

# Barker Launches New Korean Adoption Program

In one of the most exciting programmatic developments in Barker's history, the Board of Trustees enthusiastically endorsed a new partnership with Social Welfare Society, Inc. (SWS) in Korea. The Korean Ministry of Health and Social Welfare approved Barker's application early in 2004, after Executive Director, Marilyn Regier, traveled to Seoul in October 2003 to meet with SWS staff and discuss the possibility of a direct Korean adoption program. Rev. Myung Woo Kim, President of Social Welfare Society, subsequently visited Barker in February 2004, at which time he and Dr. Regier signed the contract which launched our program. Barker had previously placed Korean children through a networked program with a New York agency.

SWS is one of only four agencies approved by the Korean government to place children for international adoption. According to Dr. Regier, she immediately sensed a compatibility between SWS and Barker. "Both agencies are well-established agencies, with SWS celebrating 50 years in 2004, and Barker about to turn 60 in 2005. Both agencies are known for high ethical standards and integrity, and both



*Rev. Kim, Myung Woo, President of Social Welfare Society, and Ms. Lim Young-Ohk, are pictured with Dr. Marilyn Regier, Executive Director of Barker, on her visit to Korea.*

have a true commitment to post-adoption services for children and families. It is a privilege to be partnering with SWS to find permanent homes for children." During her initial visit with Rev. Kim, Dr. Regier also highlighted the excellent resources for Korean adoptees and their families in the Washington Metropolitan Area, as well as the support of the local Korean-American community.



*Intercountry Adoption Director, Ms. Lim, Young-Ohk, tours Marilyn Regier through the SWS Offices and Baby Reception Center.*

Adoption from Korea as we really know it today began as the aftermath of the Korean War. Today, the Korean adoption program serves as a model for international adoption, with its ethical and child-centered practices. While continuing international placements, South Korea has also strongly encouraged domestic adoption, and Korea's Ministry of Health and Social Welfare maintains strict regulation of international adoption. During the year 2000, for example, 1,690 babies were adopted in Korea, and 2,360 were placed internationally. *(Continued on pg. 3)*

# Director's Corner

As I compose these words, I am seated in the new Bethesda office, admittedly a work-in-progress, for construction continues outside my window.

Nonetheless, the excitement of both staff and clients is palpable – and has been since the moment we set foot in the bright and modern setting we now call our main headquarters. Buildings do not make great social workers, and compassionate and ethical social work can take place in the humblest of facilities. Yet our entire staff is making the daily discovery that the move has transformed our work and invigorated us at a critical point in Barker's history.



Many opportunities presented themselves in the last year, and it became clear that in order to broaden our services, increase our placement numbers, and enlarge our commitment to post-adoption counseling and education, we needed enough space in the right location to make our goals possible.

Almost 60 years ago, our agency began in the home of Richard and Ruth Barker. Birth parents were lovingly housed there, and prospective adoptive parents gathered in the Barkers' living room every Sunday evening for information-gathering and assessment. From these modest beginnings, the agency grew and moved five times: first to a small office on MacArthur Boulevard; then to Wisconsin Avenue; next to two different locations in Brandywine Plaza in Northwest DC; and finally to Cabin John, where we had been for almost 12 years.

Choosing a home is often one of the most important decisions a family makes, and it is no different for a professional organization. Moving always has associated costs, so we surely wanted a place we could call "home" for a long time. Much thought went into the selection of the Barker site, and staff members had input into the functional design of the space. The centerpiece of the new facility is a wonderful seminar hall to accommodate the growing number of clients who attend our information seminars, support groups, and workshops. The design of our individual offices gives enhanced privacy for staff and clients. The office is accessible to all forms of public transportation. On a slightly lighter note, I have observed that with 160 restaurants in the neighborhood, families just presented with the referral of a baby, or families leaving the post-adoption office after a "reunion," can celebrate with any cuisine they wish. Last but certainly not least, the terms of our lease include free parking for all Barker visitors directly behind the building.

Yes, we are poised for substantial expansion of the services we can provide, both to existing Barker families and to future ones. My hope is that Barker's mission -- to create and sustain children in permanent, loving homes -- can be carried out even more effectively in the place we now call "home." It is through the generosity of so many of you that we are here. You are all part of the next stage in Barker's proud history! We welcome you to come visit us and share in our joy.

