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KidsView

Special 120th Anniversary Edition

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Topeka Community Invests in KCSL's Future—Preventing Child Abuse, Strengthening Families, Empowering Parents

The Kansas Children's Service League raised more than \$450,000 through the Building Healthy Families (BHF) Commitment Breakfast held in Topeka on November 13. More than 260 guests attended the event, 47 of whom committed to making multi-year pledges. This rousing success was a result of a nearly year-long effort to engage community members and build awareness.

The event kicked off with a speech by KCSL President and CEO Dona Booe who shared KCSL's vision and hope for the future. Booe also shared where help from the community was needed in order to reach KCSL's goals of preventing child abuse, strengthening families and empowering parents.

Remarkably, attendees for the Breakfast were reached largely by word-of-mouth through BHF ambassadors, members of the community committed to KCSL's mission. The guests had the opportunity to hear first-hand how KCSL services positively affect the community and how

public support helps KCSL continue to provide services to other families. Dominique Bessette shared how she, her husband Jacob and their three children were "rescued" by KCSL. Her moving testimonial highlighted the many struggles the Bessette family endured. Dominique also revealed the important role KCSL had in helping her and Jacob to become better parents, advocate for their children and overcome adversities that began during their own childhoods.

"KCSL believed in us and encouraged us," Bessette said. "They helped us see that our lives could be different than what

we experienced ourselves as children. They gave us hope for our children."

If you would like to learn how you can help, contact Ramona Miller at rmiller@kcsl.org or (785) 274-3100 ext. 1403.

The BHF Commitment Breakfast is part of a long history of generosity from community members who are dedicated to making Shawnee County a place

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Help us communicate with you better. Sign up for our e-newsletter, Kids View Online, at kcsl.org.



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From the President's Desk



I have come to acknowledge yet another truth about life learned from my parents that as you grow older, time seems to pass more rapidly. And time becomes a most precious gift. Like most of you, as a child, it seemed as if December 25 each year might never arrive. Now, I find myself taking a second glance at the calendar hardly believing that another year has nearly come and gone. It was such an important year to the Kansas Children's Service League. The year of our 120th Anniversary!

There is a scientific theory known as The Law of Sensitive Dependence Upon Initial Conditions, sometimes commonly referred to as the Butterfly Effect. The concept being that a butterfly flapping its wings, setting molecules of air in motion, is eventually capable of starting a hurricane on the other side of the planet. The principle has proven to be a force encompassing more than mere butterfly wings. Science has shown the butterfly effect to engage with the first movement of any form of matter - including people.

Through our "movements" spanning 120 years, we have literally touched the lives of thousands upon thousands of children over the years. What blessings

we have been given allowing us to help keep children safe and healthy, to help strengthen a struggling family, and to help parents lift themselves to new heights of hope and opportunity. And there are generations yet unborn whose very lives will be shifted and shaped by the moves we make and the actions we take today, tomorrow, and each day thereafter. Every single thing we do at KCSL matters.

And with time being such a precious gift to all of us, please know that in whatever way you share that gift with us to achieve our mission "to protect and promote the well-being of children" your "movement" matters to us and to those we serve and has a lasting impact. Within this newsletter are just a few reflections of how our friends and supporters have continued to move us forward over the past 120 years as well as this year through their generosity of time and resources. I hope you will enjoy it.

May the blessing of time be yours during this wonderful holiday season!

