GIVING

Donors Bless Our Fellows

serving our kids and families.

Our donors support Jill's House in creative ways, using their God-given resources to serve so many. At the beginning of each summer, Jill's House welcomes nine recent college graduates to serve at Jill's House through our Fellowship Program. The fellows quickly become the core of our childcare team--working 40-60 hours per week, including two 8 or 12 hour shifts each weekend. They're a blessing to the kids and families we serve. But who serves and blesses them?



A bike ride through downtown DC helps all nine fellows return to work with fresh energy and joy.

Jill's House launched the Fellows Program in June 2011. The first class came from all over the country and needed somewhere to live during their year-long Fellowship. One gracious family learned of our situation and generously donated three two-bedroom apartments, providing a place for our fellows to rest and rejuvenate after

The fellows now had a place to live. But what about furniture? Around that time, a friend of Jill's House called and wanted to help college students get involved at Jill's House. Her timing couldn't have been better. She jumped right to work.

As she reflected on her experience, she shared, "They needed someone to furnish the apartments and I wanted to help." So she and a friend ran around town--buying beds, furniture and decor--to get the apartments ready for the fellows. She remembers, "The night before move-in day felt like an all-nighter in college. We ordered pizza, had music playing and were literally ironing curtains at two in the morning. It was a lot of fun."

After she finished decorating the apartments, she offered to take the fellows on a monthly social outing. She said, "I've lived in this area for years and wanted to help them enjoy their time here." She brings them to places they might not visit on their own, like Mt. Vernon, the Baltimore aquarium and Ford's Theatre.

Our fellows are on the front line of our ministry as they make every Jill's House child feel valued, loved and cared for. We're so grateful to the supporters who make our fellows feel valued, loved and cared for.

She said, "I know the Jill's House families appreciate everything the fellows do for their kids, but I want the fellows to know that those of us in the extended Jill's House family also appreciate the work they do. They're not serving my kids, but I'm grateful that they serve other kids in our church and community. It's an honor to support them in this work they're doing."

Thank you to these gracious families who make the work at Jill's House possible!

To learn more about creative ways to give to Jill's House, visit <u>jillshouse.org/give</u> or contact Denise Daffron at denise.daffron@jillshouse.org or 703.639.5663.