*Marilyn Regier*  
*Executive Director*

## Barker on the Move!

After a long and careful search process, The Barker Foundation recently moved to its new home at 7979 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. Barker now occupies the entire first floor of the 11-story building, located at the border of a residential neighborhood and the Bethesda urban district. The beautiful office was recently converted from an upper-deck garage to leasable office space, with Barker being the first tenants in the new build-out by Kane Construction.

With the move, the agency increased its space from 3,500 to 5,900 square feet. The 10-year lease was signed in a buyer's market, with the result that the cost per square foot decreased from the rate in the former Cabin John location.



In addition to the need for more space, another factor influencing the move included the need for accessibility to public transportation, and the new location is "in the flow." Because the space was a new build-out, Barker Board members and staff were able to have considerable input into the design of the offices. The new seminar hall will accommodate larger crowds for educational events, and the "deck-to-deck" construction of each office prevents sound leakage and guarantees client privacy. A new state-of-the-art networked computer system, made possible through a gift by Barker parent, John Freeman, is also a *(Continued on pg. 5)*

## Korea (continued from page 1)

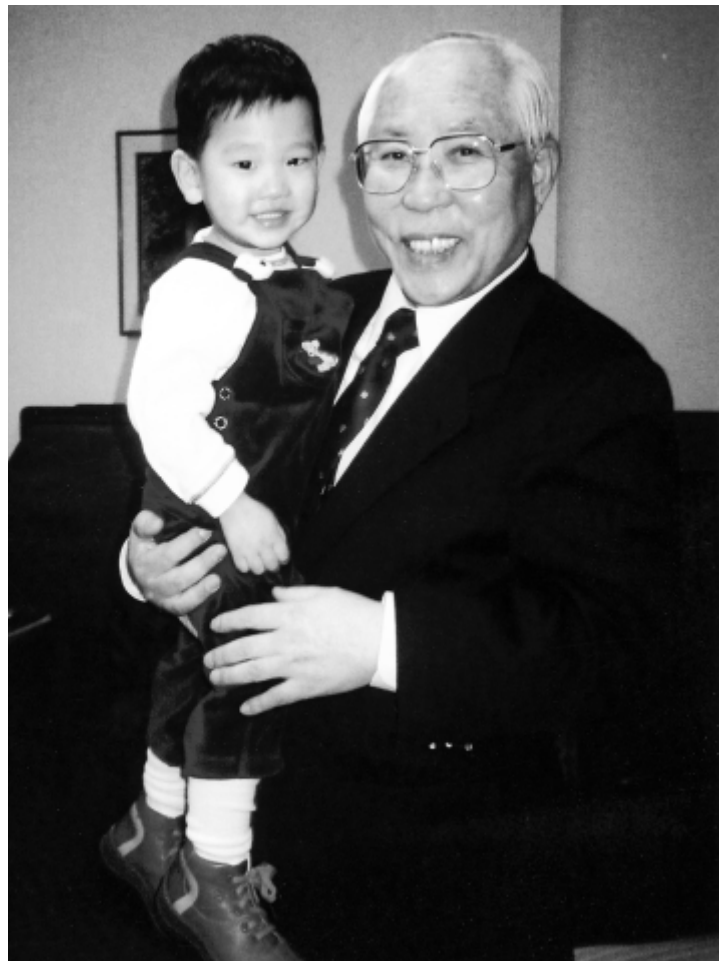
Social Welfare Society is the oldest of the four Korean agencies approved by the government. Founded in 1954 to meet the needs of Korean War orphans, the agency has expanded over time to include a variety of social welfare services, including programs for disabled children. SWS has 290 staff members, with the main headquarters in Seoul, and four branch offices. The agency also supports and maintains four maternity homes, a baby reception home, several children's care centers, daycare facilities, and a community center and senior citizens' welfare center.

Since 1991, SWS has thrived under the executive leadership of Rev. Kim, who graduated from Kangnam University with a social work major and subsequently earned both a Master's Degree in theology at the Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary, and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the College of Social Work, University of South Carolina (U.S.). The Intercountry Adoption Department of 16 staff is directed by Ms. Young-Ohk Lim, who has extensive experience in child and family welfare and education, and who works diligently to maintain the highest standards of practice.