Dona Booe

Dona Booe, President/CEO



LOCATIONS

Cimarron	314 S. Main	(620) 855-3889
Emporia	215 W. 6th, Suite 209	(620) 340-0408
Garden City	705 Ballinger 603 E. Cedar 4101 E. US Hwy #531	(620) 276-3232 (620) 805-6454 (620) 276-4323
Hugoton	304 E. 6th	(620) 544-7016
Hutchinson	400 W. 2nd St., Suite A	(620) 664-5000
Independence	315 W. Sycamore	(620) 331-2123
Kansas City	650 Minnesota	(913) 371-2220
Lenexa	15717 College Blvd.	(913) 621-2016
Leoti	P.O. Box 14	(620) 375-4933
Liberal	50 Village Plaza 150 Plaza Drive	(620) 624-9220 (620) 626-5339
Pratt	401 S. Hamilton	(620) 672-3994
Satanta	800 Tecuensh	(620) 649-2754
Topeka	3545 SW. 5th St. Center for Restorative Ed. 400 SE 40th	(785) 274-3100 (785) 438-6800
Ulysses	921 N. College 120 W. Grant Ave.	(620) 356-4180 (620) 424-4320
Wichita	1365 N. Custer Wichita Child Guidance Center 415 N. Poplar	(316) 942-4264 (316) 686-6671

1890s

1893
Founding of Kansas Children's Home Society (KCHS). KCHS names Rev. O.S. Morrow superintendent.

1898
KCHS publishes first **Homefinder** monthly Journal.

1900s

1902
KCHS gets its first telephone.

1906
Christian Service League (CSL) founded. George L. Hosford named superintendent.

1910s

1912
KCHS purchases boarding home in Topeka.

1915
KCHS moves into new office at 918 Kansas Avenue, Topeka

Red Stocking Breakfasts Follow Tradition of Giving to KCSL

KCSL held seven Red Stocking Breakfasts in December to raise money for KCSL's child abuse prevention programs and services. Preliminary results show about \$157,000 has been raised to support KCSL's programs and services across the state! Local "celebrities" helped dish out food donated by local vendors. Attendees also had the opportunity to

The rich history of the red stocking tradition shows how it has evolved over the years. In 1929, red stockings were distributed throughout the community for individuals to fill with monetary donations. One youngster wrote with his donation, "I am eleven years old, and I am sure my Christmas is going to be happier because I am putting \$2.50 of my Christmas money in your stocking.

I wish the children and everyone connected with the League a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Another gentleman wrote in, "We are both getting up in years. I am 83, my wife 81 past. We are not working but still willing to do something for the unfortunate. Here is our mite."

A 1934 issue of the Kansas Children's Welfare reminded subscribers to fill an enclosed stocking for the children of the League. One reader wrote, "When I have returned the stocking with a gift for the children, I am likely to find myself whistling."

In 1980, a group of volunteers known as the Elderly Elves made hand-made wooden toys that were sold to raise money for "The Christmas Red Stocking Campaign." Another group of volunteers hand sewed small, red felt stockings filled with treats that were also sold to benefit the drive.

Regardless of its execution, the Red Stocking tradition continues to provide needed funds to support children services throughout the state.



win two roundtrip airline tickets from Southwest Airlines and bid on multiple silent auction items from area retailers.

FROM OUR HISTORY



The Red Stocking Breakfast is a continuance of a tradition of holiday giving to KCSL that started 90 years ago. In the 1920s, the community was invited to make holiday gifts to children living at KCSL's receiving home, a temporary residence for children awaiting a foster or adoptive home. These children would hang their "Little Red Stockings" in anticipation of the generosity of the community.

Make A Difference for Kids

Make a donation online. It's easy... go to our website at www.kcsl.org and click on Donate Now OR make a secure donation through Paypal on our Facebook page!



KCSL Trivia

The Christian Service League and Children's Home Society merged to become The Kansas Children's Home and Service League. In what year was the name shorted to what it is today, Kansas Children's Service League?

