

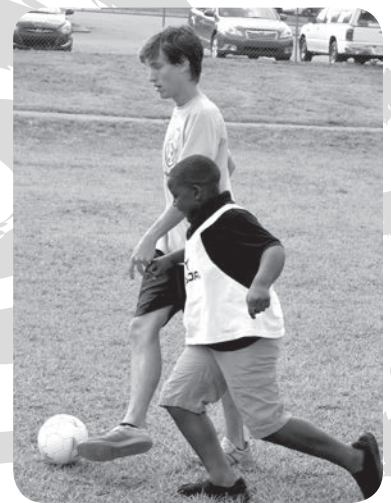


CHAMBLISS CENTER FOR CHILDREN

GROWING YOUNG LIVES 24 • 7 • 365

VOLUME 28, NO. 2

SUMMER 2016



A Summer Full of Fun!

Throughout the year, we are caring for school-aged children before and after school so their parents can work and/or go to school at any hour necessary to support their family. When the school year ended in May, our campus took on a whole new look and sound, as more than 125 children began spending their days with us during summer break. We have packed that time with dance, art, swimming, tennis, soccer, field trips, bike rides and other special activities. We could not provide all of this without support from the community. It is because of your generosity the children in our program have had a great summer. Thank you for your support!



Fishing at Fowler Farm

More than 50 years ago, local businessman **Mercer Reynolds** invited the children from our agency to his property off Rossville Boulevard for a day of fishing. Following his passing, family friend and Sustaining Board member **Frank Fowler** continued the tradition, and to this day invites our youth up to Fowler Farm on Lookout Mountain every summer. This year, the day began with a safety and instructional session by area fisherman **Mac McGee** and his helpers prior to the kids picking up their poles. It was a beautiful day and all the kids had a great time. We thank Sustaining Board member **Gwin Tugman**, Mr. McGee, Mr. Fowler, our Board members and volunteers for providing such a wonderful day outdoors for our kids!

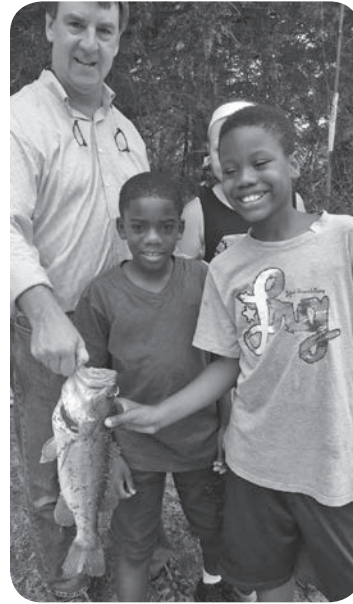
Sustaining Board member **Gwin Tugman** and volunteer **Mac McGee** are instrumental in putting this event together every year.



Our school-aged girls were ready for a fun day of fishing.



Board member **Greg McGuire** helped **Malachi** and **Daniel** show off their catch.



Samara was excited to catch her first fish of the day.



It was a great day to be outside. Thanks to **2 Sons Kitchen and Market** for providing lunch for everyone!



Transitional Living Program

In an effort to assist teens “aging out” of the foster care system, who, in many circumstances become homeless, Chambliss Center for Children is adding Transitional Living to our Residential Program. We officially broke ground in May on phase one of the housing aspect of the program, two duplexes, each with two 1-bedroom units. In addition to housing, this program will offer counseling and training in basic life skills, such as financial planning and budgeting, cooking, interviewing and job readiness skills for young adults ages 18 to 24 who are in school. The project, funded by the **Robert L. & Kathrina H. Maclellan Foundation** and **The Maclellan Foundation Inc.**, should be completed by October. We are so excited to offer yet another very important service benefiting young people in this community!

Pictured at the groundbreaking in May are, from left to right, **Liz Blasbery** (Executive Director, Residential Program); **Phil Acord** (agency President/CEO); **Wayne Williams** (Owner Workshop: Architecture); **Catharine Bahner Daniels** (Board Chairwoman); Chattanooga City Councilman **Yusuf Hakeem**; **Scott Maclellan** (representing the Robert L. & Kathrina H. Maclellan Foundation and The Maclellan Foundation Inc.); and **Lisa Maclellan**.

