



December 2007

Friends of Allredge Family Foundation:

Pause for a moment and think back to your child's time at Allredge: remember how you felt making the decision? Remember the combination of relief and hope you felt when you first saw your child at the parent program? And finally, do you remember how you felt at his or her graduation from Allredge—what the staff call the hardest day because of the choices ahead? If your family is like ours, the road from then until now has been uneven, but so much more enriched for the Allredge experience.

In this month's mail you will receive letters asking for support for many worthy causes. When you consider which causes to support, please consider the gifts that Allredge provided to your family. We, too, ask that you now consider a financial gift to the Allredge Family Foundation (AFF). The AFF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity, founded in 2003 by a group of alumni parents hoping to build on the work begun at Allredge Academy (now Allredge Wilderness Journey) with our special focus on family aftercare needs. With the support of alumni families like you, we have been able to:

- **Provide 28 aftercare scholarships to teens and their families to help the graduates of therapeutic programs stay on a healthy path**

The period immediately after graduation from a program can be scary and overwhelming for the entire family. Experts confirm that the time immediately following a therapeutic intervention can be as important as the intervention itself. Being able to work with a qualified counselor often makes a meaningful difference in outcomes for families. But not every family can afford professional counseling after the financial burden of a therapeutic program. Our scholarships have played a key role for these families in continuing the healing process.

- **Host the 8th Annual Alumni Reunion in 2007, a continuing opportunity for families to reconnect with friends and staff, and share experiences following a critical time in each family's life**

This past June's reunion had record-breaking attendance—another testament to the power of the Allredge experience. Imagine the power of a drum circle with over 100 teens and young adults drumming and remembering back to their time spent in the Village. Planning for the 2008 reunion at Canaan Valley is now underway, in cooperation with the leadership of Allredge Wilderness Journey. We expect to offer more workshops for families after the positive response to last year's expanded program. The reunion will again focus on remembering, reconnecting, and recommitting to personal mission, integrity, and virtue.

In the year to come, one of the AFF's aspirations for 2008 is to work with the staff at Alldredge to develop **regional programming for Alldredge alumni** and other therapeutic program graduates. The AFF and Alldredge Wilderness Journey have a shared goal in developing regional alumni groups as a means to offer a refresher workshop closer to home for alumni. Your financial support will help us both continue our successful scholarship program and develop the regional workshop model.

We hope that this message—and your own interest in helping other teens and their families—will inspire you to make a contribution today to help us continue to this important work.

We have established the following acknowledged gift levels for our 2007 year-end appeal:

Allredge Family Foundation Sponsor Receive a framed photo of the Canaan Valley "Autumn Reflection"—2007 edition	\$2,000
Allredge Foundation Mentor Receive a framed letter of recognition from the Directors of the AFF	\$1,000
Allredge Family Foundation Supporter Receive a 2007 Canaan Valley photo suitable for framing	\$ 500
Allredge Family Foundation Friend Receive an AFF letter of recognition suitable for framing	\$ 250

Does your company have a matching gift program?

Many employers will match their employee gifts to qualified charities. If you choose to support the AFF with a contribution, we hope you will also inquire as to whether your employer has a program to match your generosity.

Please consider giving back part of what you received by helping a family that you may never meet through an aftercare scholarship and by making regional workshops a reality. We sincerely thank you for any level of support you can consider as part of your year-end giving. All gifts, of any size, make a positive difference.

With gratitude for all of you in the family of the shared Alldredge experience,

ALLDREDGE FAMILY FOUNDATION

Rich, Anita, Les, Fern, and Jaye

Rich Anita Les Fern Jaye

Do you have questions about the AFF? See our Web site at alldredgefamilyfoundation.org or contact any of the following volunteer board members:

Rich McKinless – rmckinle@kpmg.com

Anita Capizzi – caranahome@aol.com

Les Mann – les.mann@usoncology.com

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