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Teamwork for Success



"He who opens a school door, closes a prison."
-- Victor Hugo



Education Center Success

Did you know that in 2012, Cathy's Home was converted into our Education and Resource Center? What you may not know is how the Education Center functions.

Students and volunteers show up daily after school. Students receive one on one tutoring in the center, a factor that helps get our children past many of their educational struggles and up to grade level.

For instance, we have one 3rd grader who had been missing nearly half, or more, of his spelling words each week. This week? He only missed two! And one of our middle school girls recently won the spelling bee at school. She's only in 6th grade, but won in a competition that included 7th and 8th graders!

Amy Kingery, our former Education Center Director who is also our Case Manager, had this to say, "My time has been split among many things. Recently, Sarah Hopkins has taken over the Education Center, and has been able to focus on researching what each of our children are working on in school and how to provide further enrichment for them. For example, she actively knows if a child is struggling in a certain area and comes prepared with a specific activity to help reinforce that skill. The children are not always excited about it, but it will contribute to their overall success. Additionally, they know she cares about them. She is in our homes full-time this semester and able to build relationships in multiple settings. What a blessing Sarah is to the ministry!"


Providing a professional, yet traditional family home for abused & neglected children in mid-Missouri since 1991.



*A Safe Place to Be a Child.
A Place to Find Hope.*
26 Years and counting.


Children placed in our care are facing an uphill battle in many realms. For instance, one risk factor is the children's past educational neglect and struggles in school. In 2015, 54% of youth residing with us were reading below grade level. However, being placed in the safe, nurturing and loving environment of Coyote Hill is a huge step in helping them overcome and succeed.

Another important factor is the wonderful support our children receive from our local Harrisburg R-VIII school district. They patiently work with our kids, in spite of behavior issues and educational deficiencies, showing grace while truly trying to get to the heart of their issues.

Some days it is the secretaries Ms. Harrison, Ms. Malone, and Mrs. McCallister simply offering some extra TLC and a listening ear. Other days, it's the principals Ms. Strodman, Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Combs who assist our kids in learning to respect boundaries, themselves, and others. And it's the teachers who pour in countless additional hours to come up with the best plan for a child to be successful academically and behaviorally in their classroom.

Take Eleanor*, for instance. Eleanor is a teenager who arrived a few months ago, yet in her short time with us, she's fallen in love with the people who work with her at Harrisburg High School. She's leaving us soon, but is requesting to continue at Harrisburg schools. School Superintendent

Lynn Proctor has spoken with multiple professionals regarding this, in order to grant permission for Eleanor to continue here once she moves away.

Mrs. Proctor wrote the following note in 2011, and it still holds true today:

Our district works to make the school experience of Coyote Hill's children a positive and productive one. We know that our students who live at Coyote Hill come to us with much more "baggage" than any child deserves to carry. Fortunately, we have faculty and staff with huge hearts and open arms, and hopefully we are a part of making a positive difference for these children. The neatest aspect of our relationship with Coyote Hill children is that the blessings go both ways. They often bring joy and inspiration to us as we work with them each day.



*name changed for sake of confidentiality

A Safe Place to Be a Child



Pancake Breakfast

Join us for this event that's been a part of Coyote Hill since 1997; 20 years of Pancake Breakfasts! Help us celebrate by attending our longest standing tradition.

Saturday, March 11
7 AM to 12 PM
Memorial Baptist Church

(1634 Paris Rd, Columbia)

Adults: \$5
 Ages 3 to 12: \$3
 Under Age 3: FREE

All proceeds benefit the Recreation Fund for our homes. This fund allows our kids to play sports in the summer, take family vacations, attend concerts, go to camp & more!

Be watching www.coyotehill.org for a listing of the morning's live entertainment. Contact caroline@coyotehill.org if you have questions.

10th Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, May 8
 11:30 - 1 PM: Lunch
 1 PM: Shotgun Start

Location:
 Country Club of Missouri

Cost:
 \$600 per Team of 4 | \$275 Hole Sponsor



Presented by:

DREWING
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Mercedes-Benz of Columbia and

BMW

of Columbia drawingauto.com

Format: 18 Hole, 4 Person Scramble Lunch and Drinks Provided
 Additional Contests: Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Hole-in-One Chances

A big THANK YOU to our sponsors:



Larry & Anna Gross



Email Kelly Myers, kelly@coyotehill.org for details, or visit www.coyotehill.org/golfforkids for more info and a printable registration brochure.

