 2008 – Parkway Christian Church joins Church Partnership Program.*

*October 1 2008 – First family receives services through the Rental Housing Subsidy Program.*

*April 1, 2009 The Homeless to Homeowner Program began through a partnership with Jeremiah Properties. First family moves into their home.*

*October 1, 2009 – First family receives transitional living services for victims of domestic violence & sexual assault through a Dept. of Justice Office of Violence Against Women Grant.*

*November 16, 2009 – Rapid Re-housing Program implemented with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds awarded through the City of Springfield.*

*On the occasion of its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, M.E.R.C.Y. Communities has grown to provide the Springfield community with 32 units of affordable supportive housing to serve families with dependent children.*

## M.E.R.C.Y. House Angels (Volunteers)

Mike Armstrong  
 Ryan Augustine  
 Steve & Cindy Bahner  
 Lisa Belz  
 Brenda Booker  
 Sean Bostrom  
 Donna Brittin  
 Terry Brown  
 Gayle Burg  
 Dena Caruthers  
 Joanie Caselton  
 Anne Capestrain  
 Bill & Linda Castor  
 Judith Corvin-Blackburn  
 Carol Costello  
 Kristin Cullen  
 Celeste Dean  
 Molly Dooley  
 Marge Doyle  
 Glen Hodas & Julie Dutton  
 Jan Ekstrand  
 Melissa Ellison  
 Vickie Evans  
 Enos Park Neighborhood Assoc.  
 Bud Farrar  
 Janice Franz  
 Dennis & Dee Goedecke  
 Bob & Dee Dee Hall  
 Jessica Handy  
 Barb Hanselman Mudd  
 Jerry & Carol Hanson  
 Diane Harris  
 Andy Hartman  
 Sr. Linda Hayes  
 Dr. Neil Headman  
 Kay Hendrickson  
 Todd & Michelle Higginbotham  
 Linda Hinds  
 Carolyn Houston  
 Vickie Huffman Pruitt  
 Karen Jackson  
 Mary Jessup  
 Darryl Jones  
 Andrea Judd  
 Gwenn Klingler  
 Paul & Judy Kren  
 Rich Kynion  
 Carol Lange  
 Danielle Larson  
 Teri Larson  
 Ken Leonard  
 Stacie Lewis  
 Denise Lilley  
 Nancy Eckert Martin

Carley Mattimore  
 Pat McGuigan  
 LuAnne McManus  
 Frances Metcalf  
 Laura Michels  
 Nathan Mihelich  
 Dan Moseley  
 National City-Customer Appreciation Day  
 Mae Noll  
 Jennifer Ondrey  
 Mary Ossowski  
 Kathy Pearson  
 Mike Pickett  
 Jean Reeder  
 Rochester United Methodist Church  
 Daisy Rose  
 Sr. Marilyn Jean Runkel  
 Jessica Rubino  
 Kristina Sanderlin  
 Sacred Heart Griffin Football team and parents  
 Darren Schulze  
 Joe Sgro  
 Ed Sheehan  
 Jeni Sorrells  
 Spirit Riders International  
 Belinda Davis  
 Springfield Health Department  
 Robbin Sterr  
 Marilyn Stevens  
 Stacie Stimac  
 Gay Stinnett  
 Carole Strick  
 Sugar Creek United Methodist Church  
 Jack & Janis Swank  
 Dennis Turner  
 Angela Trowbridge  
 UIS Students  
 Cynthia Wadsworth  
 Carol West  
 Gene Wilken  
 Brian Williams  
 Tammy Williams  
 Kate Wilson



David Henebry  
 Delanda Hines  
 Dan & Dottie Holland  
 Andy Homa  
 Harry & Rita Hopkins  
 Tom Huber  
 Donna Huckaba  
 Joan Hysler  
 IHPA  
 Polly Jamison  
 Gloria Jarvis  
 Crystal Jimerson  
 Alma Jones  
 Norma Karr  
 Brian Kienzler  
 Anna Kirchner  
 Nancy Kirk  
 Gerald & Gwenn Klingler  
 Larry Kutscher  
 Bridget & Tom Lamont  
 Judy Lane  
 Kristi Lanzotti  
 Barbara Learned  
 Tony Leone  
 Chris Lidle  
 Katharine Lima  
 Angie Linkey  
 Becky Logan  
 Sam Long  
 Adel Lutelfy  
 Amber Mack  
 Rachel Madonia  
 Sam & Alice Madonia  
 Seanna Malek  
 Stacie Marzinik  
 Connie Matrish  
 Jeanette Mattsson  
 Barb McCulley  
 Robert McGregor  
 Pat McGuigan  
 Dr. Dennis & LuAnne McManus  
 Tim McNeill  
 Jeanne Mentschkoff  
 Chris Milliken  
 Larry Minch  
 Saul Morse  
 Peter & Deborah Murphy  
 Sandy Murphy  
 Rita Nafziger  
 Roy Nash  
 National Rent to Own  
 Yana Nayshtut  
 Juanita Newman  
 Edward & Margaret Niederer  
 Kittie Noll  
 Debbie Owen  
 Angela Owens  
 Kim Parsley

JoAnn Pedrick  
 Mike & Debbie Perino  
 Julie Pfeifer  
 Nancy Phillips  
 Carolee Quattrin  
 Kristopher & Heather Queen  
 Linda Quigley  
 JoAnn Randle  
 Mia Reed  
 Sandra Roulson  
 Marcia Salner  
 Stephen Sarosky  
 Betty Schmittler  
 Anne Schonhoff  
 Joe Sgro  
 Ed Sheehan  
 Bernadine Sickinger  
 Sister Melanie Roetker  
 Jeannette Skaar  
 Susan Skinner  
 Kathy Smithley  
 Anne Spooner  
 Trish Squires  
 Stahl's Furniture  
 Stantec Consulting Corp  
 Porter Stark  
 Dixie Steel  
 Mary Stone  
 Joe Stonnard  
 Tim & Joyce Sullivan  
 Tracey Switzer  
 Lynn Sylver  
 Ashraf & Sally Tamizuddin  
 Target  
 Roger Thelin  
 Tim Thomas  
 Brenda Thompson  
 Cherri Travis  
 Donna Triyonis  
 Delores Turley  
 Shannon Ushman  
 Cindy Van Etten  
 Mary Edna Vigil  
 Barb Vincent  
 Brian Vincent  
 Audrey Voepel  
 Robert Vojke  
 Carl & Roberta Volkmann  
 Kathy Walker  
 Laura Ward  
 West Side Stories  
 Zach & Casey Wichmann  
 Ryan Wolf  
 Terry Woods  
 Tracy Wright  
 Mary Zimmerman

## *Volunteers Perspective*



I am a long term volunteer at MERCY. My role is babysitting the children on Mondays, while the mothers attend educational and group sessions held by the MERCY staff. Every Monday is different. Trust me. Some of our Monday evening activities include football outside, puzzles inside, talking about school, coloring pictures and pretending we are eating some fantastic food cooked by the children. I swear I gain 15 pounds some Monday nights.

What I truly gain is nourishment of soul. These kids are welcoming and wanting attention. The MERCY staff and we, the volunteers, work with the children to provide a comfortable setting. I have made life-long friends with children like Kelsie, Tyanna, Jamie, Larry, Jerry and Gary, among many others. These boys and girls may forget what our names are over time, but all of us will never forget the moments enjoyed together.

My one final comment. Mary Stone is the best of the best and she has formed a wonderful staff.

Thanks to you all!

Mike Armstrong

*We can always use more volunteers to help provide childcare on Monday and Thursday nights. Call 753-1358 if you would like to learn more about how you can help.*

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Period From April 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009  
(15 Month report due to change in Fiscal Year)

### REVENUES

Contributions.....	\$ 191,863
Public funding.....	517,267
In-kind donations.....	154,144
United Way.....	87,061
Other grants.....	60,175
Furniture Store.....	3,508
Resident Rent.....	18,834
Special events.....	22,191
Investment income.....	18,903
Other Income.....	4,400
Total revenues.....	<u>1,078,346</u>

### EXPENSES

Program expenses.....	623,164
Administrative expenses.....	198,723
Total expenses.....	<u>821,887</u>

Audit completed by Estes, Bridgewater, and Ogden.

