



# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1999

## From the Director's Desk

JRC's enrollment continues its amazing growth. We have more than doubled in size within the last few months and now serve 100 residential students and adults. Forty-four of these are in our *Hope School* programming track for individuals with developmental disabilities. Fifty-two are in our *Walden School* programming track for individuals with behavior disorders. Four are in the *Respite Program* we operate for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation.

To cope with this growing population we have added several new residences. We now own or lease 17 homes, apartments, and town houses in nearby communities. To provide additional classrooms, the lower floor of our administration/day school

building in Canton is being remodeled. Three new classrooms are reserved for the opening of *Tomorrow*, our day school program, and we will begin enrolling students in this program in the Spring of 2000.

Several recent developments at JRC are illustrated in this newsletter. In June, we

held our first culmination ceremony for several of our Walden students (see back page). Also, several students have been placed in competitive jobs in the nearby community. Our *Baby Think it Over* program which teaches the responsibilities of parenting (see p. 2 and 4), continues to be a huge success!

We are now pilot-testing special computer software we have developed to teach communication skills to autistic students (see p. 5) and reading and math facts to all of our Walden students. Finally, we have purchased 75 new computers so that each student will have access to one both at school and in his/her residence.

**Matthew L. Israel, Ph.D.**  
Executive Director



Josh and Dr. Israel kick off the Holiday season.





# School News



**Jesse and Kenya have fun in the Big Reward Store.**

The programs that we have started the past year have been flourishing. As new students are admitted they have been participating in the *Baby Think it Over Program*, which has been used in public schools all over the country to teach students the responsibilities of teen parenting. The students "take care" of a computerized baby, for one week, 24 hours a day. Some students have complained about the lack of sleep they had to endure while caring for the baby. However, they all report that this was a worthwhile experience.

Our precision teaching curriculum has continued to grow with the introduction of cards that teach math concepts and double digit math operations. Students were recently tested on the short form of the Kauffman Test of Educational Achievement. All students scored higher on the test than they did six months ago! Students have been learning keyboard skills and some have become excellent typists. Many students read an article in the newspaper each day and develop their own vocabulary/spelling cards for words that they don't know. They are encouraged to



**Wayne sits with his friend Ronald McDonald.**



**JRC students at a Providence Bruins game.**



**Students get their picture taken with Dr. Israel.**



**Don't forget to wash the rest of the car!**



**That's a cute teddy bear, Shatika.**



**George spends his reward points lounging with a Dr. Pepper.**

"surf" the internet and their teacher coordinates their required assignments. The students especially enjoy sending and receiving e-mail messages to and from other students and staff.

Our after school activities have continued under the direction of our capable physical education teacher, Doreen Gilkenson. During the winter, the most popular activities are the weekly pool tournaments, which are enjoyed by both girls and boys alike. During the spring and summer, basketball is the favorite pastime.

On May 2, 1999 the Hope students attended the Special Olympic trials held at Milton Academy (see back page). The Hope School students participated in the qualifying rounds for the summer games in track and field events. The day was a great success and our students won many ribbons and medals.

Our students have been working diligently on their academic subjects. Many students have in-school jobs and one of our students works in competitive employment and is studying for her driver's license!

**Alexis Hazard,  
Director of Education**



**Was your pizza good, Eric?**



**Christina makes photocopies in her in-school job.**



# News from the Residences



Congratulations on *both* your rewards, Rob!



The students take a break from hiking in the Blue Hills Reservation to enjoy the view.



Are you painting your masterpiece, Eddie?



Terrence and Jose enjoy the barbeque.



Are you excited to go to the hockey game, Erid?



Antonio and Wilkens share a taste in ties.

The students at the residences have been spending their recreation time everywhere. Weekends have been filled with fun and exciting field trips. Should we spend the night at a baseball game, or go to an amusement park for the day? How about a soccer game against the students in another residence? During the summer the inground swimming pool at Brae house was used daily. Whatever the activity, the students are having fun!

In the evening the students learn to budget by cutting coupons for an evening visit to the market. Students at some residences plan the menu for the week and take turns cooking and cleaning up. A weekly visit to a laundromat is also an excellent learning tool. All in all, the students keep busy evenings and weekends enjoying their time learning new skills and having fun.

**Glenda Crookes,**  
Director of Residences



Krista enjoys working in the garden outside her residence.



