



THE CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWSLETTER

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VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Hollingsworth Logistics came with a big crew to help us redesign our Tau Beta Center for Family Literacy, and we couldn't be more thankful. This December, volunteers came to help take down our holiday shop décor and pack materials. They also moved boxes and furniture to get us ready for the remodel.

In February, when we were ready to prep our new Center, another Hollingsworth Logistics crew of volunteers came through. They moved our literacy center materials, set up furniture, assembled wall racks, applied sealant, installed mirrors and so much more. The in-kind estimate for their day of service came to \$2,366! Now our Center is in full swing, serving kiddos and families in need in so many wonderful ways. *Thanks, Hollingsworth Logistics!*



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Volunteers Make It Happen
- Birthday Time with the Lady Red Wings!
- Laying the Foundation with Home Depot
- Donor Spotlight: Making an Impact
- Giving the Gift of Warmth
- Double your Donation, Without Doing a Thing
- Little Wishes, Big Happiness



BIRTHDAY TIME WITH THE LADY RED WINGS!



It's always hockey time in Detroit. So, when our March birthday celebration rolled around, everyone was excited to learn the **Lady Red Wings** were sponsoring it. Wives, girlfriends and significant others of Red Wings' team members hosted a hockey-themed party attended by more than 80 guests.

The ladies gave out Red Wings swag, which made for some very excited kids and families. They also raffled prizes, played cornhole, colored, made jewelry and brought tons and tons of cake. **Score!**



LAYING THE FOUNDATION WITH HOME DEPOT



Our friends at **Home Depot Foundation** amaze us. This March they awarded us a \$3,500 grant to assist in the renovation of the lower level of one of our buildings. More than 35 volunteers spent 245 hours over two days doing everything from ripping out the carpeting to installing new plank flooring and granite countertops.

They also helped us with the massive clean out and reorganization of our Boutique, the inventory and labeling of hundreds of books for our Tau Beta Center for Family Literacy, sorting crafts, making centerpieces and organizing food pantry shelves.

Thank you Home Depot Foundation!



DONOR SPOTLIGHT: MAKING AN IMPACT

This past year, we've been inspired by the ongoing support of our donors — whose grants encourage us, lift us and help us empower the kids and families we serve.

The Ethel & James Flinn Foundation awarded us a two-year \$150,000 grant to expand and enhance our evidence-based Applied Behavioral Analysis/Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention program. Because of their support, children in our Autism Spectrum Disorder program will receive intensive, dedicated support to ensure their optimal health and well-being. Last year, 80 unique children were served in this program.

We'd also like to recognize **The Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation** for the three grants they awarded us totaling \$20,000. These grants fund:

- **The Safe Sleep Project.** Funding for this program goes toward the purchase of bed/crib frames and mattresses for an estimated 41 children in our care who do not have a bed of their own. We hope to enable both the child and family to experience better rest and reduced stress, and increase the number of foster care candidate homes able to accept children in need of a placement.
- **Healthy Living Campaign.** This program aims to improve the health and wellness of families by providing a holistic approach to physical wellness. The goal of this project is to offer families free events and activities related to fitness and healthy eating. We intend to have yoga, fitness, self-defense, and healthy eating/meal prep classes.
- **Fatherhood Initiative.** This program helps fathers and male caregivers achieve positive outcomes and become strong advocates for their children. Its goals are:
 - To build an environment for fathers to engage with their children. We will create an evidence-based, 12-week program called 24/7 Dads.
 - To build a monthly fatherhood support group for fathers to spend time together as well as with their children and The Children's Center staff.
 - To host ongoing fatherhood events to provide learning and engagement opportunities including hands-on activities, a male lactation seminar and a March Madness Sport Event.



GIVING THE GIFT OF WARMTH

Every child needs comfort, hope, and a warm gesture to lift their spirits and their hearts. **Forester Financial** provided just that, creating more than 20 blankets to give to kids in our Child Welfare program.

The volunteer group came to our Center on March 3, toting tons of supplies to create their fun no-sew, tie blankets. They even left their extra supplies for our kids to make more blankets in their next art adventure.

Our Child Welfare staff were extremely excited to give these blankets to kids on their caseload. **Comfort accomplished!**



DOUBLE YOUR DONATION, WITHOUT DOING A THING

It's because of you that our children's lives blossom with promise. Your donations help children heal and overcome unimaginable challenges. Every donation matters. That's why we wanted to remind you of corporate matching gift programs.

What are matching gift programs?

Corporate matching gift programs are programs in which companies match the charitable donations made by employees. There are thousands of companies that offer these programs, and utilizing them can make a substantial impact.

Double the Power of Your Donation

- A gift of \$50 becomes \$100, which provides 20 children a meal after school.
- A gift of \$100 becomes \$200, which gets a baby into a safe crib for sleeping.
- A gift of \$250 becomes \$500, which provides 20 children with a backpack full of supplies for school.

Visit your company's website or contact your HR department and ask if your company matches employee donations to The Children's Center. Or give us a call at 313.481.5106.

LITTLE WISHES, BIG HAPPINESS

Many of our kids and families wish for simple things. You can make wishes come true for children and families.

WISH LIST

Home Helpers

- Tri-Fold Presentation Boards (*white and black*)
- Glitter Glue Pens
- Poetry Books for Kids and Teens
- Appointment Books for Parents and Children

Treasure Box Treats

- Silly Putty
- Play Dough
- Uno Cards
- Stickers
- Toy Cars

Personal Care Items

- Pull Ups
- Deodorant (*men and women*)
- Lock Boxes for Pills
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Vaseline
- Tooth Brushes
- Wipes



The Children's Center
79 Alexandrine West
Detroit, MI 48201

(313) 831-5535 *direct*
(313) 262-0906 *fax*

TheChildrensCenter.com