

Keeping *children* safe, strengthening *families*, and building  
healthy *communities* since 1899

2018 Volume 1

### **Meet Bethany's New Four-Legged Employee, Max!**

The two-year-old Border Collie mix started in August 2017, as part of Bethany's Child and Family Support Services Team, in Maquoketa, Iowa.



The program is designed to improve a person's level of functioning as it is related to mental illness. Areas that are addressed may include social skills development, anger management, relationship problems, behavior management, depression or other mental health issues, communication skills, and problem solving skills.

This is where Max comes in. He's a certified and licensed therapy dog. Erin Lange, his owner and a Mental Health Therapist for Bethany for Children & Families says Max currently sees around 15 to 20 students and four adults. Most of her clients suffer from severe depression or social anxiety. Lange says she's noticed a difference in her clients since Max has started. "I feel they open up more when they have the dog."



Lange says her clients love Max, and Max loves them too. "He loves going to work!"

**Welcome to Bethany, Max!**

# The *Generosity* of the *Quad Cities*

## Slumberland Furniture Donates Beds and Bed Frames to Those in Need

It's an item that some people take for granted, a bed. For 35 Quad City residents, they will no longer have to worry about not having one. On December 18, 2017 Slumberland Furniture Stores of Davenport and Moline donated 35 brand new twin-size mattress sets to Bethany for Children & Families. The donation is part of the Slumberland Furniture's annual Making Homes for the Holidays program. This year, Slumberland also donated brand new bed frames.

Lee Kerr, who owns the Slumberland stores in Davenport and Moline, stated, "It's a great feeling to be able to give back to the community and help improve someone's quality of sleep."



Bill Steinhauser, President and CEO for Bethany for Children & Families, said, "This generous donation from Slumberland Furniture ensures that 35 people in the Quad City area have comfortable beds this holiday season. The Making Homes for the Holidays program is a generous and kind way of helping individuals in need - by making sure they are able to have a warm and restful night's sleep, affecting life at home, school, work, and in the community."

Bethany has identified people in need of the beds and distributed them to those members of the community. This is the ninth year that Slumberland has donated beds to Bethany.



**Thank you, Slumberland Furniture!**

# The *Generosity* of the *Quad Cities*

## The Numbers are in....

Back in September, three Quad City bicyclists set off to raise money for a good cause. The bikers left Itasca, Minnesota, and rode all the way to the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans! On each of the 21 days it took to complete the 1,600-mile journey, a story was shared about a Quad City family and their needs to help break the cycle (as in break the cycle of poverty, domestic violence, etc.), whether it was a down payment on a car, a rent deposit, or money for school tuition. Funds raised through the campaign were split between three Quad City charities — Alternatives for the Older Adult, the Child Abuse Council, and **Bethany for Children & Families**.

On October 4, at an event at Schwiebert Riverfront Park in Rock Island, Illinois, **Jim Millman, Tom Rowe, and Tom Thoms** revealed how much money they were able to raise, a total of \$102,184.

However, donations kept pouring in even after the fundraiser ended. The bikers raised a total of **\$119,372.15!** That is \$65.33 per mile, \$823 per hour in the seat, or \$14,921 per flat tire!



# The Generosity of the Quad Cities



The **Moline Chapter of MOS (Matter of Seconds) Motorcycle Club** organized a charity ride for Bethany in September and delivered the proceeds to Bethany in December.



Bethany received a donation of 75 brand new pairs of pajamas from the **Pajama Program**, just in time for the winter season ... and they followed it up with additional donations of 200 more pairs of pajamas!

The ladies in the Moline Township Activity Center's **Healthy Lifestyles** group donated a variety of gift bags and tissue paper to help out the agency's Christmas Giving program.



**Brandy, Sherry, Courtney**, and their families put together 25 backpacks full of supplies for foster children.



Cathy from **Group Services** delivered food baskets to supplement Bethany's efforts to provide holiday meals to Quad City families in need.

