

On the Home Front

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HURRICANE MATTHEW NO MATCH FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT







Many fled the coast during the week leading up to the Hurricane Matthew, which struck the coast of South Carolina on Saturday, Oct. 8. One of those groups was the Carolina Youth Development Center with two group homes of children. As their designated evacuation site, the Home had approximately 36 hours to prepare for the arrival of more than 40 children and staff to stay.

Thanks to the unbelievable generosity of nearly 50 groups and individuals in our community, we were able to provide for all of the needs while they stayed with us.

- Thanks to Christ the King Church, Salvation
 Army and Grace Lutheran Church, every child had a bed.
- Thanks to **Bojangles**', **First Baptist Church Fort Mill**, and **McDonald's**, additional meals were donated to support the additional food cost.
- Thanks to **Jim Tripplet** and **First Christian Church** for providing off-site space for our children and their children to play and burn energy.
- Thanks to 40 more groups or individuals in our community, we were stocked with cereal, paper products, snacks and toiletries to help provide for the children through the three days and be ready to bridge the gap should they have had to stay longer.

All at a moment's notice, YOU, our wonderful community, stepped in to provide for the needs of our children. Thank you so much for your hearts and generosity to make sure our children and those fleeing for refuge were given a safe and nurturing Home during the storm.







Consider sponsoring a child or a holiday outing for the children

THE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays, and our children feel it every year. Here at the Home, the holidays can be a trying time for our children, as many of them will be away from their families.

We have many ways that you can give back this holiday season and support our children, and we would love for you to share these opportunities with your friends and family!



CAMPUS NEEDS

Take a look at our campus needs and help purchase needed items Sponsor a tree of needed items at your home, church or business

ANGEL TREES



HOST A MEAL

Volunteer by providing a meal during the school holidays

11.29.16



Thanksgiving. Black Friday. Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday. Give thanks. Shop stuff. Buy more. Give back.

Help us bookend the day of thanks with a day of giving. Invest in the future of our children through your dollars, your time and your resources. For more information about #GivingTuesday at the Home, check out <u>attentionhome.org/event/givingtuesday2016</u>



2016 YEAR-END GIFT

Give a tax deductible donation to the Home. Your support makes our mission possible. Give a one time gift, or make it a monthly pledge. See how you can give at **attentionhome.org/give**.

For more info visit attentionhome.org/homefortheholidays

TEAMMATE SPOTLIGHT: MALLORY CAPPS

Position: Children's Services Coordinator

What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

I enjoy trying new restaurants, movies and attending community plays.

What's a fond memory from working with the children?

There was a little girl that was with us for about 6 months. To help with getting her to take a nap I would wrap her up like a burrito. When it was time to leave the Home, she looked at me and said "will you teach my Mommy how to wrap me like a burrito?"

What do you wish other people knew about the Home?

I wish others knew that the Home is like a family. The children have lots of opportunities that they might not have had prior to coming to live here.

When talking about why she loves her job, Mallory said:

"Because everyday I get to make a difference in a child life even if I don't get to see the end result.



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SOCIAL WORK CORNER

It has been a quick couple of months! During September, we were very busy in groups. Our 5-12 age group covered topics such as grief, bullying and self esteem. We also worked on Art Projects, paintings and stories, that were auctioned off at the Deep in the Heart Celebration (selections pictured). They were amazing, it was really fun to see the creative side of the kids!

The teen group covered topics including what it takes to get into college, peer pressure, and communication skills, including phone etiquette. We were also fortunate to have guest speakers share their experience and expertise with us, including Charity Tipton from Safe Passages on Healthy Relationships and Dating and Jamea Ojo on Women's Hygiene. The girls loved it, and she gave them a goody bag filled with awesome products!

During the month of October, we have focused on stress management with our groups. Our teens played a couple of games of Stress Management Bingo. There was lots of healthy competition and great group discussion on how to manage stress as a teen. One group member said that "school can cause a lot of stress and you need friends to help you through it." Our younger groups made "calming bottles" as a coping mechanism for their stress. They will shake the bottle, and as the bottle settles, it helps them calm down from the stress they are experiencing.



EDUCATION CORNER

One quarter is now behind us, and the kids are doing very well in their classes! All of the tutoring that started last April has made a significant impact in the progress our children have been able to make in the classroom. We are excited to now have the tutors come on site to work with our children throughout the week!

Some highlights for us these past couple of months:

 Two high schoolers have successfully completed their first ACT exam, and because of resources from a generous grantor we were able to pair them with private tutors and sample test resources to prepare them. Fingers crossed!



- A high school senior attended her first college visit to USC Columbia, where she hopes to be accepted and attending next fall.
- Sophomore students took their PSAT test at school recently and will begin prepping with the tutors for their college entrance exams for next year.



- One sophomore student was recently inducted into the National Beta Club, an "invitation only" academic/service club.
- Two middle school students were able to begin accelerated virtual learning through our partner the Palmetto School
- Another sophomore student is finishing up a successful season in her marching band's color guard, traveling to weekend competitions throughout the past few months.