A hallmark of SWS' adoption program is its well-trained and compassionate foster families. According to Ms. Lim, there are presently 252 foster families, but the agency has an immediate need for additional families. Babies are briefly cared for in the baby's reception center attached to Han-Suh Hospital, after which they are placed in loving foster families



*Signing the Agreement between SWS and Barker in February 2004, pictured, front row, left to right: Marilyn Regier, Rev. Kim, Myung Woo, and Michelle Costello Howard, International Social Worker and Post-Adoption Specialist. Back Row, Colleen McLain, International Program Director, and Rachel Eidelman, Director of Post-Adoption Services.*



*Rev. Kim enjoys meeting Caleb Brenner, son of Drs. Richard and Andrea Brenner, during a welcome luncheon for Rev. Kim and his wife at Barker.*

for several months. The babies receive state-of-the-art medical care, and American pediatricians consistently remark on the superior medical care rendered in Korea.

Eligible U.S. families must meet Korean requirements that they be married couples, ages 25-43.5 at time of application, with at least a 3-year marriage. As many as five children are permitted per home, including the child to be adopted. Families must be financially stable and in good mental and physical health. At the time of placement, most babies are 5-7 months of age. Families have the option to travel to Korea to receive their child, or SWS will provide an escort for the baby to a Washington airport.

According to Colleen McLain, Barker's Director of International Programs, applications are now being accepted for the program, and several families have already received referrals. Describing her feelings about the new program, she commented: "I am very excited to be working directly in Korea, given Korea's status as the 'grandfather' of international adoption. It is wonderful to work with a program that runs so seamlessly, knowing *(Continued on pg. 9)*

# Annual Meeting Held At Lowell School

Barker families, old and new, gathered for the Annual Meeting on May 17 at the Lowell School in the District. Board of Trustees Chair, Nonie Akman, welcomed the crowd and presided over the meeting, where attendees had the opportunity to review reports presented by Jay Meriwether, Treasurer of the Board of Trustees; Rob DeLucia, President of the Friends of Barker Board of Trustees; John Harris, Vice-President of the Board of Trustees and chair of the New Office Site Committee; and Maureen Golden, a past President of the Board and Coordinator of the Move to Bethesda. Marilyn Regier introduced the Barker staff and delivered the Executive Director's report, which reviewed past agency accomplishments, outlined current challenges, and presented a future vision.

Dennis Corbett, Chair of the Board's Nominating Committee, presented the nominating committee report. Three new Board members were elected at the meeting: Andrea Brenner, Kathryn Bucher, and Gina Collis. Nonie Akman also recognized outgoing Board members Dennis Corbett, Chris Intagliata, and Laurie Trainer for extraordinary Board service. A highlight of the evening was the very moving presentation by Chris Intagliata of the Richard B. Barker award to an unsuspecting but very deserving Beth Kirby.



Foster Care Coordinator, Beth Kirby (seated), is surrounded by Barker's foster mothers, who were honored at a Foster Parents' Appreciation Luncheon on May 21st. Pictured left to right: Marilyn Brennan, Donna Johnston, Darlene Asmar, Robin Megel, Alison Reiter, Donna Wolohojian, Loretta McGee, Cathy Fiorillo, and Dana Buswell. (Not pictured: Peggy McNamara)

# Chris Intagliata's Tribute to Beth Kirby



Chris Intagliata (left) congratulates Beth Kirby, the recipient of this year's Richard B. Barker Award.

*I am honored and delighted to be presenting this year's Richard Barker Award.*

*This year's recipient embodies the spirit and mission of The Barker Foundation in so many ways. Part of Barker's past and an indispensable member of Barker's present and future. Absolutely professional and warmly personal.*

*Perhaps more than any other individual associated with Barker, this person operates at the initial "intersection" of adoption, where birth parents, adoptive parents and the adopted child hover in that profound moment, a "moment" which may last days or weeks or months, when the care and responsibility for a human being is transferred from one set of parents to another.*

*It is a time and space that requires the greatest empathy for both birth parents and adoptive parents. It requires an unconditional love for every child. And those are traits that define the recipient of this year's award.*

*For ten years, this year's honoree was the first face and voice and arms that meant "mother" to scores of Barker babies, including one of my own. From 1997 to 2002 she was Foster Care Assistant and, since 2002, she has been Director of Foster Care Services. In that position, she is responsible for an outstanding foster care program, one of Barker's "signatures" that we can all be proud of. She makes sure her foster parents are trained in everything from infant CPR to understanding birth parents, from how to welcome a baby into a home to how to bid that same baby good-bye. Foster parents are there for our children; and Beth is there for the foster parents.*

*She and her husband Bob have given their time and energies ceaselessly and generously, at every task from living sleep deprived to grilling hamburgers at the fall picnic for hours at a time. She is ever good-spirited, a genuine team player and "everybody's mom."*

*I am thrilled to present this award, which reads, "The Richard B. Barker Award presented to Beth Kirby in recognition of her Empathy, Spirit, and Love for Every Child."*

## Barker on the Move! (continued from pg.2)

highlight of the Bethesda facility. The building has its own parking lot, where all Barker clients may park free of charge. There will be Barker signage on the front side of the building (on Old Georgetown Road) and an awning with the Barker name over our main entrance on Glenbrook Road, and a ramp to accommodate wheelchairs and strollers.

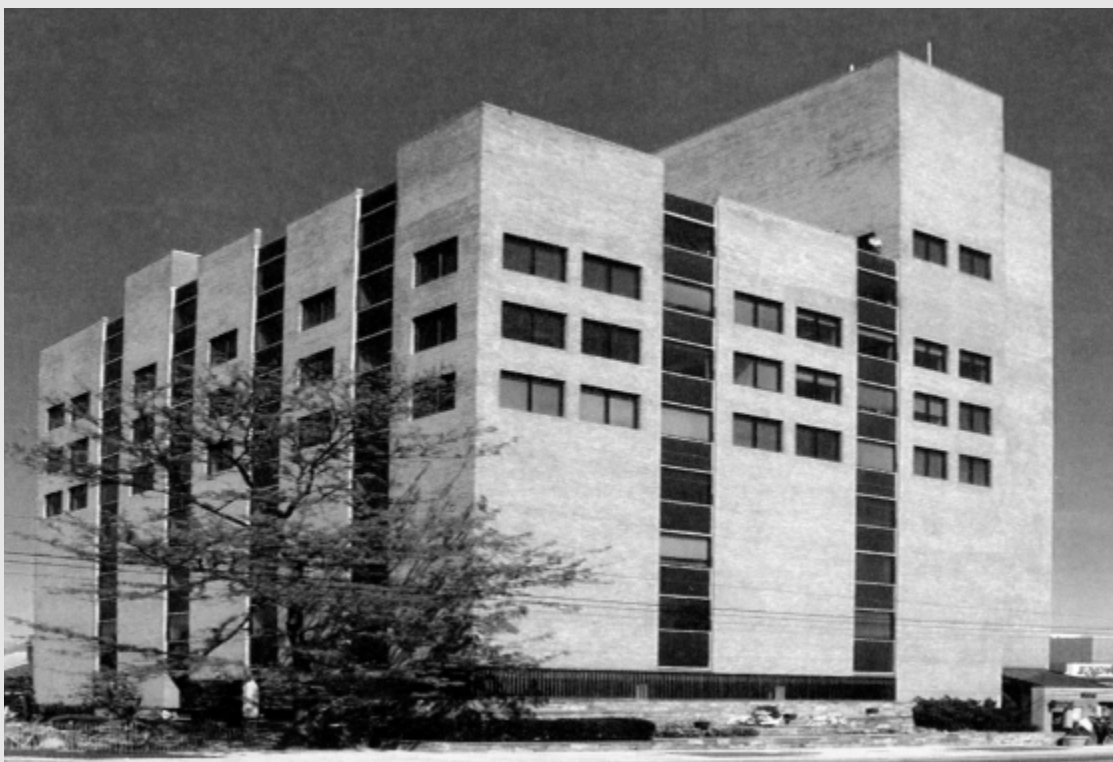
The Board of Trustees' Move Task Force was ably chaired by John Harris. Speaking at the Annual Meeting, he stated: "Barker should have a physical office space that reflects the high standard of quality and professionalism for which the organization stands – and that so many of you have worked so hard to build over the years." Other members of the Move Task Force were Nonie Akman, Nancy Yahner, and Marilyn Regier. Many other volunteers gave of their time to consult and guide the process. Kim Kelly carefully removed our wonderful quilts for dry-cleaning and transfer to Bethesda. Maureen Golden agreed to serve as the Move Coordinator, assisted by Laurie Trainer and Becky Flitcroft. Linda Adams, our new Director of Administration and Finance, coordinated all the arrangements and helped make the process as smooth as possible. A talented Art Committee consisting of Diane Brooks, Alice Corbett, and Maureen Golden, is now at work to decorate the major spaces and hallways with themes that convey the Barker

story to all who enter. We are immensely grateful to the donors who have already designated gifts to help with the cost of the new office.

