From the CornerHouse Board Chair
Chief Allen Garber

The CornerHouse founders and Board of Directors envisioned an organization that would focus on children who report abuse first and would also meet the needs of those professionals mandated to respond to child sexual abuse. As CornerHouse services began to outgrow the facility, the CornerHouse governing Board of Directors responded with a plan for expansion and renovation of the site located in the Phillips Neighborhood in Minneapolis, Minnesota. With the support of the community, CornerHouse continues to serve as a resource to investigators in Hennepin County to provide quality intervention services to children and families. The facility expansion combined interview services, training services and storage to one location. The expansion created more capacity for interview, medical and training services and improved services with audiovisual equipment upgrades. The construction project began simultaneously with the search and hiring of a new Executive Director. Sharlene Shelton was instrumental in the development, planning and implementation of these historic changes for CornerHouse. On behalf of the CornerHouse Board of Directors, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to CornerHouse staff and supporters.

From the CornerHouse Executive Director
Sharlene Shelton
The nursery rhyme reads, “This is the house that Jack built.” For CornerHouse, there were countless individuals that donated funds, materials and time to build and remodel the CornerHouse facility. The contribution of each person, organization and foundation made a difference in the lives of children served by CornerHouse. The remodeled and expanded facility was built block by block and board by board. Innovative and dedicated volunteers and donors made the dream of a new facility a reality. The result is a facility that will accommodate the needs of children and the professionals who serve them for years to come. The generosity of all CornerHouse contributors ensures community responsiveness to the needs of abused children. This is the house that you built. The Board of Directors and the staff of CornerHouse are deeply grateful.

From the CornerHouse Program Director
Mary Annette Venier

The continuous program operations of CornerHouse throughout the expansion and renovation of the facility presented many challenges. Demolition, construction and moving was coordinated with continuous interview, medical and training services. CornerHouse staff remained focused to provide excellent services to children, families and professionals. CornerHouse Child Interview Specialists-Trainners facilitated nearly five hundred interdisciplinary team meetings to provide forensic child sexual abuse evaluations with Hennepin County law enforcement and child protection investigators and assistant county attorneys. Thirteen percent of those children were referred for medical services, which were provided by CornerHouse physicians. CornerHouse staff worked with Spanish, Hmong and Somalian and American Sign Language interpreters; coordinated services with the Homicide and Domestic Assault Units of the Minneapolis

G:\Cornerhouse\Marketing & Communications\Annual Reports\1997-98\97 Annual Rpt\97 Annual Report.doc
Police Departments to interview child witnesses of homicide and violent crime. The CornerHouse training services reached nearly nine hundred multidisciplinary professionals. Over three hundred law enforcement and child protection investigators and county attorneys attended the Forensic Interview and Advanced Interview Training. Mandated Reporter Training and CornerHouse Orientation Training reached hundreds of professionals and was designed to help them discern when and how to gather information for a report of suspected maltreatment, provide support to a child and avoid contaminating a criminal investigation. Over four hundred professionals attended CornerHouse workshops and seminars presented at national conferences.

CornerHouse Board of Directors

Chief Allen Garber, CHAIR, Chief of Police, Champlin Police Department
Mary Tambornino, VICE CHAIR, County Commissioner, Hennepin County
Brock Nelson, TREASURER, Chief Executive Officer, Children’s Health Care
Carol Ogren, SECRETARY, Associate Administrator, Hennepin County Bureau of Social Services
Judy Baker, Director of Operations, PICA Head Start
Robert Burck, Assistant County Attorney, Hennepin County
Arlene Clapp, President, Arlene Clapp, LTD Executive Search Specialists
Jay Cook, Attorney, Dorsey & Whitney
Mike Freeman, County Attorney, Hennepin County
Dr. Mace Goldfarb, Pediatrician, Pediatric Associates
Angeles Juarez, Minneapolis Children’s Clinic Director, Children’s Health Care
John Laux, Executive Director, P.O.S.T. Board
Pat McDonnell, Metropolitan Health Care Council
Chief Robert Olson, Chief of Police, Minneapolis Police Department
Dr. David Sanders, Director of Children and Family Services, Hennepin County
Sharon Sayles Belton, Mayor, City of Minneapolis
Constance Schilling, Manager of Corporate Volunteerism & Community Service, General Mills
Dr. Robert Segal, Pediatrician, Minneapolis Children's Clinics, Children's Health Care
Ken Stensby, Consultant
Council Member Kathy Thurber, City of Minneapolis
Catherine Williams, Probation Officer Supervisor, Retired
Barb Young, Vice President, Shandwick

Staff
Theresa Culpert, Secretary-Receptionist
Lori Holmes, Training Specialist
Mary Hunt, Program Assistant
Debra Peterson, Child Interview Specialist-Trainer
Anne Nuernberg, Child Interview Specialist-Trainer
Sharlene Shelton, Executive Director
Carolyn Smith, Administrative Assistant
Kristi Thomson, Administrative Supervisor
Mary Annette Venier, Program Director
Judy Weigman, Clinical Specialist
Physicians

Dr. Marjorie Hogan, Hennepin County Medical Center
Dr. Julie Kummer, Children’s Health Care-Minneapolis
Dr. Judson Reaney, Park Nicollet Alexander Center
Dr. Linda Thompson, Hennepin County Medical Center

This annual report was produced with a donation made toward the design by Lori Gleason Design, Minneapolis, Minnesota.