Dear ANDRUS Community,

Happy holidays! As we celebrate the season of giving, it is my hope that each of you look forward to this time of year with a sense of thanks and appreciation. I am certainly grateful this holiday season for each of you, your efforts and the vital work we do here at ANDRUS.

It is important for us to take the time to reflect and to highlight our recent accomplishments; all of which would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of so many of you. We welcomed nearly 300 guests to our annual ANDRUS Gala on Friday, November 4th, honoring two incredible individuals: Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and our very own ANDRUS alum Henry Dobell. With the generous and committed assistance of sponsors, honorees, donors, and friends, ANDRUS raised nearly $400,000 to bolster our work with vulnerable children and families in our community.

This time of year reminds us how important family is, and for those enrolled in Parent University and our other programs, your gifts will make a tremendous impact as we seek to provide more support and resources for our families than ever before.

ANDRUS children have already begun enjoying a festive holiday season, with tree trimmings, holiday parties and surprises galore. It is surely the most wonderful time of the year! I hope that you enjoy the photographs featured in this edition of the newsletter. Thank you for your commitment to ANDRUS and for supporting the work that we do every day to nurture hope in children and families.

I wish you all a joyous holiday and a wonderful Happy New Year!

Gratefully,

Bryan
THE 2016 ANDRUS GALA WAS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!

Over 300 people gathered for the annual ANDRUS Gala on Friday, November 4 at the Ritz-Carlton in White Plains NY. The fundraising event featured both a silent and a live auction, and a lively Fund-the-future auction item for ANDRUS’ pilot program Parent University, that will connect parents directly to resources they need to support their families. This year the gala honored two incredible individuals: Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and ANDRUS alum Henry Dobell.

Mayor Mike Spano, a lifelong Yonkers resident, husband, father of three, and former State Assembly Member, has dedicated his life to standing up for Yonkers families and has been a steadfast friend to ANDRUS over the years.

Henry Dobell, a passionate adventurist, musician and lay scientist, also holds an amazing capacity for empathy and deep concern that the weakest among us be treated equally. Henry’s life long struggle with mental illness has lead him to advocate for how the “Flow State” can keep people healthy and positive. Henry attended the Orchard School from 2003-8. ANDRUS taught him the life skills that have allowed him to thrive.

With the generous and committed assistance of sponsors, honorees, donors, and friends, ANDRUS raised nearly $400,000 that will support the service of vulnerable children and families in our community. This was our most successful gala to date, and we couldn’t have done it without you!

The Orchard School principal Dr. Raymond Effinger, Board Member Dave Dobell accepting on behalf of his son Henry, and ANDRUS President & CEO Bryan Murphy
ENJOYING THE HOLIDAYS AT ANDRUS

“Tito & the Del Pilars” played to a packed McGee Hall at our Residential Holiday Dinner.

The children enjoyed a horse and carriage ride around campus during the tree lighting!

To begin the giving season, ANDRUS children have the opportunity to get some gifts for their loved ones at our annual “Holiday Sale”.

TOP: Orchard School Principal Dr. Ray Effinger and the staff joining in on our annual rendition of “The 12 Days of Christmas”.

LEFT: Tito Del Pilar, Vice President of Human Resources and Knowledge Management, and Music Teacher Carlton Jay, were major players in our holiday band this year: “Tito & the Del Pilars”!

On December 7, ANDRUS Staff & Kids joined together for our annual tree lighting.