



THE CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWSLETTER

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YOUR DONATIONS HELP THREE YOUNG ADULTS GO TO COLLEGE

Your donations go a long way to help the kids we serve. For three TCC students, it meant helping make their college dreams a reality with a \$500 scholarship. Here's a little bit about them:



Nijeria Peterson (left)

"The Children's Center has taught me about student debt, taking out loans and having good credit. It has motivated me in pursuing higher education and being the CEO of my own company. Through this scholarship to be used at Howard University, I will be fully equipped to pursue my career goals."

Mileah Hall-LeCato (right)

"As part of this program, I plan to buy supplies for cosmetology school. I have wanted to be a cosmetologist for so long, nothing will hold me back. Now, I can be in charge of how I want to live my life."

Brenda Harvey (not pictured)

"My main goal is to graduate from the University of Michigan in four years with no debt. I am excited to meet new people, learn in the area of my interest, study abroad, go into research, and develop as a person."



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CHILDREN ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUCCEED WHEN FATHERS, MALE CAREGIVERS, OR FATHER FIGURES ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THEIR LIVES. ON JUNE 22, WE PARTNERED WITH THE WAYNE COUNTY FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT OUR FATHERS THROUGH TRAINING, MENTORING AND NETWORKING AT THE ANNUAL FATHERHOOD FORUM.

A FORUM FOR STRONG FATHERS

Empowering fathers to be actively involved in their children's lives is part of our mission at The Children's Center. Research has shown that children with strong relationships to male caregivers get better grades, have fewer behavioral problems at home and in school, and are less likely to become involved in the criminal justice system.

That's why we partner with the Wayne County Fatherhood Initiative's Fatherhood Forum. This year's free forum, "Diverse Dads: Creating a Culture of Acceptance" was held on June 22 at Greater Grace Temple. Fathers, clinicians and community members joined us for presentations on topics including:

- Diversity in fatherhood
- Strengthening father-daughter relationships
- Fathers as nurturers
- The intersection of fatherhood and entrepreneurship
- Successful co-parenting strategies for blended families
- Understanding and accepting LGBTQ children
- Creating close, loving relationships
- The prenatal father-infant bonding

Through this and other events at our center, we strive to empower all fathers in our community.



MEET OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS

Our Board Members are critical to what we do and how we do it. They set our vision, govern, and oversee our financials - as well as participate in our events, fundraise, volunteer and fight with us every step of the way. We believe that we're made stronger through their expertise and leadership.

This summer, we welcomed two new board members, and we'd love for you to meet them:



Elizabeth Agius is the Manager of Community Research Partnerships at Wayne State University School of Social Work. She has served on our Program and Operations Committee for three

years and now joins us on the Board.

Fatima Salman started at our center as an intern in 2015 through her University of Michigan Master of Social Work program. She then joined our Programs



Committee before moving to our Board this year. She is currently the Executive Director of the Muslim Students Association in Flint, Michigan.

Join us in welcoming these extraordinary women!

A SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS, BY PARENTS

Arlyssa Heard was on a mission. Her son, who was diagnosed with ADHD, had been receiving services from The Children's Center since 2011, but something was missing.

You see, as a parent, Arlyssa needed support, too. She had participated in two of our ADHD Parent Groups, and greatly benefited from the peer support she experienced. She came to us with the idea that we start a group for ALL parents of TCC kids with any kind of diagnosis. We thought it was a great idea. So Arlyssa took it upon herself to organize one.

Our parents take the initiative.

For parents, ran by parents, our new parent support group purposely has no set agenda other than to support parents' mental and emotional well-being. It's a warm, welcoming atmosphere with open dialogue and peer support, along with guest speakers who talk about issues from finance to nutrition.



Off to a great start.

So far, the group brought in a massage therapist who provided free massages, a parent spoke about Medicaid and reimbursement on mileage, and an entrepreneur talked about how she went from welfare to her own six-figure tax business. Inspiring, don't you think?

Want to learn more?

Contact Pam Kelly at pkelly@thechildrenscenter.com or 313-262-1227

DELIVERING VITAL CARE IN A CRISIS



Imagine being in a crisis. Your child has just witnessed a shooting and is emotionally traumatized. Where do you go?

Before our Crisis Care Center opened, families would go to the hospital emergency room. Often, they'd wait to be seen while

medical emergencies took precedence. When they did get in, they'd often be admitted for a mandatory stay, which costs around \$8,000.

Crisis Care to the Rescue

Last year, we saw nearly 700 youth in our Crisis Care Center. More than 60% of them were having thoughts of suicide, self-harm or harming others. Our clinicians, along with our on-call psychiatrists, were able to de-escalate and divert nearly 60% of these children from hospitalization.

It costs us about \$1,200 per crisis care incident; Medicare reimbursement is about \$300. While we take a loss every time we treat a child through crisis care, we believe it is the right thing to do. Don't you?

Join us this July in supporting Suicide Prevention Month by taking a tour, and spreading the word about our Crisis Care Center. Your support is helping resolve each crisis in a way that keeps families safe. Schedule your tour today by calling 313-384-8575.

JOIN US FOR TOUR DE FORK



Our 4th Annual Tour de Fork brings together people like you, who help us inspire hope in Detroit families. Join us and 400 guests as we enjoy a strolling dinner of sweet and savory samplings from Metro Detroit chefs, along with beer, wine and cocktails. Your support helps vulnerable children overcome trauma associated with abuse, neglect and poverty so they may shape their own futures.

4th Annual Tour de Fork

Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Eastern Market-Shed 3

Buy Tickets Today By Visiting

<https://www.thechildrenscenter.com/tourdefork/>

BE A PART OF OUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL BAZAAR

School's just around the corner, and we need YOU to help us get ready. Support our Back-to-School Bazaar, which helps provide kids and families with everything from backpacks and school supplies to hygiene kits, socks, underwear and new school uniforms.

You can get involved by:

- Hosting a donation drive within your company, civic organization or neighborhood
- Making a donation through our website on the [Back to School Bazaar page](#)
- Volunteering at the bazaar

For more information, contact Jon Carolin at 313-262-0939 or jcarolin@thechildrenscenter.com.

THE CHILDREN'S CENTER WISH LIST

Aside from enjoying the great outdoors, reading is one of the most important things our kids can do to exercise their brains. That's why we're stocking up; check out our reading wish list and donate a book or the whole series to help our kids immerse themselves in summer reading adventures.

New or Gently Used Book Series

- *Diary of a Minecraft Zombie* by Zack Zombie
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
- *The Dork Diaries* by Rachel Renée Russell
- *Divergent* by Veronica Roth
- *Harry Potter* by J.K. Rowling
- *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- *Junie B. Jones* by Barbara Park
- *Maze Runner* by James Dashner
- *Michigan Chillers* by Johnathan Rand
- *The Misadventures of Max Crumbly* by Rachel Renée Russell
- *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs
- *Percy Jackson* by Rick Riordan
- *Shadowhunters* by Cassandra Clare

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



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