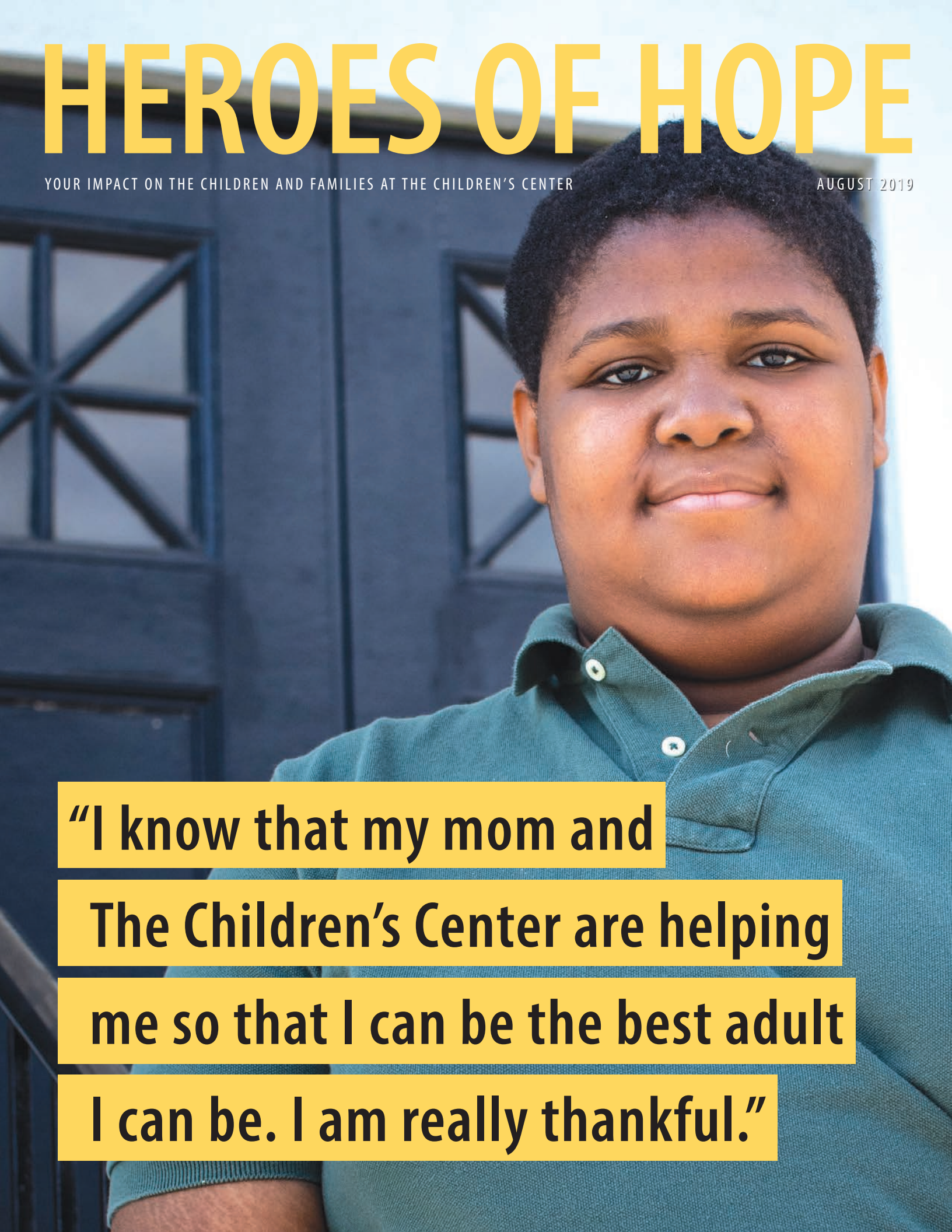


# HEROES OF HOPE

YOUR IMPACT ON THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AT THE CHILDREN'S CENTER

AUGUST 2019



**"I know that my mom and  
The Children's Center are helping  
me so that I can be the best adult  
I can be. I am really thankful."**



## Meet Selahkiyah & Nehemiyah

Selahkiyah tells the moving story of the journey her son, Nehemiyah, traveled from dark thoughts and depression to a bright future.