Thrift Store Update

We have a lot of great things happening with The Thrift Store, including construction on our second location! The Thrift Store, located at 3723 Brainerd Road, just celebrated its 10th anniversary! We marked the occasion by having a huge sale on August 6th, featuring food, a live radio remote and lots of great discounts. Because of the tremendous success of this store, we are anxiously awaiting the completion of our new location at 1936 Dayton Boulevard, which should open in early October. Revenue from both stores have a great impact on our budget, so please keep us in mind for donations as well. Call 423-698-3730 to schedule a pickup.



The former Girl Scout Council Building on Dayton Boulevard will soon house the second location of The Thrift Store and a new Early Childhood Education center.

The Red Bank community was identified as having a need for more quality childcare options. In addition to The Thrift Store, the property we purchased at 1936 Dayton Boulevard will also house a separate Early Childhood Education center. The program will utilize the same curriculum as our main campus.



Ticket holders voted for their favorites in the "Best Pure Flavor" and "Best Flavor with Inclusions" categories.

Cold Stone Creamery's Orange Sorbet and Everything's Batter with Chocolate provided cool relief on a hot day. Pictured here, from left to right, are **Sally Vogelmeier, Tammy Smith and Rita McCay.**



Ice Cream Sunday!



The 12th Annual Ice Cream Social at the Chattanooga Market was a great success! Five local creameries, including **Cold Stone Creamery, Clumpie's Ice Cream, Mayfield, Milk & Honey, and The Ice Cream Show**, provided sweet relief on a hot July day to attendees who purchased tickets. The Signal Mountain Boulevard **Baskin Robbins** was unable to participate this year, but generously made a contribution to the agency.

Volunteers **Peggy Bates, Candy Clark and Gillian Tamatave** served up samples of Homemade Vanilla and Butter Pecan from **Mayfield.**



Clumpie's Ice Cream flavors Blueberry White Chocolate Chunk and Coconut Lime Sorbet, served by **Jordan Hemphill and Ashley Bottoms**, were a hit!



Milk & Honey was the big winner of the day! They took home first place in both the "Best Pure Flavor" and "Best Flavor with Inclusions" categories. Pictured here with their trophies are **Scott Hutchinson and Ann Manning.**



After testing 10 different flavors, participants voted for their favorites in two categories, "Best Pure Flavor" and "Best Flavor with Inclusions". **Milk & Honey** came out on top in both categories, with their Salted Caramel winning as the "Best Pure Flavor" and Oreo Cheesecake as the "Best Flavor with Inclusions". Due to the generosity of the vendors, the event brought in more than \$6,500 for the agency!



Trey Moss, his wife **JaneBrooks**, son **Raymond** and daughter **Morgan** enjoyed trying all the flavors in support of a great cause.



Katie Robinson, Hannah Gifford, Lynda Curtis and Larry Hendrix with **The Ice Cream Show** served Key West Sublime and American Dream to hundreds of guests throughout the day.



Board member **Yahya Sadre-Orafai**, and volunteers **Maggie Rickerd and Aleyce Fontenot** greeted customers.

Volunteers & In-Kind Donations

Our thanks to each one of you for your help in making Chambliss Center for Children the best place for children in our community! This list acknowledges those who donated time, talents, and services from March 1 – July 1, 2015. Thank you!



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(left to right) **Carmen Patty, Hayden Brown and Lisa Brown** take a break from working to pose for a picture.



Calvin Shropshire pressure washed an awning on one of six playgrounds on our main campus.



Linda Carlton and Ken Ma gave a fresh coat of paint to one of our Toddler classrooms.



Samantha Heffner and Jordan Cook spent their RED Day outside beautifying our grounds.

Denise Cobb, Marie King and Susan Daffron put their organizational skills to work on one of our supply closets.



Keller Williams RED Day

For the fifth year in a row, **Keller Williams** agents and friends came to our campus for their annual RED Day, a day set aside by Keller Williams offices nationwide for employees to spend time giving back to the community. This group of volunteers was a tremendous help in getting us ready for a big summer. Volunteers painted rooms, trimmed bushes, pulled weeds, mulched playgrounds, cleaned out storage rooms and pressure washed the swimming pool, just to name a few of the projects. Staff from **Arrow Exterminating** grilled hamburgers and hotdogs for the volunteers. Thank you to our wonderful Keller Williams friends for your continued partnership!