Barker has also been on the move in Virginia and the District of Columbia, thanks to Barker parent, John Freeman, who has donated office space in both jurisdictions. Our new Virginia address is 2957 Monticello Drive in Falls Church. Mr. Freeman and family have generously donated an expanded Northern Virginia satellite office, with all new furnishings and a computer system networked to the main office in Bethesda. The office will be staffed on a permanent basis for the first time and will greatly enhance our work with our Virginia clients. With rising rents at our previous District location, Mr. Freeman also made available office space in the District for our use, at 1066 – 30th Street, NW.

The Board and staff look forward to carrying out Barker's mission even more effectively in the enlarged, modern urban Bethesda setting, in the newly furnished and expanded Virginia branch, and in the Georgetown location. Please come and visit if you are in the neighborhood! A formal fall open house is also planned, at which time all our Barker family and friends will be invited to tour the new main office.

*The Barker Foundation's main office is now located at 7979 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland.*



# Tenth Annual Conference Highlights "Adoption Journey"

Almost 300 registrants filled the auditorium at the University of Maryland's Shady Grove Conference Center in Rockville, Maryland, as Ann Humphrey convened the Tenth Annual Conference of The Barker Foundation. The inspiration for this year's conference theme – "Adoption Journey: From Secret Thoughts to Open Talk" – derived both from Jana Wolff's thought-provoking book and from Dr. David Brodzinsky's research on openness.



*Jana Wolff, author of Secret Thoughts of an Adoptive Mother, was the keynote speaker at Barker's 10th Annual Conference.*

Ms. Wolff's dynamic and engaging presentation brought the audience up-to-date on where the adoption journey has taken her since her secret thoughts became public in her best-selling book. Conference participants thoroughly enjoyed the chance to speak with her informally during a book-signing opportunity. Brodzinsky, in his third presentation at a Barker conference, talked about "The Kind of Openness

that Matters," giving examples both from his research and from his clinical practice. Chris Intagliata moderated a question-and-answer session, after which Brodzinsky elaborated on conference themes at a professionals' luncheon.

Barker parent, Maxine Baker, who is President and CEO of the Freddie Mac Foundation, also addressed the crowd and was presented with an award by Nonie Akman, Board Chair. The six afternoon break-out sessions, as well as the birth parent panel led by Kate Coopersmith, and the presentation by Michelle Howard and the teen group, gave richness and variety to the afternoon.

The Barker Foundation is grateful to The Freddie Mac Foundation for its most generous support of this year's conference. Nor would the day have been possible without the hard-working committee: Sue Culver, Rachel Eidelman,



*Maxine Baker, President and CEO of the Freddie Mac Foundation, accepts award from Executive Director Marilyn Regier, and Board of Trustees Chair, Nonie Akman. The inscription reads: To Maxine, whose heart urges her to help children and families, and whose skill makes it possible countless times over, in grateful appreciation from The Barker Foundation community.*

Giorgia Eigen-Zucchi, Ann Humphrey, Chris Intagliata, Beth Kirby, Guy Kolb, Colleen McLain, Eliza Niemann, Marilyn Regier, Laurie Trainer, and Joan Woods.

Please mark your calendars and save the date for next year's conference to be held on March 5, 2005.



*Speaking to the conference participants, the teen group presents its list of "What We Want Parents to Know." Pictured, left to right, Trina Glidden, Keith Rutkowski, Jay Asbell.*

## Congratulations to our New Adoptive Families!

### Domestic Placements

*Greg and Carla welcomed Brice  
Ed welcomed Skyler*

*Jeff and Monica welcomed Cassandra  
Kevin and Kim welcomed Samuel  
Martin and Julia welcomed Joshua  
Jay and LaNay welcomed Alexis  
Stephen and Patty welcomed Madalyn  
David and Marita welcomed Brian*

*James and Paulina welcomed Jacqueline  
Gary and Daphne welcomed Sarah  
Danny and Mary welcomed Tyler*

### International Placements

*David and Cara welcomed Sofia*

# Post Adoption Postings

Our new office has given us a chance to expand and renew Barker's services to all of our clients. In Post Adoption, this renewal has resulted in the offering of a monthly group for Parents of Adolescents. The group is a place for parents to exchange ideas and receive support from other adoptive parents, and—for some—a chance to have a quiet place to take a "time out" from a hectic day.