An increase in Net assets from improved operation efficiencies is now allowing the agency to acquire property, which will expand our continuum of services.



Drs. Steve & Jane Jackman  
Scott & Julie Kaiser  
Norma Kneer  
Anne Landrum  
Tom & Maureen Lavin  
Russ & Mandy Lehr  
Sherri Madonia  
Jack & Jeanne McCarthy  
Rosella Monaco  
Sarah Moore  
Lloyd & Marty Mosley  
Rick & Cathy Moushon  
Mary Margaret Murphy  
Edward & Margaret Niederer  
Tom & Dee O'Brien  
Robert Orr  
Bobby & Ali Orr  
Christopher & Amy Perrin  
Gary & Diana Rapaport  
Joseph Ring  
Rudin Printing  
William & Anna Ryan  
Victoria Schmidt  
Harvey & Nancy Schrenk  
Judith Sgro  
Patrick & Carla Sheehan  
Larry Shiner & Catherine Walters  
Lee & Kathleen Smithey  
Jan Sorenson  
Steve & Vicki Stalcup  
Jeremy Standridge  
Dan & Carole Strick  
Bruce & Lois Strom  
Kiersten Torbeck  
Dennis & Frances Turner  
Carl & Roberta Volkmann  
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell & Susan Walley  
Linda Wheeler  
Edward Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. James & Mary Winning  
Elizabeth Wirtz

Barbara Boehler  
Wanda Borchelt  
Lesley Bradshaw  
Rick Braun  
Lucy Breitung  
Dina Bridge  
Chuck & Agnes Budinger  
Keith Buescher  
Colleen Camp  
Luke Carey  
Claire Carmichael  
Tim Carmody  
Nikki Carpenter  
Carrollton Bank  
Julie Carter  
Sharon Carter  
Carpet Weaver's  
Debbie Ciotti  
Kathy Claunch  
Kathy Codrich  
Bernie Coleman  
Marty Constantino  
Barbara Copeland  
Judy Cowley  
Jane Crawford  
David Cross  
Vickie Cundiff  
Chad Curry  
Lorie Curry  
Russell Curry  
Sara Curry  
Amy Dahlkamp  
Jim Davis  
Peggy Dondan  
Ann Dossett  
Mary Downing  
Dave Eiter  
Dick Ekstrand  
Kate Elliott  
Jack & Pat Esslinger  
John Felchner  
Cynthia Ferguson  
Jim Feuerborn  
Katherine Fox  
Tim Gaffey  
Angela Gaffigan  
Grace Garbin  
Robin Gill  
Michael Goza  
Betty Gum  
Brett Hage  
Richard Haglund  
Kathy Harmon  
Theresa Hartel  
James Harvey  
MaryJo Heise  
Becky Helton

### M.E.R.C.Y. House Supporter (furniture & in-kind donors)

Lisa Ackerman  
Joe & Sandi Albers  
Brian & Pam Allen  
Ellen Amerson  
Cathy Annerino  
Heather Austwick  
Ted & Marilyn Babcock  
Pat Baker  
Zelma Baker  
Roy & Trudy Ballinger  
Sara Bartels  
Marty Blazis