We had more than 100 **Keller Williams** agents spend their RED Day completing a long list of projects on our campus.

Lake Winnie

A Long-Standing Tradition

The children in our program have been going to **Lake Winnepesaukah** every year since the 1940s. Thanks to Sustaining Board member and former Board Chairwoman **Tennyson Dickinson**, this year was no exception! The children, along with staff, parents and volunteers, arrived as the gates opened and spent the day enjoying every ride the family-owned amusement park has to offer. Thank you to Tennyson and her family for hosting this special day for us!



Trinity, Corey and Michaela didn't mind waiting in lines for all the fun rides.



Agency staff **Virginia Rushton, Tonya Bullocks, Sumer Arispe and Kim Borrego** couldn't let the children have all the fun. They were ready for a great day out of the office.



Roland Davis enjoyed a day at the park with his son **Jatavious**.



Tim, KJ, and Christian stopped just long enough for a picture before jumping on the Tilt-A-Whirl.



The Bernard family had a great day with friends. Pictured here, from left to right, are **Scotty, Sammy** (front), family friend **Aston, Sarah**, her friend **Mia** (front), **Belinda Bernard**, and **Amanda Trammell**.



Agency staff **Ieshia Bryant** is pictured here with her husband **Isaac** and daughter **Nyema**.



Jackson Lenoir (right), who is our tennis coach through the **Chattanooga Tennis Foundation**, and **Zion** found a shady spot to rest between rides.

Did You Know

We are working closely with Chattanooga 2.0 to address the community's need for more high-quality early childhood education slots. We encourage you to get involved with this exciting project. For more information, visit www.chatt2.org.

SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY

The downtown location of **Ben & Jerry's** chose to support our agency during Free Cone Day in April. We set up in their store so people could make a donation to us in lieu of paying for ice cream. We collected nearly \$1,000 and made a lot of new friends!



The new **Chuy's** restaurant selected our agency as their main charity to support in this community. Prior to opening, they hosted several events to raise funds for us. **Lesley Berryhill** (right), Director of Communications for the agency, is pictured here with Chuy's Chattanooga Owner/Operator **Christine Bailey**. We wish Chuy's great success and look forward to a long partnership!

In lieu of closing gifts, local real estate agent and agency Board member **Mark Hite of Keller Williams** made a donation to our agency for each home he sold during the month of April. He is pictured here with, left to right, **Devin, Adalyn, Arlan** and **Keiunna** with his \$2,500 donation.



Director of Volunteers **Virginia Rushton** (right) is pictured here with Youth Volunteer of the Year **Katie Gadd**, a Senior at **Chattanooga Christian School**.



TVA Nuclear has been a partner of this agency for many years. Pictured here are, from left to right, **Linda Tonya** (TVA), **Barbara Suarez** (TVA) and **Katie Harbison** (agency staff).



Chattanooga Christian School was honored as School Group of the Year again this year. Representing their school are, from left to right, **Olivia Samples, Marissa Lewis, Jared Boldt, Katie Gadd, Rachael Jolly, Cami Stroud** and **John Mark Duble**.

We Love Our Friends

April is National Volunteer Month, and each year we host an appreciation luncheon for all the dedicated volunteers who serve our agency. This year, more than 50 of our friends joined us as we thanked them for their generosity. During the luncheon, we honored several individuals and groups for their outstanding contributions of time and energy to our agency and our children. The 2016 honorees included **Chattanooga Christian School** for School Group of the Year; **Katie Gadd**, a Senior at Chattanooga Christian School, as Youth Volunteer of the Year; and **Martha Rawlings** as Adult Volunteer of the Year. **TVA Nuclear** was recognized for their continued partnership with the agency. Special recognition was also given to **Allegiant Electric, Adman Electric, Lawson Electric, NABCO, and Young Electric** for each sending electricians to work together for an entire week installing LED lighting throughout the buildings on our main campus.

All of these individuals and groups have assisted our agency by spending time with our children and in efforts to enrich their lives. In total, we had more than 3,000 people donate more than 11,000 hours of time to our agency in 2015! We would like to extend a sincere thanks to all of our volunteers!



