



Liberi – Protector of Children

Winter
2017

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Michelle Ratcliff	Dr. Peggy Woodall
Martha Rodgers	Raymond Wright
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Want to have a fantastic night of fun, great food, and entertainment? Want to do that AND become a “protector of children?” Well, pull out your Mardi Gras clothes, strap on your dancin’ shoes, and practice saying, “Laissez les bons temps rouler!” because our February 18th Charity Ball and Coronation – The 4th Annual Mystic Krewe of Liberi Ball – is heading your way!

“Liberi” means “protector of children” and that is exactly what OCC does: we offer emergency shelter to children in crisis. Trust us, you DO NOT want to miss our Mystic Krewe of Liberi on February 18th at 6pm in the Historic Hamp Williams Building, 510 Ouachita Ave. in Hot Springs. Our Honorary Chairs – Rachel and David Mangan and the Royal Court will be led in with great fanfare, our DJ Doc Bryce will spin tunes sure to make you tap your toes, Bleu Monkey’s delicious food will tantalize your taste buds, our “spirits” will lift your spirits, juggler Justin Chastant and other entertainers will keep you in stitches, and Madam Zaheera – mystic reader of the ethers will reach over to the “other side” on your behalf! You can bid on amazing silent auction items and also invest in the lives of OCC kids.



The Ouachita Children's Center
&
Honorary Chairs
David and Rachel Mangan
are pleased to announce the 4th Annual
Mystic Krewe of Liberi
Charity Ball and Coronation
Saturday February 18, 2017, 6:00pm
at the Historic Hamp Williams Building

All proceeds benefit OCC
Tickets are \$75.00, subject to availability
501-623-5591 or purchase
online at www.occnet.org

OUACHITA
CHILDREN'S CENTER
Our Community,
Our Children

Six Weeks of Comfort and Joy!



The holidays can be stressful for everyone, but when you are a child in crisis and living in an emergency shelter, holidays are not always filled with warm memories or hopeful expectations. Thanks to our incredible community, however, our youth experienced six weeks of holiday comfort and joy!



It all began in mid-November, when First United Methodist Church of Hot Springs invited us to their Thanksgiving dinner. A few days later, our kids were treated as honored guests to see The Witness at the Hot Springs Convention Center. Right before Thanksgiving, OCC staff shared a “Family Potluck Dinner” with the kids and a great time was had by all.

With the arrival of December came an amazing army of volunteers who showed up with hearts full of compassion and love, making the holidays much easier on the hearts and minds of our kids. For example, Ms.



Pati Trippel gave a class in making gingerbread houses, then pet therapy dogs showed up and did what dogs do so well – played and comforted, and finally Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs Village gave us a pizza party – all in one day!



By mid-December, Berry Plastics showered our kids with gifts, the Woodmen of the World threw a fabulous Christmas party complete with food and gifts, the South Hot Springs Lion’s Club and Walmart donated gift cards for our kids to use, Road Riders for Jesus had a toy drive on our behalf, and Christ of the Hills United Methodist Women of Hot Springs Village – who already bring goodies and toiletries throughout the year, brought a generous donation for Christmas, and the Defenders Motorcycle Club blessed us with gift cards so our kids could shop for themselves. A big highlight of our holidays was the annual Christmas party with our Board of Directors, OCC staff, and, of course, our kids. After a wonderful feast, the party ended with a visit from Santa Claus and a room full of gifts made possible by the generosity of our community.



The last part of December included a Holiday Open House at our Clark County branch of Ouachita Children’s Center and Kendall Hancock State Farm Insurance sent clothes and food their way. Meanwhile, the Masons brought gifts and lots of yummy pizza, Teen Challenge of Arkansas came out on Christmas Day to carol to our kids, and Top Nails pampered our kids with manicures and special treatment. Cooks-R-Us came out three different times in December to give meal preparation instructions and then cooked with OCC kids who got to eat what they had prepared! To top it all off, Next Level Kitchen prepared a New Year’s Eve fun meal to help OCC welcome in 2017.



We are so grateful to be part of such a caring community of folks who recognize it takes a village to raise these children. Thank you so much for being living examples to these kids that there are good people in the world who care about them!

Ongoing Staff Training is Key

The challenges our staff face as they meet the needs of children in crisis are enormous. If you want to know what “super heroes” look like, go no further than the OCC staff who meet each new child, each new situation, and each new day with grace and courage. One of the ways our staff achieve such excellence is through ongoing training. In November, we were able to send two groups of our staff to National Training Conferences! Cathy Dickens - Clark County Services Coordinator, Megan Goldman – Residential Services Director, and Marcus Tatum – Case Management Assistant, attended the Healthy Teen Network Conference. Program Director Jackie Lacy-Diggins and Sue Legal – Compliance and Resource Development Director, attended the National Conference for Runaway and Homeless Youth. Having a thoroughly trained and prepared staff through ongoing training is key to ensuring that we offer OCC kids the best possible care. These training conferences were an important opportunity for our staff, and that will ultimately benefit our kids.