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

1920s

1920
KCHS becomes founding member of Child Welfare League of America.

1926
KCHS and CSL merge, becoming Kansas Children's Home and Service League.

1930s

1931
The League assumes responsibility for Orphan Train children in Kansas.

1935
Establish Aid to Dependent Children.

1940s

1946
The League proposes legislation concerning children's programs.

1948
Name changes to Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL).

You & A Child



Jordyn & Joseph, ages 6 & 5
ID# CH-5954 & CH-5955

Jordyn is a loving and friendly little girl. She enjoys coloring, playing dress up and going outside. She laughs at everything and loves to giggle. Jordyn is not very aware of things that are going on around her and will need reminders to be aware of her surroundings. Joseph is a loving, affectionate and happy young boy. He likes watching cartoons, playing

outside and going swimming. Joseph is non-verbal so he will need one-on-one attention most of the day. It is believed that Jordyn and Joseph would benefit from a two-parent home. A family that is very resourceful and is willing to advocate for the needs of these children would be just the fit!



Tamara, Ricky & Mary
ages 9, 6 & 5
ID# CH-5972 CH-5973 & CH-5974

Tamara, Ricky and Mary need a two-parent home that has enough love in their hearts for all three of these siblings! Tamara likes going to the park, watching TV and playing volleyball. She will need a family that will make her feel loved and secure. Ricky is a very happy child that

laughs frequently. He is very affectionate and enjoys being independent when he is able. Ricky needs a family that will be supportive and encourage him to always do his best. Mary is very charming; she enjoys playing with her dolls and going outside to play. She needs a family that can provide constant supervision. Tamara, Ricky and Mary need a forever home that is structured and has a set routine in place.

To learn more about adoption visit www.adoptkiskids.org or call 877-457-5430. Connect with us! [facebook.com/Adopt-KansasKids](https://www.facebook.com/Adopt-KansasKids) and [twitter.com/AdoptKSKids](https://www.twitter.com/AdoptKSKids).

Tune In For Kids

Meet great kids who need forever families on these stations:

In Northeast Kansas, "Wednesday's Child" with Lori Hutchinson on WIBW TV-13

In Southeast Kansas, "Monday's Child" with Lisa Oligis on KOAM TV-7

In South Central and Western Kansas, "Susan's Kids" with Susan Peters on KAKE TV-10

How KCSL Began History of Founding Organizations

Originally formed in 1884 as the Children's Home Society, the organization merged with the Christian Service League in 1926 to become the Kansas Children's Home and Service League. In 1948 the group changed its name to the KCSL as it is known today. These two parent organizations were founded by members of the community who held a deep regard for the most vulnerable members of their community. The two accounts below recount how each organization began.

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY

"The Children's Home Society had its origin in the State of Illinois around 1884 among a few consecrated Christian men who believed there was a better method of caring for homeless and dependent children than by herding them together in institutions. Going on the theories that the only normal condition of a child is in the home of his own; that every child has a right to a mother's arms around his neck; that God has a good home in a Christian family for every homeless child; and that there are as many childless homes as there are homeless children - the Children's Home Society was launched." **-Children's Home Finder, 1909**

CHRISTIAN SERVICE LEAGUE

The LEAGUE had its conception in the mind of the founder several years before any decisive steps were taken toward establishing a society. The organization is only an outer garment which has clothed the soul.

During the summer of 1906 I received from the Probate Judges of Sedgwick and Reno counties, three abandoned infants whom no one wanted, and who were rejected by societies and institutions in the State of Kansas because of certain conditions. One of the infants, a little boy without any clothing on this body, wrapped

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Abandoned in a snow-covered tent, John and Evangeline Natteford, aged 10 and 13, were found in 1906. Hosford helped find the siblings a permanent home.

1960-70s

1968
KCSL adoptions exceed 200.

1970
KCSL dedicates Allen building at 13th and Custer in Wichita.

1973
Black Adoption Program begins in Kansas City.

1976
KCSL awarded Head Start grant for service in western Kansas.

1980s

1984
Council on Accreditation approves KCSL in its first quadrennial accreditation process.

1989
KCSL begins juvenile assessment and intake service in Topeka.

Success Stories throughout the Years

Though our mission has evolved over time, KCSL's emphasis on making a difference for Kansas children and families has remained steadfast for the last 120 years. Here are a few examples of the impact KCSL has had on families and communities.

