



75 Orphanage Road  
Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017-0007

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### Learn More Online!

In addition to all the great news we're sharing in this Spring issue, we have a lot more to share online! Visit [DCCHCenter.org](http://DCCHCenter.org) for more information, videos, updated news, events, annual reports and more.

### Come Visit DCCH Center!

We would love to take you on a tour of our facilities... and if you are so inclined, join us for lunch!

Contact us at 859/331-2040, ext. 8534.



SPRING 2017



See that you **do not despise** one of these **little ones**. For I tell you that **in heaven** their **angels always see the face** of **my Father** who is in heaven.

Matthew 18:10

### Did You Know April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month?

Since 1983, National Child Abuse Prevention Month has brought awareness and advocacy to the issues of child abuse and neglect.

DCCH Center is on the front lines of child welfare and works to combat abuse and neglect through our Residential Treatment Program. We do this by providing the children in our care with:

- A safe place to sleep every night
- Consistent, nutritious meals
- Medical and dental care
- Specialized education to attain grade level skills
- Personalized behavioral therapy to address traumas and develop positive coping mechanisms

Through therapy and education, we strive to change children's lives and break the cycle of abuse. But that's only half the story. DCCH also works with and educates caregivers to ensure the best possible outcomes for children once they leave our Program. Caregivers are educated about the impact trauma has on child development and how it may affect a child's behavioral and emotional issues. They learn ways to build stronger relationships with children, which can decrease negative behaviors and improve response to discipline. Through meetings with direct child care staff, caregivers learn specific interventions that will help them meet each child's emotional needs. Caregivers are included in treatment planning meetings and integrate their input regarding specific needs and concerns.

**Education is key to preventing child abuse and neglect.** At DCCH we educate both children and the adults who will care for them. We can't do it alone, however. Your financial support is critical to our mission! **A \$100 gift covers the daily costs of caring for a child in our residential program.** Go to [www.DCCHCenter.org/ways-to-help/donate](http://www.DCCHCenter.org/ways-to-help/donate) to help prevent child abuse today.



SPRING 2017



Dear **Friends**,

There are more than 8,000 Kentucky children living in residential treatment and foster care programs like DCCH. These children are victims of abuse and neglect at the hands of adults who are supposed to love them.

Every child in DCCH's Residential Treatment and Therapeutic Foster Care Programs has lived through physical and mental suffering no one should ever endure. Our mission is to help them heal, to flourish, and to simply allow them to BE active and healthy kids.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Child abuse and neglect is not an easy topic to acknowledge. But it is an epidemic that must be tackled head on. I am extremely proud of the dedicated and compassionate DCCH staff members who day in and day out, heal these kids, one child at a time. We bring our best to fight this national tragedy. But we can't do it alone.

Our success is shared by our community. We could not continue this life-changing work without a network of advocates, friends, volunteers and donors who generously help us care for our children.

This newsletter highlights ways people can step up and partner with DCCH to combat child abuse in Kentucky; I hope you'll carve out a few minutes to read this edition of "The Voice". I also ask that you pause to consider how YOU can help us eradicate child abuse; whether it is through volunteering, attending an event or donating.

Our newsletter is called "THE VOICE" for a reason. Each one of us can be a voice that speaks out for victims of child abuse. You are the voice of hope for the children who walk through our doors.

Sincerely,

*Bob Wilson*

Bob Wilson  
Executive Director



LEARN MORE ONLINE



Learn more about all the good news at DCCH by visiting our new website [www.DCCHCenter.org](http://www.DCCHCenter.org).

