



## THE CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWSLETTER

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## WELCOME TO HEROES OF HOPE!



You have something in common with the children and families we serve. You're both heroes. You are courageous. You are generous. You believe, like we do, that when you lift a child's spirit – you ultimately lift an entire community.

We dedicate this inaugural edition of Heroes of Hope to you. Each month, we'll be sharing a glimpse into how your support is making a measurable difference in the lives of children and families who have experienced unimaginable challenges. You'll see how they are rising above those challenges with the help of the mental and behavioral health services from The Children's Center.

On occasion, we'll highlight some of you in the hope of shining a light on your extraordinary commitment to helping Detroit's vulnerable children heal, grow and thrive.

Your biggest fan,

Debora Matthews | President & CEO, The Children's Center

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HOLLINGSWORTH LOGISTICS GROUP EMPLOYEES DROP OFF COMPLETED CLINICIAN KITS TO THE CHILDREN'S CENTER STAFF. LOOK AT ALL THOSE TOOLS THAT WILL HELP CHILDREN SHAPE THEIR OWN FUTURES

## CARLS FOUNDATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE WITH CLINICIAN KITS

If you could dig into a clinician kit, you'd find chunky puzzles that help children learn motor skills. You'd find "Emotions Dice" that teach children to recognize, honor and channel their emotions. There's also the "Let's talk about Social Rules" card game that shows children appropriate ways to react in social settings and manage their anger. Plus puppets, books, games, stickers, art supplies, the list goes on.

Clinician kits are priceless. Thanks to the Trustees at the Carls Foundation, we were generously granted funding for 149 kits. Our friends at Hollingsworth Logistics Group volunteered to unpack, catalog and assemble each clinician kit to meet the needs of the different age groups we serve.

These tools benefit children ages 0-21 in eight different programs we offer in homes, at schools and on our main campus in Midtown Detroit.

Thank you, Carls Foundation, for providing vital tools to support our heroic children as they strive to overcome behavioral, emotional, educational and developmental challenges. We are grateful for you.

## PARADE FUN!

Generous individuals like you along with The Parade Company sponsored children and families served by The Children's Center to participate in America's Thanksgiving Day Parade Clowns for Kids program. Special thanks to Jason Lambiris, a distinguished clown himself and beloved Board Member, for founding this program!



Before sunrise on Thanksgiving Day, 187 children and families visited our main campus to enjoy a hot breakfast prepared by Golden Spice Catering and served by The Children's Center volunteers. The families then walked to their special reserved grandstand seating on Woodward Avenue. The Parade Company supplied warm scarves, hats and gloves to keep the kids warm and toasty as they enjoyed the Thanksgiving parade -- up close and personal!





# HOLIDAY SHOP BRINGS JOY TO MORE THAN 1,400 CHILDREN

Every year, individuals like you bring cheer to countless families through Holiday Shop at The Children’s Center. Our parents are paired with volunteer personal shoppers who help them select hats and gloves, socks, underwear and toys to make their children’s holiday special. Families also receive stocking stuffers, a blanket and a \$25 Kroger gift card.

One family experienced lots of joy at this year’s Holiday Shop. Kazi Miah and Ismail Hossain have four children – Fahim, Irfan, Yaseen and Alesha. Fahim is severely autistic and for years, could barely stay seated. After receiving Applied Behavior Analysis Services at The Children’s Center, he can now manage his impulses much better and is able to interact successfully and stay focused at home and school.



BECAUSE OF YOU, KAZI (ABOVE LEFT) WAS ABLE TO PICK THE PERFECT GIFTS FOR HER FAMILY. WE APPRECIATE SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU!

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEER SERVICES COMMITTEE (ABOVE) AND OVER 150 VOLUNTEERS FOR PROVIDING MORE THAN 500 FAMILIES WITH A GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON.



His brother, Irfan, has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. At age 7, he was confined to a wheelchair and became progressively nonverbal. Over the last five years, therapists from The Children’s Center have helped him regain his words. Now he’s able to talk “continuously” according to his mother.

Thanks to you, the Hossain Family can celebrate the holidays with less stress and more joy. This is the story of just one family. More than 500 families were touched by your support of our Holiday Shop this year. All this joy, because of you!



# THANKSGIVING MEALS FOR ALL!



THREE TAU BETA MEMBERS ASSIST A MOTHER SELECTING HER THANKSGIVING MEAL FIXINGS (ABOVE: CHRISTINA CRAPAROTTA, SUSAN SINE, ELIZABETH BSHARAH).

This Thanksgiving, Tau Beta Association provided 97 families from our Developmental Disabilities and Autism programs with an entire holiday meal, including: turkey or ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green beans, yams, cranberry sauce, corn bread and dessert.

Thank you, Tau Beta Association!

## “PASS GO” TO AUTOGLOW 2017

The Children’s Center is bringing Monopoly to life at AutoGlow 2017, presented by Ford Motor Company. On January 13th, join Lisa & Bill Ford along with Jane & Mark Fields to “Pass Go” directly to AutoGlow for a spectacular all-inclusive evening complete with strolling dinner, drinks, dancing and of course, “Free Parking.” Whether you’re “Just Visiting” for the night or local to metro Detroit, take a “Chance” on AutoGlow and join the “Community Chest” to honor the courageous children and families we serve. All proceeds benefit children and families served by The Children’s Center. Visit [www.thechildrenscenter.com/autoglow](http://www.thechildrenscenter.com/autoglow) for more info.



## THE CHILDREN'S CENTER WISH LIST

It is difficult for our children and families to focus on their mental health therapy when they are struggling with basic needs. Your donations directly serve these families, so they can concentrate on healing, growing and thriving.

### Art Supplies

- blank journals
- markers
- crayons
- glue sticks
- stickers
- rubber stamps and ink pads
- round-tip scissors

### Non-Perishable Food Items

- peanut butter
- beans
- rice
- pasta

### Hygiene Products

- toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- deodorant
- lotion
- shampoo
- feminine pads
- Vaseline

### Clothing

- new children & youth socks
- new children & youth underwear
- new or gently used winter coats

Call 313-324-8575 for more information on how to drop off your new or gently used items.



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