CHILDREN'S HOME FINDER, 1911

Recently I was visiting with a young man of eighteen, a ward of our society, who had been taken into his present home very young. He told me something of what of a splendid home he had and how kind his foster parents had always been to him. In his earlier years he had been a rather bad boy to manage and give considerable trouble. He spoke freely of this and expressed his wonder at the patience of his foster parents in enduring

his naughtiness when a little fellow. Now, as he looks back over the years, he is doubly grateful for what has been done for him in the way of wholesome training. He is now what might be termed a model young man, a splendid worker on the farm, kind in the home and a leader in church work. How many failures in rearing children might have been averted by the exercise of a little more tuck and patience.

Yours for the cause of the homeless child,
W.E. McDowell

OUR CHILDREN, written in 1923

The number of children received during the past two months is smaller than usual because we have been able to assist a number of parents to make arrangements

to keep their children, either by finding boarding home for them or interesting people in their own communities in them. We are always the last to ask a parent to give up a child and only step in to receive the children as a last resort, after all other means have been tried to keep the family together.

STEPS TO SUCCESS EMAIL, 2013

Homeless and without parental support, two teenage siblings were left to raise their baby sister after their mother passed away. With the help of Healthy Families in Wyandotte County, they have graduated from transitional housing apartments and recently moved into their own home. One of the teens attends community college. The other has secured a job as a receptionist at a law firm.

BHF Commitment Breakfast

CONTINUED FROM COVER



where healthy families can grow and children can thrive.

FROM OUR HISTORY

A quick glance through Kansas Children's Home Finder and Kansas Child Welfare, precursors to the current KidsView, you can see both the clever and generous ways Kansans have contributed to KCSL's founding organizations.

In a 1911 issue of Home Finder, one writer suggested a fundraising method that showed how a little can go a long way. A committee was formed with each member given the title of "year." Each "year" would donate \$1 and then find 12 people to be "months." Each "month" would donate

50 cents and find four people to act as "weeks." As you might guess, each week would donate 25 cents and find seven people to be "days" who would each give 10 cents. The "days" would then find 24 "hours" who would donate three cents. From one "year" starting with just \$1, the organization could generate \$294! From a small committee of 10 "years," the group would be well on its way to \$3,000.

A 1920 issue of Home Finder told the story of a family with seven children whose clothing was in such terrible condition that much of it had to be burned. Upon hearing the story from a state superintendant, a prominent businessman in the community told the superintendant, "Get them all new clothing of good quality and bring me the bill." With seven children, you can imagine

it could have been quite the bill! But showing that generosity was in high supply, as KCSL purchased clothing for the family they asked if the merchants could deduct their profits from the tab. One of the merchants "in a big hearted manner" cancelled the entire bill.

In a 1933 issue of Home Finder, the newsletter records a creative, in-kind donation from a local aesthetics teacher. A Miss Agnes McKeirnan had no money to donate, so she donated her time by teaching weekly physical training classes to the children at the receiving home. The children, the issue states, were provided the opportunity to learn "team work in play, correctness of carriage and rhythmic interpretation."

1990

KCSL establishes youth center in Topeka.

1993

Kansas Child Abuse Prevention Council merges with KCSL.

1995

Healthy Families home visitation/child abuse prevention grant awarded to KCSL.

1996

KCSL awarded SRS regional foster care and family preservation state contracts.

1996 cont.

Head Start services reach 362 children; KCSL Foundation incorporates.

1999

KCSL awarded state grant for outreach efforts to state's uninsured children.