The topics discussed in recent groups have included subjects such as school, dating, sibling issues, limit-setting, and the use of professional counseling. Participants have children ranging in age from middle school through college. With the new school year approaching, and the inevitable transitions that result, we hope that parents will take advantage of the opportunity to meet with other adoptive parents who are experiencing the same great adventure called parenthood.

The group meets on the first Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:00 PM in the Bethesda office. Upcoming meetings are September 2nd, October 7th, November 4th, and December 2nd. For more information, please contact Rachel Eidelman, Director of Family and Post Adoption Services, at reidelman@barkerfoundation.org or 301-664-9664, ext. 201.

The Adopted Persons Discussion Group continues to provide support to its participants who are exploring the role of adoption in their lives, and we welcome participation from adults ages 19 and older. This group gets together on the fourth Monday of every month from 7:00-9:00 PM in the Bethesda office. Dionne Johnston, Senior Social Worker in the Post Adoption department, is facilitating the group.

The next meetings are scheduled for September 27th, October 25th, November 22nd, and December 20th. The group is free of charge and is open to any adult adopted person in the community. Please contact Dionne Johnston at djohnston@barkerfoundation.org or 301-664-9664, ext. 204 for more information or to RSVP.

*Joe and Carol welcomed Luis  
Gary and Ruby welcomed Luci  
Richard and Jamie welcomed Bo  
Bill and Susan welcomed Billy  
Carl and Mano welcomed Anjuna  
Sanjay and Theresa welcomed Tara*

*Barbara welcomed Rachel  
Mark and Donna welcomed Lauren  
Guy and Rachel welcomed Ariel  
Kapil and Sapna welcomed Sachi  
Rich and Berna welcomed Jack  
Regis and Paula welcomed Steven*

*Mike and Fran welcomed Rosa Eva Maria  
Kanya welcomed Sanjeevan  
Jamie and Kirsy welcomed Kayla  
Rob and Karen welcomed Thomas  
Bob and Mindy welcomed Jakob  
Jacob and Michele welcomed Meira*

# The Holt Family hosts the Barker Family

The Gathering of Barker Parents in April should have been called the Barker family reunion, since there were too many hugs and kisses to count between old friends, and many new friendships between new parents and veteran parents. Many of the relationships formed around annual galas, or Auction committees or phonathon calls were reenergized that evening. Much fun was had by all during the raffle when Rob "luck runs in my family" DeLucia raffled off a diamond bracelet, dinner for two at the Inn at Little Washington, Redskins tickets, and an Apple Ipod. The 2004 Spring Event committee (Nonie Akman, Jan Gandal, Linda Holden, Meg Miller, Marilyn Regier, Cherisse Robinson and Joan Woods) should be commended on a wonderful event that was still going on after this writer left the party! Barker parents have already begun to jostle to host the next family gathering since so many parents were so happy to see each other again. The committee thanks Allen and Shelley Holt for graciously hosting not just an event, but a great party.

*-Joan Woods*

# Staff Transitions

Welcome to Linda Adams, our new Director of Administration and Finance.

Michelle Costello Howard, MSW, has joined our staff as an international adoption social worker, with additional responsibilities in our post-adoption department. She will be based primarily in our Virginia office.

Sarah McCormack is our newest staff member, recently coming on board as our International Program Assistant.

We bid farewell to Trina Glidden, our former International Program Assistant, who has enrolled at the University of Florida, seeking an MBA in International Business. Best wishes, Trina!

# Money Matters

*Let's build on a strong history of giving back to Barker...*

Barker's mission—finding permanent homes for children—is so simple and reasonable that I sometimes have the guilty thought that there should be no need for a Director of Development. There should be legions making our services possible for others who follow them—adoptive parents who have built your families through adoption, birth mothers for whom adoption was a loving solution to your unplanned pregnancy, and Barker babies who treasure the families you joined soon after you were born.

But, as many nonprofits have found out the hard way, "should" donate and "do" donate are two very different words. Barker is very fortunate to have many regular contributors who seem to agree that our mission is simple yet compelling. Some of you give because our adoption services have personally touched your family or someone you know. Others give because adoption provides a loving solution for children in our communities. Barker's solid fundraising infrastructure and exceptional culture of giving have prompted many gifts and served us well as our programs have grown, our clients' needs have changed and as we strengthened our post-adoption services. So, is there anything left for me to do?

As I see it, my job is to make our fundraising program even stronger than it is right now. That entails making sure you know how much your support impacts the adoption and post-adoption services we are able to provide for children and their families and making sure there is a convenient process to make your gift.