OCC Receives Basic Center Grant

We are pleased to announce that OCC has received a three year grant from the Federal Department of Children and Families. This has given us the resources to enhance our existing shelter services, including the hiring of a therapist in order to better meet the psycho-social needs of our children in crisis. The grant is only one part of our larger funding needs, but it helps us to remain true to our mission as a non-profit child advocacy organization that provides emergency shelter and quality services for youth and families, empowering them to achieve lifelong success.

Ouachita Area Youth Council Policy Café



The Ouachita Area Youth Council (OAYC) is a collaboration of area youth-serving agencies that formed several years ago thanks to the efforts of OCC Executive Director, Linda Ragsdale and OCC board members Pati Trippel and Carol Freeland. On September 30th, about 60 representatives from participating OAYC agencies came together with Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families to focus on issues, challenges, and solutions relevant to youth in crisis.

Donors August - December 2016

Danny Whitt & Ann Mayle-Whitt
Mark Brooks & Janette Kinder
Henry Browder & Janice Morrison -
In Memory of Mary Lou Lampman
Stephanie Alderdice - In Honor of
Kirby & Co.
Joe & Sue Allen
Latt & Terri Bachelor - In Memory of Betty
Jagoditsh
Susan Bean
George & Mary Kay Benkert
Shirley Boatman
Harvey & Barbara Bradstreet
Donald Brady
Bruce & Cheryl Burton
Ralph Butler
James & Peggy Cara
Sally Carder
Denise Carter-Gray



Robert & Janet Chastnat
Donald & Gerry Chism
Victor & Valerie Claar
Charlotte Clark
Dan & Joan Clinton - In Memory of
Betty Jagoditsh
William & Ruth Cluck
John & Franque Coleman
Vicki & Ken Cook - In Memory of
Eileen Crafton & Alfred Muldoon
Belinda Cosgrove - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Luck & Mary Cox
Vickie Davis - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Brenda Deckard
John Dews
Callie Dodd



David & Melissa Draper - In Memory of
Christine Norton & Edward Lampman
Robert & Jane Draper
Rick & Pam Dwyer
Kay Ekey
Max English
Brady Erickson
Oliver & Joyce Field
Horst & Dietlinde Fischer - In Honor of
Chappy & Susan Harper
Dennis Fitzgerald
Howard & Carol Freeland - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Mildred Fuller
Lorraine Garner
Melinda Gassaway
Robert & Martha Gilliam - In Memory of
Betty Jagoditsh
Chuck & Harolyn Hanna



Donors August - December 2016 (continued)

Susan Harper
William & Susan Harper
Lonnie & Kay Harrison
Ronald & Judy Harrison
Nell Harrod
Paul & Joyce Hayek
Russell & Marcia Hayes
Sabrina Heathcoat
Joshua & Amy Heathcock
James & Sharon Hess
Robert & Patricia Heusel - In Memory of
Betty Jagoditsh
Randy & Ann Hill
Tori Hill
Stacy Hudgens
Patricia Huggins
Hoa & Tuyet Huynh - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Betty Jagoditsh
William & Marilyn Janser
Janet Jenkins
David & Jane Jolly - In Honor of
Linda Ragsdale
Martin & Linda Koehn
Hal & Sue Koppel - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Kristen LaMadrid
Ricky Lee
Marc Levin & Daphne Pinkerson - In Honor
of Steve Nawojczyk
Golden Lloyd
Chad & Laura Lockwood
Henry & Jane Luschen
Michelle Mariencheck
Susan Marinick
Lewis & Sheri Mathews
Phillip & Janet McAdams
L. Kay McDonald
Frederick & Margaret Mergner
Deborah Miller
Douglas & Allison Miller
Annette Mitchell
Tom & Barbara Mitchell
John & Regenia Morgan - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Rosanne Murphy
Steve Nawojczyk - In Memory of Joe Poe
Bart & Bonnie Newman - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Richard & Linda Norman
Dean Norton
Bernard & Zina Nugent
Leslie Nutt
Scarlett Nuttall
Dolores Offerman
Jane Oliver
Jay & Gloria Olson
Donna Osborne
Ray & Kerry Owen - In Honor of
Chappy & Susan Harper
José & Annette Pallen - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Gail Parkerson
Joseph & Eleanor Pascual
Joe Patricio
Annabelle Patterson
Cindy Perez
Pam Plummer - In Honor of
Steve Nawojczyk
Earl & Constance Pritchett