1990s



Memorial Gifts

LINDA BALKENBUSH

Beth Moore
Corey & Leslie Krehbiel
Jayhawk Retriever Club, Inc.
Mandi Garrison
Mark Balkenbush
Mark & Amy Keeny
Rodney & Ladene Fowler

Governor's Conference

Continues Focus on Prevention Statewide

The 37th Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect was held Nov. 6-8 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka. More than 500 professionals gathered for the Conference to share insights on exemplary models of prevention and intervention services for children and families, network and receive certifiable training opportunities. Keynote speakers for the event were past president for the American Academy of Pediatrics Dr. Robert Block and Derek Clark from I Will Never Give Up. More information, including Block's PowerPoint presentation, can be found at www.kcsl.org.

Education Commission of the State's Task Force on Child Abuse, *Kansas was chosen as the first chapter location in 1976.

NCPCA asked SuEllen Fried, then president of the Kansas Mental Health Association, to orchestrate a chapter model to implement in the other 49 states. Accepting the challenge, Fried contacted like-minded individuals and organizations whose focus was on the well-being of children including Joe Pierron, a prosecuting attorney in Johnson County who handled child abuse cases. It was during this time that the idea of holding a conference to bring them all together was born. In short order, Fried's group of professionals, nonprofit workers and government employees planned the first ever Governor's Conference held in the fall of 1976. The Conference eventually resulted in the first legislation in Kansas on child abuse.

FROM OUR HISTORY

In the early 1970s, Donna Stone, then president of the Jesse and W. Clement Stone Foundation, wanted to donate \$500,000 to an organization focusing on child abuse. When she discovered that no such group existed, she decided to create one and in 1972, Stone founded the Family Life Achievement Center. After several professional gatherings with the leading child abuse experts of the day, the organization decided to focus on the prevention of child abuse and changed its name to the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse (NCPCA). Additionally, the group decided to form a fifty-state, nonprofit organization, known as Prevent Child Abuse America today. Because of Stone's involvement with Kansas'

"Kansas is the premier Prevent Child Abuse America state chapter in the country and continues to be a model for the rest of the states," said Fried. "For those of us who were around in the beginning, we are filled with such pride at the way the legacy has been not only carried on but taken to incredible heights that we could never imagine."

***KCSL became the Prevent Child Abuse of Kansas Chapter in 1993, thus overseeing the Governor's Conference since.**

Stay it Forward



Book your next hotel stay at www.charitablehotels.org and donate the commission to KCSL. Receive the same prices as Expedia, Travelocity or Priceline, but the commission goes to a good cause!

KCSL Trivia Answer: 1948

2001
KCSL receives grant to provide Early Head Start (EHS) services to 40 children in Finney Co.

2003
KCSL achieves lowest recidivism rate of any adoption service in the United States.

2007
Re-establishes infant adoption services and finalizes first adoption.

2008
Topeka's new building dedicated in April 2008, Morris Center for Children and Families.

2009
American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) expands EHS slots in Liberal by 24.

2009 cont.
Control of Shawnee County Family Resource Center programs and services transfers to KCSL.

How KCSL Began

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

in an old skirt, was left on the back end of a lot. Another was a baby girl, almost one year old, whose little body was covered with ugly sores; and the third was left with a good woman who was anxious to see that the child had a good home. I placed the babies with a nurse to board, and later went on a trip filling dates for my popular travel lecture on Alaska.

At Guymon, Oklahoma, I was delayed on account of the loss of my advertising trunk. While there, my attention was called to the condition of two children, a boy ten years old, and a girl thirteen [pictured on page 4], who had been abandoned, by their father, in a tent on the prairie, sixteen miles from town. Their mother was dead. The condition of this little brother and sister was as pitiable as anything I have ever seen. I secured comfortable clothing for

them from the merchants at Guymon, and then by due process of law, received them as my personal wards. I called on my assistant, Miss May Shelley, who had the management of my lecture engagements, and give her charge of the little girl. I said to her "I guess it is time for me to organize my society." She replied "I think you are right." I asked her if she would take the position of Field Secretary, and she said, "I will, but what are you going to call your society?" I said, "We will call it The Christian Service League." The matter was settled. —**Pastor George Lewis Hosford, founder of the Christian Service League**

With the help of his assistant May Shelley, Hosford started the Christian Service League with his lecture series earnings of \$49.

