

Community Has a Home

For almost a century, the Community House has continued to embody the spirit of Moorestown.

by Amanda Park
Community contributor

Moorestown is a unique town with a passionate focus on community. This passion may have been best exemplified in 1924, when the citizens, along with local benefactor, Eldridge Johnson, recognized the value of a Community Center -- a place where families could come together to create and share memories, as well as a place where small groups and non-profits could meet and begin to turn their dreams into reality. In 1926, the vision was realized and the unique and statuesque structure we affectionately refer to as the Moorestown Community House (MCH) was born.

Then, 87 years later a great community tradition endures. A self-funded, non-profit 501(c) (3), the MCH is the only building of its kind in South Jersey. Our mission, to strengthen our commu-

nity by providing a historic civic, social and recreational facility for non-profit organizations, clubs and families, is realized every day. We are proud of our continued impact on the community.

Philanthropy

MCH is 'home' to more than 82 non-profits and organizations that use our space regularly to advance their mission and make a difference here and throughout the world. Whether it's a Rotary breakfast, a meeting of the Garden Club or the Home and School Association, you are likely to see important activity happening here all the time.

In addition to the many groups who meet here regularly, we also house some full time occupants. The Tender, our

largest full time tenant, provides adult day care to patients with Alzheimer's providing important activity for the patients, as well as relief for the families and caretakers.

Two other organizations, The National Alliance for Mental Illness (Nami-Face), Burlington County Chapter and H.O.P.E., enjoy the beauty of our home at a reduced, non-profit rate to advance their missions. Nami-Face connects those suffering with mental illness and their loved ones with treatment, research and support, while H.O.P.E. assists recently widowed people work through the various stages of grief with support and encouragement.

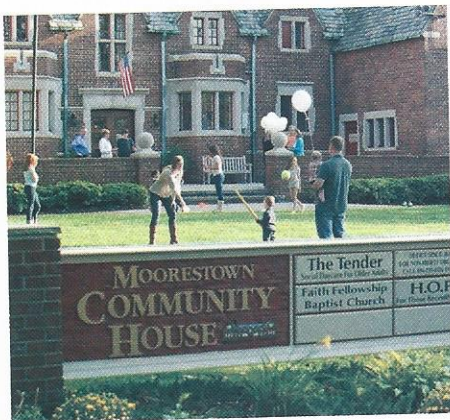
Activities

Whether on our front lawn making scarecrows, heading to the start line for the Scott Coffee run, learning to swim, or celebrating in one of our newly updated rooms, meaningful life-changing events happen here every day. Yearly, over 100 personal and professional occasions are enjoyed in our 'home' including weddings, birthday parties, anniversary parties, showers, reunions, meetings, seminars and much, much more.

As well, in fulfilling our personal quest to bond families to each other and to our community, we hold free family movie nights in the Ballroom during the summer. All are welcome and it's a great way to beat the heat and unwind with friends. This December, we are excited to present a new tradition with our first ever Tree Lighting Celebration. This new tradition is sure to delight, as it will include many of our community partners, giving opportunities and fun for everyone.

For almost a century, the MCH has continued to embody the spirit and beauty that is Moorestown. If you are interested in creating your memory here or want to know how you can get involved, feel free to stop by, visit our website, thecommunityhouse.com or give us a call at 856.235.0326.

Our doors are open to everyone. See you soon!



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