Overall, LOTS of learning happening and on campus!!

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DIRECTOR'S DESK

Fall is in full-swing at the Children's Attention Home and the children and staff team are enjoying the cooler weather with lots more time being spent outdoors in the early evenings and on weekends. Residents continue to learn and develop through structured classes, tutoring and extracurricular activities, with our staff team daily supporting these efforts. It is a joy to observe just how much and how quickly our children adapt and begin to heal, often within just a few days of coming through our doors.

Just as our children evolve, grow and change during their time with us, the Home as a whole also continues to grow and change. As mentioned previously, the Home is currently in the process of pursuing accreditation through the national Council on Accreditation. Part of that process involves developing and implementing a robust Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) initiative. The purposes of PQI are to:

- Create a culture of continuous improvement initiatives
- Ensure provision of the most efficient and effective level of service to our residents/community
- Cultivate the philosophy of "doing things right the first time"
- Keep the Home competitive with other

organizations in regards to funding initiatives

- Ensure effective
 management practices
- Promote achievement of strategic program goals

This is a very involved and ambitious initiative, so in order to help us develop this key area, we identified the need for a PQI Director. I am thrilled to introduce



you to Rickina "Kina" Thompson, who started with us on October 3 and has already "hit the ground running." Kina comes to us from the American Red Cross where she worked for six years in process in process improvement and problem investigation. She also worked formerly with AXA Equitable for six years as a Quality Assurance Specialist. She lives in the Steele Creek area of southern Mecklenburg County with her son and is known as "every kid's favorite neighborhood mom." We are excited to have her join our team and we look forward to all the ways she will contribute to our ongoing evolution. Her office is at the Bridge House, so when you have time, feel free to stop in and say hello – she would love to meet you and learn of your interest in the Children's Attention Home.

- Debra Eident, Executive Director

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: NOOSA PEST MANAGEMENT



Our Community Spotlight honors those who go above and beyond in serving the mission of the Children's Attention Home! This month, we'd like to shine a special light of thanks on the wonderful team at Noosa Pest Management.

Noosa Pest Management provides top notch services in the area of creepy crawlies to keep our cottages and administrative buildings safe and secure. They have consistently provided pro bono services to the Home, including spraying all buildings for pest prevention, coming to the rescue when pests are discovered, checking for bed bugs and fogging for mosquitoes to keep our outdoor spaces pleasant and "skeeter-free" for our children.

"Their service team members that come to the Home are some of the most polite people I have ever had the privilege to work with," said Operations Director Richard Huitt. "Their donated services have saved us thousands of dollars that we have been able to invest back into the services we provide for our children." Thank you to the Noosa Pest Management team for your hearts to serve our community and our children!

OUTDOOR PAVILION MADE POSSIBLE BY COMMUNITY

The Home recently completed construction of a brand new outdoor pavilion, funded by a generous \$20,000 grant from **The Herbert and Anna Lutz Foundation**, based in Chester. The grant allowed the Home to fulfill the dream of having a sheltered outdoor space for the children to use for various activities, exercise, etc. even during bad weather.

The idea for the project came back in 2014, when it was identified that an outdoor sheltered space would expand the activity spaces available for the children living at the Home. Original plans were completed, and the project was put on hold until receiving the \$20,000 grant.

After re-evaluating the allotted space for the pavilion and the funding made available, it was possible to expand the size of the original plans of the pavilion. Thanks to



Arcadia Homes, the plans were redone, and the construction planning began. We broke ground on the project in June and completed the final touches in September.

"As with any project, it was a lot of work, coordination and cooperation," said Richard Huitt, Operations Director for the Home. "This project certainly had



its obstacles, but each one was met with the will and a way to get it done and ensure it would stand for years to come."

The children were thrilled to experience their new space and see their new pavilion finally completed. They ran around, jumped up and down, and it was the talk of the cottages. Today, the space is used for recreation groups, social work groups, impromptu picnics, meeting and classroom space, and so much more.

We want to thank everyone who made this project possible, especially Arcadia Homes, The Herbert and Anna Lutz Foundation, and the multitude of volunteers who made this project come to life. Thank you for your hearts for our children!

FUN FACT! We wash about 540 loads of laundry per month!

THANK YOU TO OUR GRANTORS!

We rely heavily on the generosity of our community to help us provide the best care for our children. With lengths of stay increasing, we are consistently evaluating the resources each individual child needs to be successful in life beyond their time with us. We are grateful to our generous grantors who provide valuable support in areas from education and food services to special projects and general operations. Recently, we have been blessed with the following grants:

GRANTOR

Department of Public Safety: VOCA. Department of Public Safety: SVAP Sweet Repeat Charitable Foundation The Merancas Foundation, Inc.