Toward that end, you will be hearing more about the Barker Annual Fund Campaign, a concept supported by the Development Committee, which lets you the donor better plan your charitable gifts at the beginning of the year and helps Barker better predict support from individual donors throughout the year. During the first quarter of next year, you can make your annual pledge to Barker rather than waiting for our Fall Phonathon, through which many of you make your commitments. We hope you will make a personally-significant pledge to the Barker Annual Fund and the vital services we provide for children and families. Our Annual Fund supports the program and administrative expenses not covered by adoption or post-adoption fees, the Legacy Fund or foundation grants.

Your contributions matter more than ever to maintaining our high-quality adoption services and responding to costly, yet necessary, special situations like facilitating free prenatal care to uninsured birth mothers, investing additional time finding a permanent family for babies with serious medical problems, or recruiting minority families for an increasing number of multiracial or biracial babies. Your commitment to us helps us keep our commitment to each child.

The Barker Foundation's contributors have a very proud tradition of giving back to this agency. I hope this year will be no different, because there is more for us to do as long as there are children who need permanent families.

*-Joan Woods*

**The Phonathon  
is coming up...**

*The 2004 Phonathon  
is the evening of  
September 13 and 14.*

**The Barker Foundation  
gratefully acknowledges a  
\$14,000 grant from the  
George Preston  
Marshall Foundation  
for post-adoption services.**

# Minority Outreach Gains Momentum



*Rashida Brown represented Barker at the African-American Experience Expo in the Washington, DC Convention Center, where she shared information about adoption with Expo participants.*

Minority outreach continues to be an important priority for Barker's domestic team under Eliza Niemann's leadership and the coordinating efforts of Rashida Brown. With the gracious support of the Freddie Mac Foundation, our outreach has gained momentum in the last year, with a strong increase in number of adoptive applicants and information requests. Rashida notes that the outreach events "not only educate African-Americans about adoption as another way to build a family, but also serve to ensure that services are accessible to the African-American community."

Rashida's summer/fall outreach events include the Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival in Annapolis; Stone Soul Picnic at RFK Stadium; the Black Family Reunion on the Mall in Washington, DC; and the Baltimore County African American Cultural Arts Festival in Towson, Maryland.

## Korea (continued from page 3)

the children are at the center of all they do." In September, Ms. McLain, together with Marilyn Regier and Michelle Costello Howard, will travel to Seoul to help celebrate SWS' 50th anniversary.

John Harris, Vice-President of the Board of Trustees, summed up the sentiments of Board and staff alike:

"We are honored and excited to form this partnership with Social Welfare Society and Rev. Kim. After having the opportunity to spend time with Rev. Kim and his wife, it is clear to me that Barker and SWS share the same values and dedication to adoption, families, and children. Both organizations should be stronger and receive many benefits from this partnership."



*Nursery at Social Welfare Society, where babies receive initial medical screening from SWS pediatricians, prior to placement in private foster homes.*



*Visitors drop by the various booths at the African-American Cultural Arts Festival in Manassas, Virginia. The Barker Foundation presented adoption information at the festival and followed up with visitors who wanted more information.*

Barker is always interested in adding outreach partners, with a recent emphasis on churches. If you would like to have your church involved in an adoption ministry, please contact Rashida Brown ([rbrown@barkerfoundation.org](mailto:rbrown@barkerfoundation.org); 301-664-9664, ext. 206). Parents who have adopted through our program are also encouraged to call Rashida if they would like to be part of a speakers' group that shares and encourages prospective families.



# Calendar Of Upcoming Events

## September

- Thursday 2nd Parent of Adolescents Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 8th Pre-Adoption Group Part I, Bethesda, MD, 4-6:30 p.m. (registration required)  
Thursday 9th Birth Parent Support Group, Bethesda, MD, 7-9:00 p.m.  
Monday 13th Barker Annual Phonathon 7-9 p.m.  
Tuesday 14th Barker Annual Phonathon 7-9 p.m.  
Saturday 18th Pre-Adoption Group Part II Bethesda, MD 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (registration required)  
Monday 27th Adopted Person Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 29th Pre-Adoption Group Part I Bethesda, MD 4-6:30 p.m. (registration required)