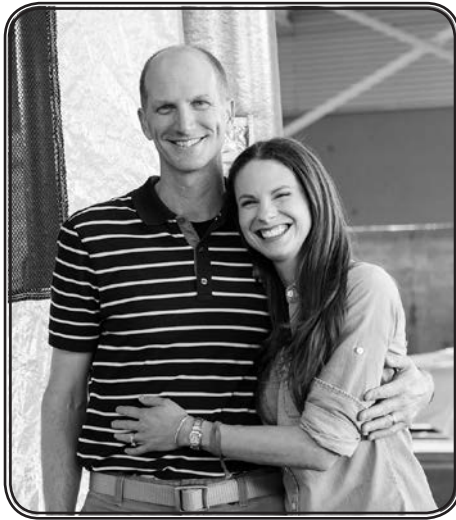
(above, left to right) **Mike Young** with **Young Electric, Bill Greenwood** with **NABCO**, and **Ricky Etherton** with **Adman Electric** are pictured here with our Director of Volunteers **Virginia Rushton**. These gentlemen attended the luncheon on behalf of their companies so we could recognize them for their work with our agency.



For the third year in a row, **Martha Rawlings** received the Adult Volunteer of the Year. We greatly appreciate all the time she gives to this agency. She is pictured here with **Virginia Rushton**, Director of Volunteers for Chambliss Center for Children.



One of the sweetest parts about Bunny Hop! is the opportunity for the children to interact with live bunnies.



Event Chairmen **Dr. Tonia** and **Will Cox** led a team of volunteers in coordinating this year's festivities.

Bunny Hop!

The 16th annual Bunny Hop! took place on May 6th at the First Tennessee Pavilion. With a reputation as one of the best family events in the area, this year's Bunny Hop! was full of fun activities for children including arts and crafts, a bunny petting station, balloon artists, face painting, a magician, inflatables, a photo booth, a sports zone, the Chattanooga Aerials, and kid-friendly food. Adults enjoyed live music by **Rising Fawn Social Club**, a silent auction, and a buffet dinner catered by **Events with Taste**. Board member **Dr. Tonia Cox** and her husband **Will** served as Chairmen for this year's event and, along with their dedicated committee, coordinated all aspects of this special evening. We owe great thanks to this wonderful group of volunteers, along with all of the sponsors and attendees who made it a success. After expenses, the event raised more than \$36,000, which will be used to support our two main programs—a residential program for children who have been removed from their homes and an early childhood education and childcare program, which operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We greatly appreciate all of these special bunnies!

Photo credit: Tiffany Pendergrass



Residential Program Executive Director **Liz Blasbery** takes a break with son **Maxwell**, family friend **Olivia**, Liz's other son **Lucas** and husband **Kevin**.

Chattanooga Aerials was one of the most popular attractions at the event.

Grandpa Giggles brought smiles to many faces with his balloon animals.



Pictured left to right are **Susan Stein**, **Gloria Miller** and **Andrea Aaron**. These ladies started the Bunny Hop! event 16 years ago!!



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Westin took an opportunity to brush up on his putting technique.

Did You Know

Chambliss Center for Children has classrooms in 11 Hamilton County Schools where we are caring for and educating the infants and preschool-aged children of teachers. This program has operated since 2005 and has helped drastically reduce teacher turnover in the schools where our classrooms are located.

Financial Donations

This list of financial contributions is from March 1 – June 30, 2016. If we have omitted your name, please accept our apologies and let us know so that we may correct our records and acknowledge you in our holiday newsletter. Thanks to each of you for helping us continue our mission of working with our community's families and children.



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Jane M. Geoffrion

Alice Morrow

Pat Persinger

George Otwell

Denise & Hal Wilson

Doris Davis Pearson

Anne Benton

Joyce & Ray Feher

Jimmie & Waylon Fulk

Wayne Grant, Barry Epps, Steve Almond,
 and Phoenix Metals Company

Trina & Hale Holland

Brenda & A. K. Leamon

Patsy & Nick Orso

Twana Saunders

Wendy & Ed Taliaferro

Nancy & John Williams

Marian L. Rather

Kay & Ed Rather

Ron Reynolds

Eleanor & Walter Hodges

Alice Kain Stout

Anne & Patrick Bradshaw

Abbie & Jay Brooks

Lin & Chris Christenberry
 Martha Cummings & Mimi Hooker
 John D. Canale, III
 Corinne & Freeman Doster
 Frank Fowler
 The Kain Family
 The Kerr, Labbe, and Lowe Families
 Leslie & Randy Labbe
 Evelyn & Jerry McBride
 Mary & John McGee
 Gloria Miller
 Alice Lupton
 Margy Oehmig
 Betty Probasco
 Mr. & Mrs. Allan Robinson
 Southeastern Mills, Inc.
 Kim & Ewing Strang
 Sissy & Lex Tarumianz
 Joseph W. Thatcher
 Thorpe & Sarah McKenzie, Conn Jannerbo,
 and Willis Jannerbo
 Jacquelyn Wright

