

CHAMBLISS CENTER FOR CHILDREN

GROWING YOUNG LIVES 24 • 7 • 365

VOLUME 30, NO. 2 SUMMER 2018





Soaking up the Summer Fun



This summer we kept nearly 100 school-aged children busy with activities such as dance, art, STEM, swimming, tennis, soccer, and field trips. Some of these children are in our care before and after school throughout the year, and some come only during the summer. All are here because their parents are working or in school and want their children in a quality program during summer vacation.







Because of your support, our campus was filled with fun and laughter throughout the summer. Thank you for your generosity!

lce Cream Social

The 14th Annual Ice Cream Social at the **Chattanooga Market** was a tremendous success! Five local creameries, including **Brusters**, **Clumpie's**, **Mayfield**, **Milk & Honey**, and **The Ice Cream Show**, provided cool treats on a warm June day to attendees who purchased tickets.

After testing 10 different flavors, participants voted for their favorites in two categories, "Best Pure Flavor" and "Best Flavor with Inclusions". As always, the competition was tight, however, coming out on top was **Milk & Honey** in both categories. They received the honors of "Best Pure Flavor" for their Summer Strawberry, and "Best Flavor with Inclusions" for their Peanut Butter Oreo.

We sold 1,050 tickets, raising over \$5,750 for the agency!! Thank you to all the generous vendors who donated their products and time.



Milk & Honey won the "Best Pure Flavor" award for their Summer Strawberry, and "Best Flavor with Inclusions" for their Peanut Butter Oreo. Representatives **Sarah Dale Presson** and **Tyrese Jones** show off their newest trophies.



This little cutie was very happy with her sample.



All participants got the opportunity to vote for their favorites.

> Volunteer Maggie Rickerd had fun helping us spread the word about the event to market-goers.



Board member
Yahya SadreOrafai (seated
left) and Board
Chairman Paul
Fitzgerald
(seated right)
are faithful
volunteers.



Board member Cathy
Dorvil (second from left)
enjoyed spending the
day with her daughters,
from left to right, Meola,
Melinda, and Brithny.

Welcome New Staff

We want to welcome some of our new administrative staff to the Chambliss Center for Children family. **Emily Barrow** recently joined our team as Director of Volunteer Services. In her role, Emily trains, supervises, and coordinates the activities of all volunteers, both individuals and groups. **Marvelle Davis** is our new Foster Home Recruiter/Trainer. She is responsible for recruiting and training new foster families in our Residential Program. We're so happy to have both these ladies on board!



Emily Barrow



Marvelle Davis



Larrissa and her mom **Lataucha Twilley** were ready for a fun day at the park.



Derrick Walters was happy to spend the day with his sons **Jace** (left) and **Gabriel** (right).

Kaitlyn wanted her teacher Marnie Wall to ride with her.



One of the most anticipated days of the summer is Lake Winnie Day! Every year, the amazing folks at Lake Winnie invite the children in our summer program, as well as those in our Residential Program, to enjoy a day at the amusement park. This year was very hot, but our staff, children, and parents had a great time enjoying all the rides and cooling off at the SoakYa water park. Thank you to Sustaining Board Member and former Board Chairman Tennyson Dickinson, her sister Talley Green and the entire Lake Winnie family for continuing this long-standing tradition!

Lacretia Grayson enjoyed a funnel cake with her daughter Erin (left) and their friend Rayn (right).



Agency staff also had a great day at the park. Pictured here, from left to right, are **Emily Barrow**, **Sumer Arispe**, and **Kim Borrego**.

Pictured here are from left to right, Scooter, Roland, Nita Terrell (back), Lawson (front), and Carl Phillips.





Katrina Gilbert and her children, from left to right, **Brooklyn**, **Lydia** and **Trent** come every year to enjoy a family day at **Lake Winnie**.

Emma, **Madesyn**, and **Adalyn**, seated from left to right, chose the ladybugs as their first ride.

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 – June 30, 2018. Thank you!