Hope School students have fun on the field trip to Roger Williams Zoo.



Shatika hangs out with her teacher Jim in the Big Reward Store.



# Teachers Report the News



**Precision Teaching in action!**

## HOPE SCHOOL 1

We are looking forward to a great winter season full of fun in Classroom 1. Ernest is enjoying doing his academics on his new computer. He is also enjoying this season's football games and hopes the Redskins will go all the way! Luigi and Wayne are keeping busy on their jewelry assembly work. Jenny, Brendon, and Nick are working on their vocational skills with many tasks. Matthew is learning all of his states and capitols using Precision Teaching. He has been doing very well, and maybe someday he will be able to visit these states and their capitols!

Once a week, all of the students earn a well deserved break to go hiking in the Blue Hills for enjoyment and refreshment. The students look forward to the many activities that are planned for the winter season.

## HOPE SCHOOL 2

The students in Hope School 2 have had many achievements this fall! Janine is passing many of her multi-day contracts. She has earned shopping at the mall with her favorite staff. Brandon enjoys matching shapes on the computer. He also enjoys dancing during his leisure time. Duane is passing multi-day contracts, earning rewards such as french fries, and a van ride. John is earning cheeseburgers and trips to the park. Way to go guys! Caroline enjoys working on the sewing tasks after going on her daily walk around the building to say hello to staff. Andrew continues to earn ice cream sundaes for passing his special contract. Hope School 2 students enjoy weekly trips to the bowling alley or hiking trips to the Blue Hills.

## HOPE SCHOOL 3

The students have been working very hard this fall on pre-vocational and occupational tasks, Precision Teaching and academics. David enjoys earning movies by working consistently on his phonics computer program. Terrence and Cleo are both excelling in their communication skills. Malcolm enjoys creating artistic masterpieces for the bulletin board. Lisa has improved her reading and math skills.

Both Malcolm and Lisa have consistently passed their week-long multi-day contracts. Malcolm is passing number 6 and Lisa is passing number 13. Super work guys!

All of the students anticipate earning Big Reward Store and Field Day privileges. As the holidays approach the students also look forward to their home visits.



**Is it nap time for the "baby," Bernadette?**

## HOPE SCHOOL 4

Over the past few months, Hope 4 students have experienced many changes. September saw the arrival of Jeffrey. Since joining us, Jeffrey has been practicing his academics in order to meet his educational goals. October brought two new students and a new teacher. Welcome to Miss Mello, Natish and Nicholas. At the end of October there was a Halloween party. Many students dressed in costumes, went trick-or-treating through the classrooms and administrative offices and engaged in games such as "bobbing for apples." Danielle has only been with us a few months but she has already achieved "Student of the Week."

All Hope School 4 students continue to make great strides educationally, socially and behaviorally. All students are looking forward to a great winter semester and a festive holiday season.

## WALDEN ACADEMY 1

Walden 1 has been going through many changes these last couple of months due to the recent new admissions of Asa, Chase, Danny and Sammy. All the students have been working hard on their Precision Teaching decks. Robert has been passing numerous contracts and has been earning social opportunities on a regular basis. Jesse has a special contract for passing his previous best rate correct on Precision Teaching decks. Anthony is working hard to master his phonics cards. The youngest member of our class, Modesto, is looking forward to his home visit for Christmas.

The class went to the Boston Museum of Science to learn about Egypt. The students have many more field trips planned for the rest of the winter months.

## WALDEN ACADEMY 2

In the past few months, all of the students in Walden 2 have made incredible strides towards their goals.

We have welcomed Joe, Ivan and Shawna as new students to the program and to our classroom. Kevin and James have joined us from Walden 1.

In September, the entire class entered a teen smoking essay contest through the Providence Journal newspaper. Terrence, Jackie and Fawn earned honorable mentions and one essay was published. This student won 15 dollars! Congratulations to all students who entered this contest.

To celebrate Halloween, the students went on a field trip to Salem, Massachusetts. They learned many interesting and spooky facts about the history of the infamous Salem Witch Trials. This was an exceptionally interesting trip and the students are eager to go again. They are also looking forward to the many field trips the winter season has to offer.