### Our Executive Staff/Directors

**Robert J. Wilson**  
Executive Director

**John Ross**  
Director of Clinical Development

**Ron Bertsch**  
Director, Therapeutic Foster Care/Adoption

**Cheryl Ross**  
Director of Residential Treatment

**Tim Lucas**  
Director of Finance/Operations

**Paul Miller**  
Director of Donor Relations

**Joelle Seibert**  
Training Coordinator/EHR Specialist

**Michael Shannon**  
Recreation Director

**Jennifer Jimenez**  
Food Service Director

**Dan Townsend**  
Facilities Manager

**Sr. Jean Marie Hoffman, S.N.D.**  
Director Emerita



#### Accredited by

Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children

- Northern Kentucky's first agency to be so accredited
- Seven consecutive accreditations since 1990
- Accreditation valid until 2018

**CIRCULATION:** This newsletter is being mailed to over 5000 addresses. DCCH does not purchase or obtain any outside mailing "acquisition" lists resulting in unsolicited correspondence to you from us. We do not sell our mailing list to other organizations.

**MAILING NOTICE:** We strive to maintain the highest quality in our mailings to our constituencies. If there is an error on the attached label or you wish to be removed from our mailings, please notify the Development Office at 859/331-2040 ext. 8534, or email [pmiller@DCCHCenter.org](mailto:pmiller@DCCHCenter.org). We will immediately attend to your request and confirm that it has been done.

**THE VOICE IS ONLINE:** The Voice is available digitally via email, on our website and Facebook page. To have The Voice emailed to you, please send your request to [pmiller@DCCHCenter.org](mailto:pmiller@DCCHCenter.org). Find DCCH on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/DCCHCenter](http://www.Facebook.com/DCCHCenter) and on Twitter @DCCHCenter.



Imagine for a minute being an eleven-year-old girl, abused, unloved and uncared for by your parents. You've never been enrolled in school...ever! Even more, your dad would not let you have any contact with the outside world.

Your parents run a meth lab in your house. You feel strange and lightheaded all the time. Your world is watching TV in a fog. There are never any regular meals, just fast food and junk food. Strange people come in and out of the house all the time. Your dad forces you to use drugs. When you ask questions, your dad beats you. So, you sit by yourself. You watch TV. You eat, and eat, and eat. You gain much too much weight.

Then one day the police come. Your parents are arrested and you are sent to live in a stranger's home. The foster parents are nice, and they enroll you in school for the first time in your life. But school is hell. The other kids torment and harass you about your weight. You've never been taught proper hygiene so you get bullied because of the way you look and smell. Finally...you crack.

Brenda is this girl, now living in the Residential Treatment Program at DCCH. When she was removed from her home, this 11-year-old had to spend time in the hospital because of the drugs her dad forced on her. Brenda came to DCCH significantly overweight, even after losing over 100 pounds while with her foster family. She has low self-esteem. Every male person is a threat because of the abuse from her dad.

But Brenda now has hope. She has responded well to the Residential Program at DCCH. She is eating healthy meals and continues to lose weight. Brenda is learning to trust and not think that every male person will abuse her. She is learning to build friendships. Brenda will leave DCCH someday with hope for a better tomorrow.



# Volunteer Appreciation Month!



"I enjoy being a mentor, knowing that my few hours each week truly make a difference in a resident's life. I encourage others to invest just three to four hours a week to befriend a young man or woman living at DCCH. Take them out to lunch, Putt-Putt or go window-shopping; let them experience life away from Orphanage Road."

Don N., DCCH Mentor since August, 2016

By Sahar Arsala, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Volunteers help make lasting life changes for the children living at DCCH and have an enormous impact on our programs. We have over 100 volunteers who help keep our wheels turning. DCCH is so blessed to have such willing and eager volunteers to fill countless roles, from mucking horse stalls to being mentors and surrogate families, they all play pivotal roles in our success.

My greatest joy in working with volunteers is seeing the effect they have on the children in our care. I love walking into the lunch room and having the kids come up to me and ask if I have found them a mentor yet. They hunger for interaction with volunteers. That feeling is truly amazing; knowing our children value volunteers as much as, if not more than, our volunteers value the children. There is no doubt in my mind about the impact our volunteers have on the children at DCCH and we are forever grateful to the volunteers who help change lives every day. No act of kindness, no matter how small, is EVER wasted.