# The Generosity of the Quad Cities

In the last issue of *Buzz@Bethany*, we called for donations of new personal hygiene and cleaning products, and the Quad Cities responded with enthusiasm! These donations go towards serving the 9,000+ children and families that Bethany serves each year.



Above: **Paul and Sheila** responded to the call, and their donation helped several clients!



Left: **Grace** and her friends collected hygiene products at her birthday party and donated them all to Bethany!



Left: **First Congregational Church** in Moline donated 15 laundry baskets full of new personal hygiene and cleaning products, as well as stocking hats and scarves from the Church's **Warm Fuzzies** knitting group.

Below: **Kelsey** facilitated a donation of stuffed animals and blankets from **Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial**.



Above: **Mel Foster** in Bettendorf donated 72 coats, as well as other warm clothing, just in time for winter!

# The Generosity of the Quad Cities



Every year, Bethany for Children & Families appeals to the community to support the agency's Christmas Giving program. Gifts are donated by the caring individuals and companies that call the Quad Cities home.

**From top left to bottom right:**

United Healthcare OPTUM; Deere & Company; Van Meter; John Deere Cylinder; the congregation of First Presbyterian Church in Davenport; Craftsmen Utility Trailer; Quad City Bank & Trust; IBEW Local 21; United Healthcare; Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial.

**Next Page (from top left to bottom right):**

Krista with Max and Lexie; Rosie; Emily; Marie; Cherry and Eva; Lori and Barry with Eva and Ana; Monica with Avery; Allison; Jackie; Chelsea with Samuel; Olivia with Calvin; John; Alexa with Lilly; Kimberly with Natalie; Katie with George.

**Thank you all so much for making the holidays extra special for our clients!!!**



# The Generosity of the Quad Cities



# Family Awards 2017

On November 3, Bethany for Children & Families hosted its 2017 Family Awards Celebration to honor the exceptional community members who are dedicated to improving the lives of children in the Quad Cities. Bethany is very fortunate to work with such amazing people!



The Ruth Evelyn Katz Adoptive Family of the Year award was presented to **Les & Elizabeth Butler.**



**Travis and Tina Eygabroad** received the Foster Family of the Year award.



**Dr. Jacquelyn Richardson** received the Community Champion of the Year award.



# Family Awards 2017



Staff members of Bethany's Iowa Family Services (above) and Therapeutic Recreation Program (below) celebrate the special evening honoring the families and community members with whom they work.



**Kirby Winn**, Director of Public Relations for the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center, acted as Master of Ceremonies.

**Brett Van**, Chief Investment Officer & Treasurer for Modern Woodmen of America and Chairman of the Board for Bethany, provided the introduction.



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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# Program Spotlight

## Give Kids a Smile

The Give Kids a Smile Mobile Dental Program is a community program aimed at increasing access to dental care to children ages two to 18 who are at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, who have never been to a dentist, who do not have dental insurance, or who have but cannot find a provider who accepts Medicaid insurance. The program delivers dental services directly to children in the greater Quad City region on the Give Kids a Smile mobile dental clinic, which travels to schools in Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, Scott, Jackson, and Clinton counties. Licensed dental staff members provide a variety of services, including an oral examination, dental cleaning, fluoride treatment, and sealants, if necessary. Additional follow-up restorative services (such as fillings, extractions, and root canals) are provided by partner dentists in their offices throughout the community. Children who qualify for this program receive services **free of charge!**

**18,097**

kids received care  
on the Give Kids a Smile  
mobile dental clinic between  
**2011 and 2017**



# National *Children's Dental Health* Month

Bethany is a proud supporter of **National Children's Dental Health Month**. The month-long observance that takes place in February brings together thousands of dedicated dental professionals, healthcare providers, and educators to promote the benefits of good oral health to children, their caregivers, teachers, and many others.

This year's campaign slogan is, "Brush Your Teeth with Fluoride Toothpaste and Clean Between Your Teeth for a Healthy Smile."