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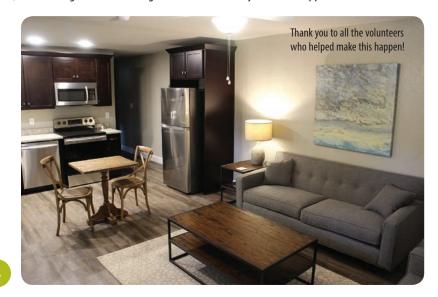
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Asia Waldrop West Rock Zach Winchester Briena Windrow Leigh Ann Yates Yoga Landing

TRACAR DUILIS THUCH ALL TH

s you are reading this, we have just completed more residential units for our transitional living Ayouth! This brings us to a total of 11, with eight of them filled. You might recall that we began this program last summer, for youth aging out of the foster care/group home system. They can live in these small apartments until they are 21, provided they are in school and working part-time. The goal is to help them continue their education, gain some work experience, and have a case manager available to help them navigate college applications, job applications, getting a driver's license — all the things that youth need to do to prepare for adulthood.

One of the ways you can help support these youth is Homemade Mondays! On our web site, www.chamblisscenter.org, you can sign up to bring a homemade meal for our youth. They love this, and it strengthens the message that this community is here to support them.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES UPDATE

n addition to the expansion of the Transitional Living program, we have increased our capacity for early childhood education by about 75 children, both off-site and on our main campus. We are also hoping to begin a partnership with a local business to offer services to another 120 children.

There have been meetings with both architects and a civil engineer concerning expansion on our main campus. There are numerous considerations before final location of this expansion can be determined - parking issues for additional staff and parents, the kitchen's ability to handle another 100 children, etc. It is a complex project, but we are moving forward!

We are incredibly grateful to those of you who supported our capital campaign, and provided the ability for Chambliss Center for Children to help more children and youth in our community. We feel honored to have garnered such trust from you, our donors, and are working hard to provide high quality experiences for all that we serve.

Jaelyn picked out her favorite design for her glitter tattoo.



Baby **Judah** napped with his daddy Justin Hoffman.

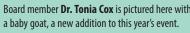


We added Kids' Karaoke this year, which proved to be a very popular activity.



Board member and Bunny Hop! event Chairman Dan

Pratt is pictured here with his daughter **Emma**.





Board member Dr. Tonia Cox is pictured here with



Burry Hop!

The 18th annual Bunny Hop! took place on Friday, May 4th at the First Tennessee Pavilion. This fun, family event was full of exciting activities for children including arts and crafts, a bunny petting station, baby lambs and goats, balloon artists, face painting, glitter tattoos, a magician, inflatables, a photo booth, a sports zone, aerial dance, kid's karaoke, and kid-friendly food. Adults enjoyed a silent auction and a buffet dinner catered by **Events with Taste**. Board member **Dan Pratt** and his wife **Kim**, served as Chairmen for this year's event and, along with their dedicated committee, helped coordinate this special evening. We greatly appreciate our volunteers, along with all of the sponsors and attendees who made this such a successful Bunny Hop! We had around 500 people in attendance and ended up with nearly \$51,000 to help us continue helping children and families in this community!

Grand Bunnies

Chattanooga Times Free Press* **CHI Memorial Hospital**

"VIB"s (Very Important Bunnies)

First Tennessee Bank Johnson Hickey Murchison Sunny 92.3* Terri & Greg Willett

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Julien and Izzy let their imaginations run wild at the Bricks 4 Kidz station.

Highlights from W. K. Kellogg Foundation Grant

The Parent Advocacy department has been working diligently over the summer to make sure that families and kids are safe. One program that has made a tremendous impact is the **Safe Journey Program**. Safe Journey addresses occupant protection and the correct use of child passenger safety devices (car seats) through public and professional education and awareness. The staff of Safe Journey recently visited all of our off-site childcare centers. Since we began in May, 33 car seats have been donated and installed, free of charge to



families that needed a new one or simply didn't have one for their child. The Safe Journey program is funded through a grant from the **Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office**, and administered through the **Hamilton County Sheriff's Office**.

Fishing at Fowler Farm

Every summer, some of our older children travel to Lookout Mountain for a day of fun and fishing at Fowler Farm. The day begins with a safety lesson and instructions from area fisherman **Mac McGee** and his volunteers, prior to the kids picking up their cane poles and worms. It was a little warm this year, but the fish were still biting! We thank Sustaining Board member, **Gwin Tugman**, Mr. McGee, Sustaining Board Member **Frank Fowler** and his family, our Board members and volunteers for providing such a great day outdoors for our kids!

President & CEO **Phil Acord** helped **Lawson** show off his fish.

Amauri wasn't nervous at all about putting a worm on her hook.





Aliah (left) and Mary Elizabeth (right) were proud of their catch.







Pictured here are, from left to right, agency Vice President Katie Harbison, volunteer Mac McGee, President & CEO Phil Acord, and Board Chairman Paul Fitzgerald.

