

5th Annual Shower of Love



Over \$61,000 in baby-care items and cash was raised during the 5th Annual Shower of Love in April 2011. Nearly 300 volunteers collected over 34,000 diapers, 92,000 wipes, 1,000 bottles of baby lotion and wash, 300 cans of formula and thousands of other items. All items collected went to Birthright-St. Charles and Nurses for Newborns Foundation (new this year to the Shower of Love), Youth In Need, Our Lady's Inn, Mary Queen of Angels, and the Crisis Nursery.

During the month of April, businesses, churches and individuals held collection drives for basic baby-care necessities. Businesses involved in the drive included Vatterott and Sanford Brown colleges, Fairwinds-River's Edge, St. Johns Banks, New Frontier Banks in St. Charles, O'Fallon and Winghaven, the St. Charles City-County Library District, West County Day School,

Prudential Select Properties-Mid Rivers Mall Drive, Nordyne, Mid Rivers Christian Church, Christ the King Lutheran Church, and St. John's United Church of Christ-Wolfrum Road and on Fifth Street.

On April 28 and 30, 2011, volunteers gathered donations at participating Dierbergs, Mid Town IGA, Schnucks, Walmart and Shop 'n Save grocery stores. "The generosity of St. Charles County residents is just overwhelming," says Michelle McElfresh, event coordinator. "We know that times are difficult for many families, and yet we were amazed at the number of items given to our volunteers that went to help our community's babies and young families."



The CCRB organized the first event in April 2007 in response to several fatal child abuse incidents. To date, the Shower of Love has raised over \$280,000 to benefit moms and babies being served by area agencies. "It just goes to show you the warm, caring residents around us and how they respond to needs of their neighbors," says Michelle McElfresh, Shower of Love coordinator. The 6th annual Shower of Love is scheduled for Spring 2012 (date to be determined). To get involved, contact Michelle McElfresh at 636.939.6200 or mamelfresh@sbcglobal.net.

White Christmas Program

C.C.R.B. Board member, Val White, and her husband, Steve, owner of White Auto Body located in O'Fallon, Missouri and Florissant, annually sponsor the White Christmas program. Individuals or community organizations having transportation needs can submit an application for a car, explaining how the automobile will assist them in becoming self-sufficient. This program began in the late 1990's in Utah and has since involved nearly 40 shops nationwide. Applications are due by November 4, 2011 and can be downloaded from www.whiteautobody.com. For more information, contact Val White at whitechristmas@whiteautobody.com or 636-978-6389.



Mid-Year 2011 Agency Reports (January-June 2011)

Nearly 43,000 St. Charles County children, youth, and families received services provided through CCRB funded-agencies during the first six months of 2011. This is an increase of over 13,000 children, youth, and families from the first six months in 2010. The following lists the types of services and agencies funded through CCRB:

Respite services were provided to 340 children through the Crisis Nursery, Children's Home Society, and Community Living, Inc.

School-based prevention services involved 39,341 children and youth in programs such as bullying prevention (Crider Health Center and Catholic Family Services), sexual abuse prevention (The Child Center), and substance abuse prevention (Preferred Family Healthcare). A new partner for the 2011 year is Kids Under Twenty One (KUTO), which provides suicide prevention education at Francis Howell and Fort Zumwalt School Districts.

Substance abuse outpatient treatment services engaged 180 youth in programs sponsored by Bridgeway Behavioral Services and Preferred Family Healthcare.

Home and community based services reached 1,590 children and youth in St. Charles County with programs offered through Saints Joachim and Ann Care Service, Crider Health Center, the Crisis Nursery, Eleventh Circuit Court, FACT (Family Advocacy and Community Training), National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), and United Services. FACT provides a family-based component that works in conjunction with Crider Health Center's Partnership with Families program.

Crisis intervention, counseling, and psychiatric services were provided to 526 children and youth through Catholic Family Services, Crider Health Center, Salvation Army, Kids in the Middle, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, and Youth In Need.

Teen parent programs were provided to 158 youth through Our Lady's Inn and Youth In Need. Nurses for Newborns joined CCRB in 2011 in providing teen parent services.

Temporary shelter services were offered by Youth In Need to 209 youth. **Transitional living services** were also provided to 10 youth by Youth In Need.

Children's Services Resource Boards Form Alliance

The Community and Children's Resource Board staff has begun meeting with representatives of the St. Louis County Children's Fund, the Mental Health Board of St. Louis, the Lincoln County Resource Board and the Franklin County Resource Board. "All of the regional children's services fund providers share common goals helping agencies meet the needs of children, youth, and families needing mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and services related to the prevention of child abuse and neglect," says Bruce Sowatsky, C.C.R.B. Executive Director. "We meet to discuss issues relative to our own communities. As we work with our various Board of Directors, we want to ensure that all of our dollars are maximized to their fullest given the expanding need that our communities continue to face."



Children's Trust Fund Applications Available for 2012 Funding

The CCRB announces that applications for the 2012 Children's Trust Fund License Plate program fund are available on-line (www.stcharlescountykids.org) or by mail. Call 636-939-6200 for details. The deadline for submitting applications is 2:00 p.m. on December 30, 2011 (Friday). Funds must be used to support, develop, implement and evaluate child abuse and neglect prevention programs and services in St. Charles County.

