



Volunteers collecting items at participating grocery store

The Shower of Love Collective Drive Adds 10th Partner Agency in 2015

The Shower of Love family has grown again and has added Sts. Joachim & Ann Care Service as the 10th partnering agency to the event! Other partnering agencies include Birthright of St. Charles and Wentzville, Crisis Nursery, Mary Queen of Angels, Nurses for Newborns, Thrive St. Louis, The Sparrow's Nest Maternity Home, Our Lady's Inn and Youth in Need. These agencies serving St. Charles County families provide crisis intervention, counseling, housing, parenting classes, nursing support, supplies of baby-care items and other services.

In April, the 9th Annual Shower of Love collected over \$96,000 in donations, reaching over \$650,000 in total donations since the event started. "Through actions large and small, collective and individual, our community provides basic baby-care necessities through the Shower of Love collection drive for indigent families to thrive. Providing a baby with diapers, formula and basic baby-care necessities creates an immediate, positive impact in the life of the baby and the life of the family," says Michelle McElfresh, Shower of Love Coordinator.

The Shower of Love began in 2007 after critical child abuse incidences occurred in St. Charles County. These tragedies led to the formation of a Child Summit to determine the best way to support families in need, reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect, and help young families facing stressful situations. The Shower of Love collection drive was created from the Child Summit as a tangible way to help families in need by providing basic baby-care items.

"We are already planning for the 10th annual Shower of Love in April, 2016. Churches, businesses and groups are needed to host collection drives during the month of April, and on April 28, 2016, volunteers are needed to collect donations at participating grocery stores." For more information, contact Michelle McElfresh at 636.939.6200 or mmcelfresh@sckkids.org or visit www.freewebs.com/showeroflove.

CCRB Receives Awards

The CCRB and the Shower of Love event are honored to be recognized by two area agencies. The prestigious Community Builder's Award from the Community Council of St. Charles was awarded to CCRB's "Shower of Love" event in August and the "Inn-credible Partner" Award was presented to the staff of CCRB at the Luncheon for Life benefiting Our Lady's Inn in September.

The Community Builder Awards recognizes individuals, groups, and organizations that work together with community partners to meet community needs and to create solutions that improve the lives of fragile individuals and families. The "Inn-credible Partner" award is annually given to an agency or individual that support women's programs and services.



Michelle McElfresh accepts Community Builder's Award from Community Council

Mid-Year 2015 Agency Reports (January-June 2015)

Twenty-seven agencies now provide services for St. Charles County children and youth through forty-two programs delivered at schools, in the community, and at agency locations. Recent mid-year reports covering the January to June 2015 time period show that over 43,000 children and youth and over 3,800 parents, guardians, and professionals received services. Ninety-five percent of all agency outcomes were met or exceeded. The following outlines the types of services funded through the Children's Services Fund of St. Charles County, which is administered by the Community and Children's Resource Board.

Crisis Intervention, Counseling, and Psychiatry services were offered to 2,683 children and youth through Behavioral Health Response, Catholic Family Services, Children's Home Society, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, Preferred Family Healthcare, and Youth In Need.

Home and Community Based programs involved 2,199 children and youth through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri, Boys and Girls Club of St. Charles, Center for Autism Education, CHAD's Coalition for Mental Health, The Child Center, Children's Home Society, Crider Health Center, Crisis Nursery, F.A.C.T. (Family Advocacy and Community Training), Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition, National Alliance for Mental Health - NAMI, Nurses for Newborns, Saints Joachim and Ann Care Service, and United Services for Children.

Respite services were provided to 280 children through the Crisis Nursery, Bethany Christian Services, Children's Home Society, and Community Living, Inc.

School-based Prevention programs were presented to 37,714 children and youth in areas such as bullying prevention (Crider Health Center, Catholic Family Services), sexual abuse prevention (The Child Center), and substance abuse prevention (Preferred Family Healthcare). Suicide prevention education is offered to students at the Francis Howell, City of St. Charles, Wentzville, and Ft. Zumwalt School Districts through Kids Under Twenty One (KUTO) and CHAD's Coalition for Mental Health. Thrive St. Louis provides sexual abstinence education at Ft. Zumwalt, St. Charles City, Orchard Farm, and Francis Howell school districts.

Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment services engaged 227 youth in programs sponsored by Bridgeway Behavioral Services and Preferred Family Healthcare.

Teen and Unwed Mom programs involved 94 youth through Our Lady's Inn and Youth In Need.

Temporary Shelter services were offered by Youth In Need to 39 youth. **Transitional Living** services were also provided to 10 youth by Youth In Need.

Applications for the 2016 Children's Trust Fund License Plate program fund are available online (www.stcharlescountykids.org) or through the agency's Sharepoint online portal system. Funds must be used to support, develop, implement, and evaluate child abuse and neglect prevention programs and services in St. Charles County.



“We receive funds annually from the Children's Trust Fund through the sale of specialty license plates. Since 1998, this program has provided \$283,494 for child abuse prevention services in our community,” says Jan Lewien, Grants Administrator for the CCRB. The deadline for submitting applications is 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 24, 2015. Applications are reviewed by the CCRB Directors, and allocation decisions will be announced in January 2016.

CCRB and Partner Agency News

United Services for Children is excited to offer aqua therapy! Conducted by a certified physical therapist, this one-on-one therapy is provided at the Renaud Spirit Center in O'Fallon, Missouri. Therapy skills include: strengthening, coordination, balance, transitional movements, and sensory experiences while in the water. All major insurances are accepted. Please call Simone Walker at 636-926-2700 to get started.