Linda Ragsdale - In Memory of
Edward & Mary Lou Lampman
Michelle Ratcliff - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Kristin Raub
Thomas Riggins
Sarah Robbins - In Honor of
Megan Goldman
Martha Rodgers - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Tommy & Johnnie Roebuck
John Ross
Daniel Sampson
Richard & Sharon Sanaghan
Nick Sanders
Kate Schaffer - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Sandra Schepers
Leland Seba
Rebecca Seel
Stephen Seitz - In Honor of Mary Seitz
Jay & Shannon Shannon
Gene & Farideh Shelby - In Honor of
Ken & Vicki Cook
Gayle Shelton - In Honor of
Alan & Pati Trippel and Linda Ragsdale
Kimberly Shelton - In Honor of
Linda Ragsdale
Lynn Shock - In Memory of Jane Goldman
& In Honor of Megan Goldman
Lou & Susan Siegel - In Memory of Lewis &
Bernice Goltz and Rosalind Hudson
Carol Sikorski - In Memory of
Ethel Williams & Louise Williams Hays
Barbara Smith
Carrie Smith
Johnnie Smith
Martha Smithers
Karen Soerens
Frank & Sheryl Staggs - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Carol Stanfill
Sam & Elizabeth Stathakis
Wesley Stone
Howard & Tracy Sublett
Tom & Brenda Tirrell
Gary & Michelle Troutman
Mike & Peggy Turbyfill
Diane Vasica
Gary & Laura Vaughan
Michelle Watkins
Ruth Whartenby
John & Rebecca Whelan - In Honor of
Mickey & Sharon Cissell and David
Gillison, Jr.
Patricia White
Rocky & Diane White
Cynthia Williams - In Memory of
Edward Lampman
Patricia Williams
Robert & Peggy Woodall - In Memory of
John Woodall & Edward Lampman
Joe Woosley
Mary Carole Young - In Memory of
Betty Jagoditsh
Marlene Zenker
Afamilytree.com
Arkansas Passport Center
Arkansas Records Management, Inc.
Arkansas Welding & Industrial Supply



Baldwin Dentistry
BancorpSouth
Bank of the Ozarks
Bear State Bank
Bennett's Oaklawn Service, Inc.
Berry Plastics Corporation
The CALL
Central Arkansas Kiwi Chapter
Christ Lutheran Church
Christ of the Hills UMC - United Methodist
Women
Christway Unity Church
Community of Joy Lutheran Church
D & D Moving Co.
The Defenders Motorcycle Club
Delta Kappa Gamma
Eyecare Specialties
Final Touch Roofing, Inc.
First United Methodist Church
The Glory Barn Church - Ladies Ministries
Gospel Light Baptist Church
Grand Ave UMC - Open Door Sunday
School Class
Greater St. Paul Baptist Church
Hall & Koppel Orthodontics
Hot Springs Area Community Foundation
Hot Springs Emblem Club #194
Hot Springs LGBT Alliance
Hot Springs Masonic Lodge #62
Hot Springs Oaklawn Lions Club
Hot Springs Sunrise Rotary
Hot Springs Title Company
Ike Eisenhower Insurance Agency - State
Farm
Jordan, Woosley, Crone, & Keaton, Ltd.
Kendall Hancock Agency - State Farm
Lakeside High School Beta Club
LifeNet, Inc.
Majestic Lake Village Homeowners
Maxwell Blade Theatre of Magic
Morgan Stanley
Morning Joy Donuts
The Next Level Kitchen
Oaklawn UMC
Old Retired Fellas Breakfast Club
Pancho's Taco Pronto, Inc.
PEO Sisterhood Local Chapter CY
Piney Grove UMC - Believer's Sunday
School Class
Red Hat Lady's 'N' Red
Road Riders for Jesus
Shack Attack Pizza
Simmons Bank
South Hot Springs Lions Club
Southern Roots Salon
Statco-Palmer, Inc.
Sub-Par Disc Golf
Teen Challenge of Arkansas
Theta Kappa Alumni Association
Top Nails of Hot Springs Village
Toy Chest
United Way of Garland County
Village UMC - Explorer's Sunday School
Class
Village UMC - United Methodist Women
Walmart - Central Ave.
Wells Fargo Advisors
Witness Productions, Inc.
Woodmen of the World



New Volunteer Program Being Developed



Kids who come to OCC have experienced trauma, terror, and disruptive life circumstances. Some have been removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect, some have been court ordered as a last effort to keep them from being incarcerated. Whatever their reasons for being here, they arrive in need of care that will help them to turn their lives around. As you can imagine, OCC staff have their hands full to make this special care happen. In response to the growing needs of our children in crisis, we are developing a comprehensive new volunteer program that will facilitate the mission of OCC and supplement existing programs, activities, and needs.

Sallie Culbreth, our new Public Relations and Volunteer Coordinator, is working to create a volunteer calendar that gives community volunteers opportunities to do everything from clerical, maintenance, and food preparation, to sports, recreation, elective classes, hair care, and special events support. If you or your group are interested in becoming part of the OCC volunteer corps, please contact Sallie at 501-623-5591 x223 or email: sculbreth@occnet.org. We'll provide more detailed information as this program develops.



Kroger is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy... all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! Enroll your Kroger Rewards card today to help Ouachita Children's Center! <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com/>



When you shop at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/71-0497616>, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Ouachita Children's Center.

Offering the Best Care Possible for Youth in Crisis

Every child who comes through the doors of OCC is in crisis. They have experienced trauma and disruption in their young lives that most people cannot even begin to imagine. Some are here because their distress has been expressed through problem behavior, while others are here because they have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. Regardless of the reasons they arrived at OCC, they all have this in common: they need therapeutic, individualized care that will allow them to increase self-efficacy, raise self-esteem, and emerge from this place of temporary emergency shelter with a sense of hope for the future.

That's where our new Director of Programs, Ms. Jacqueline Lacy-Diggins NCC; LPC, comes in. Her experience in mental health dates back twenty years, providing therapeutic mental health services in a various capacities. She has spent the last thirteen years working with youth in crisis, including children in DYS custody, DCFS custody and parent's custody. She has an extensive clinical background – holding a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Chaminade University of Honolulu. She is a Nationally Certified Counselor, Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Arkansas, and a lifetime member of the Psi Chi honor society. She has a great deal of experience in program management, staff training and supervision, collecting data for outcome measurements, and assisting with various agency accreditations.

Jackie's impressive abilities, professional experience, and her education will ensure that OCC's continual focus on the therapeutic needs of our youth will be met. She is deeply committed to the effective care of our youth and works with the team to ensure that care is provided.





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HOT SPRINGS, AR 71902

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Fax: 501-623-4226
E-mail: info@occnet.org



CREDIBILITY • INTEGRITY • ACHIEVEMENT



Community Partner

WISH LIST

Items in Continual Need

Twin size Sheet Sets & Pillow cases
Bath Towels, washcloths & hand towels
Lice Treatments
Hygiene Products (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, etc.)
Fingernail polish
Flat Irons
Electric shavers & hair clippers
Anti-bacterial hand soap
Medicated foot spray or powder
Female sanitary products
Hair brushes (both boar bristle & plastic)
Wide tooth combs
Hair grease, pomade, pink oil, moisturizer & relaxer kits
Wave caps, shower caps & head scarves
Small Black rubber bands, barrettes & ponytail holders
New Men's & Boy's briefs & boxers
New Women's & Girl's underwear & bras
White t-shirts & sleeveless undershirts
Socks & shoes (Boy's & Girl's)
Sweatpants & Sweatshirts, all sizes
Graphic t-shirts

Special event tickets or passes
Gift Cards to Wal-Mart, Old Navy, TJ Maxx, Journeys, Hibbett Sports, Shoe Stores, etc.
School Supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks & paper)
Backpacks
Current Books & Magazines with Youth Appeal
Sofa set or sectional set
Cat Food for Tiger (OCC's therapy cat)
Winter gloves, hats and jackets
Summer bathing suits & towels
Stainless steel forks & spoons

*****Due to space constraints at our facility, we now refer used clothing donations to Jackson House or Salvation Army, where we "shop" as needed*****

Special Items We Currently Need

New Pillows
Window Treatments (curtains)
Plastic or Fabric Wall Hangings
Storage Shelves & Racks
Outdoor plastic stackable chairs
New matching comforter sets
Outdoor benches or wrought iron chairs

Corelle or Melamine plates & bowls
Magnetic wall boards with magnets for resident rooms
Paint
Area and throw rugs
Trendy wall-Motivational quotes
Board games
Perfume & Body sprays

Volunteer Opportunities

Assistance with OCC Flower Beds
Academic tutors
Maintenance assistance
Construction of a nature trail around the property
Volunteer barber or beautician services (Haircuts)
Dance or Music classes
Organized sports or games
Poetry, Writing & Arts & Crafts
Piano playing volunteers for sing-alongs
Assistance with painting and organization
CPR and First Aid Trainers