Brian and **Carl Phillips** relaxed under a shady tree.

Financial Donations This list of financial contributions is from March 1 – June 30, 2018. 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 summer 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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or the second year, staff from **EMJ Corporation** welcomed our children to their headquarters for an Easter egg hunt and party in March. Once again, they outdid themselves. The children were guided through two floors of offices where they found activity stations, a photo booth with the Easter bunny, a picnic snack, and a wonderfully imaginative

Monica Mendez Esta Fay Miller Gloria Miller & David Bowman Roberta & Michael Mullins Suzy Neal Larry Parks Linda Price Alexis Probasco Tennessee Association for Children's Early Education

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Easter at EMJ!

EMJ employee John **Giardino** was happy to help **Olivia** make an Easter picture frame to take home.



Pictured here with the Easter Bunny are, back row, Naguita Lester, Liz Adams and Kisha Fifer; middle row JaRiah, Jakarri, Shekinah, Jayla, Brian, A'riyah, Kobe and Chloe; and front row Delilah,

indoor Easter egg hunt!



Bentleigh was ready to start collecting Easter eggs.



Willow on the field trip to EMJ.



RaftOne in Ducktown, Tennessee, recently treated the kids and staff in our Residential Program to a fantastic time rafting and ziplining. Pictured in the front of this raft are Residential staff members Melissa Hand (left) and Jennifer Davis (right), along with their guide Brent Rogers in the back.

Several of the children in our summer camp participated in **Operation Get Active**, a healthy initiative that uses the game of soccer to encourage youth to live active, healthy lifestyles. A tournament was held at the end of the summer for all of those who participated.

We Lyve Our Friends!

We invited our faithful friends and volunteers to join us in April for our annual Friends Appreciation Luncheon so we could thank them for their generosity. Attendees were treated to lunch and a special musical performance by the adorable children in our program. We then honored several individuals and groups for their outstanding contributions of time and energy to our agency and our children. The 2018 honorees included UTC Social Work Program for School Group of the Year; Adelaide Aho, as Youth Volunteer of the Year; and Sue "Nana" Newman as Adult Volunteer of the Year. TVA Nuclear was also recognized for their continued partnership with the agency. We would like to sincerely thank the hundreds of volunteers who contribute thousands of hours to our agency every year!



Pre-K teacher Hannah

Harris (left) is pictured

Sue "Nana" Newman, who received our Adult Volunteer of the Year award.

here with her grandmother

Our Youth Volunteer of the Year **Adelaide Aho** (left) is pictured here with former Director of Volunteer Services **Virginia Rushton**.



Sustaining Board member Ross Schram was happy to chat with

friend and current Board member



Kyndall, **Mirah**, **Shekinah** and **Chloe** served as our special greeters for this year's event.



Pictured here are former Board Chairman **Bob Farnsworth**, Sustaining Board member **Jim Ensign**, current Board member **Ray Feher** and current Board Chairman **Paul Fitzgerald**.



Patsi Walker.

Keller Williams RED Day

More than 200 **Keller Williams** agents and staff showed up on our main campus bright and early on May 10th for their annual RED Day, a day set aside by Keller Williams offices nationwide for employees to spend time giving back to the community. We are so grateful to this group, who has chosen to help our agency for the past seven years. This year they tackled interior projects such as cleaning, painting, replacing ceiling tiles and organizing. Exterior projects included pressure washing, painting, mulching playgrounds, trimming hedges, cleaning the pool, and more. This is always a tremendous help in getting us ready for summer. Thank you to our wonderful Keller Williams friends for your continued support!

Friends and fellow agents with Keller Williams Realty Chattanooga Teresa Clegg (left) and Jennifer Regan (right) always have a fun time volunteering together.

Agency Vice President Katie Harbison is pictured here with Fidel Fonseca.

We always have lots of mulch to spread! Helping us out on this day were, Mark Hite (driving) and Lee Hobbs with Keller Williams Greater Downtown Realty, and Brad Fuqua with Keller Willliams' Hixson office.



Wilder Robinson and Heidi Foster finished up some painting at our new Transitional Living units.

Jeremy Ames with First **Title Insurance Company** gave our sidewalks a good cleaning.

Agents Warnie Shaw, Anny Jones and Diane Patty worked hard to make our property look great.

Splish Splash!