Did You Know?

George Lewis Hosford, founder of Christian Service League (CSL), was an employee of Children's Home Society (CHS) for three years leading up to him starting CSL.

By 1909 CHS was established in 32 states and territories and placed 28,000 children into the home of a family. Of those children, 1,100 were from Kansas.

President Roosevelt invited O.S. Morrow, first Superintendent of CHS, to the White House to consider important questions about homeless children. Mr. Morrow was 1 of 100 men and women invited to Washington D.C.

First Lady of Kansas Mrs. Alfred Landon had an interest in homeless children. One afternoon before Easter she was hostess to 35 children from our Receiving Home. The merriment started with a hunt through the grounds for the gaily colored eggs and concluded with each child receiving candy eggs and ice cream.

KCSL and Wichita Child Guidance Center (WCGC) ties go back to the 1940s. In 1951, WCGC extended services to children in Topeka when the Menninger Foundation was temporarily unable to give some of their psychological services to our Topeka children.

In 1980, KCSL began recognizing Martin Luther King Day. Jerry Coppel, KCSL's Executive Director, said

the agency would be closed and urged employees to participate in appropriate community activities that are held to honor MLK's memory. Coppel stated, "the agency's closing is recognition of the League's growing concern for minority children. We have a strong commitment to improve services to minority children of all races."

KCSL participated in a four-state region adoption exchange in 1981. An adoption exchange and photo listing network was established jointly by KCSL, Adoption Resource Center and a four-state planning commission including Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas dubbed the "Exchange of Mid-America."

Our founding organizations were instrumental in the development of the child welfare system in Kansas lobbying for child labor and protection laws, court involvement in adoption and health-care of children.

KCSL is the oldest private child welfare agency in Kansas. Also, KCSL was a founding member of Child Welfare League of America and Council on Accreditation.

In 1998, KCSL received a new grant in Wichita called KINections. It helped those who had committed minor offenses and were unable to return home safely by placing them with capable relatives and providing counseling and support.

2011
Dona Booe named President and CEO of KCSL.

2011 cont.
Strengthening mental health services for families, Wichita Child Guidance Center merges with KCSL.

2011 cont.
KCSL awarded MIECHV funding for home visiting programs improving outcomes for at-risk children.

2013
New Liberal classrooms for Head Start dedicated.

2013 cont.
Kickoff of Building Healthy Families mission tours in Topeka.

2013 cont.
Wichita Crisis Nursery opens to support families in crisis, developed by Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention.

2010s

Upcoming Events

Klicks for Kids

Nov. 14 Exploration Place
thru Wichita, KS
Dec. 2

Dec. 4 Shawnee Library
thru Shawnee, KS
Jan. 8

Dec. 4 Antioch Library
thru Merriam, KS
Jan. 8

For more information on these events, please visit our website, www.kcsl.org



Kansas Children's Service League

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120 Years of Adoption

Attendees at our Annual Meeting received a copy of our newest publication *Celebrating 120 Years of Adoption*, featuring 12 decades of stories as told by moms, dads and children. To view the booklet, go to www.kcsl.org and click on the banner ad.



Children are our future, and that's why at KCSL they are our top priority. When planning for the future distribution of assets, many people are surprised to learn there are a number of ways to provide charitable gifts to KCSL. In addition to remembering family, friends and other loved ones, consider including KCSL in your plans so we can ensure that the next generation of children and families thrive! Contact KCSL President/CEO, Dona Booe at dbooe@kcsl.org or (785) 274-3100 for more information.

Planning For The Future



Kids View is published by the Kansas Children's Service League, a private not-for-profit agency whose mission is to protect and promote the well-being of children.

Writers:

Toni Higdon
Director of Operations

Deena Williams
Marketing and Public Relations Supervisor

Rebecca Hunt
Marketing and Public Relations Specialist

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