Jon and Kathleen Edwards  
 John & Vickie Evans  
 Joe & Susan Farrell  
 Lisa Fendrich & Dan Loyd  
 Jeffrey & Joy Ferry  
 First United Methodist Church  
 Brenda Flesch  
 Wendell Hahn  
 Bob & Dee Dee Hall  
 Phil & Janet Hatmaker  
 Scott & Bridget Helmholz  
 Donald & Stefany Henson  
 Michael & Suzanne Hulligan  
 Rose Marie Hutches  
 Tom & Janis Hyde  
 Dan & Joan Hysler  
 Larry & Shannon Johnson  
 Marilyn Kennedy  
 Daniel & Susan Kepner  
 Lana Kern  
 Karen Kimball  
 Dr. Gerald & Gwenn Klingler  
 Steven Koch  
 Allen & Marsha Krall  
 Melva Krey  
 Shirley Lanphier  
 Laurel United Methodist Quilters  
 Luann Leefers  
 Richard & Patrica Lepper  
 James & Laura Lesniak  
 Katharine Lima  
 Mary E. Maloy  
 Thomas Martin  
 Nancy Eckert Martin  
 Daniel & Lucille McCarthy  
 Bob & Marcia Milliken  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Suzanne Morphew  
 Jim & Sue Morris  
 Evan & Barb Moss  
 Lee O'Keefe  
 Jennifer Ondrey  
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Mary Ossowski  
 David & Barbara Peterson  
 Robert & Peggy Podlasek  
 Marcy Roach  
 Sarah Anne Robinson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl Roland  
 Dr. & Mrs. Ron & Therese Romanelli  
 Bill & Lori Schlosser  
 Marilyn Schmidt  
 Mike & Marge Sgro  
 Bill & Judy Shutt  
 Springfield Women of Today  
 St. John's Lutheran Church  
 Dr. Stephen & Lisa Stone  
 Dick & Mary Stone  
 Cheri Taylor  
 Don & Barb Vonnahme  
 Nancy & Steve Washko  
 Linda Wheeland  
 Ron & Kahla Wiggins



### **Kid's Buddy**

**(\$1+)**

Sharline Antonacci  
 Samuel & Delores Ashmore  
 Vicki Audo  
 Heather & Andy Austwick  
 Kathleen Bang  
 Mary Bangert  
 Mike & Sandy Barker  
 Harry & Deborah Berman  
 Avril Marie Bernzen  
 Fred & Kathy Bierbaum  
 Michael Bohl  
 Marlise Boyer  
 Mrs. Joann Brown  
 Brown Engineers  
 Don & Joanna Bucci  
 Larry & Connie Bussard  
 Christi Grant  
 Mary Crane  
 Monica Dyson  
 Robert Fafoglia  
 Ronald & Cheryl Fafoglia  
 Carol Ferrer  
 Brian Fitzgerald  
 Mr. & Mrs. Neil & Susan Flynn  
 Dan & Sherry Frachey  
 Jerry & Linda Gladu  
 Nick Goedecke  
 Goodsearch  
 Christi Grant  
 Mary Kay Harrelson  
 Mr. and Mrs. George Haven  
 John & Katherine Hawkins  
 David Henebry  
 Marie T. Henebry  
 David & Ruth Hicks  
 Debbie Hines  
 Bill & Carolyn Isham

# *PROGRAMS*

## *Transitional Living Services*

A two-year Transitional Living Program whose goal is to assist homeless young women and their children to achieve stability in their lives by providing them with a stable home and intensive support services. There is an after-care component to sustain the family's stay in permanent housing.

In 2009, M.E.R.C.Y. provided 16 moms, 11 boys, and 14 girls with shelter and supportive services through Transitional Living Services.

96% of transitional families moved into permanent housing upon completion of the program.

## *Permanent Supportive Housing*

Permanent affordable housing and supportive services for homeless families with dependent children in which the head of household has a disability. The program enables families with severe and persistent issues, such as mental illness, chronic health problems and substance abuse to achieve long term housing stability.

In 2009, M.E.R.C.Y. provided 14 moms, 13 boys, and 14 girls with shelter and supportive services through permanent supportive housing.

93% of permanent supportive families maintain their housing for one year or longer.

## *Rental Subsidy Program*

M.E.R.C.Y. makes decent affordable rental housing and supportive services available to families at 15 to 30% of the median income. We are able to serve four families annually through this program.

## *Church Partnership Program*

Church communities provide mentors and financial support in collaboration with M.E.R.C.Y.'s professional staff.

Rochester United Methodist and Parkway Christian were our FY 2009 partners.

## *Homeless to Homeowner Program*

This program is made possible through a partnership with the Jeremiah Project, whose mission is to provide quality affordable housing for marginalized families, while also revitalizing neighborhoods.

On the way to home ownership is Permanent Housing graduate, Erma and her son.