FUNDING AREA OR PROJECT

Children's Services Support Program Emergency Shelter and Residential Care Shelter and Well-being Program Independent Living Program

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ON THE HOME FRONT









The Children's Attention Home raised over \$32,000 at its second annual Deep in the Heart celebration on Saturday, September 24 in the Adventure Center at Anne Springs Close Greenway. The evening included an exciting silent auction and raffle, passionate speakers, a delicious BBQ meal with all the fixin's, cornhole, line-dancing and great fellowship of friends.

The evening kicked off with a flurry of activity in the raffle and auction room, with guests vying for their prized item through bidding wars and raffle tickets. Over \$13,000 was raised through the silent auction and the ticket auction raffle!

Emceeing the event was CN2 Anchor and Producer Lucas McFadden. Speaking throughout the evening was Residential Counselor Nakia Pressley, Board Member Ralph Norman, and volunteers Wendy Schonfeld of Rideability and Andy Jones. Speakers shared about their time invested in the children and mission of the Home, and how guests could be part of that mission.

Thank you to everyone who attended, and if you missed this year, be sure to stay tuned for next year's date!





THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & AUCTION DONORS!

Pulcra Chemicals Ralph & Elaine Norman Take 5 Oil Change South State Bank Family Trust Federal Credit Union Harbor Chase Senior Living PepsiCo PerioCare Boingo Graphics Carolina Golf Cars Publix Supermarkets Charities Coca-Cola Consolidated Daimler Trucks North America, LLC Cheerwine **BNA CPAs & Advisors** Kim & Mike Hughes Clear Springs Development attentionhome.org

Duke Energy Avanti Tile & Stone, LLC Eta Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha State Farm Agency: Dawn Johnson BrightStar Care Diamonds Direct Charlotte Burntshirt Vineyards Douglas R Harris Jeweler Wild Dunes Total Wine & More Elyse Ryan eSale Rugs Jewelry Stop Anders Ruff Heather Stanley Rose & Mike Finch

Chimney Rock Vintage Daisy Photography **Bedside Manner** Valencia Luxury Jewelers SouthLake Dentistry Kendra Scott South Park Fast Growing Trees Walt Disney World **Emily Curiak** Todd Baxter Britax Cross Connect Technology Lilly Pulitzer (South Park) Springfield Golf Club Barrie Lewis **Carolina Panthers** Colsen Keane Leather

NOVEMBER 2016

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the many individuals, groups, schools, businesses, and faith based organizations who share their time, talents, and resources to brighten spirits here at the Home. From handmade goods to sponsored parties and outings, the children in our care are so blessed by the outpouring of support from our generous community.

Aldersgate UMC Fellowship Circle Bright Blessings Brightside Horse Farm Britax Catawba Baptist Church Women of Faith Ebenezer Animal Hospital Edgemoor ARP F3 Fort Mill First Baptist Church Charlotte Good News Club Good Samaritan UMC Good Shepherd UMC Juvenile Detention Center Liberty Baptist Church WMU Lifepointe Christian Church Mingo Martial Arts Nation Ford High School Volleyball Northside Baptist Church Optimist Club Philadelphia United Methodist Church

Ride Ability Rogers Memorial Church Rose's Kitchen Showtime Theatre Company Spirit of Liberty Deliverance Church SVDP of St. Anne Church Talbots Tiger World Tirzah ARP Church Trips for Kids

CURRENT NEEDS LIST: FEATURED ITEMS

- Socks (all sizes)
- Ear bud headphones

If you have other items you would like to donate, please call us at (803) 328-8871 to discuss.

<u>Please note</u>: Due to limited storage, the Children's Attention Home cannot accept unsolicited donations of used clothing, toys, stuffed animals, car seats, cribs or crib mattresses, beds or bed mattresses. Also, due to regulatory and other considerations, we can only accept new "in the box" items. Thank you for understanding.



SHOW YOUR HEART FOR THE HOME

Show your heart for the Home through a financial donation. We rely heavily on the generosity of our community to help us provide the best care for our children. With lengths of stay increasing, we are consistently evaluating the resources each individual child needs to be successful in life beyond their time with us. We have many ways you can participate in supporting our mission, and we would love to have you join us in serving our children!



Want more info? Email kmotsinger@attentionhome.org or call 803-372-6841

Providing a safe and nurturing home for abused and neglected children





WAYS TO HELP...

- Give financially. See all of the ways you can invest in the Home at attentionhome.org/give
- Volunteer your time. Invest your time in our children. See all of our volunteer opportunities at attentionhome.org/volunteer
- Be a voice. Schedule a visit or invite a speaker to educate your group and raise support. Learn more at attentionhome.org/tour

P.O. Box 2912, Rock Hill, SC 29732 • attentionhome.org • (803) 328-8871



SAVE THE DATE!



Thanksgiving. Black Friday. Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday.

Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 29 and help us bookend the day of thanks with a day of giving. Whether it's making a monthly financial commitment, collecting items on the needs list, providing a meal, there is a way for everyone to give back and be part of our mission.



11.29.2016

attentionhome.org/givingtuesday

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



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