

WILLIAMSON COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER SPRING NEWSLETTER



DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

I am grateful to the WCCAC Board of Directors for entrusting me with the job of Executive Director of the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center. Having the opportunity to succeed our previous Director, Brenda Davis, is certainly an honor and I consider it a privilege to lead our center into what I believe to be a bright future.

Many of you are aware of our earning accredited member status by the National Children's Alliance. Though significant, this tremendous accomplishment will be surpassed by the continued positive impact we have in the lives of children we serve who have suffered sexual and/or severe physical abuse. Our staff and team members combat child abuse by collectively combining their skill, professionalism, and an incredible passion as we provide forensic interviewing, advocacy, counseling, and court orientation services to

May 2011

What's Inside:

Thank You Brenda	p. 2
Celebrate Children's Fair	p. 2
50 Wooden Children	p. 2
Legacy Ball	p. 3
Hohenwald News	p. 4
New Board Leadership at the WCCAC	p. 4
How Can I Support the WCCAC	p. 4

children and families in crisis. Our community education offerings, including our highly successful Stewards of Children program, is rapidly having the desired impact of training our community to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

We need your help to continue our mission and to have a positive role in the healing process of the children we serve. With only a couple of months left in our fiscal year, it is critical that we finish strong financially. Your gift allows us to maintain a level of excellence and provide much needed services to an ever growing number of children who suffer the traumatic effects of sexual and/or severe physical abuse. The good news is, together, we can and do help these children smile again. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Handwritten signature of Marcus Stamps.

-Marcus Stamps, Executive Director

THANK YOU BRENDA



The time has come for our wonderful Brenda Davis to retire. Brenda has worked tirelessly as our Executive Director since November of 2008. In the last two and a half years, she relocated us to our spacious new office, secured our agency's accreditation with the National Children's Alliance, and brought in several grants that enabled us to grow our staff and open a satellite office in Hohenwald.

Thankfully, she will stay involved with the CAC by transitioning to a position on the board as the Vice Chair. We are so grateful for all she has done for us and are excited about our bright future with her on the board!

CELEBRATE CHILDREN'S FAIR



On April 2nd, we had our annual Celebrate Children's Fair at Pinkerton Park. We sponsor this event each year as a way to celebrate Child Abuse Prevention Month. This year, Mercy Children's Clinic, the Franklin Police Department, the Franklin Fire Department, CASA, the Williamson County Health Department, The Gathering Nashville Church, and the FBI all participated.

We had games, prizes, and Chik-fil-a, Jimmy John's, and Dominos provided lunch for those attending. The Franklin Fire Department brought a fire truck for the kids to explore. The police fingerprinted the children, and the highlight of the day was three demonstrations done by the Franklin K9 unit. All in all, it was a wonderful day and a great way to celebrate our children.



50 WOODEN CHILDREN

In honor of April being Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center put together a visual to create awareness in our community. Eagle Scout, Seth Kantoric, created fifty wooden cutouts, each representing ten children served. In total, that is five hundred kids per year helped by the WCCAC. The wooden children were on display in front of the Franklin Police Department until the end of April. You can see the NewsChannel 5 story on this display below.

<http://www.newschannel5.com/story/14494871/child-advocacy-center-makes-statement-in-franklin>



LEGACY BALL



On February 26th, we had our annual Legacy Ball, and it was our best event ever. The generosity of our guests netted nearly \$40,000 and we even gave away a beautiful, fully stocked wine refrigerator.

Our "Night at the Oscars" began with a wine reception, which was followed by a delicious dinner. Heidi Schwartz was there to capture the entire evening in one of her original Paint Your Event paintings. During the meal, we presented our annual awards. This year, the prestigious Ronald L. Davis Award was given to Brenda Davis, outgoing Executive Director and long-time volunteer, board member, and supporter of the Child Advocacy Center. Kasi Haire was named Volunteer of the Year. The Outstanding Performance by a Child Protective Investigative Team (CPIT) Member Award had three winners this year: Det. Tamara Mick (Franklin Police Department), Det. Phil Jarosz (Fairview Police Department), and Assistant District Attorney Kate Yeager. We are thankful for all they do to help our advocacy center and the children we serve.

We are also grateful for Kimberly Pitt and Shalia Lankford. They served

as our Legacy Ball Chairs this year and were responsible for many of the wonderful silent and not-so-silent auction items that were donated. The highlight of this year's auction was the private tour of Barrett Firearms Manufacturing Headquarters. The tour included an orientation and history of the company, a walk-through of the factory to see how parts are manufactured and assembled into a Barrett Rifle, an opportunity to shoot the world-famous Barrett .50 caliber 82A1 Rifle at the company's indoor range and photo opportunities. A "once in a lifetime experience" doesn't even begin to describe this! What started out as one tour on the silent auction quickly became four tours thanks to Ronnie Barrett's generosity and the enthusiasm of the crowd.

Legacy Ball 2011 was a fantastic night that will not be forgotten any time soon. Keep an eye on our website for information on next year's ball, which is scheduled for March 3, 2012.

Proceeds from the Legacy Ball fund the operations of the WCCAC, including our forensic interviews, advocacy, court orientation, counseling, and community education programs.



HOHENWALD NEWS

We just hired a new Project Coordinator/Child & Family Advocate, Maggie Waltz, for our Hohenwald office. Maggie has a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Tennessee and a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from the University of North Alabama. She has previously worked for DCS and has been a Family Service Worker in the foster care unit for 3 years. She also interned at Parthenon Pavilion for a year and at North Alabama Group Home for girls for a year. She's volunteered at Kid's Place Child Advocacy Center in Lawrenceburg for three years as well. We are thrilled to have this wonderful addition to our staff!

Recently, M'Lee Curtis, our forensic interviewer, conducted the Stewards of Children presentation for the Lewis County Health Council. Our goal is to have 200 adults trained by the end of 2011. If you are in the area and interested in the training, see our website for more information, or call our Hohenwald office at (931)796-0813.

FORE!!!

We have scheduled the 2nd Annual WCCAC Golf Tournament for **Monday, August 29th** at the Nashville Golf and Athletic Club. For more information, e-mail Paige at paige@williamsoncountycac.org

NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP AT WCCAC

As many of you know by now, there has been significant change in leadership at the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center. Matt Robins, Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., has been named Chairman of the Board of Directors. Brenda Davis, who retired as Executive Director, has been elected to the Board of Directors and named as Vice Chair. Join us in welcoming the new executive leadership for our Center.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER?

- * Know our story and help us tell it
- * Arrange groups for our community education programs
- * Provide corporate or individual connections for us that will advance our cause
- * Make a personal financial contribution
- * Volunteer your time and resources

For assistance in supporting the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center, please call Marcus Stamps, Executive Director, at 790-5900, ext. 101 or email marcus@williamsoncountycac.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit our website at:

www.williamsoncountycac.org

Or give us a call at: (615)790-5900



Williamson County Child Advocacy Center



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE®

ACCREDITED MEMBER