## *Did You Know?*

- Economic Factors (loss or lack of income) is the leading cause of homelessness.
- In the 2008-2009 School year there were 558 documented homeless children in Springfield School District 186, plus another 167 in the County. A dramatic increase of 179% over the last four years, from 200 children in 2005.
- To afford a 2 bedroom apartment in Springfield a worker must earn \$12.38 per hour.
- On the night of the Springfield street count in January 2009, there were 36 homeless families.
- Last year M.E.R.C.Y. Communities housed and supported 30 mothers with 52 children.
- M.E.R.C.Y. Communities provided 7050 days and nights of shelter for our families in 2009.
- The average length of stay for our transitional families in FY 2009 was 235 days.
- M.E.R.C.Y. Communities has served 134 families since it was established in 1999.
- Four M.E.R.C.Y. mothers have moved on to homeownership.
- M.E.R.C.Y. Communities receives an average of 8 calls a week from families requesting the opportunity to improve their lives and those of their children.

## *MERCY starts a Girl Scout Troop*

Lesli Garretson, Children's Services Coordinator, has started a Girl Scout troop this summer with the young girls living in M.E.R.C.Y. housing. While still in its infancy, the program has already proven to be a boost to their self-esteem. The girls have learned about fire safety, have made yarn dolls and have completed the Girl Scout rite-of-passage, creating their own sit-upon. Garretson says, "The Girl Scout program is a great way of building courage, confidence and character. It is also a great way to learn about goal setting." As scouts they earn badges, for their sashes, as they reach accomplishments. M.E.R.C.Y.'s goal setting philosophy with the mothers is now readily taught to the children through this programming. Garretson serves as the scout leader with some of the children's mothers also volunteering to help.

Children in the M.E.R.C.Y. Girl Scout program work on a craft project.



# M.E.R.C.Y. Communities Inc.

Donors from April 1, 2008 thru June 30, 2009  
*M.E.R.C.Y. gratefully acknowledges the generosity of its donors*

### **M.E.R.C.Y. Superstars (\$10,000+)**

Anonymous  
IL Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
Fletcher Farrar & Mary Jessup  
Hospital Sisters of St. Francis-San Damiano Grant  
Dept. of Housing and Urban Development  
IL Dept. of Human Services  
JP Morgan Chase & Co  
LPGA State Farm Classic  
Parkway Christian Church  
Rochester United Methodist Church  
Springfield Dominican Sisters  
United Way of Central Illinois

### **M.E.R.C.Y. Partners (\$5,000+)**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
City of Springfield Community Services  
Providers Assistance Program  
The Lumpkin Family Foundation  
Susan Cook House Educational Trust Fund  
Tracy Family Foundation

### **The Starfish Club (\$1,000+)**

American Business Club  
Carrollton Bank  
Diocese of Springfield Rice Bowl Diocese-Catholic Campaign for Human Development  
Joe & Janice Franz  
Mike & Carolyn Houston  
Knights of Columbus-Springfield  
Kent & Sue Massie  
Bob & Marcia Milliken  
Sangamon County Community Foundation  
SIU School of Medicine-A.M.A. Student Association  
John Shafer & Cathy Schwartz  
Springfield Financial Institution  
Springfield Rotary Foundation  
Third Presbyterian Church  
Young Lawyers Division of the Sangamon County Bar Association



### **Friends of the Family (\$500+)**

Mike & Vickie Armstrong  
Frank and Susan Hartl  
Andrew & Lisa Hartman  
Junior League of Springfield  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Teena Myers  
National City Bank  
Reid Chiropractic  
Rotary Club of Springfield South  
Dr. & Mrs. Danny & Margaret Sartore

### **Mom's Best Friend (\$100+)**

ALF Insurance  
Michael & Jill Aiello  
Jo Alessandrini  
Tony & Cathy Annerino  
Roy Ballinger  
John & Lisa Belz  
Jeff Black  
Stephen & Mary Kay Bochenek  
Ed & Lucy Breitung Family Fund  
Jack & Janice Butler  
Donald & Kathryn Cadagion  
Ray & Anne Capestrain  
Emil & Martha Cook  
Mario and Julie Costa  
Karen Cox  
Drew & Kate Davis  
Davis Financial Group  
Susan & Scott Day  
Kevin Veara & Diane DeLeonardo  
Bill & Sandy Drago  
John & Evelyn Dunlap  
Glen Hodas & Julie Dutton  
Erika Earl  
Gail & George Eck  
Albert & Nancy Eck, Jr.