Lutheran Family and Children's Services has a new full-time therapist in their St. Charles office. Dan Cooper is a LPC with seven years experience. Prior to joining the agency this summer, he worked for Preferred Family Healthcare and Crider Center. He has interest in art therapy and meditation. Dan also has two cats and enjoys art, playing guitar, and ice hockey.

The Farm, an adolescent recovery community sponsored by Bridgeway Behavioral Health, celebrated its one-year anniversary in August. The Farm is proud to be now serving St. Charles County families. In August they added a goat enclosure and are looking forward to their new "Farmily" members joining them. The residents have perfected the rope swing over their lake and have also constructed a 150 foot slip-n-slide.

Community Living announces upcoming workshops and fun activities: Feed Your CLI Knowledge - September 24, October 20, and November 11 are monthly informational sessions; Special Needs Trust Workshop - October 28; and November 14 is the Quarter Auction and Shopping Extravaganza at the Elks Lodge. Call 636-970-2800 for more information.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED IN 2015

The Community and Children's Resource Board proudly announces new appointments to the organization's Board of Directors. By recommendation of County Executive Steve Ehlmann and confirmation by the St. Charles County Council last January, three area residents assumed responsibilities that include fiscal oversight of the St. Charles County Children's Services Fund.

Joining the Board of Directors are Dave Beckering and Molly Dempsey while Linda Haberstroh was re-appointed. Mr. Beckering is a retired Boeing executive and currently serves as President of the St. Charles City Council. He holds an Associate's degree in Liberal Arts from St. Mary's College, in addition to over 50+ hours in Business Administration from Lindenwood University. Mrs. Dempsey was employed at the St. Charles County Board of Realtors, but will begin a new work assignment with the St. Charles County Arena in early September. Linda Haberstroh, President of Phoenix Textile Corporation, was re-appointed for her second term. Beckering and Dempsey are replacing Jill Skyles of Barnes-Jewish-St. Peters and Steve Stahl, a retired educator.



Linda Haberstroh



Dave Beckering



Molly Dempsey



Bruce Sowatsky,
CCRB Executive Director

For the past three years, a large group of St. Louis leaders have been conducting a feasibility study to determine whether or not St. Louis has the ability to join an increasing number of cities embarking on a collective impact effort. The goal of this effort is to help children and youth successfully navigate childhood and adolescence so that they are prepared for college and/or the workforce. This effort, known as Ready by 21, has been steadily growing since it passed the due diligence phase. Leadership from the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County and St. Charles County have been meeting since last summer and selected the United Way to act as the backbone of the effort, hired an executive director, established a data team, and created developmental work/planning groups. With additional leadership members selected, this effort is now on the cusp of launching.

The data team, with help from Brad Smith, of the St. Charles City-County Library district, established baseline data points, and a number of CCRB partner agency representatives are participating in the work groups. The hope is to align common outcomes that significantly lead to community impact within each county and across the region. Workgroups are looking at best practices and hoping to establish mechanisms for greater collaboration. As other leaders join this effort, we will soon establish our first set of goals, based on zip code and/or school district.

St. Charles County is well positioned to participate in this effort. Our long history of true collaboration across community sectors and with each other, our investment in children with strong clinical outcomes, and strong desire and dedication to improve upon our strengths will enable us to improve on an already strong record of success. We will not rest on our laurels and past accomplishments. Instead, we will continue to strive to improve the lives of all children and youth in our community. I encourage everyone to join in.

CCRB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Kevin Cantwell
Chairperson
- Ron Berrey, Ed.D.
Vice-Chair
- Luanne Cundiff
Treasurer
- Dave Beckering
- Molly Dempsey
- Linda Haberstroh
- Larry Marty
- Nancy Matheny
- Andrea Robertson

Staff:

- Bruce Sowatsky
Executive Director
- Janet Lewien
Grants Administrator
- Michelle McElfresh
Administrative Assistant
Coordinator, Shower of Love

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CCRB FUNDED AGENCIES

Behavioral Health Response (BHR).....	314.628.6223
Bethany Christian Services.....	314.781.6363
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri.....	636.939.2227
Boys and Girls Club of St. Charles.....	636.946.6255
Bridgeway Behavioral Health.....	636.757.2300
Catholic Family Services.....	636.281.1990
Center for Autism Education	
CHAD's Coalition for Mental Health.....	314.952.2046
Child Center.....	636.332.0899
Children's Home Society.....	636.940.1119
Community Living, Inc.....	636.970.2800
Crider Health Center.....	636.332.6000
Crisis Nursery-St. Charles/Wentzville.....	636.947.0600
	636.887.3070
Eleventh Circuit Family Court	636.949.3040
F.A.C.T.....	636.949.2425
Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition.....	314.367.8373
Kids Under Twenty One.....	314.963.7571
Lutheran Family & Children's Services.....	636.949.5522
NAMI	314.962.4670
Nurses for Newborns.....	314.544.3433
Our Lady's Inn.....	636.398.5375
Preferred Family Healthcare.....	636.946.6376
Saints Joachim and Ann Care Service.....	636.441.1302
Salvation Army.....	636.240.4969
ThriVe St. Louis	314.783.3040
United Services for Children.....	636.926.2700
Youth In Need.....	636.946.5600