**Great job passing those math decks, Shatika!**

### WALDEN ACADEMY 3

Walden 3 is looking forward to a great holiday season. Daphne is doing very well with her Precision Teaching assignments. She has completed all of the math facts in the JRC curriculum and has moved on to the math concepts series. Shatika is also doing very well with her math Precision Teaching. She is consistently meeting her goal with a rate of 92 correct cards per minute. Eli is doing a very fine job with managing his behavior in the classroom and is beginning to pass his week-long multi-day contracts consistently. Alexis, the newest member of our classroom, has adjusted nicely to his new environment.

The Walden 3 students have recently gone on field trips to Plymouth Plantation and to Battleship Cove in Fall River, Massachusetts. We are also ready to begin the second annual JRC chorus so that we may bring holiday joy to those less fortunate.



Cleo enjoys using his touchscreen computer.

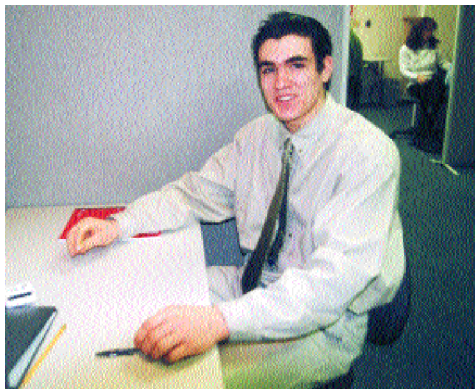
### WALDEN ACADEMY 4

Fall was a very busy season for the students of Walden 4. Two of our students earned "Student of the Week" honors. Our bi-weekly trips to the public library have increased our students interest in books. Stephen King is a favorite choice for leisure reading. We also went to the Boston Museum of Science. Rhonda took the day off from her job at a local restaurant to join the class.

Jennifer and David both have in-school jobs. They balance their work with a full school day and are doing a great job keeping up their grades.

Marlene and Stella are showing much improvement in their math facts. They are passing decks and earning many points. Terence and Richie love to work on the computer and send e-mail messages. Everyone loves the new Computer Applications Precision Teaching series.

As the winter approaches, the students look forward to possible snow days and the upcoming holidays.



Joel fills out bank forms as part of the "Life Skills" curriculum.

### WALDEN ACADEMY 5

Walden 5 students have been working very hard on their academics. Joseph has been moving through his math facts decks at an unprecedented rate, earning reward time on the computer. Jonathan has greatly improved his reading skills and the confidence that comes from this success has carried over to his other academic subjects. Jose is quickly becoming a more accomplished reader. He is up to over two hundred words per minute in his repeated reading assignments! Jessica has been working very hard on her reading and has taken out some great books at the library. Joel and Shmuel are improving their math skills while Johann excels in his ability to read and understand the classified section of the newspaper. This will eventually help him find his own job. Star enjoys expressing her ideas in writing.

Walden 5 has done exceptionally well in the "Life Skills" curriculum. So far, the students have worked on filling out bank forms and writing personal checks. Most of the students have also learned how to fill out a job application properly.



Going to the Contract Store again, Shmuel?

### WALDEN ACADEMY 6

The fall season was extremely productive for JRC's newest classroom! All of the students have been working diligently on their academics. Recently, Marie and Arrie completed their math facts decks with rates of 104 correct per minute and no errors. Both girls earned preferred field trips as rewards for completing the series. Congratulations, girls! Victor's reading rates have been improving tremendously as well as his rates correct on his phonics cards.

All of the students are consistently passing their multi-day contracts. Tyshon has just earned physical education independence and has passed over twenty multi-day contracts! Chris is also passing multi-day contracts and has also earned house independence.

The students are planning to see the Nutcracker at the Wang Center for Performing Arts in Boston.



Elly smiles while doing his assembly work.

### WORK ACTIVITIES CENTER

The Work Activities Center currently has eighteen individuals working on contracted jobs. We have three businesses from which we receive contracted work. One of those businesses will be selling its products at local Toys R Us stores. The students work very hard on these jobs and make sure that they deliver the work to the distributor on time. The Work Activities Center recently finished a job and enjoyed a field trip to Plymouth Plantation as a reward.

Guo has done very well completing the work that is assigned to him. Lynne and MaryBeth are our new respite clients. Welcome to both of them! They are both doing well and are earning big checks from our workshop. We all look forward to being very busy this winter!