CCRB Conducts Client Satisfaction Survey

Sixteen agencies providing direct client services in 2010 to children and youth in St. Charles County and funded through CCRB participated in a client satisfaction survey beginning in February 2011, culminating in a report to the Board of Directors in July. Nine of the ten service areas were evaluated, which included the following services: counseling, home and community-based, crisis intervention, outpatient psychiatry, outpatient substance abuse, respite, teen parents, temporary shelter, and transitional living.

Agencies involved in the survey were: Bridgeway Behavioral Health, Catholic Family Services, Children's Home Society, Community Living, Inc., Crider Health Center, Crisis Nurseries, F.A.C.T., Kids in the Middle, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), Preferred Family Healthcare, Salvation Army, St. Joachim and Ann Care Service, United Services, and Youth In Need. Conducting the survey was Berry Organizational & Leadership Development out of Defiance, Missouri. "This 150+ page survey document received a 30 percent return rate, and it provided our agency partners and their staff opportunities to hear the family voice that reflect opinions on service delivery," says Jan Lewien, Grants Administrator. "Agencies are now using that information to help guide them in a self-analysis process. The survey is a tool that is distributed every two years and allows CCRB to gauge the level of satisfaction and understanding of the families involved in receiving services through our partner agencies."

Overall, parents and caregivers gave high marks in overall satisfaction in services provided to children and youth and indicated that they would use the service again, if needed, in the future. It was noted that many services are making major impacts on home and school life, including behavior, grades or attendance at school. To read the full Satisfaction Survey report, visit the CCRB website (www.stcharlescountykids.org) under the Publications page.

Partner Agency News.....

Our Lady's Inn Pay It Forward Program: The moms staying at Our Lady's Inn have opportunity to learn how to make jewelry and greeting cards from professionals. This activity increases self-esteem, promotes socialization, increases employment skills and 100% of the profit goes back to Our Lady's Inn, helping to ensure future mothers can benefit from the same quality care. The bead and card supplies are donated from community groups.

Community Living will hold its 12th Annual Legacy Ball on January 28, 2012, from 6 p.m. to midnight at Old Hickory Golf Club in St. Peters. Proceeds benefit Community Living's programs, which reach over 800 individuals with disabilities and their families. For more information, please call the Development Department at (636) 970-2800.

The new Program Coordinator for Crisis Nursery's St. Charles, St. Charles West, and Wentzville sites is Amy Schwartzkopf, LCSA. Amy is returning to Crisis Nursery and has extensive experience in providing therapeutic services to families as well as staff supervision, program initiation, and grant management.

Crisis Nursery has named Bruce Sowatsky, CCRB Executive Director, as recipient of their "Guardian Angel Award," which will be announced at this year's Over the Top for Tots event, scheduled for November 4, 2011. This award is presented annually to recognize community leaders who advocate for children and youth. The event will take place at the Columns in St. Charles from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Three youth in the Transitional Living Program at Youth In Need graduated from high school this past spring and two of them have begun college at Lindenwood University and St. Charles Community College. They join two other TLP youth now in college – both at the community college. The third graduate had a problem with her financial aid but is planning on attending in January.

Denise Liebel has been named Executive Director of United Services, replacing Billy Collier. Denise is former Executive Director of the Community Council of St. Charles County. Best wishes to Billy on her retirement and to Denise as she steps into her new position.

NOTES FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

While national economic news remains pessimistic, locally we have seen some signs of an improvement. For each of the past six months, sales tax revenues have been higher than the same month in 2010 with revenues up by a total of 4.1%. This increase is impressive given that we anticipated a 1.5% increase. While we don't consider ourselves out of the woods just yet, these indicators are good news when it comes to budgeting for next year.



Bruce Sowatsky, Executive Director

Whereas we anticipated that we would need to trim our services budget for 2012, if revenues continue on this slow and steady course, we may be able to expand services next year. Utilization by our current partners has remained high again this year so lapsed dollars will remain lower. However, with anticipated growth on the revenue side, we can continue to meet the needs of a growing population and for children who have been impacted by the weakened economy over the past five years.

Thanks to all who continue to shop locally and thanks to our partnering agencies who work so hard and effectively with families every day.

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2440 Executive Drive #214
St. Charles, MO 63303
Phone: 636-939-6200
Fax: 636-939-6202
www.stcharlescountykids.org

CCRB FUNDED AGENCIES

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|---|--------------|
| Bridgeway Behavioral Health | 636.757.2300 |
| Catholic Family Services | 636.498.2273 |
| 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 and Wentzville | 636.947.0600 |
| | 636.887.3070 |
| Eleventh Circuit Family Court | 636.949.3040 |
| F.A.C.T. | 636.949.2425 |
| Kids in the Middle | 314.909.9922 |
| Kids Under Twenty One | 314.963.7571 |
| Lutheran Family & Children's Services | 314.787.5100 |
| NAMI | 314.962.4670 |
| Nurses for Newborns Foundation | 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 |
| United Services | 636.926.2700 |
| Youth In Need | 636.946.5600 |