Frances Sullivan

Larry Brown & the Lafayette County
 Volunteer Fire Department

Amanda Cate

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Margha & Joe Davis

Dana & Ronald Feldman

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Mrs. Arthur L. Burns, Jr.

Evelyn Chamberlain & Family

Carol & Mark Chesnutt

Andrea Crouch

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Mamie F. Dye

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Mary Katherine Moore

W. A. Bryan Patten, Frank M. Robbins, III,
 Raymond V. Ryan, & J. Clay Crumbliss

Pat Persinger

Lee Hedges Pierce

Betty Probasco

Mary Quick

Robert Richie

Malli Richmond

Sissy & Lex Tarumianz

Caroline Trabue

U. Kay Whaley

Betty B. Whaley

Ward Ziegler

Dayna & Tom Eddy

Did
 You
 Know

Chambliss Center for Children's 17-acre main campus was purchased in 1937, and an orphanage and infirmary were constructed with Works Progress Administration (WPA) labor. Today, those same buildings house our 24-hour-a-day Extended Childcare Program and an 8-bed group home for youth who have been removed from their homes because of abuse, neglect, or delinquency.

Parents' Night Out

Every year in June our Board of Directors hosts a night out for our parents and guardians. Parents' Night Out is an opportunity for them to have a fun evening while their children are being cared for and entertained. Staff and volunteers supervised the children, who had a great time outdoors swimming, jumping in inflatables and playing on the playground, where they were served a delicious dinner of **Chick-fil-A** nuggets, watermelon, and snow cones. Meanwhile, around 60 parents enjoyed dinner and lively games of Bingo in our gym. Many took home great prizes, and all had a wonderful time!



LaVasia Campbell and **Chandra Crook**, both parents and teachers at our agency, had a great time at the Parents' Night Out event.



Pictured left to right are **Nikki Russell**, **Kisha Fifer**, **Maegan Rouse** (standing) and **Naquita Lester**.



Melba Wolfe, **Sabrina Lucas** and **Jemecia Jackson** were ready for a night of fun.



Jerrell, **Makayla**, **Quentin** and **Kalin** were perfectly happy playing outside while their parents had fun inside.

Dr. Tonia Cox, pictured here with her daughter **Emma**, spearheaded this year's Parents' Night Out event.



Will Cox oversaw some of the outdoor activities for the children.

Board Member **Cathy Dorvil** (center) served dinner to the children. Pictured here with her are, from left to right, her daughter **Brithny**, volunteer **Tracy Mozingo**, and Cathy's other daughters **Melinda** and **Meola**.



W.K. KELLOGG FOUNDATION GRANT UPDATE



Last year, our agency was awarded a one-year planning grant from the **W.K. Kellogg Foundation** in order to gather data and have authentic conversations with families living in poverty, identifying issues that keep them from being successful, as they define success, for themselves and their children. Throughout this past year, information was gathered from 356 parents over 30+ breakfasts, lunches and dinners. We compiled the results from the surveys and conversations and on June 22nd hosted a Report to the Community luncheon to present our findings to community leaders. We are continuing to work with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation on this very important project, and will share any updates. Stay tuned!

For a copy of the Report to the Community booklet, you may contact Mary Edwards at 423-681-9585 or email mmedwards@chamblisscenter.org.

More than 60 community leaders attended a luncheon at the Bessie Smith Hall to hear the results of the year-long research.

AROUND THE CENTER

Baylor School 8th graders held a book drive at school and collected over 100 children's books for our agency. Their leadership class came out to our main campus to deliver the books. Our PreK children were especially happy that **Sarah Catharine Daniels** was able to stay for a little while to read some to them.



