

# Dare Family Services makes the art connection

## Art reception held to display donated works of art

The Art Connection and Dare Family Services joined together to transform Dare Family Services into a more welcoming environment for clients, staff and visitors. Through their art donation program, the Art Connection facilitated the donation of 19 original works of art by 14 artists for installation in the Dare Family Services - Somerville office, which serves foster parents and foster children of Everett, MA.

Dare Family Services held a Reception of the Arts on Tuesday August 18th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm to allow the public to view the artwork and to thank the Art Connection and the local artists who donated. Mayor Joseph Curtatone of Somerville, attended and thanked everyone present for their hard work and community involvement.

"This event was a time to show appreciation: to the Art Connection

for their amazing way of reaching out to nonprofits who need hope the most; to the artists for donating and spreading their generosity to all; and to the Dare Family Services foster parents and staff for having the courage and the strength to help foster children and teens in need of a family," said Janelle Moore, marketing coordinator at Dare Family Services. "Mayor Curtatone showed his support and appreciation for all involved, and it was an honor to have him there to represent the community."

Dare Family Services is a private, nonprofit social service agency specializing in providing intensive foster care to children and teens that have been abused or neglected. Dare's Somerville office serves over 60 children in the region (which includes Everett).

"We have foster children com-

ing into the office to find out where they are going to sleep that night," says Moore. "They're scared, upset and/or frustrated. The art brings a sense of tranquility where before there was none. The Art Connection made the entire process possible."

If you live in the Everett area and want more information on becoming a foster parent with Dare Family Services ([www.darefamily.org](http://www.darefamily.org)) or how to donate, please contact Jill or Marilyn at 617-628-3696. To view the artwork, please email [jmoore@darefamily.org](mailto:jmoore@darefamily.org) for a Guide to the Artwork at Dare Family Services.

The Art Connection builds connections between artists and their communities by bringing art to community organizations, clinics, youth and senior service programs, job training centers, shelters and

residential programs, and more. The Art Connection identifies artists willing to donate their work, catalogs the works for presentation to prospective recipients, and helps agencies access the appropriate work. These works of art are then the permanent property of the organizations. In their new environments, art stimulates dialogue, creativity, learning and healing. This simple but powerful idea has resulted in hundreds of installations into scores of organizations, giving those who often have the least access to art direct contact in their own communities. For more information, visit The Art Connection's website [theartconnection.org](http://theartconnection.org), email [theartconnection.org](mailto:theartconnection.org), or call (617) 338-7668.



Dee (Somerville-Dare Family Services foster parent) and Lilia Celani (East Boston-Dare Family Services foster parent)



Lisa Keene (Everett-Dare Family Services foster parent), Randy Garber (donor-Artist), Haley Keene (Lisa Keene's daughter and Everett)



Mayor Joseph Curtatone (Mayor of Somerville), and Janelle Moore (Marketing Coordinator at Dare Family Services)



Tova Speter (Program Manager of the Art Connection) and Maria Termini (donor-Artist)