



Hope for the future, power in the present.



**BOARD OF CHILD CARE**  
of The United Methodist Church, Inc.

3300 Gaither Road ~ Baltimore MD 21244

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SERVING THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON AND  
THE PENINSULA-DELAWARE CONFERENCES

## *It is Back-to-School Time: Help Motivate Our Kids to Do Well in School*

Dear Faithful Friends,

This past spring I had the opportunity to treat some of our residents who earned a place on their school honor rolls to a special dinner night out. At the first dinner in March, 10 Baltimore campus residents dressed up and joined me for a full-course formal dinner at a local Italian restaurant. They were congratulated on their hard work in school, as well as given certificates.

One young man in particular, Cory G., made a point to shake my hand and thank me for the support the Board of Child Care had given him. He had earned nearly all A's in his classes that quarter at Pikesville High School. But school has not always been easy for him. Diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome and having struggled with behavior issues, he has had multiple school placements and his parents voluntarily placed him at the Board of Child Care to get him the help he needed.

His progress while living within BCC's supportive social and emotional milieu has been amazing. Our structured environment has helped stabilize his behavior and given him a chance to concentrate on his school studies. He told me he'd like to continue to live at BCC, as long as he can also continue to visit his parents.

We are now making the special dinner a quarterly tradition for our residents who achieve honor roll status at the local public schools they attend, or at our Strawbridge School. For the school quarter that just ended, Cory was again invited to attend for achieving a 3.0 grade point average on his report card. These dinners are not only a way for us to reward our youth—just as any parent would treat their child to a night out because of a good report card—but it is also keeping them motivated to work even harder in school.

Our annual Back-to-School Fund helps make such special events for our youngsters possible. Our support of these youth's educational goals sends a message to them that we value their education and their hard work. It also conveys how important education is to their future. And as I've personally witnessed during our honor roll dinners, our youth genuinely appreciate this support and realize that the BCC family, which includes staff, school officials, local church congregations and others in the community, wants them to reach their maximum educational potential to ensure a successful future.

We are proud that 30 of the youth in our programs this past spring did meet their ultimate educational goal—graduating from high school—and they are now making new goals toward higher education, military service or employment.

May God bless you for your generosity.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas L. Curcio  
President and CEO

