



# consumer

*A free monthly publication written by  
members of The Children's Center  
Consumer Council.*

# CURRENT

## SCAFFOLDING

Allowing our children to grow and develop with the skills they need to problem solve as well as the internal desire to learn is key during early childhood.

As parents we only want the best and sometimes that means jumping in to help our little one figure out a task. However, don't they, and you, feel a whole other level of excitement when they can figure it out on their own!

"Scaffolding" Yes there is a name for it.

Scaffold learning provides your child with the internal tools to seek answers and complete tasks while you provide them space to learn and only fill in the gaps.

At The Children's Center Head Start Academy we use scaffold learning throughout the day and during the key times of play.

For example:

You notice Cindy counting the toy trucks her brother has collected.

There are 11 trucks, but Cindy has counted 9 as a combined total. Instead of telling Cindy, "No there are 11 trucks",

Encourage Cindy to line them up and to count along with you. "How about you line the cars up and count them"

You can also suggest having Cindy to tap each truck as she counts. "What if you tap each one while we count"?

As a parent you have just scaffold the learning process! Cindy feels encouraged and is still in control of the learning process.

Every day at The Children's Center Head Start our teachers use the process of Scaffolded learning to allow children to be self-motivated achievers.

With Scaffold learning we:

- Allow space for learning-you don't need to give the answer so readily
- Encourage them to use the resources around them
- Look for activities they are already interested in; such as, Trucks

Everyday tips you as a parent can do to support learning at home.

Our Head Start Academy provides early childhood education to children ages 3-5 and their families living in Northwest Detroit zip codes of 48235 and 48219.

For more information on Scaffold learning and The Children's Center Head Start Academy please give us a call at 313-481-5114.



## Head Start Academy

We have openings in our Head Start Academy for children ages 3-5 who reside in the 48219 and 48235 zip codes. Families can contact us at 313-481-5114 or feel free to stop by anytime Monday-Friday between the hours of 8a.m. and 4p.m.

# Creepy Clown Epidemic

By Alexandra Hamlet, PsyD

As adults, clowns are thought to make us uncomfortable because they look almost, but not quite, like real humans — a hypothesis called the “uncanny valley,” which applies to mannequins and human-like robots, too.

So it comes as no surprise that media coverage of what’s being called the “Creepy Clown” epidemic has gotten our attention. Several elementary, middle and high schools went on lockdown last week in response to new rumors and threats. And as the media continues to follow the story the risk of “behavioral contagion” increases — that is, copycat behavior inspired by media stories, whether they are true or not.

So children are asking parents what is going on, and whether they should be worried. What do we tell them?

If your child is fearful of a clown attack, or a run-in is reported in your area, here are some tips on how to help your child:

- **Be your child’s news source.** It’s much better for the child if you’re the one who talks to them. You want to be able to convey the facts and set the emotional tone, and pass on any wisdom in a calm and authoritative way.
- **Take your cues from your children.** Invite them to tell you anything they may have heard about clowns, and how they feel. Be prepared to answer (but not prompt) questions and avoid encouraging frightening fantasies.
- **Be realistic.** Clowns aren’t “real,” and they’re not dangerous. A clown is usually someone dressed up in a costume with the intention of doing his job and entertaining children and families.
- **Be reassuring.** Children are likely to focus on whether something frightening or bad could happen to them. So it’s important to reassure your child that it’s highly unlikely anyone will try to scare or hurt them, and mention the safety measures that have been taken to prevent this kind of thing.
- **Be available.** If your child is upset, just spending time with him may make him feel safer. Children find great comfort in routines, and doing ordinary things together as a family may be the most effective form of reassurance.

## Youth Spotlight: Christopher Ghaskin



Christopher Ghaskin is a youth advocate for Youth United. He has been with Youth United and the System of Care for 3 years. Chris started out as a volunteer for another agency for the summer lunch program, shortly afterwards Chris was hired by Youth United. He then began to take trainings and sitting on committees increasing his leadership skills. Chris favorite part about being a youth advocate is engaging with the youth, traveling, and also helping others in the community. Chris likes to tell his story to reach out to others and feels by telling his story he can make a difference with youth in his community.

### ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN! CONSUMER COUNCIL

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month  
from 12:30pm-2:30pm.