Here are a few more ways you can get involved:

## Mentoring

Mentoring a child supports our residents by continuing to develop appropriate relationships with adults and keeping youth connected to the community to which they will return. Mentors are matched one-on-one with a child from our program. Adults considering this opportunity must be able to volunteer at least once a week for 2-4 hours throughout the child's 6-12 month stay at DCCH. Mentoring a child is one of the largest roles a volunteer at DCCH can fulfill. It is a big commitment, but it comes with the biggest reward: providing a child with a supportive relationship they can look to for advice and encouragement during one of the toughest times of their life.

## Sponsor A Child

The kids we serve LOVE to feel special! Activities that give them a break from their normal routines and letters in the mail from their Pen Pals are some of their favorite things. Whether it is a special dinner once a month or a weekly craft for them and their peers, you are sure to bring a smile to their faces and love to their hearts!

## Clerical Duties

Our volunteers are as awesome and unique as the kids in our care! And we know you might want to volunteer in a "behind-the-scenes" role. Well, we have the job for you! You can help support our team with duties like filing, mailings, school attendance and general record keeping. By shouldering some of our staff's responsibilities, you allow them to spend more time with a child in need.

You can also support volunteers with a tax-deductible contribution to DCCH. **A \$50 gift will buy dinner for an entire apartment!** Go to [www.DCCHCenter.org/ways-to-help](http://www.DCCHCenter.org/ways-to-help) to learn more and #changealife today!



abused  
burned  
detached  
displaced  
insecure

MEGAN

DREAMer



Megan was first removed from her home at age four due to physical abuse, neglect and parental drug abuse.

Her mother burned her fingers on the stove and her father dragged her up the stairs. She lived with various relatives until age six, when she was placed in the first of many foster homes. In her 11 years, Megan has lived in 20 different placements including 12 foster homes, six hospitalizations and two residential facilities before coming to DCCH for a second time. Understandably, Megan struggles to trust adults and make attachments to potential families, which makes adoption difficult.

All Megan wants is a forever family. She is open to possibilities, but would prefer a mother and siblings. She dreams of her first family vacation, hopefully to the beach, and one day she wants to visit Paris, France. Megan is a very special, intelligent, creative, individualistic young lady with lots of potential. She enjoys performing in plays, singing, crafts and cooking. She likes school and plans on going to college. Megan is an incredibly strong girl who has worked hard to overcome her past. She has made great strides in residential treatment and has potential to thrive in the right family environment.

DCCH staff members have worked hard with Megan and want to find her that forever family. That's where you come in! Attend a foster care information event and learn about becoming a foster family in a supportive, no-pressure atmosphere. You can also support our foster care staff with a contribution. **A \$25 tax-deductible donation will help recruit, inform, train and assist families that can provide a loving, stable and safe forever home for children like Megan.**

## Mark Your Calendar For These Foster Care Events

**Tuesday, April 25th | 6:30 pm**

Information Event  
Pendleton Co. Public Library, Falmouth, KY

**May 1-31**

National Foster Care Month

**Monday, May 8th | 6:30 pm**

Information Event At DCCH

**Sunday, May 21st | 1 pm - 3 pm**

DCCH Open House  
*Learn about getting involved as a foster parent, volunteer, donor, etc.*

**Tuesday, June 6th | 6:30 pm**

Information Event At DCCH

**Saturday, June 17th (Mark Your Calendar!)**

NKY Hates Heroin 5K

**Thursday, June 22nd | 6:30 pm**

Information Event  
Campbell Co. Library, Fort Thomas

*Learn more about our foster care and adoption program at [www.DCCHCenter.org](http://www.DCCHCenter.org).*



# Swing into Spring! 2017

**April 29, 2017**

7 PM - 11:30 PM  
Gardens of Park Hills



Spring is finally here! Celebrate with us at DCCH's gala event, Swing Into Spring, on April 29th from 7 to 11:30 pm at the Gardens of Park Hills! Enjoy a fantastic evening of dinner by the bite, music, dancing, an open bar, Live and Silent Auctions, a Basket Raffle and much more. We are thrilled to welcome the voice of the Reds at Great American Ballpark, Joe Zerhusen, as our emcee! Reserve your spot today for this fun night out! **Tickets are \$75 each; tables of ten are \$900.**

Be sure to enter the Care for Kids Raffle! **Grand Prize is \$10,000** and tickets are only \$20 each. Winners will be drawn at Swing Into Spring, but you need not be present to win. This is DCCH's only raffle, so don't miss out! You can register online and purchase Care for Kids Raffle tickets at [www.DCCHCenter.org/Events](http://www.DCCHCenter.org/Events).

