

## **Profile in Compassion #14**

### **Arthur E. Jones, Former Board Member**

In 1998 Children's Place Association opened our Early Learning Center, the first preschool in Illinois geared to address the needs of children affected by HIV/AIDS.

The program was named in honor of Arthur E. Jones, a longtime supporter of our organization who served on the Board of Directors from 1992 through 2005, including a two-year term as Board Chair.

"Art brought strategic leadership to Children's Place, helping us mature from a start-up to a burgeoning nonprofit," said CEO Cathy Krieger. "He is a natural teacher and was a great mentor to me at an important time in my own and our organization's development."

During Art's chairmanship Children's Place launched plans for this second facility, a support services building that would include the early education program, case management, mental health, foster/adoptive care and apartments for families challenged by health issues and homelessness.

Today, the Arthur E. Jones Early Learning Center serves impoverished families who face a wide range of health issues, including cancer, epilepsy, autism and HIV. It is one of the only local preschools with on-site nursing care, allowing kids with medical conditions to participate.

"Art exemplified what board service is all about – bringing invaluable expertise, guidance and resources that help nonprofits move forward to fulfill their mission," Krieger said.

After a successful career in education that included the superintendent posts at suburban school systems in Glyn Ellyn and Lake Forest, Illinois, Art worked as a bank executive for several years until his retirement.

He and his wife, Sally, relocated to the southern U.S., where Art has continued doing volunteer work, serving as a community advisor for local schools and as a mentor for young people.

Thank you, Art, for the leadership role you played in making Children's Place a pathway of hope!

Photo: Art Jones (left) with Founding Board Member Tone Bale, circa 1998.

