

## Charities

### The Muscular Dystrophy Association

<http://www.mdaua.org> MDA is a voluntary health agency comprised of scientists and concerned citizens aimed at combating neuromuscular diseases through programs of worldwide research, comprehensive medical and community services, and far-reaching professional and public health education. The Association's programs are funded almost entirely by individual private contributors. MDA seeks no government grants, United Way funding or fees from those it serves. Their Mission: MDA works in your community to combat neuromuscular diseases through (1) basic and applied scientific investigation, (2) local comprehensive programs of medical services and clinical care, and (3) widespread professional and public health education.

### City House

<http://www.cityhouse.org>

Founded in 1988, City House has served Collin and the surrounding counties by providing shelter to abused, neglected and homeless shelter. The Mission of City House is to provide emergency shelter and transitional residential services to children and young adults who are in need due to abuse, neglect or homelessness. City House achieves this mission through its two premier programs: My Friend's House (Emergency Shelter for 0-17 year olds) and TRIPS (Transitional Living Program for 16-23 year olds).

Every year, in our community, thousands of children are either removed from their home due to abuse/neglect or run away to escape abuse. City House provides these youth with a safe place to rest, heal, and learn how to move forward. With 4 facilities in the Plano area, City House serves many young people every year; however, the need far exceeds what they are able to provide. City House needs to grow to meet this need and with the help of our community, they will do just that!

### Darius Goes West

<http://www.dariusgoeswest.org>

Not only does fifteen-year-old Darius Weems bravely face his own inevitable fate with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, but during both the filming and release of his multi-award-winning documentary, he sparks a revolution in the lives of everyone who crosses (and then shares) his courageous path. The film is dedicated to Darius's brother Mario, who died of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Darius and film director Logan Smalley have appeared on Nightline, The Today Show, and Ellen DeGeneres. The Kaye/Bassman Foundation has committed to raising \$20,000 towards Darius's goal of \$17 million for Duchenne scientific research.