Tennessee American Water once again helped us kick-off the summer season with a pool party on May 30th for the children participating in our summer program. Dozens of our school-aged children participated in this year's event and received goody bags, a beach towel, popsicles and cupcakes. In addition to speaking to the children and handing out gifts, Tennessee American Water also filled up our 35,000-gallon pool at no cost to us, which is a big help to our budget!

Thank you, TAWC!





William (left) and Jaelyne (right) showed off all the cool gifts Tennessee American Water provided for the party.



All the children were excited to get summer started with a splash. Pictured here are, from left to right, Ja'Liyah, Zaniyah, Khloe, and Makayla.

AROUND THE CENTER

Every summer we host a career week for the children in our summer program. Some of our guests this year included **Tula** and **Kinnawa** from **Power 94** and **Tobe Taylor**, owner of **T2 Fitness**. Representatives from the **Humane Educational Society**, the **Chattanooga Fire Department**, and

the Chattanooga
Police
Department also
came out to spend
time with our children
and expose them to
a variety of career
options!

The downtown location of **Ben & Jerry's** chose to support our agency once again 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 had a great time and collected over \$300! One of our youngest customers was excited to have her picture made with our ice cream cone, former staff member **Monica Rucker**.



In April, our friends from Keller Williams
Realty Greater Downtown and Keller Williams Realty
Chattanooga hosted a bowling tournament to help us purchase appliances for our new Transitional Living units.
They ended up raising more than \$8,000! We are so grateful for their constant support and generosity! Pictured here, from left to right are Jason Carr,
Brad Elmore (back), Kelly

Elmore (back), Eric Tidmore, Liz Tidmore, Jan Tiano, Mark Hite, Chris Devoid and Tricia Heider.

We are always happy to have members of **Chattanooga Downtown Rotary Club** come by to read to our children.

This was the fourth year they have chosen to come to our agency, and we hope they will continue. Pictured here is **John Farrimond** reading to one of our Pre-K classes. We think that he and the other Rotarians had just as much fun as the kids!



As a follow up to National Foster Care Month in May, we hosted a Foster Care Info Night in early June. We showed a short film on a child's experience in foster care, provided information on fostering, and had current foster parents share their experiences. If you would like information on becoming a foster parent, please call us at 423-693-2580 or email fostercare@chamblisscenter.org.



Linda and Russell Friberg have taken advantage of our new Classroom Sponsorship Program. In addition to their financial contribution, they are volunteering in our Tumblers classroom. Russell Friberg is pictured here with Aaron (left) and Mateo (right). If you would like to learn more about becoming a classroom sponsor, please call 423-468-1139.



adidas

Each year the **Chattanooga Tennis Foundation** pays for a tennis coach to teach the game to the children in our summer program. The coach works with our kids on basic skills, rules and sportsmanship. Coach **Carl Phillips** is pictured here with, from left to right, **Kaleb, Yaretzi, and Jasmyn**.







Every Spring we celebrate our wonderful teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. We treated our teachers, like **Ashley Jackson** pictured here, to coffee and muffins, gave them custom tote bags and finished the week with a catered lunch. And, although the celebration is held to a week, we appreciate all they do throughout the year.



315 GILLESPIE ROAD CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Chattanooga, TN Permit No. 1308

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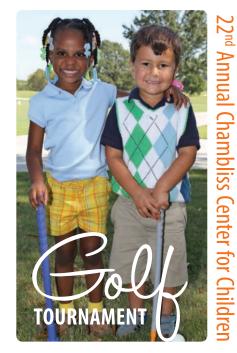












Tuesday, September 18, 2018 Council Fire Golf Club

For more information, contact Katie Harbison at kcharbison@chamblisscenter.org or 423-468-1122.





We just celebrated anniversaries for each of our thrift stores! The Thrift Store — Red Bank just completed their first year, and financially, business far exceeded our expectations. The Thrift Store — Brainerd has been a great source of income for our agency for 12 years.

We invite you to shop and/or donate at either of our convenient locations. If you have larger items, like furniture, to donate, please call us for a pick-up.

The Thrift Store — Brainerd 3723 Brainerd Road 423-698-3730 (Mon,Wed, or Fri pickup)

The Thrift Store — Red Bank 1936 Dayton Boulevard 423-498-2101 (Tue or Thurs pickup) In addition to our in-store products, we list some of our higher-end and unique items on eBay. If you have an item you think would do well in an online auction, please contact

Cheryl Hooks at our Brainerd store (423-698-3730) or Amanda Claiborne at our Red Bank store (423-498-2101). Your support is greatly appreciated!

