



2301 Research Blvd., Suite 110
Rockville, Maryland 20850
301.424.5200
Fax 301.424.8063
TTY 301.424.5203
www.ttlc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 26, 2007

C ONTACT:
Kristi Fletcher
301-424-5200, ext. 270
kfletcher@ttlc.org

TLC's Katherine Thomas School & Shady Grove Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Celebrate "Make A Difference Day"

Rockville, Md.— On Saturday, October 27, approximately 30 residents of the [Shady Grove Nursing and Rehabilitation Center](#) were treated to a very special program by [TLC—The Treatment and Learning Centers'](#) Katherine Thomas School as part of [Make A Difference Day](#), a national day of caring sponsored by [USA WEEKEND](#). Over 50 KTS students took part in an original musical variety production for residents entitled *Rockin' Through the Ages: Arts for the Young and Old*.

KTS is an independent day school for students with moderate to severe language and learning disabilities and high-functioning autism. The expansive program, produced by special education teacher Robin Handleman, included students in all grades K-12. The production featured singers, musicians, artists and restaurateurs from the high school restaurant management class that created a special fruit display. Students performed songs and vocal and piano solos; donated 16 framed works of original art and presented over 100 "goody bags" for all the residents containing handmade gifts.

Although unable to personally attend, Larry Giammo, former Mayor of [Rockville](#), extended his "heartfelt thanks" to the students of KTS for "giving of themselves so generously." Giammo noted that such projects help establish a lifetime of meaningful community involvement, aptly reflected in the many positive experiences of students that were part of the event.

Third-grader John Paul Basso-Luca said, "The senior citizens were smiling when we were singing to them. We did it from our hearts. It was fun!" Patrick Smith-Shearer, 5th grader, said, "I liked it because we made the senior citizens very happy. The seniors were clapping. It made me feel happy that we did something nice for them." High school student Jessica Lipsher said "It was sooo much fun! The people really liked it too. They were smiling and rocking in their wheelchairs."

Kaye Lewis, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at Shady Grove Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, remarked that "residents had been looking forward to the program all week." The event was a true community effort, with donations from the Kiwanis Club of Olney, Sam's Club, Bloom and Giant supermarkets, Michael's and the KTS Parent's Association.

About TLC

[TLC—The Treatment and Learning Centers](#), located in Rockville, Md., enables children and adults to develop their full potential, communicate effectively with others, and achieve educational success. TLC provides services that strengthen their abilities and respond to their changing needs. With over 55 years of service to the community, TLC is committed to integrity and excellence in our care and strives to assist all, regardless of their ability to pay. For more information, visit www.ttlc.org.

A Private Non-Profit Agency Enabling Children and Adults to Develop their Full Potential

The Outcomes Service • The Family Hearing Center • The Katherine Thomas School
The Early Learning Center • The Outpatient Services • The Testing and Tutoring Service • Camp Littlefoot

About Make A Difference Day

USA Weekend's *Make A Difference Day* is the nation's largest day of service, with more than 3 million volunteers taking action to help those in their communities in 2005. The event is held in partnership with the Points of Light Foundation, with honorees evaluated by an independent panel of judges. For more information, visit www.usaweekend.com

###

A Private Non-Profit Agency Enabling Children and Adults to Develop their Full Potential

The Outcomes Service • The Family Hearing Center • The Katherine Thomas School
The Early Learning Center • The Outpatient Services • The Testing and Tutoring Service • Camp Littlefoot