## October

- Saturday 2nd International & Domestic Information Meeting 9:30 a.m.–noon (RSVP)  
Thursday 7th Parent of Adolescents Support Group, Bethesda, MD, 7-9:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9th Pre-Adoption Group Part II, Bethesda, MD 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (registration required)  
Thursday 14th Birth Parent Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 20th Pre-Adoption Group Part I, Bethesda, MD 4-6:30 p.m. (registration required)  
Monday 25th Adopted Person Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Saturday 30th Pre-Adoption Group Part II, Bethesda, MD 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (registration required)

## November

- Monday 1st International & Domestic Information Meeting 6:30-8:30 p.m. (RSVP)  
Thursday 4th Parent of Adolescents Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 10th Pre-Adoption Group I, Bethesda, MD 4-6:30 p.m. (registration required)  
Thursday 11th Birth Parent Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Saturday 20th Pre-Adoption Group II, Bethesda, MD 9:30a.m.-1:30p.m. (registration required)  
Monday 22nd Adopted Person Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.

## December

- Wednesday 1st Pre-Adoption Group Part I, Bethesda, MD 4:00-6:30 p.m. (registration required)  
Thursday 2nd Parent of Adolescents Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Saturday 4th International & Domestic Information Meeting, Bethesda, MD 9:30 a.m.-noon  
Thursday 9th Birth Parent Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.  
Saturday 11th Pre-Adoption Group Part II, Bethesda, MD 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.(registration required)  
Monday 27th Adopted Person Support Group, Bethesda, MD 7-9:00 p.m.

Visit our Website: [www.barkerfoundation.org](http://www.barkerfoundation.org) E-mail: [info@barkerfoundation.org](mailto:info@barkerfoundation.org)  
Events sponsored by The Barker Foundation are open to all members of the adoption community.

# Barker Families & Friends Information Survey

*Dear Barker Families and Friends,*

*We hope you will provide the following information that will help us update our records and identify ways that Barker can work with you, your employer or your church to provide quality adoption services. We hope you will make corrections to your name and mailing address, but all other information is optional. The information you provide on this survey is for internal use only.*

## Personal Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply:

- |  |                                 |  |                                    |   |
|--|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth parent  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoptive parent | <input type="checkbox"/> Therapist | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other adoption professional (please identify) _____ |                                 |  |                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relative (please identify relationship) _____       |                                 |  |                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster parent  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please identify) _____                       |                                 |  |                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social worker  |

## Business Information:

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add your spouse's occupation and employer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your employer have a workplace giving campaign? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to coordinate a speaking opportunity during the campaign? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your employer match your charitable donations? \_\_\_\_\_

## Religious Affiliation Information:

The Barker Foundation often speaks at local churches and other religious institutions to increase awareness about adoption and talk to those who might be interested in adopting a child or becoming a foster parent. If you would like to arrange a speaking opportunity, please provide the name of your church or religious institution:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Volunteering at Barker:

Would you be willing to volunteer at Barker? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the type of volunteer work you would like to do? \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your response!*

**Please Fax to Joan Woods at 301-664-9604**



## THE BARKER FOUNDATION

SERVING ADOPTIVE PARENTS, BIRTH PARENTS  
AND ADOPTED PERSONS SINCE 1945

7979 Old Georgetown Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

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## News in Brief

Our gratitude to U.S. Representative Chris Van Hollen, for his recommendation and support of The Barker Foundation's application for our new Korean adoption program.

The International Department is always appreciative of donations of frequent flier miles in blocks of 60,000 or more miles. If you are interested in sharing your miles, please contact Colleen McLain at [cmclain@barkerfoundation.org](mailto:cmclain@barkerfoundation.org).

Marilyn Regier, our Executive Director, is the new President of the Maryland Coalition for Adoption, a state-wide consortium of private child-placing agencies.

Our library has a wonderful new anthology donated by Barker parent, Trish Warner. The book, *Up All Night: Practical Wisdom from Mothers and Fathers*, includes a chapter by Trish, entitled "Adoption is Like a Marriage." Featuring a foreword by award-winning novelist Alice McDermott, and

edited by Orfalea and Rosewicz, the book is a 2004 Paulist Press publication. If you haven't visited our library for some time, please come and check out some of the many outstanding books in the collection

Congratulations to Barker parent, Dr. Andrea Brenner, named "Teacher of the Year" at American University.

Laura Fingerhood is the new Mentor Coordinator and matches waiting parents with adoptive parents who have already gone through the process of receiving a child through adoption. Although Barker offers regular support groups to waiting parents, our new mentor program gives the additional support and understanding of a one-on-one mentor family. Thanks to Laura, whose volunteer spirit is much-appreciated.