



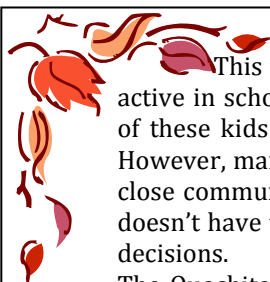
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2015 Board of Directors

Jonathan Martin, Board Chairman

Amos Gray	Carol Freeland
Pati Trippel	Valerie Claar
Lee Richardson	Darren Hill
Kate Schaffer	Ann Prince
Martha Rodgers	Bob Woodall
Raymond Wright	Sharon Smith



Dear Friend of OCC,

This time of year most of the children in our community are active in school, sports, music, homework and football games. Most of these kids lead happy lives with a loving and supportive family. However, many of you know a child in your neighborhood, church or close community who suffers from abuse or neglect, or perhaps just doesn't have the familial or societal support to help them make good decisions.

The Ouachita Children's Center offers a safe environment providing both residential and non-residential services to youth ages 6 - 17 including a 24 hour emergency shelter, family needs assessments, case management, counseling, and a variety of educational groups. Educational services include Life Skills, Parenting, Teen Health, Drug and Alcohol Recovery and gender specific Peer Groups all of which give information, encouragement and guidance to youth and their families. Our mission, vision and values aim to promote positive life experiences for today's youth, giving them the tools they need to succeed as adults.

You are an integral part of this community that supports OCC and the children that count on us. Your support has helped us touch thousands of lives over the years, the lives of children who need a place to feel safe, nurtured and cared for.

As new ways to reach and work with youth and families emerge, OCC will always work to stay on the cutting edge, but in an uncertain economic environment where OCC is subject to budget limitations determined at a state level, your tax-deductible gift of \$25, \$50, \$100 or \$1000 is even more vital to the daily operations of OCC and our ability to continue the many programs and services we offer. The Ouachita Children's Center exists to improve lives for everyone in our community by ensuring that children in crisis can thrive and become productive members of society.

Thank you in advance from the Board of Directors, Staff, and numerous volunteers of the Ouachita Children's Center for your contribution.... whatever you can do. It will make a world of difference for a child!

Sincerely,
Carol Freeland
Board Vice Chair

Kate Schaffer
Board Secretary



THE BUZZ AT OCC



OCC youth and staff worked with the Hot Springs Bee Club to build two bee hives. Board member and volunteer Pati Tripel worked with the kids to paint the finished hives as well as some Bee Art!



While OCC likes to be known as a safe and inviting place for kids to stay for a time, we really didn't expect to be taking in a special population of busy buzzing BEES! But thanks to the committed interest of OCC Board Member and local bee keeper, Lee Richardson, OCC welcomed two BEEHIVES this summer and found itself adopted

by the area Bee Club. Joined by fellow bee keepers Alan Clingenpeel (club president), Anthony Taylor, Dr. Kellie Jennings, and F.T. Eyre, Richardson organized and oversaw the establishment of two healthy beehives which took up residency in custom made and youth decorated hive boxes, placed on the far east end of the OCC property. Preparation for the bees became a unique learning opportunity for OCC youth and staff alike. This experience reminded us all how very important bees are to our ecosystem and especially to the human food supply, because bees are needed to pollinate fruits and vegetables and therefore, help feed the world. And yet, bee populations are in decline across the country due to various challenges such as pesticides or drought. So for OCC to be able to help ease this crisis while supporting a much needed aspect of the environment gives us an expanded mission. Frankly, this new venture has OCC folks all abuzz, plus we can hardly wait for the honey harvest next year!

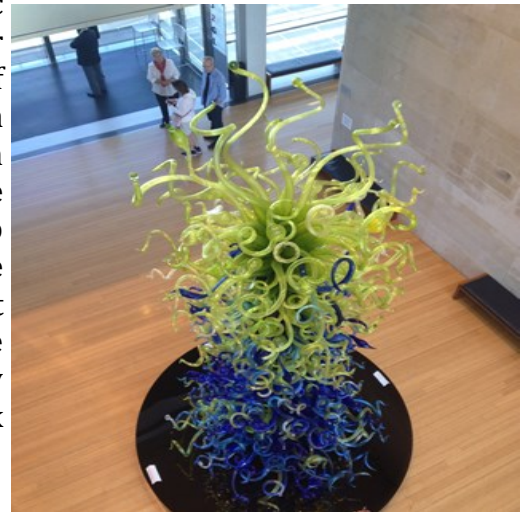


Summer Education & Fun

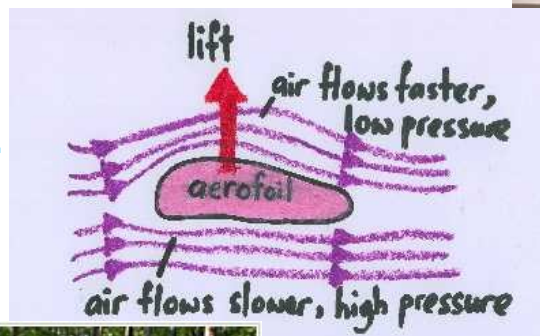
2014's Summer Enrichment program was an amazing learning experience for all those involved, especially the youth we serve. The kids at OCC used their time and resources to learn about historical events such as the Clinton presidency and the Hot Springs Bathhouses. They studied scientific subjects like Bernoulli's principle and learned about honeybees and their roles in food production. The OCC kids also learned to use mathematics in various aspects of everyday life. As we look back over the learning that took place this summer, we would like to thank all those involved: Hot Springs School District, the OCC Board of Directors, the OCC Case Managers and staff, and our wonderful educational assistants, Ms. Cassandra and Ms. Nekeia. OCC would like to particularly recognize the outstanding contribution of our Summer Enrichment teacher, Mr. Brad Launius, who created an engaging and fun summer program for the youth at OCC. Without all of their investment in our students, learning would



not have been possible. It took this great team to make possible the trips to Arkadelphia Waterpark and Magic Springs to study money and the scientific principles behind water slides, the Museum of Discovery and Mid-America Science Museum, Garvan Gardens, and even The Belle of Hot Springs. The kids also did a day of service at the Crown Trace Retirement Home. We cannot believe the summer passed so quickly and excited about being back in school!



*Summertime
Fun!!!*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS

Mission

The Ouachita Children's Center is a non-profit child advocacy organization providing emergency shelter and quality services for youth and families, empowering them to achieve lifelong success.

Values



In addition to the many individual donors and groups that support OCC with their time and gifts, several organizations have provided additional support through grants over the past several months.

OCC received grant funds from the Walton Foundation and the Altria Group, Inc. as well as funds for special projects through the Arkansas Community Foundation through the Clark County Giving Tree, the Hot Springs Area Giving Tree, The Hot Springs Area Community Youth Fund, and the Hot Springs Future Fund. These funds are providing valuable resources for the youth we serve including camping and fishing equipment and parenting workbooks for the Active Parenting courses. OCC also received two separate grants through the West Central Arkansas Planning and Development District for a new copy machine and to help pay for a major water line repair.

The OCC is also grateful to the many businesses and individuals who have been so generous to us. You have made a tremendous difference with your financial contributions, tickets to shows, many donated items and for volunteering your time. Thank you all for thinking of us and showing your generosity. Your donations help, no matter how big or small!

Donors April – September 2014

Amy Diller - Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Arkansas Counseling & Psycho Diagnostics
Baim Family Properties
Bernard & Zina Nugent
Betty Jagoditsh
Brennan Herron - Frigid Frog
Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
Caren Dodd - Dodd's Dragonfly Designs
Carol Albee
Carol Lane - First Baptist Church
Central Bowling Lanes
Christ Lutheran Church - Martha's Circle
Chuck Wright
Connie Albert
Darlene Lillard
Dee Soderstrom
Donald Brady
Donald Barnett
Don Cope
Dorothy Morris
Edward & Mary Lou Lampman - In Honor of Linda Ragsdale for Mother's Day
Ms. Elson Howley
Eva Yates - In Memory of Sue Mefford
First Baptist Church
First Baptist Church Sunday School Class
Garland County Library
Garland County Dental Society - In Memory of Dr. Joseph Gordon
Gary Troutman

Dr. Gene Shelby
Grand Avenue Methodist Church
Guido's Hot Springs Music Company
Hot Springs Board of Realtors
Hot Springs Lodge No. 62 F. & A. M.
Hot Springs Village Women's Club
Reverend Howard Lee Kilby
Howard & Carol Freeland
Jack Harms
Joe & Eleanor Pascual
John & Franque Coleman
Joy Harms - Creative Life Church
Julie Isenberg
Kate & Greg Schaffer
Kathy Cody
Kathi Mackey - Ouachita Travelers
Kevin Hoffman
Kiwanis Club, Hot Springs
KYE-YAC International
Lake Valley Community Church
Lawrence Dodd
Linda Ragsdale - In Honor of Patti Trippel, Carol Freeland, Kate Schaffer, Martha Rodgers, & Mary Lou Lampman for Mother's Day
Liz Mathis - In Honor of Peggy Cara for Mother's Day
Lorraine Garner - AARP #3
Lori Ellen & Randall Nichols
Lucky & Mary Cox
Maelu Ellis
Marianne Wilson
Martha Poe

Martha Rodgers
Martha Ross
Martha Wilson - Busy Bee's (EHC)
Mary Velasquez - Village UMC
Megan Moynihan
Men United Inc., Arkadelphia
Michael Butler - Health Mart Pharmacy
Michael Cuihfield
Morgan Stidham
Nancy Boyes
Nancy Blevins - Christ of the Hills UMC
Peggy Brenner
Phillip & Janet McAdams
Piney Grove United Methodist Church
Presbyterian Women - Kirk in the Pines
Richard & Janet Jenkins
Rusty Scoles
Sally Pierce
Sally Schuck
Shelly Hill
South Hot Springs Lion's Club
Sue Legal - In Honor of Aline Brien for Mother's Day
Ted Mahn - TM Adworks, LLC
Thomas Green
Todd & Margaret Shiver
Victor & Valerie Claar
Walgreens - Central Ave.
Wallace & Darlene Ballentine
William & Patricia Strunk - Grace Village Foundation
Zeta Chi Sorority

Community Garden

This year, OCC teamed with the Garland County Juvenile Drug Court to have a Community Garden, located on the premises of OCC. The garden has been tended by participants in the Garland County Drug Court Program, OCC residents, and youth who have community service hours to perform. The garden has produced a plethora vegetables that have been incorporated into OCC's USDA approved menus. This summer the garden yielded squash, cucumbers, okra, tomatoes, cantaloupes, and watermelons. After the main harvest, it was replanted with pumpkins and gourds that are almost ready for the fall harvest. A special thanks is due to



Lake Hamilton Garden Center and Caldwell Hardware, who provided seeds and supplies for the garden, as well as, Garland County Drug Court liaison Chris Burrows. OCC youth and staff are looking forward to more healthy, delicious harvests in the months to come!!



LIVE UNITED



DAY OF CARING



OCC was very fortunate to host some incredible helpers on September 11th as part of the United Way Day of Caring. Volunteers from National Park Community College Alumni, Arkansas BlueCross BlueShield and three separate teams from Job Corps worked tirelessly painting and redecorating the hallways and bedrooms. Even the gloomy, rainy weather did not dampen their spirits. They had fun while making a tremendous impact for OCC! Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in the 2014 United Way Day of Caring!

A DAY TO GIVE BACK
A DAY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
DAY OF CARING 2014



From the Executive Director

Some youth organizations might acknowledge they simply “survived” the summer months, but at OCC I think we could actually celebrate this special time of year and change in routine. This was in large part due to the OCC team addition of a fantastic, innovative and easy-going new teacher, Mr. Brad Launius, who is a math and science teacher at Hot Springs Middle School. Mr. Brad turned every activity into fun, and every fun activity into a learning activity. Most importantly he conveyed to kids in the OCC Summer Enrichment Program that they were each wonderful in their own right, that they were cared about and would succeed in life!

Summer was actually kicked off by a Board and Staff Retreat one Saturday in early. Participants heard encouraging words from Juvenile Court Judge Vicki Cook, DYS Director Tracy Steele, Steve Naworjczyk of DYS and DCFS Director Cecile Blucker—all of whom offered state-wide perspectives from their agencies as meaningful guidance for OCC’s strategic and future planning. A real highlight of the day’s dialogue was hearing some of the daily challenges and successes experienced by OCC’s Case Managers.

OCC Staff celebrated the close of the 2014 fiscal year with their annual training and team building “retreat”. A packed and dynamic agenda including guest presenters Adam Baldwin of DYS, Michael Watson with Hot Springs School District, C.W. Miller of Custom Training Concepts, Lori Golden with Alliance for a Healthier Generation and OCC Board Members Amos Gray, Lee Richardson and Pati Trippel all contributed to the valuable and enlightening week of learning.



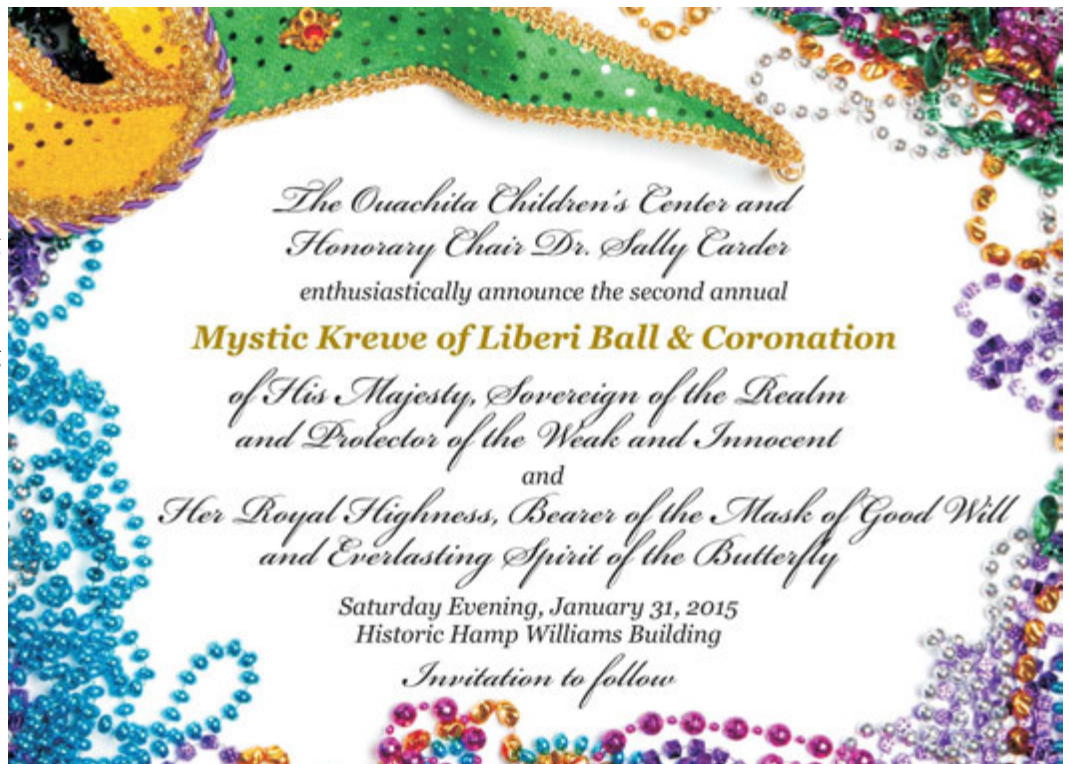
In July, OCC Board and Staff recognized and thanked outgoing Board Chairman Lee Richardson for his two years of great guidance and leadership with not just a proper plaque and a cake, but also with the dedication of our first OCC Frisbee golf hole—dedicated in his honor! Lee had for months suggested Frisbee golf as a viable and appealing sport. Thanks to volunteer guidance from Nathan Neighbors, Hot Springs Operations Manager, OCC has the design for a 6-hole course that will offer year-round fun and challenges to youth and staff alike.

OCC embraced the new Fiscal Year 2015 with newly elected Board Chair Jonathan Martin, continuing Vice-Chair Carol Freeland, Secretary Kate Schaffer and Treasurer Ann Prince. Lots of events and improvements in the works for OCC with this group; so stay tuned! We are also now in the planning stages for the Second Annual Krewe of Liberi Ball to be held January 31, 2015. If you are interested in Sponsoring this event, please call the center or email info@occnnet.org Attn: Krewe of Liberi.

I am very proud of the OCC Staff and appreciative to the Board of Directors for the difference we are making every day in the lives of the children and families we serve. I *know* we are making this world a better place for ALL of us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Linda L. Ragsdale".

Linda L. Ragsdale, LMSW
OCC Executive Director



Volunteer Spotlight

Some individuals stand out for their great qualities. Alan and Pati Trippel are two of those people. They are both well known for their leadership, diligence, dedication and passion for our children. Pati and Alan are well respected at OCC for their many projects they've done with our youth. Alan is a mentor for our Dare 2 Dream Mentoring Program where he leads by example, motivates the youth, provides guidance, and is a great listener. One of the youth Alan mentors said, "the best trait about Mr. Alan is he's a caring man and has a good heart." Our youth need more mentors like Alan to be that positive adult presence in their lives. Pati, who is also an OCC Board Member, has helped youth create much of the

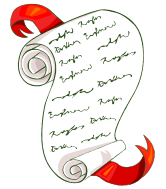
Valuable is the work you do.
 Outstanding in how you always come through
 Loyal, sincere, and full of good cheer.
 Unfiring in your efforts throughout the year.
 Notable for the dedication you give.
 Trustworthy in every project you take.
 Eager to reach your every goal.
 Effective in the way you fulfill your role.
 Ready with a smile like a shining star.
 Special and wonderful— that's what you are!!



Attitude of Gratitude" and "My Scariest Moment". Pati is caring, cheerful, generous, and has a warm heart. One of the kids who worked with Pati recently said, "Ms. Pati is a very kind and loving person who has taken time from her busy schedule to come and spend time with us." They have both shown time and again that they are motivated leaders with amazing hearts and compassion for our amazing kiddos. Ouachita Children's Center is thankful and grateful to have such wonderful volunteers as a part of our OCC family. The positive impact they have on the youth they come into contact with is immeasurable. Thank you for all you do!!!

Christmas Wish Lists

Christmas is a time of joy, family and togetherness. For the kids at OCC, it may be very different. They may not get to be with family and could be feeling scared or alone. Others may have never celebrated the Holidays. During the holidays the OCC Board Room turns into Santa's Workshop and it takes many elves to create a Christmas these kids will remember forever. Our Staff works with each child to identify their wish list items, then goes shopping to make those Christmas dreams come true. The challenge is that we often don't know which kids will be with us for the holidays until the last minute. For this reason, OCC can't utilize angel trees or similar programs for to provide Christmas for our youth. **So how can you help??** We have put together a list of items that are popular with kids as well as a list of places that the kids prefer to shop so that we can use the gift cards to get those must have items on their wish list. Donations can be dropped by the center, however, if you have a large donation please contact us ahead of time so that we can ensure we have the staff available to assist with unloading. Megan Masone, is the lead elf this year and can be reached at mmasone@occnet.org.



FOR BOYS

- Ball caps for College & Pro baseball, football and basketball teams.
- Nike Ankle Socks
- Watches
- Cologne (Polo, Tim McGraw, Curve for Men, Usher, Adidas, Gucci, Lucky You, Nautica, Tommy Hilfinger.
- MP3 Players
- Beanies and Gloves
- Headphones (Beatz or ear buds)
- Sports Logo Items

FOR GIRLS

- Nail Polish
- Make-up Sets & Lip Gloss
- Perfumes (Britney Spears, Paris Hilton, Curve for Women, Rue 21, Beyoncé)
- Earrings, Rings or other Jewelry
- Colorful ankle socks
- Boys Sprays & Lotions Hair Accessories
- Hat, Glove & Scarf Sets
- MP3 Players
- Headphones (Beatz or earbuds)
- Arts & Crafts Kits

GIFT CARDS

- VISA Cards
- Aeropostale
- Ross
- Magic Springs
- Movie Theater
- Game Exchange
- Game Stop
- Hibbett Sports
- Old Navy
- TJ Maax
- Fast Food
- Restaurants
- Wal-Mart
- CiCi's Pizza
- Big J's Pizza
- Jump City
- Hot Springs Mall
- Sports Clips
- Nail Salons
- Foot Locker
- Dillards
- Best Buy
- Dick's Sporting Goods
- Restaurants
- Amazon or iTunes



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E-mail: info@occnet.org



CREDIBILITY • INTEGRITY • ACHIEVEMENT



WISH LIST

Items in Continual Need

Twin size Sheet Sets & Pillow cases
Bath Towels, washcloths & hand towels
Lice Treatments Kits
Shampoo & Conditioner
Hair Gel
Lip Balm
Deodorant (non-aerosol)
Soap & Body Wash
Lotions
Toothpaste, brushes, mouthwash, & floss
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
Men's & Boy's briefs & boxers
Women's & Girl's underwear & bras
White t-shirts & sleeveless undershirts
Socks & shoes (Boy's & Girl's)
Sweatpants & Sweatshirts, all sizes
Gift Cards to Wal-Mart, Old Navy, Shoe

Stores & Restaurants etc.
School Supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks & paper)
Backpacks
Books & Magazines with Youth Appeal
Art Supplies (brushes, canvases, paint, etc.)
Area Rugs
Cat Food & Litter for OCC's therapy cat
Special event tickets or passes
Winter gloves, hats and jackets
Summer bathing suits & Towels
Flip Flops
Stainless steel forks & spoons
First Aide Supplies

Special Items We Currently Need

New Pillows
Window Treatments (curtains & heavy duty blinds)
Plastic or Fabric Wall Hangings
Outdoor plastic stackable chairs
Outdoor benches or wrought iron chairs
Indoor potted plants & outdoor bedding plants
Corelle or Melamine plates & bowls
Magnetic wall boards with magnets for resident rooms
New matching comforter sets

Volunteer Opportunities

Adult Mentors for our youth
Assistance with the OCC Vegetable Garden
Assistance with OCC Serenity Garden
Academic tutors
Maintenance assistance
Construction of a nature trail around the property
Volunteer barber or beautician services (Haircuts)
Yoga or Zumba classes
Dance or Music classes
Organized sports or games
Poetry, Writing & Arts & Crafts
Piano playing volunteers for sing-a-longs
Assistance with painting and organization
CPR and First Aid Trainers
Health & Hygiene Teachers

See page 7 Inside for more information about how to support the Kids of OCC for Christmas this year!