WE HAVE

TAX CREDITS

Don't forget - we've been awarded \$400,000 toward the Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) tax credits. Donations of \$1,000 or more are eligible for a 50% Missouri state tax credit. All donations will be used to build a new 5,500 sq. ft. home for children - The Petersheim Home.

On average, we turn away one child placement each day. Donate today and help build another home for children, while receiving an awesome tax break!

To reserve YOP Credits, or if you would like more information on the project, contact Kari Hopkins, kari@coyotehill.org or 573-874-0179.

LOVE: Beyond Valentine's Day



Heart shaped food (pancakes for breakfast, pizza for supper) was the theme in The Wright Home.

Sure, Valentines Day is a wonderful day to express love. These photos give a small glimpse of that.

Yet it has to be a day-to-day thing here at Coyote Hill; finding ways to show children genuine love. Our Equine Program Director, Rebecca Buchholz, explains one recent experience, "I overheard one of the teen boys telling a volunteer that he knew I loved him and his friend. He then listed off the fun things we do together, told how I came to one of his sporting games and how I talk to the other boy about cars, etc. He gets it; he was sure of how much I cared for him and his friend - and not because of my words. What would happen if we didn't just tell people they are loved, but made sure that they KNEW it by our actions?"



Chocolate covered strawberries: an Atherton Home tradition



Memorial Gifts

Memorial and honor gifts must be received by the 12th of this month in order to be included in next month's newsletter.



In Loving Memory of **Dwayne Baskett**
 Contributed by *Lanelle Baskett*

In Loving Memory of **Susanne Baskett**
 Contributed by *Helen Kanatzar*

In Loving Memory of **Molly Thomas Bowden**
 Contributed by *David & Beverly Thomas*

In Loving Memory of **Bill Bradford**
 Contributed by *Alan Easley*

In Loving Memory of **Bill Bradshaw**
 Contributed by *Phyllis Caudle*
Jeanne & Randy Filger
Carl & Margaret Nichols
Cecelia Kersey
Timothy & Lisa Reed
Jane & Lyle Johnson
Jerome Sigmund

In Loving Memory of **Robert Burdick**
Steve Vida
Anna Wanamaker
 Contributed by *Jerry & Maggie Ubl*

In Loving Memory of **Daphne Edwards**
 Contributed by *Millersburg Baptist Church*

In Loving Memory of **Chris Elliott**
 Contributed by *Barbara Baker*

In Loving Memory of **Ann Gregory**
 Contributed by *Harlan & Frances Ferguson*
Henderson's Drug Store

In Loving Memory of **Sharon Haak**
 Contributed by *Patricia Haak*

In Loving Memory of **Bobby Johnson**
 Contributed by *Frederick & Nancy Fritsch*

In Loving Memory of **T.J. Carr**
Blessing Noel Kingery
 Contributed by *Lucille Fenton*

In Loving Memory of **John Kuntz**
 Contributed by *Chuck Baker*
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Dr. R.M & Brenda Thornsberry

In Loving Memory of **Bud Little**
 Contributed by *Virgil & Joy Gardner*

In Loving Memory of **Beryl & Betty McBride**
Jeff Wilcoxson
 Contributed by *Larry & Nancy Wilcoxson*

In Loving Memory of **Amanda McDaniel**
 Contributed by *Miles & Lisa McCoy*
Leeclair & Martha Smith

In Loving Memory of **Jim Nordson**
 Contributed by *Paul & Rebecca Dieckmann*

In Loving Memory of **Jim & Mary Powers**
 Contributed by *Larry & Judy Atterberry*

In Loving Memory of **Mike Schriener**
 Contributed by *Dean & Barbara Rauer*

In Loving Memory of **Alan Warden**
 Contributed by *Diane Warden*

In Loving Memory of **Curtis Wood**
 Contributed by *Robert & Susan Dawson*

In Loving Memory of **Jim Woodson**
 Contributed by *Mari Ann Bihr*

Honor Gifts

In Honor of **Jordan & Violeta Douce**
 Contributed by *Steve Judd*