

THE ALLEN P. MILLS HOUSE

A Special Home for Special Kids

The Mills' family involvement at Convalescent Hospital for Children dates back to Allen P. Mills' grandfather (see article below) and the founding of Convalescent Hospital for Children. His father was on the Board until 1935, when Allen Mills took over his father's seat on the Board. Mr. Mills offered Convalescent Hospital for Children 48 years of active service until he joined the Honorary Board in 1983. As Board Chairman from 1951-53, Mr. Mills saw great changes in the planning for a new direction for the agency. With many of the childhood diseases cured, Convalescent Hospital for Children switched focus in 1958 to meet the greatest community need: residential services for emotionally disturbed children.

When the agency changed direction from a hospital to a mental health center, Mr. Mills played a key role in selecting Sydney Koret to determine that new direction for the agency. As a tribute to Mr. Mills' strong commitment to the adolescents in care, the Mills House was named for Mr. Mills in 1979.

The Allen P. Mills House (Mills House for short) is a group home for teenage boys who require residential treatment services.

Eight young men live in the private residence and attend school at the Corn Hill Center on Troup Street. The specialized program there offers around-the-clock care and helps the youth who are in transition from residential care before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills recently showed their continuing concern for the quality of care for the adolescents at Mills House by donating living room and dining room furniture, along with kitchen appliances. According to Daniel Garr, Chairman of the Board, "the Mills gift is a tremendous boost to the staff and young adults living at Mills House. They deserve our support in providing a healthy and wholesome environment."



Allen P. Mills

Buffalo Express, August 1895:

Arthur S. Hamilton, president of the Board of Managers and grandfather to honorary board member Allen P. Mills, was quoted in 1895 as saying that "This fresh air is our most effective medicine. That is really what makes sick babies well. To get the benefit of this lake air was Dr. Moore's object when he suggested the idea of this hospital. We began in tents in 1887 and this is what has grown out of the tents. Everything you see we own and about everything has been given us. Colonel Greenleaf gave us most of the land (at original Beach Avenue location); Dr. Ogden Backus gave us that wing; A. Erickson Perkins gave us this one; the children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Michaels gave us our diet-kitchen as a memorial of their mother and father; Mrs. Don Alonzo Watson gave us the fountain; Rochester nurserymen gave us the trees and shrubs and, every summer, somebody gives us the money to pay our running expenses. We have no permanent fund, no foundation except the generosity of the people of Rochester and that has, so far, never failed us."

Residential Playground Equipment
Peter S. Castle Foundation

Residential Renovations
Mr. Todd Goodwin
Mr. Herman Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth C. Townson Foundation

Day Treatment TV, Stereo and Play Equipment
Princess Restaurant customers
Princess Restaurant management

TER FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY