

Homefront

CHILDREN'S HOME OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY

Newsletter
Autumn 2014



Junior Board Celebrates 78th Year

Bridge Builder Mary Jean Giltner to Receive Achievement Award

For What It's Worth

2014 CHILDREN'S SUCCESS FUND LAUNCHES

Supporters of CHNK:

It is always more enjoyable to be in a position of power rather than a position of dependence.

And yet, the work of Children's Home of Northern Kentucky is about tending to human beings who are not in a position of power. The youth who are coming into our care –either in our community-based or residential services – need help. They are not the only ones in a position of need.

I am too.

I need each and every one of you holding this fall edition of *Homefront* to help me in transitioning Children's Home of Northern Kentucky into a new way of helping kids and family members who are struggling with addiction. None of us can hide our heads in the sand about the devastation that adolescent addiction is causing to our families, our schools, employers, and our neighborhoods. I've had too many people in my office over the last few months talking to me about grandchildren stealing from grandparents in order to get money for the next hit. I've been approached by moms and dads who have homes on golf courses in great neighborhoods whose daughters are engaging in life-threatening behaviors because of IV drug use. Addiction leaves people powerless. I've personally experienced this in my own family, so I'm not neutral about what needs to be done.

There are many groups out there advocating for change. Many others willing to offer prevention education so that kids don't get hooked to begin with. And then there's us here, at CHNK. CHNK is opening up buildings with residential beds for youth for whom outpatient help wasn't enough. **We're the only agency in the region willing and able to do that.** We've brought hard-to-serve students onto our campus in our new therapeutic day school whose school day needs to include a great deal of treatment services – including addiction services – so that they're better equipped to return to a mainstream classroom. We're launching redesigned school-based services that put highly skilled therapists throughout the public schools of Northern Kentucky and beyond. We're not simply *talking*. We're *doing*.

In a few weeks, CHNK begins our **CHILDREN'S SUCCESS FUND 2014**. I need your help. If you're the kind of person who wants to be on the cutting edge and help CHNK immediately, go to www.chnk.org/CSF2014 to make your donation to **CSF 2014** now. You can also do so by mailing your donation using the enclosed envelope. You've been there for me every year with this annual appeal. This year, every dollar raised will be placed at the service of new programs aimed at adolescent recovery in a full array of community based and residential services. **Children's Home of Northern Kentucky needs you now.**



Rick W. Wurth
Chief Executive Officer



CHNK Receives \$1.5 Million Grant Award

FUNDS WILL SUPPORT ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT

Kentucky State Attorney General Jack Conway and First Lady of the Commonwealth Jane Beshear visited Northern Kentucky on September 4 to present Children's Home of Northern Kentucky with a **\$1.5 million grant award**. The grant, made possible through the KY Kids Recovery Grant Program and the Substance Abuse Treatment Advisory Committee (SATAC), will allow the Home to expand its services to include substance use disorder treatment.

According to a 2011 survey by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 5.2% of Kentucky high school students reported using heroin; this was nearly double the national average, and by the time the students reached their senior year, it jumped to 7.7%. Locally, Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties account for over 60% of the state's heroin prosecutions according to the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy.

The KY Kids Recovery Grants were made possible after Attorney General Conway settled cases against two pharmaceutical companies; settlements totaled \$32 million, and court orders required that \$19 million be earmarked for statewide adolescent substance use disorder treatment. Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear then established the SATAC to oversee the distribution of those funds. **The grant will help CHNK launch the first residential treatment facility in Northern Kentucky that is targeted specifically towards youth battling substance abuse and chemical dependency.**

Thanks to the efforts of Governor and Mrs. Beshear, as well as to the diligent work of AG Conway, our Home can pivot more quickly from the planning stage to the actual treatment of adolescents battling addiction in the Commonwealth. Their efforts, joined with the Substance Abuse Treatment Advisory Council, have effectively cut through layers of bureaucracy and have literally put children and adolescents as first priorities during an epidemic of heroin and other drug use. CHNK is proud to be one part of a comprehensive plan to aid Kentucky families and youth during this critical period.



Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway (left) and Mrs. Jane Beshear present CHNK CEO Rick Wurth and Board President Bob Hawksley with the grant award on the front veranda of CHNK's historic administration building. Members of the CHNK Board of Trustees and Junior Board, as well as the Home's staff, also attended the presentation.

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CHNK Junior Board Celebrates Its 78th Year

ANNUAL CHARITY BALL WILL HONOR ONE OF THEIR OWN

Each year, Children's Home of Northern Kentucky hosts a fundraising gala to generate critically needed funds for the Home's residential treatment program. While the notion of a fundraising gala is certainly not uncommon (find a nonprofit that doesn't hold one at least once a year!), the driving force behind the gala is unique to only CHNK – its **Junior Board**.