Our wonderful Board member **Ray Feher** has spent the last several years planting and tending to our garden. He is pictured here with his granddaughter **Sara** and his great-grandchildren **Warrick** and **Lexi**, who helped him this summer. Thanks to Ray's hard work, the parents of the children we serve have been able to take home lots of fresh tomatoes and peppers from this year's harvest. Thank you Ray for giving to this agency in so many ways!



Kevin Blasbery with **Blood Assurance** brought their mobile unit by to give a tour to some of our PreK children. The children were allowed to explore the bus and ask questions, but no blood was actually drawn.



We were so happy to have members from the Chattanooga Downtown Rotary Club come read to our children recently. In support of literacy, Rotary Reads consists of volunteers who go out to area agencies to read to children. Rotary member **Kathryn Menchetti** is pictured here with some of our Runabouts.



PlayCore is a great supporter of this agency. Recently, they partnered with **EMJ Corporation** and **Accent Construction Services** to install a new hillside slide on our main campus. Thanks to all of them for getting this favorite piece of playground equipment installed in time for summer!



A great group of volunteers from **CarMax Chattanooga** came out in June to help us work

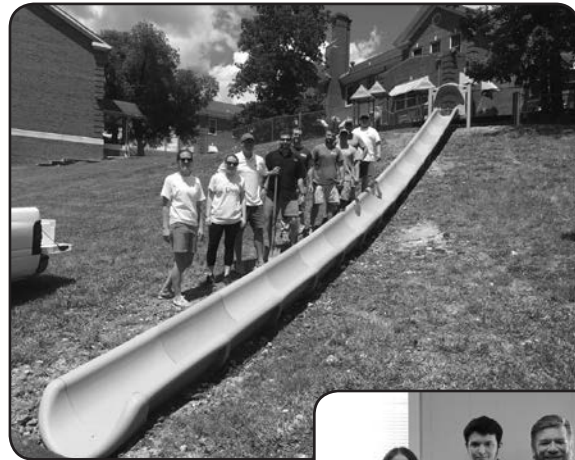
on some projects at our main campus. They mulched playgrounds, planted shrubs and assembled riding toys. We greatly appreciate all the hard work they did!



Through **Operation Get Active**, a health initiative that uses the game of soccer to encourage Chattanooga's youth to live active, healthy lifestyles, the children in our summer program were given an opportunity to learn how to play soccer with some of the best players and coaches around. Operation

Get Active is a partnership with the **Chattanooga FC Foundation** and the **VW Workers Foundation**. Our costs associated with this program were covered by a donation from **Glenn Morris, Jr.**, in memory of his friend and former agency board member **Mike Salisbury**. Thank you Glenn, and Operation Get Active, for bringing this opportunity to our children!

Justin is pictured here with Chattanooga FC Women's Team Member and Operation Get Active Coach **Mara Deluca**.



Fifteen years ago the Snow family adopted their first child through our agency. They have since opened their home and hearts to other children, and in June adopted their fourth child through foster care. This little guy is truly blessed to now be a permanent part of this loving family.



As a follow up to National Foster Care Month in May, we hosted a Foster Care Info Night in early June. The event was open to the public in an effort to provide general information on fostering through our agency. The event was full and we had multiple people sign up for foster care training following the event.



We love our teachers! To show them how much, we had some special treats for them in May for Teacher Appreciation Week. We gave them goodies and treated them to lunch. **Chandra Crook** and **Britney Monteleone** are pictured here in their cute "Keep Calm and Teach On" shirts.



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GROWING YOUNG LIVES 24*7*365

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www.chamblisscenter.org
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Splashing into Summer

Tennessee American Water Company hosts an annual pool party to celebrate the opening of the swimming pool and the start of summertime here at Chambliss Center for Children. Nearly 50 of our school-aged children participated in this year's event and received goody bags and a beach towel. In addition to speaking to the children and handing out gifts, Tennessee American Water donated the water to fill up our large and small swimming pools, which is a big help to our budget! Thank you, TAWC!

Friends **Lydia** and **Makayla** were happy to get the summer season started.



Daphne Kirksey talked to the children and answered questions about Tennessee American Water Company's role in providing water in this community.



Follow Chambliss Center for Children on all these sites!



Save the date!

20TH ANNUAL
Chambliss Center for Children
Golf Tournament
at Council Fire Golf Club

OCTOBER 25, 2016

For more information, contact Katie Harbison at kcharbison@chamblisscenter.org.