Bethany understands the importance of good oral health care.

Not taking proper care of your teeth can lead to serious health problems.

Throughout the month of February, Bethany will be collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste, and dental floss to distribute to children in need as identified by their school nurses. If you would like to make a donation of these products, please call Dylan Davis at (309) 736-6642.



# What About the Boys?

On November 17, 2017, Bethany for Children & Families, with support from **Western Illinois University - Quad Cities Campus** and the **Iowa Department of Public Health**, as well as the **Regional Development Authority**, the **Moline Foundation**, the **Doris & Victor Day Foundation**, and the **Rock Island Community Foundation**, hosted "**What About the Boys?**" -- a free conference for sophomore, junior, and senior high school boys designed to address challenges and opportunities presented to young men today.



# What About the Boys?



Bethany extends its sincere gratitude to keynote speaker, **Tayvian Johnson**. Thank you also to the excellent presenters, Jeff and Rick from **ComedySportz at The Establishment**, and all of the members of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Advisory Committee at Bethany.



# Recent Grants

The **Grant W. Brissman and Virginia M. Brissman Foundation** awarded \$2,500 to support Bethany's Give Kids a Smile mobile dental program in the Village of Milan.

The **CD Wiman Memorial Trust** awarded a grant of \$3,000 to support dental services for children in need in the Quad Cities area.

The **Hubbell-Waterman Foundation** awarded \$12,250 to provide dental care to uninsured children in the Quad Cities.

The **MAXIMUS Foundation** awarded a grant of \$1,750 to provide dental care to low-income, underserved children.

The **Steve Morency and Kathleen E. Morency Charitable Giving Fund** at the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend awarded \$10,000 to meet client needs in the Independent Living Opportunities program.

The **Quad Cities Dental Hygienists Association** awarded a grant of \$500 to support the Give Kids a Smile program.

The **Regional Development Authority** awarded \$30,000 to provide preventative and restorative care to children who do not have access to oral health care.

# Three Cheers for *Volunteers*



Left: **Lydia, Tori, and Kobe** helped prepare permission forms for the Give Kids a Smile program and intake packets for Illinois Foster Care.



Below: **Laura** stopped by several times to help clean and sterilize Bethany's family visit and therapy rooms.



*Thank You!*

# Awards and *Excellence*

MOTIVATION  
EXCELLENCE  
RESPONSIBILITY  
INTEGRITY  
TEAMWORK



The monthly MERIT award recognizes an employee for distinguished service to the agency. MERIT awardees are nominated by their peers and are recognized for their outstanding commitment to children and families served by Bethany.



**Evena Wash**  
September 2017  
MERIT Award Winner

**Evena Wash** is the Supervisor for Bethany's Give Kids a Smile Mobile Dental program. The nomination stated, "Evena demonstrates outstanding integrity, always being honest and frank in what the Give Kids a Smile program can offer to the children of the community. Her persistence in advocating for Give Kids a Smile resulted in a representative from the Scott County school nurses' organization requesting her to speak at their meeting to advocate for the program. She represents the agency in a straightforward manner, and she is passionate about the Give Kids a Smile program and the services it offers."



**Emily Thomson**  
November 2017  
MERIT Award Winner

**Emily Thomson** is a Case Manager for Bethany's Homeless Programs. Her nomination said, "Emily is an energetic case manager. She is organized and focused, and she models these skills to her clients. This helps them to move forward toward independence. This month, Emily has been faced with some difficult situations with a client that led to emotionally charged conversations. She handled the situations with firm but fair boundaries, and her relationship with the client seems to have improved."

# In Kind Drive: *Diapers & Baby Wipes*

Bethany serves over 9,000 children and families each year and relies upon the community to help improve lives. Even the smallest donation can make a big difference in someone's life.



Please consider a donation of new diapers and baby wipes.



**Bethany is particularly in need of sizes 3, 4, and 5!**



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[www.bethany-qc.org](http://www.bethany-qc.org)



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