CHNK's Junior Board can trace its roots all the way back to 1935. Women had secured the right to vote by that point in history, but it was still very much a man's world. So when the wives and female acquaintances of CHNK's (all-male) Board of Trustees decided they wanted to become involved with the Home, they requested permission from CHNK's leadership team to organize a Junior Board that would serve under the supervision of the Board of Trustees.

In the Home's 1935 annual report, it was noted that "their chief aim will be to sponsor one or more money-making affairs each year." Fast forward to 2014, as our current Junior Board – 19 members strong – prepares for its **78th Annual Junior Board Charity Ball**.

This year's event, scheduled for **November 15** at the Marriott Cincinnati Airport in Hebron, will have all the glitz and glamour of a Hollywood party. It will also pay tribute to one of the most dedicated Junior Board members and supporters that the Home can count among its friends – **Mary Jean Giltner**.

Mary Jean was born and raised in Fort Thomas. She left the area for college, studying Home Economics at Eastern Kentucky University. It was during that time that she met a fellow Northern Kentuckian – Covington native Ray Giltner, who eventually became Mary Jean's husband. It was after they relocated back to the Northern Kentucky area with their two daughters, Mary Beth and Becky, that Mary Jean first learned of the Home.

"I was invited to join the Junior Board by Anne Edmiston, whose father was on the Board of Trustees," shared Mary Jean during a recent lunch conversation with current Junior Board President Nhien Lange. "I was living in Park Hills at the time, so it seemed like a great opportunity to get involved. The Home was practically in my backyard!"



Former Junior Board member Mary Jean Giltner, who served on the board during the 1960s, and current Junior Board President Nhien Lange, who has been a JB member since 2009.



Coach Cal's Contribution

Last month, our CEO accepted on behalf of the Home a \$15,000 check courtesy of the Calipari Foundation and the 2014 John Calipari Basketball Fantasy Experience. We're honored to be a first-time beneficiary of this annual fundraiser - and a part of the Big Blue Nation! Go Cats! (l-r: CHNK CEO Rick Wurth, University of Kentucky Head Basketball Coach John Calipari, Fantasy Experience participant Steve Smith; photo courtesy of VAO Photography).

CHNK Junior Board Celebrates Its 78th Year (continued)



The 2013 Junior Board Charity Ball had a Roaring 20s theme.

That was nearly 50 years ago, in 1966. And while Mary Jean is no longer on the Junior Board, she has never strayed far from the Home. A charter member of the Kenton Heights Women's Club (52 years and counting!), Mary Jean has included CHNK as a beneficiary of the club's annual luncheon and fashion show for decades. As an active parishioner at Immanuel Methodist Church, she has connected the Home with the church's Sarah Circle, which collects a specific item from our "wish list" each month – saving CHNK hundreds of dollars on items such as toothbrushes, toilet paper, bedding, and towels.

Even daughter Becky followed in her mother's footsteps, serving on both the Junior Board and later, the Board of Trustees.

"Becky stepped in when I stepped away from the Junior Board," said Mary Jean. "She put a lot of hard work into that Home."

Like mother, like daughter, and the hard work of both women led to many new friends for CHNK over the years.

"It's easy to introduce people to the Home since I feel such a connection to it," explained Mary Jean. "I've always thought it is such a good environment for the children it serves ... the staff do such beautiful work."

CHNK staff, trustees, and Junior Board members feel likewise about Mary Jean, so during this year's Charity Ball, **Mary Jean will be presented with the CHNK Lifetime Achievement Award**. During a special presentation after dinner, CEO Rick Wurth will recognize Mary Jean for her contributions to the Home, which have positively impacted thousands of children over the years.

Join us at this year's Charity Ball as we celebrate Mary Jean and raise critically needed funds for the hundreds of youth in crisis who come to our doors each year. The evening, co-sponsored by Mercedes-Benz of Fort Mitchell and Scott Brooks, an Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisor, includes a cocktail hour of hors d'oeuvres and open bar, a plated dinner, silent and live auctions, gaming, raffles, and music by Big Daddy Walker Productions. Tickets can be purchased online at www.chnk.org/charityball or by calling the CHNK Office for Development at 859.292.4135.

Get Involved: 2014 CHNK Giving Tree Project

Each year, our Home reaches out to local businesses, churches, and schools to see who might be willing to host a Giving (or Angel/Wish) Tree to benefit the youth in CHNK's care. Might your business, church, or school be willing to host one this holiday season? Since Santa is always so generous with toys and games, our Giving Trees focus on the daily needs of our Home – things like laundry detergent, toothpaste, socks, underwear, bedding, soap, and shoes. We provide the gift tags and even pick up the donations – you just need the tree and the supporters. **Reach the Office for Development at 859.292.4135 or development@chnk.org to sign up!**





Children's
Home Northern
Kentucky



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The 78th Annual Junior Board
CHARITY BALL *goes...*
HOLLYWOOD

Saturday, November 15, 2014

Red carpet arrivals begin at 6:30 p.m.

*Cincinnati Airport Marriott,
Hebron, KY*

For tickets and more information, visit
www.chnk.org/charityball

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