



*“A small act  
of kindness  
can heal a child and open  
a lifetime of possibilities.”*



November, 2024

## Meet Amiyah & Family

Dear [Name],

### **It takes a village to raise a child.**

This age-old adage reflects the abundance of resources, support, and awareness necessary to foster positive outcomes for children. Since 1929, The Children's Center (TCC) has been dedicated to ensuring that children in our community have access to the evidence-based services they need to shape their own futures.

### **As parents, our greatest desire is for our children to thrive.**

We wish for our children to grow up healthy and happy in a safe and secure environment that allows them to become the best version of themselves! This is Ashanti's wish for her daughter Amiyah (9 years old).

Ashanti is a single mother raising three children, all under the age of ten. After a pediatrician appointment with her oldest daughter Amiyah, she was referred to TCC. During a series of questions, Ashanti discovered that her daughter was dealing with mental health challenges and needed help.



### **Ashanti and Amiyah confronted numerous challenges side by side— enduring homelessness,**

living in a car, dealing with trauma and grief, and managing everyday life. While Ashanti strives to be the best role model for her children, she acknowledges that Amiyah encounters difficulties that she never experienced.

“I can't imagine what it's like for my daughter to grow up without her dad. My father was always present in my life, and he serves as the father figure for all my kids now,” Ashanti expressed.

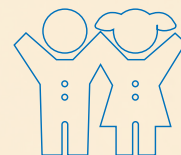


The Children's  
Center has been a  
beacon of hope in  
Detroit since 1929.



**3,500**

We serve nearly  
3,500 children and  
families each year  
in the Detroit area  
and Wayne County  
Community.



**70%**

Over 70% of children  
indicate that they  
have no severe  
impairment after  
receiving treatment  
and services  
each year.



“Never give up. I was on the edge of giving up, and I am so glad that I didn’t.”

~ Ashanti



As Amiyah participated in her first therapy session, Ashanti found herself reflecting on the shared hardships that they had never discussed. The realization that Amiyah was holding on to her thoughts and feelings yet finally getting to confide these emotions to her therapist left Ashanti with both a sense of heartbreak and hope.

**TCC became their essential source of support,** and through our comprehensive approach, we made sure to address every aspect of their lives. Ashanti often shares her message of resilience, saying, “Never give up. I was on the edge of giving up, and I am so glad that I didn’t.”

At TCC, we treat the whole child and address any potential issue with comprehensive and integrated care.

Ashanti and Amiyah were paired with a Wraparound Support Facilitator who has made a substantial difference in their lives. Their family was equipped with educational resources to allow Amiyah to obtain an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that has been pivotal in helping her succeed academically. Connections to career support led Ashanti to her current job. Basic needs were met with meals to ensure that Ashanti and her children went to bed with full bellies, ready to face a new day with renewed energy and hope.

“Before coming to The Children’s Center, I felt hopeless and put a lot of blame on myself. I felt like I was failing as a parent with my daughter being so young, and everything she was feeling was a reflection of me.”

~ Ashanti

Through TCC, a community began to form around Ashanti and her family. Resources and support from their Wraparound Support Facilitator and therapist allowed them to release the silent struggles and build a positive healthy outcome.

**It truly does take a community to raise a child,** and you have an influence on who our children grow up to be. Please consider helping children and families like Ashanti and her children rebuild their lives and find resilience and hope. The need continues to grow, and your donation is instrumental in providing the resources and support for local families to heal while creating positive healthy outcomes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Desiree Jennings".

**Desiree Jennings**

President & CEO