Campaign to Kicks-Off a Major Milestone

On April 16th, Ryther supporters gathered at GGLO, an architectural firm in downtown Seattle, to celebrate the kick-off of the final phase in the Campaign to Renew Ryther. Three years ago, Ryther established a fundraising plan to raise $7 million in order to revitalize and refresh the ten-acre campus located on 95th Street in North Seattle. The campaign has proven successful, leaving just a little over $1 million left to raise.

At the event, children from Ryther’s Sub-Acute Residential Treatment program literally “kicked-off” aspirations of what a renewed Ryther means to them. One child wrote “Ryther means safety,” on his football. Others wrote, “Ryther is helpful,” and, “Ryther is creative.”

Campaign to Renew Ryther Co-Chairs, Lynn Garvey and Karl Quackenbush, recapped how the campaign came to fruition – through a family’s gift to memorialize a beloved aunt who had a 50 year history with the organization. In honor of her commitment to Ryther, her family, decided to make a gift, but they didn’t want to make just any gift. They visited with Ryther President and CEO, Lee Grogg, to tour the campus and see where the need was. A quick look in Ryther’s decades old West Unit and it became clear the gift could make an impact renovating the building. After some thought, the leadership staff decided if Ryther was going to take on that construction project, it should be expanded to the whole campus, which largely hadn’t been touched in over 20 years. And the Campaign to Renew Ryther was born.

The evening wrapped up with the announcement of a new exciting gift to the campaign, an anonymous contribution of $250,000!

On behalf of Ryther’s Board of Trustees, Campaign to Renew Ryther Cabinet, and the thousands of children, teens and families who come to Ryther each year for help, we deeply thank all of our Campaign to Renew Ryther supporters!

If you are interested in supporting the Campaign to Renew Ryther, or would like to visit Ryther for a tour, please contact Robin Bennett at (206) 517-0215 or robinb@ryther.org.

For more information on the Campaign to Renew Ryther, please visit our website at www.ryther.org.
Message from the Campaign to Renew Ryther Co-Chairs

A little more than a year ago we embarked on the Campaign to Renew Ryther. Our goal was to raise $7 million to bring Ryther’s aging campus into the 21st century. During the leadership gift phase of the Campaign we’ve made great progress toward our goal. The improvements made with Campaign funds will upgrade our systems, modernize the cottages and expand our therapy space. You’ll also see a new, welcoming entrance designed with traumatized kids in mind. These improvements will allow us to continue and enhance our healing work—we plan on being here for at least another 130 years.

We’re about to launch the public phase of the Campaign. To those who have donated, we thank you so much. To those just hearing about the campaign, we hope that you will join in supporting the Campaign to Renew Ryther.

Karl Quackenbush
Ryther Board President & Renew Ryther Co-Chair

The Ryther Child Center, as it was once known, has been an important part of my life since I joined the Eastshore Unit of the Ryther League 45 years ago. I learned through volunteering and fundraising over the years about the important role we can play in the healing process for hundreds of emotionally challenged children.

Last year, when I was asked to co-chair the campaign to restore the Ryther campus offices and cottages that are in need of updating and repair, because of years of constant use, I knew I had to be involved.

The restored campus will give the Ryther staff the updated environment they must have in order to serve our community’s neediest children. And it will offer safety and security for the children, and their families, for years to come.

I hope you will join me, and the many other Renew Ryther supporters, in making this campaign a success.

Lynn Garvey
Ryther League Member & Renew Ryther Co-Chair

A Glimpse at the Renewed Ryther

The modernized cottage will create a healing, therapeutic environment for the children in Ryther’s Sub-Acute Residential Treatment program.

Clients will enter Ryther’s calming lobby. While waiting for appointments, children can have fun in a play area built just for them.

Renovations are already underway on campus. The West Unit was recently completed and is open for tours.
Thank you generous donors to the Campaign to Renew Ryther!

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Leave a lasting impression on Ryther and pave the way to healing by making a donation of $500, $1000, or $2500 and receive an entryway brick with the inscription of your choice. For more information, contact Robin Bennett at robinb@ryther.org or (206) 517-0215.
GiveBIG is on May 5th

Be a champion for Ryther kids! Participate in GiveBIG on May 5th and the Seattle Foundation will match a portion of your contribution. All gifts must be made online at www.seattlefoundation.org in order to be eligible for the match.

The Seattle Foundation will also hold random drawings throughout the day for Golden Tickets. If won, it automatically increases your contribution to Ryther by $1,000!

If you have any questions about GiveBIG, please contact Sherri Smith, Development Director, at (206) 517-0204.