



Prominent Washington lobbyist Gerald S.J. Cassidy was instrumental in charting the course of The Children's Inn. At the request of his close friend and fellow Inn founder Carmala Walgren, wife of then Pennsylvania Congressman Doug Walgren, Mr. Cassidy pledged early on to help establish a home for seriously ill children and their families at the NIH.

"I couldn't turn it down," he says. "It was a very compelling cause." Not only did Gerry support the work of Carmala and other Congressional spouses, he served on The Inn's Board of Directors for nearly 10 years.

"These were crucial years of creating strong, lasting leadership," says The Inn's CEO Kathy L. Russell. "We are tremendously grateful for Gerry's formidable contributions."

Gerry and his wife, Loretta, continued to support The Inn well after The Inn opened its doors to children and families. His firm, Cassidy & Associates has contributed more than \$28,000 to The Children's Inn, helping to assure that "A Place Like Home" for seriously ill children will always be here. Gerry's support has allowed these families to stay at The Inn free of charge during their most difficult journey.

"The heartache that families go through is so very touching," Gerry says. "It was an easy decision to make."

Through his vast client base, Gerry spread the news about the need to establish The Inn and its important mission. "I can't claim much credit," Gerry humbly says. "We just made people aware of The Inn."