# Residential Coordinators Report the News

## MOBERG HOUSE

Greetings from Moberg House! Here at Moberg we keep very busy. Two nights a week the students go to the laundromat and one night a week they enjoy eating dinner out. The students do their own grocery shopping and Terrence loves to pick out his favorite snack.

Evenings are spent doing chores and relaxing. On the weekends we plan fun and interesting trips. Peter likes to go to the Boston Museum of Science. David enjoys seeing shows at the Providence Performing Arts Center. There's always something to keep the students busy.

## LORUSSO HOUSE

"Student of the Week" and "Student of the Month" is something almost every student at Lorusso has achieved. The Lorusso House girls all excel at academics and independent living skills. They are learning social skills by living together as a group.

Marlene, Star and Kashawna enjoy listening to music in their free time. Jessica, Daphne and Arrie prefer to watch movies. Lisa likes to play with the dolls she has earned from the Contract Store. Marie is the sports buff of the house. We can count on her to know what is going on in the sports world. Keep up the great work girls!

## FRENIER HOUSE

Brian and Ed enjoy playing Twister with their housemates. During the fall the students enjoyed picking out pumpkins and carving them. Eric and Lynn make excellent brownies and cookies for everyone. Natish and Sharon prefer to go to McDonald's and see a movie. Eric and Nick occasionally bowl a strike at their favorite bowling alley.

Now that the winter is on its way, the students are looking forward to building snowmen and going sledding.



Eric loves spending time in his bedroom.

## COUNTY HOUSE

At the County Street residence, we emphasize a family-like structure among our boys. We encourage and ensure consideration, cooperation and independent living skills.

Group activities such as basketball and football are just some of the regularly occurring events at County. Our basketball court is frequently used by the students on the weekends as well as after school. Sometimes students from other residences join in the games. When the guys feel the need for activities other than sports, they go to the mall, to movies and to go-kart racing.

The students prepare a healthy dinner together each evening. Recent group academic assignments have included mini-plays depicting events in American history as well as building a six-foot replica of the Statue of Liberty!



Eddie, are you going to wear those tomorrow?

## BRAE HOUSE

We have had some exciting times during the past several months. Brae House recently had a new kitchen put in. It looks great. The students have gone on many field trips. The Chucky Cheese arcade is a big hit. There the students enjoy a mechanical puppet show, video games, indoor slides and a great pizza party. On weekends, weather permitting, the students go to Goddard Park where they enjoy going on walks and playing soccer.

During the week the students sometimes go to the movies and eat lots of popcorn. Back at the house the students work hard on their independent living skills, such as preparing dinner, doing laundry and making delicious desserts.



Elly gets his ironing done every night.

## NORTON HOUSE

On a typical weekday evening, Norton students usually arrive at the house at 5PM and spend about ten minutes changing out of their school clothes. They then spend about half an hour on homework. Dinner time is at 6PM, and is usually prepared by the students themselves. After dinner the students perform their nightly chores. They are very good at helping each other out. When their chores are done, the students have time to relax.

On the weekends students enjoy field trips such as hiking in the Blue Hills Reservation, going to movies, or shopping at the Emerald Square Mall in Attleboro.

## ARBORETUM II

Arboretum II is JRC's newest residence. The girls who live there have been on some interesting field trips. They went to see the play "Footloose." They also went to their first concert to see the band "TLC" and other artists. On Friday nights the students usually go to a Providence Bruins hockey game. They are all looking forward to seeing the play "Titanic" at the Providence Performing Arts Center.

The girls are doing very well in school. All three recently made honors on their report cards. Krista made honors with A's and a few B's. Rhonda is taking an Interior Design class on Saturday mornings in Boston. Stella is working hard on her academics and is looking forward to graduating in June. She plans to attend a junior college and pursue a nursing degree.

Arboretum II students have also been practicing their cooking skills. Krista makes an excellent apple crisp and Stella's shrimp dishes are to die for! They will soon be putting together a food basket for the needy.



What a beautiful smile you have, Lisa!

### DEDHAM HOUSE

Dedham House is the new JRC residence conveniently located near the school in Canton. This newly built, two-story house is currently occupied by four young men, Richard, Jose, David and Chris.

Our evening routine is generally completed quickly and includes academics, chores and a nice dinner prepared by a student and eaten together. After dinner the students relax. They listening to music, play video games, read, watch television and play chess.