All net proceeds from Swing Into Spring will benefit children living at DCCH and provide a safe home, food, clothing and life-changing therapy. Swing Into Spring is DCCH's only fundraising event during the year; please plan on attending! Can't make it to Swing Into Spring? **Your \$75 tax-deductible donation will provide books for our children to enjoy in the school library.**

Corporate and Family Sponsorships are still available. For more information, please contact Paul Miller, Development Director at 859/331-2040 ext. 8534 or [PMiller@DCCHCenter.org](mailto:PMiller@DCCHCenter.org).

**Care for Kids Raffle - Grand Prize is \$10,000!** Tickets \$20/ea. [www.DCCHCenter.org/Events](http://www.DCCHCenter.org/Events).



## Thank You Sponsors!

DCCH is grateful to the following local businesses for their Sponsorship! Their support gives victims of child abuse a safe home, food, clothing, medical care and behavioral therapy. Join other community partners and **#changealife!**

Action Heating and Air  
Art's Tool Rental  
BB&T  
Blau Mechanical  
Central Bank  
C-Forward  
DBL Law  
Distinct Construction  
Furlong Enterprises  
Granite World

Guardian Savings  
Hagedorn Appliances  
Henn Plumbing  
IDa Branding  
Izzy's  
Jeff Klare Family  
Lanigan Auto Sales  
Mercedes Benz of Fort Mitchell  
Quinn Electric  
Rawe Financial Group

Rawe Family Foundation  
Robert Hayes and Associates  
Scheller-Bradford Group  
Sisters of Notre Dame  
Skyline Chili of Ft. Wright & Crescent Springs  
St. Elizabeth Healthcare  
SUN Behavioral Health  
U.S. Bank  
Zimmer Motors

## Flea Market Sale!

In addition to Mondays and Thursdays, the DCCH Flea Market is now open every third Saturday and **EVERYTHING is 50% off!**

8:30am to Noon @ the DCCH Festival Grounds  
All proceeds directly benefit the children living at DCCH Center.

Need more info? [Info@DCCHCenter.org](mailto:Info@DCCHCenter.org)



## Art Education at DCCH

A taste of the Arts has made its way to Guardian Angel School! In a combined effort from staff and dedicated volunteers, students at Guardian Angel (GA) are now receiving music instruction through weekly ukulele lessons.



**May 20, 2017**

Register Your Team  
of 10-20 Today!

## Kickball Tournament is back!

The DCCH Young Adult Initiative challenges you and your friends to a day of kickball...all to benefit the children living at DCCH Center!

Gather ten to 20 ballers and join in the fun on May 20! Compete for the glory of being crowned champs and while enjoying food, brews, games and music! Registration is capped at 24 teams, so nominate a team "Captain" and register your team today! Ballers must be 18+. Captains can register at [www.DCCHCenter.org/events](http://www.DCCHCenter.org/events).

The DCCH Young Adult Initiative is a group of engaged professionals ages 21-30 who advocate and fundraise on behalf of children living at DCCH Center. Through fun events, they raise awareness of DCCH's mission to care for victims of child abuse and aim to create the next generation of support for the organization. Sponsorships are available. Email [Info@DCCHCenter.org](mailto:Info@DCCHCenter.org) to find out more.



## Will You Answer The Call?

**You can #changealife!**

There are so many ways you can get involved at DCCH and help a child thrive; not just survive! From volunteer opportunities to financial support, we have the perfect opportunity for you to get involved. Please visit [DCCHCenter.org/ways-to-help](http://DCCHCenter.org/ways-to-help) and learn more today!