“When we moved to Detroit to take care of my sick mother, Nehemiyah started needing help fast. He was eight years old and having very serious and scary thoughts of harming himself. I felt so helpless. It was a really dark time when my child did not want to live. I didn’t know how to help him.

One day, Nehemiyah was drawing pictures of self-harm and telling children he was going to hurt himself with scissors. He wrote a note to his teacher saying he wanted to harm himself. He was hitting himself. Thankfully, we knew about The Children’s Center Crisis Care Center. We went straight there, and they determined Nehemiyah needed to be hospitalized. The crisis clinician worked with the hospital to get us admitted right away, avoiding long and stressful wait times. Now, Nehemiyah is 13;

we’ve been back to the Crisis Center six times, but only to the hospital three of those times.

At first, I just wanted Nehemiyah to get better instantly. I didn’t understand why things weren’t improving. Then I agreed to use wraparound services, which turned out to be exactly what we needed. Our Wraparound Facilitator worked with school staff to advocate for our needs, and then communicated with our therapist anything that was going on with Nehemiyah. Most of Nehemiyah’s issues centered on stress from school. Without wraparound, we would not have been able to address those stressors so effectively.

My son feels proud of himself now. I’m proud of him. It’s been a lot of hard work. Everyone has put a lot of hard work into him doing better. Nehemiyah said to me the other day, ‘I know that my mom and The Children’s Center are helping me so that I can be the best adult I can be. I am really thankful.’ and I am so thankful as well.”



## Battle of the Robots!

Robot Garage partnered with the Mighty Men group to bring us an amazing program. The event allowed fathers and children to bond and learn more about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Thirty five participants split into teams to build Lego robots, and then battled against each other to see whose creation came out on top. Thank you Robot Garage and the many fathers and male volunteers who made it possible for our children to immerse themselves in STEM education!



## Caring for Families in Crisis

Imagine hearing your child say the words, “I want to kill myself.” No one prepares a parent for the devastation.

Mental health crises are common, but the solution isn’t always obvious. Many children in crisis end up at a hospital resulting in long wait times, multi-day stays and expensive bills. For a fraction of the cost and time, a child’s mental health crisis can be addressed with expert care at The Children’s Center Crisis Care Center.

Last year, you made it possible for the Crisis Center to treat 752 crises and divert 79% of the crises away from the hospital. You are helping families with no other place to turn. Thank you for being amazing.



## You Make Wraparound Possible

Wraparound service is a highly flexible approach to serve children involved with multiple service systems (such as mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice, special education, etc.), answering to the changing needs of the family. It’s what allowed Nehemiyah to finally begin improving at home and school.

Because of you, this effective, evidence-based model is available to families that require multiple personalized services. Thank you for prioritizing every individual in need of care.

## Timmy Takes Gold at Special Olympics

Our clients are always inspiring us with their talent and determination. Long-time Children’s Center client, Timmy, is just one example.

Timmy, age 16, and members of The Loyola Detroit Catholic Bocce Squad were selected to represent Team Michigan at the 2019 Canada Invitational Youth Games. The team won gold in the top division, making them Bocce Ball World Champions. Two weeks later, Timmy also scored a gold medal at the state competition games at Central Michigan University.

Timmy and his team have made history in a multitude of ways representing children with disabilities from Detroit and across the world. Because of you, Timmy was able to create this bright future for himself.





## Family Wishlist

Small donations sometimes make a big difference in our families' lives. Will you consider making a donation from our wishlist?

- Men's and women's deodorant
- Sketch books
- Journals
- SpaghettiOs, ravioli and other child-friendly non-perishable foods
- Umbrella strollers
- New booster seats

## Become a Believer

Nehemiah was in a very dark place before coming to The Children's Center. It has taken quite a few years for him to see the bright future ahead of him. There are so many more children like him just beginning that journey.

Join our Believers monthly giving community to show children like Nehemiah that you believe in his future.

[TheChildrensCenter.com/believers](https://TheChildrensCenter.com/believers)