Weekends are an especially enjoyable time for us. Our field trips often find us shopping, hiking or playing sports.

### CRYSTAL VILLAGE

The girls at Crystal Village have passed over 80 multi-day contracts! The girls make their own menus and look forward to getting bargains at the grocery store. They exhibit teamwork when it comes to nightly chores. Jennifer just completed over 30 hours of Drivers Ed training! She has also excelled in her academics as well as in independent living skills. Fawn spends a lot of her time on academics at night. She knows that every bit of knowledge she takes in will help her reach the goals she has set for herself. Jackie just completed the *Baby Think it Over* program. She lost many hours of sleep but found the experience to be very rewarding. Jackie also enjoys reading and writing poetry.



How's the water, Cleodell?

### HIGHLAND HOUSE

The Highland House residents are Jennifer, Heather, Gabe, Eric, Nelson, and Elly. All students are adjusting wonderfully to their beautiful new home and to their roommates.

This past fall, they enjoyed going to the movies, bowling, roller-skating and walks in the park. The students enjoyed planning a surprise birthday party for Gabe and Eric. Both parties were a complete success consisting of games, balloons and chocolate cake! Nelson has been working very hard on his homework every night!

Highland House is famous for its Tuesday night Bingo Tournament. Students are extremely competitive in trying to win the M&M jackpot. On Wednesday nights, students have been brushing up on their singing.



Looks like Jacque is about to do some laundry.

### STOUGHTON

The first few months here at the new Stoughton residence have been very exciting. Between meeting the neighbors during open houses and the new pool table downstairs in the recreation room, the students have had a lot to keep them busy.

The students have a routine that they follow every night. An hour and a half is spent on academics and chores such as preparing a delicious meal, and cleaning their beautiful home. The students also make their beds, do laundry, and iron their clothes for the next day. At the end of the night Terence and Tony go head to head at the latest video game on the new Sega Dreamcast. Other students enjoy watching TV, reading or playing a board game.

During the weekend Tony likes going to the mall to visit the music store. After working hard at school, he sometimes goes to a Boston Celtics game.

### ARBORETUM I

Arboretum I houses four students, Greg, Johann, Chris and Tyshon.

Greg spends his leisure time working on his hobbies. He enjoys constructing model kits and practicing his guitar. Johann likes to play video games and watch TV. Chris, the newest addition to Arboretum I, enjoys playing with his pet guinea pig, Millhouse. His favorite shows to watch on television are *Felicity* and *Dawson's Creek*. Tyshon is the youngest in the apartment and the most studious. Tyshon really enjoys working on his academics.

When it comes to chores, the boys pull together as a team. After school they prepare dinner for themselves. Then they do their ironing, laundry or whatever else needs to be done for the next school day. When chores are completed, it's time to relax!

### REHOBOTH HOUSE

Rehoboth houses eleven students. Their residential life consists of learning new independent living skills and perfecting old ones, such as cooking, cleaning, answering the phone, ironing clothes and doing laundry.

A favorite pastime of the students is socializing with their housemates through a variety of games. Community interaction is another big part of their lives. Lately, they've been out pumpkin picking, hiking and bowling. All of the students look forward to home visits.

### BOLIVAR

On Tuesday, the girls who live at Bolivar go grocery shopping and pick out the items they need to prepare dinners for the entire week.

After the students finish dinner and complete their nightly chores, they either watch a movie or play video games together. They love watching Spanish soap operas!

Shatika, Christina, Bernadette and Susan look forward to seeing their families either on home visits or when their families come to JRC.



"The Get Along Gang" pose in their Woods Edge apartment in Attleboro.





**Matthew and his mom at Parents Visiting Day.**

# JRC Photo Gallery



**Alexis Hazard presents Luis with his certificate.**



**Students and staff take part in Culmination 1999.**



**Luis and Kenya with Dr. Israel at the Culmination Ceremony.**



**You seem very happy to see your dad, Mike.**



**Special memories are made at Parents Visiting Day for Stella and her mom.**



**Mike, Gabe and Eric wait for the next event at the Special Olympics.**



**R.J. Gugliotti presents Jen with her certificate.**



**Case Manager Bruce Hemond congratulates Kenya.**



**That's a great medal, Gabe!**



**Johann is happy to see his parents.**