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A BETTER CHANCE IN DARIEN
1981 FALL UPDATE
FOR THE FRIENDS OF ABC

Dear Friends:

During the summer months, various ABC committees have been busy meeting and making final preparations for the arrival of our six ABC students on Sunday, August 30th. As friends of ABC we want to share with you the news and progress of the program.

Herb West
President of ABC

CONSTRUCTION is in full swing at 11 Brookside Road. An enormous three-story addition is almost completely enclosed. Plumbers, electricians and heating contractors are working diligently to meet the November 1st completion date. At this writing the construction work is on schedule.

FINANCE - Our capital campaign has raised 97% of its goal, with several opportunities still being pursued to achieve our objective. To help finance our first year capital requirements and operating expense, and assist our cash flow needs, we have borrowed funds from ABC National. With continued support from the many friends of ABC we can enter our first year of operation with a sound financial foundation.

PERSONNEL - ABC is fortunate to have highly qualified and dedicated people to staff the ABC house. Bill and Roz McCarthy will be the Resident Directors and Leonard Krill will be the Resident Tutor. Bill and Leonard teach English at Darien High School. Jenny Harris a member of New Canaan's ABC Board, will be the cook until Liz Diaz takes over in October.

HOST FAMILIES - Mr. and Mrs. Richard Page, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Peppet, and Mrs. and Mrs. William Silvia will serve as temporary host families for the six girls until the house is completed. In addition, each student will spend Sundays and one weekend a month with their permanent host families. Those families are: Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Gilmore, Dr. and Mrs. Stewart King, Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Ringrose, Mr. and Mrs. William Silvia, Mr. and Mrs. William Sprague, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Watt.

FURNISHINGS - Kerry Mayers and her committee have done an outstanding job of acquiring kitchen cabinets, carpets, a stove, refrigerator and bunk beds. Other furnishings still needed are: eight dining room chairs, a freezer, tall dressers, pots, pans, utensils, bowls, linens, draperies, quilts, medicine chests, vanities, light fixtures, shades, etc. Items donated will help to keep our costs down.

The committee and volunteers will begin scraping, sanding and painting as construction nears completion. The committee hopes to complete the painting in one week. Volunteers are needed and anyone willing to help or donate furnishings should call Kerry Mayers at 655-8618.

TRANSPORTATION - Approximately 40 drivers have volunteered their services during September and October to transport the students to and from the Congregational Church where they will meet each day for dinner and study hall, until the ABC house is completed. If you can volunteer to be a backup driver, please call Marilyn Aymar at 655-4709.

STUDENT AFFAIRS - The student affairs committee is concerned with the overall adjustment of the ABC students and their assimilation into the community, apart from their academic life. Along with preparations for orientation, an ABC handbook has been prepared and printed which contains information pertaining to the ABC Program in general, our academic guidelines, house rules, guidelines for Host Families, and other useful information for the ABC girls and their families. The committee is excited about the girls arrival and is looking forward to working with them.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE - This group will be chaired by Fay Gage, Chairman of the English Department at Darien High School. It will concern itself primarily with the academic development and progress of the ABC students during their stay in Darien.

STUDENTS - Our six students are the most important feature of our newsletter. We are thrilled to introduce the following students to you!

Orgylin Clarke; Bronx, New York, entering 10th grade. Orgylin was born in Jamaica, W.I. in 1966 and came to the U.S. in second grade. She is an only child, enjoys playing the piano and reading. She has participated in an Exxon Science Research Program for junior high students at City College and has received many academic awards in math and science.

Jonevette Frost (Toni); Cleveland, Ohio, entering 10th grade. Toni was born in 1965 and has been a lifelong resident of Cleveland. She is an only child, enjoys playing the piano, tennis and basketball. She has been President of Student Council and has tutored reading to younger children.

Rose Garcia; Los Angeles, California, entering 10th grade. Rosa was born in Los Angeles in 1966 and is one of eight children. She has been a member of the Student Council and has participated in the gifted program. She enjoys music and sports.

Joy Marshall (Kathy); Brooklyn, New York, entering 10th grade. Kathy was born in Brooklyn in 1966. She has a younger brother and sister. She has been a class president and a member of student council and has participated in a special business math and computer science program with other gifted students. She enjoys drawing, sports and has performed in several school productions of Broadway shows.

La Rose Parris; North Babylon, New York, entering 11th grade. La Rose was born in Jamaica, W.I. in 1966. She has a twin sister and three other brothers and sisters. She has been involved in extracurricular activities, and has served as an officer of the French Club. She plays the clarinet and the piano and enjoys reading, field hockey and volleyball.

Elizabeth Tejada, New York, New York, entering 10th grade. Elizabeth was born in the Dominican Republic in 1965 and came to the U.S. as a very young child. She is one of four children and is bilingual in Spanish and English. She has been President of Student Government and has worked as a PAL volunteer. She enjoys reading and sports.

A TREMENDOUS WELCOME TO THEM ALL!

P.S. Fourteen cords of wood have been donated to ABC.

They are available for \$150 a cord and are tax deductible if paid to ABC. Call Anne Kimball if interested at 655-0048.