RSVP at [pkelly@thechildrenscenter.com](mailto:pkelly@thechildrenscenter.com)

### SERVICES FOR FATHERS AND MALE CAREGIVERS



*We are very excited to announce  
and welcome John Miles to the  
Children’s Center as our new  
Fatherhood Specialist.*

John Miles comes to us from Family Alliance for Change through a partnership with The Children’s Center. John Miles comes with a great deal of experience working with and advocating for fathers in community mental health. John has lead groups helping parents to better communicate to help their children as well as helping Veterans to acclimate back to the community and learn vital life skills. John looks forward to working with and providing fathers and other male guardians at TCC with support and assistance in working with their children. To find out more about John Miles and our fatherhood services at the Children’s Center please contact John at 313-832-3555 ext. 1114 or ask your child’s clinician about how you can be involved with fatherhood services.

## Consumer Council Meet and Greet

*Get to know the members*



*Met our Partner Organizations*



*Learn about Peer Delivered Services*

**Wednesday, November 16, 2016**  
**79 Alexandrine Detroit MI 48201**  
**Building 90 lower level**  
**4:30 pm – 6:30 pm**

## Do you have a Problem, Concern or Complaint??

Customer Service is here to provide information on how to access services within The Children's Center; help individuals with problems and questions about their services; assist with and oversee the local complaint and grievance process, and to help clients and families make informed choices about their treatment and how to make changes if requested.

Contact:

Charles Gaines, Coordinator Quality Improvement  
313-262-1179; internal ext. 2170

## Transportation Problems??

If you are having problems with your local Medicaid/Medicare transportation vendor voice your concerns with Logisticare

<https://wecare.logisticare.com/>  
1-866-791-4107



**Center for Discovery Open is now every  
Monday and Wednesday 10am – 6pm**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ART ADVENTURES at 4:30pm-6:30pm

- November 1<sup>st</sup>, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, and January 10<sup>th</sup>

### HOMEWORK HELP Monday and Wednesdays 4 – 6pm

- November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>
- December 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>
- January 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>,

### FAMILY GAME NIGHT at 4pm 6 pm

- November 3<sup>rd</sup>

### BIRTHDAY PARTIES are 4:30- 6:30

- November 16
- December 1<sup>st</sup>
- January 26<sup>th</sup>

**All activities take place in the Lower level of Building 90**  
**For more information contact Cindy Read at 313-262-1167**

## Youth MOVE Detroit



## ADVISORY

Youth ages 14-25 are welcome to join the advisory council to impact System of Care, the community and hold leadership roles while sharing concerns and helping find solutions utilizing personal, community and lived experiences. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month, at The Children's Center in Building 90 room 102 from 5pm-6:30

[tmclain@thechildrenscenter.com](mailto:tmclain@thechildrenscenter.com)

## The 21st Century Community Learning Centers

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program's focus is to provide expanded academic enrichment opportunities for children attending low-performing schools. After school tutorial services and academic enrichment activities are designed to help students meet local and state academic standards in subjects such as reading and math. In addition, 21st CCLC programs provide youth development activities, drug and violence prevention programs, technology education programs, art, music and recreation programs, counseling and character education to enhance the academic component of the program.

The Children's Center provides 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programming in the following schools: John R. King, Academies of the Americas, Ronald Brown Academy, Carleton Elementary, and Fisher Upper Academy.

If you have a child in one of these schools, and are interested in enrolling your child contact Angela Booker at [abooker@thechildrenscenter.com](mailto:abooker@thechildrenscenter.com) or 313-1211.

# HOLIDAY SHOP 2016

December 12th- December 15th BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Families who meet income requirements and are in good standing with their child's treatment plan (no current advanced actions) may apply for The Children's Center Holiday Shop. Applications will be made available at the front desk of each main campus building. **Applications will be accepted in person with the supporting documents on November 15th, 16th & 17th from 10:00-6:00.**

Accepted families will receive a letter with an appointment by November 30th and are invited to shop for a new toy, stocking stuffer, warm winter accessories and basic need items for each child.

Look for Holiday Shop flyers and applications at the front desk at any building.



79 Alexandrine West, Detroit, MI 48201  
TheChildrensCenter.com

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If you have a story or suggestions for future articles, we'd like to hear from you.

Contact Pam Kelly at (313) 262-1127 or  
[pkelly@thechildrenscenter.com](mailto:pkelly@thechildrenscenter.com)

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