

## **A Gift of Time**

### *Judson Center's Lahser Respite Home gives relief to families*

Caring for a child with special needs takes a great deal of time and energy. Without some support, the physical, emotional and financial challenges for a family can be overwhelming. For Dayna, caring for her son Troy has dramatically changed her life. Troy is a 15-year-old with autism.

It's common for most parents to arrange for a sitter, or perhaps call on a relative to help out. That's not as easy for Dayna and other parents of children with special needs. Respite care provides a much-needed temporary break so parents can have the opportunity to do the simple things others take for granted – going grocery shopping, running errands or simply to rest and relax.

For Dayna, a single parent, finding Judson Center's Lahser Respite Home was like a 'breath of fresh air'.

Nestled in communities in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties, Judson Center's three respite homes offer warm, friendly and family-like settings for children with developmental disabilities ages 5-17. The home in Wayne County serves adults as well as children. Stays can last from a weekend to a month, depending on the needs of the family.

For more information about Judson Center services call (248)549-8955 or visit [www.judsoncenter.org](http://www.judsoncenter.org).