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Beulah Schmidt Presented with “Friend of Children Award”

On July 31, 2005, Beulah Schmidt of Delavan was presented with the “Friend of Children Award” by Cunningham Children’s Home of Urbana, Illinois.

A faceted prism plaque was presented to her during Cunningham’s 110th Anniversary Celebration. Its inscription reads, “Presented to Beulah Schmidt in recognition of your commitment to enhancing the lives of children and youth. May God’s hand touch your life in the special way that you have touched the lives of His children.”

Mrs. Schmidt was honored for her ongoing dedication to Cunningham children and youth, and recent major gift to create the Edward and Beulah Schmidt Cottage within Cunningham’s new Residential Treatment Center.

The recently completed Residential Treatment Center provides children and youth with therapeutic intervention and support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Within it are three self-contained residential cottages, offices for therapists and case managers, and a health clinic for nursing staff. Each cottage cost approximately \$250,000 to construct, and Mrs. Schmidt’s gift will ensure that ten young people in need will have a safer and better home at Cunningham.

Mrs. Schmidt and her late husband were blessed with two sons, Norman and Roger, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Their love for their own children inspired them to give other children better opportunities through their charitable giving. As Mrs. Schmidt has explained, “We provided a good home for our own kids and we wanted to help provide the best possible home for the Cunningham kids as well. These kids all need a chance at having a good life.”

Since 1895, Cunningham has been the special mission and ministry of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference United Methodist Women. Since that time, Cunningham has transformed from an orphanage and deaconess home to a professional child care agency, and finally to a multi-faceted agency providing residential treatment, foster care, independent living, and special education services.

The lives of thousands of children and youth have been touched by Cunningham Children’s Home, and many more lives will be improved thanks to Mrs. Schmidt’s generous support.

For More Information, Contact:

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A mission and ministry of the United Methodist Women of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference in partnership with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church.



Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc.