



OUTREACH



CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES

Volume 31

Winter 2012

Important Dates

April 26, 2013

CFS Memorial Golf
Tournament

May - September 2013
"Change for Children"
Campaign

November 7, 2013
CFS Benefit Dinner

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Planting Seeds of Hope!

What is it like to feel as if the world is crashing down on you? What is it like not having any direction in your life? What is it like feeling as if you have no future or that no one loves you? Fortunately, for many of us we'll never know how this truly feels! But for those in our community that feel this way, there is Hope!

CFS Adoptions give hope to children who would might otherwise grow up in environment without the love and support they so desperately need.

Lifeline Counseling Center gives hope to families that are struggling to stay together, couples that wonder if they made a mistake getting married or individuals who are depressed or fighting addictions.

Therapists at Westport Counseling give hope to children who have been removed from their parents and placed in state foster care programs.

In a perfect world, lives could be changed instantly and hardships quickly forgotten. Unfortunately, that is not how it works. It takes many hours of counseling, building trust and tearing down barriers. It takes months and sometimes years of love and support from our dedicated team of



Changing Tomorrows Today

Just a few of our adoptive placements over the past year

CFS is truly changing peoples' lives for the better! **Thank you** for your support....

counselors and social workers before any measurable results are seen. But most of all, it takes the prayers and support from our generous donors.

"At CFS, Lifeline and Westport Counseling you are planting seeds of hope in the lives of children and families. You may not see the results right away, but God is at work in their lives and it will happen in His time." - Rhonda Sciortino, author and CFS Banquet Speaker

Every time you "invest" in CFS you are planting "Seeds of Hope" in our community. You are placing infants in loving homes! You are letting children know that they are loved! You are giving families a new outlook on life!

Thank you to our wonderful supporters! Because of you, Christian Family Services has been able to provide hope to families in our community for over 31 years! We want you to know that you are making a difference! You are giving hope to the hopeless!



<http://www.cfskc.org>

**SERVING
THE
COMMUNITY
FOR
31 YEARS!**

CFS Memorial Golf Tournament - April 2012



This year Christian Family Services' Annual Memorial Golf Tournament was held at Deer Creek Country Club in Overland Park, Kansas. **Fifty-eight individuals** braved the wind and chilly temperature and participated in the event this year. The tournament raised over **\$8,750.00** for CFS, Lifeline and Westport Counseling.

Thank you to all the golfers who participated in this year's tournament and to the staff members that worked behind the scenes to make the event a great success! We look forward to seeing you all next April.

**CFS Banquet
"Achieving Dreams"**

This year's CFS Banquet was a huge success! Over 115 CFS supporters gathered at the Ritz Charles in Overland Park to celebrate 31 years of making a difference in the lives of children and families in our community.



Throughout the evening we heard from Susan Timmons about the challenging, yet, rewarding work CFS does with birthmoms and adoptive couples and the joy of placing a child in a loving home. The Irwin family, who generously gives their time and love as foster parents, told stories of children they have cared for and the families they have touched. Lyle Gibbens and Crystal Rodenbaugh updated us on the work that Lifeline Counseling and Westport Counseling have done strengthening families and children.



The highlight of the evening was our keynote speaker, Rhonda Sciortino. Abandoned at six months old, Rhonda bounced around through the foster care system. Yet, through it all she remembers the brief stay with one set of foster parents who helped her find her reason for living and the counselor who told her she could do anything she put her mind to. It wasn't easy and it took

time, but through it all God worked in her life to help her find her way. (continued, next column)

A special thanks goes to Rhonda for sharing her story with us and to our supporters who helped us raise over \$40,000.

It was a great evening. God has blessed CFS, Lifeline Counseling and Westport Counseling! We look forward to many more years of service!

**Professional Services Statistics
Year 2012**

Adoption Services

Agency Adoption Placements	1
Private Placements:	
Agency Assisted	17
International Assisted	<u>15</u>
Total	33
Home Studies: International	17
Domestic	21
People Served	549
Contact and Sessions	4,558

Lifeline & CFS General Counseling

New Cases Opened This Year	724
Number of People Counseled	2,942
Number of Counseling Sessions	10,769

Westport Counseling Associates

Therapy Sessions	5,507
Therapy Clients	226
Parent Aide Sessions	6,730
Parent Aide Clients	123
Total Sessions	12,237
Total Clients	349

3,840 Total People Served @ 27,564 sessions 530 sessions a week

One of the highlights for Christian Family Services this year took place in March. After an 18 month period of interviews, financial audits and policy reviews, CFS became Hague Accredited.

Hague Accreditation insures that CFS will remain an active participant in the international adoption scene. Without this accreditation we would have lost the ability to assist with placements or home studies for families adopting a child from a handful of countries like China, Guatemala and India. In the Kansas City area CFS is one of only three adoption agencies accredited to assist with these placements and the only Christian resource.



Hague Accredited gives peace-of-mind to adoptive families and it protects the child being adopted. In short, through Hague, an adopting couple can be sure that they are involved in a legitimate adoption while protecting the child from individuals involved in child trafficking.

Becoming Hague Accreditation was a long and involved process. Many thanks to the wonderful staff that spent countless hours making sure CFS was prepared to meet Hague standards.

Thank You For Your Service!

In October of this year Mark Barone informed the CFS Board that he would be resigning his position as Executive Director and moving back to California. Artrell Harris, a long time board member, minister and adoptive parent was hired to become the new CFS Executive Director.

Mark has worked countless hours promoting CFS to our community and building relationships with local churches other organizations. Because of his work, hospitals and social workers refer birthmoms to CFS and attorneys and churches seek the help of CFS for home studies and counseling services.

Under Mark's leadership, CFS strengthened its counseling services by acquiring Lifeline Counseling and Westport Counseling. CFS also became Hague Accredited so that CFS could remain an active participant in international adoptions. Each additional service stayed true to the CFS' mission of "helping children and families find a better life".

Program Services

(Serving the greater Kansas City Area within a 360 mile radius)

Christian Family Services (Faith)

Crisis Pregnancy Counseling
24 hour on call services
Adoption Services
International and Domestic Home Studies
Individual, Marital & Family Counseling
Premarital Counseling
Anger Management Issues

Lifeline Counseling Center (Hope)

Individual, Marital and Family Counseling
Depression, Stress & Anxiety Management
Children & Play Therapy
Parenting Skills
Addiction & Recovery
Physical, Sexual & Emotional Abuse Issues
Grief & Loss Issues
Women & Men Issues

Westport Counseling Associates (Love)

Counseling for Abused & Neglected Children
High Risk Parenting
Home-Based Services
Psychological Evaluations
Supervised Visitation Monitoring
Court Testimony
Parent Aide Services
Mentoring Aide Services

Mark's servant heart, leadership and commitment to CFS will be greatly missed! We wish Mark the very best and thank him for his 11 years of service to CFS.

We know that CFS is in capable hands with the hiring of Artrell Harris. Artrell brings many years of service to our community as a Chaplain with the YMCA, a minister at the Indiana Avenue church of Christ in Topeka, KS and most recently the Development Director with the United Way of Wyandotte County. Artrell also holds a Master's Degree in Ministry from Pepperdine University.

We look forward to working with Artrell and are excited about the future of the CFS ministries!



The Future Is Bright For CFS In 2013 – Artrell Harris, Executive Director

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think” *Ephesians 3:20*

Our future is bright at Christian Family Services and we will continue to let our light shine by assisting with adoptions, providing spiritual counseling and helping children in the foster care system. God has truly blessed us at CFS over the past year. We were able to help over 500 individuals and families each week with our services. We want to thank you for helping us help those in need with services that make a difference. God is truly able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think. – CFS/Lifeline/Westport Staff



Lifeline Counseling Center
405 S. Clairborne Rd, Suite 1
Olathe, Kansas 66062

913.764.5463 - Lifelinecounselingcenter.org

Westport Counseling Associates
4149 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 205
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Changing Tomorrows Today

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 Paul Farmer
 Wilson Goddard
 Ken Harwell
 Mich Rush
 Dempsey Yearry
- CFS Foster Parents**
 Tim and Briana Dawson
 John and Joan Sturm
 Steve and Sara Williams
- CFS/Westport Staff**
 Artrell Harris, Executive Director
 Susan K. Timmons, Director of Child Placement
 Antonia Wright, Program Director/WCA
 7 Therapists
 20 Parent/Mentoring Aides
 Shelley Smith, Office Manager
 Sarah Thomasson, Project Manager
 Richard Brandow, Therapist
 Nikki Pauls DesSimone, Social Worker
 Heather Williams, Social Worker
 Tracy Pierson, Administrative Support
- Lifeline Staff**
 Marcie Wheatley, Therapist - Program Director
 Donna Starling, Office Manager
 Amanda Nixon, Administrative Assistant
 Dr. Todd Bowman, Psychology
 Juanita Bartel, Therapist
 Rick Presley, Therapist
 Roxanne Quinn, Therapist
 Denise Weller, Therapist
 Crystal White, Intern
 Debbie Nixon, Therapist
 Karen Goggans, Therapist

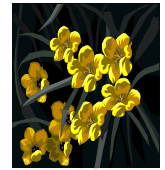
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(The Memorial and Living Honor Gifts listed below are for gifts received from December 4, 2011 through July 6, 2012)



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Ken and Judy Johns
Jeff and Susan Sharp

IN SPECIAL MEMORY

In Memory of
LEOTA ZAWICKI
on her birthday
Ray Zawicki

IN HONOR AND RESPECT

In Honor of
BIRTHFAMILIES
Colby and Jenny Cox

In Honor of Graduation
TAYLOR BROOKS
Bob and Dorothy Graf

In Honor and Appreciation
ARLISS AND MARY KEITH BURNS
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In Honor of 90th Birthday
VIVIAN PORTELL
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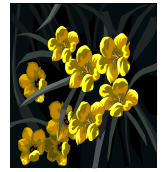
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Memorial and Honor Gifts



(The Memorial and Living Honor Gifts listed below are for gifts received from July 7, 2012 through November 16, 2012. Gifts received beginning November 17, 2012 will appear in the next issue of Outreach)

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In Memory of
LEOTA ZAWICKI
on their 67th Wedding Anniversary
Ray Zawicki

IN HONOR AND RESPECT

In Special Honor
MAKAYLA GAIL
Scott and Tammy Gail

In Special Honor
VICKIE KNIGHT
Bill and Laura Koehn

In Special Appreciation
OVERLAND PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST TEENS AND ADULTS LEAF RAKING PROJECT
Wanda Barnhart
Shelley Smith
Ray Zawicki

Donating Your "Stuff" to Help Children and Families!

Many took advantage of our partnership with the National Christian Foundation – Kansas City. Now non-cash gifts can be donated to Christian Family Services of the Midwest, Inc., and then liquidated for their cash value. You take the tax deduction while Christian Family Services quickly benefits from the gift! Through a partnership with the National Christian Foundation, we now can accept gifts (minimum of \$500 such as: **Vehicles (cars, trucks, boats, RV's, and farm equipment); Stocks/bonds/mutual funds; Commercial and residential real estate; Collectibles (antiques, baseball cards, coins and stamps); Business inventory (retail items, office furniture, supplies and equipment).** You can do more with what you already have! Pledge your "stuff" to Christian Family Services of the Midwest, Inc. today by calling us at 913.383.3337 or emailing artrell@cfskc.org.

