

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



2016 Volume 1

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

On December 1, Bethany launched the agency's first #GivingTuesday campaign. Founded in 2012, Giving Tuesday is a global giving campaign observed on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events of Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday is the day to give back after "getting" so much food, family time, and super deals at the stores.

In preparation for Giving Tuesday, Bethany enlisted the help of 35 "ambassadors," people who regularly interact with our social media or who are agency stakeholders. Each ambassador received a toolkit with ready-to-use posts, tweets, images, and links to the agency's online donation page. A donor offered to match gifts to help inspire giving, the volunteer ambassadors made the magic happen and spread the word to their friends and families about our good work in the community, and Bethany received over \$4,000 in gifts!

The individuals who gave to Bethany joined almost 700,000 people who raised or donated \$116.7 million dollars for charitable causes around the world on this single day of giving.

Bethany extends sincere thanks to everyone who supported the agency's campaign with their time, effort, and dollars. By supporting Bethany for Children & Families, donors and volunteers help Bethany achieve its mission of keeping children safe, strengthening families, and building healthy communities.

To participate next year, simply like Bethany on Facebook or follow Bethany on Twitter.



#GivingTuesday

The *Generosity* of the Quad Cities



A Christmas tree created for Festival of Trees was purchased by the **Quad City Times** and donated to Bethany for Children & Families!



Donations of knitted items from the **Center for Active Seniors** (above) and **Cynthia Cornelius** from Hampton, Illinois (below), will help keep kids warm this winter season.



Support for Bethany from the **John Deere Foundation** in Moline, Illinois, helped 30 Quad Cities families enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Thanksgiving baskets were prepared by River Bend Foodbank and included a canned ham, vegetables, stuffing, and more.

The *Generosity* of the Quad Cities



John Deere Cylinder Internal Platform donated Christmas gifts for almost 100 children throughout the Quad Cities.



UnitedHealthcare and Bethany representatives prepare gifts for the Christmas Giving Program.



Estes Construction in Davenport, Iowa, donated funds to Bethany's Christmas Giving Program.



John Deere Harvester Works provided gifts for 200 children and families in the Quad Cities.

Bethany for Children & Families extends sincere thanks to all of the organizations and businesses that supported the Christmas Giving Program this year. Your generosity and support allowed Bethany to provide Christmas gifts for over 400 Quad Cities children and their families.

Blue Thong Society
DECO Tool Supply Company
Deere & Company
Dispatch / Argus
Estes Construction
First Congregational Church
John Deere Cylinder Group
John Deere Harvester Works
Midland Information Resources
Quad City Bank & Trust
Swiss Valley Farms
T.A.G. Communications
UnitedHealthcare
Van Meter, Inc.

Bethany also thanks all of the individuals who donated to the Christmas Giving Program.

The *Generosity* of the Quad Cities



Rockridge High School's Dance Team donated toys, books, and plush animals for children served by Bethany.



Faith Lutheran Church of Eldridge, Iowa, sent Bethany's Davenport office a large donation of diapers.



Slumberland Furniture donated 48 twin mattresses so that Quad Cities families can sleep comfortably. This is the company's seventh annual donation to Bethany!



Underwear Because We Care donated underwear, undershirts, and socks for children and families that Bethany serves during the year.



Herman's of Rock Island, Illinois, donated a big box of socks to help keep kids' feet warm this winter.



JustUs Quad Cities collaborated to give gifts, hygiene items, and baby items for Bethany's Foster Care program.

The *Generosity* of the Quad Cities



Thank you to volunteers from **Sheet Metal Workers Local 91** for helping to ready the duplex donated to Bethany for occupancy!



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 or members of the community and are recognized for their outstanding commitment to children and families served by Bethany.



Kim Feeney
September 2015
MERIT Award Winner

Kim Feeney is a Therapist in the agency's Davenport office. The nomination stated, "Kim exceeds her productivity expectation on a monthly basis and always meets deadlines with her documentation and other reporting responsibilities. Most notably, Kim is a true team player, one who exhibits a positive can-do attitude even in the most challenging of times. She can be counted on to exude confidence while representing Bethany in the field and is a therapist whose knowledge and expertise is heavily relied upon by her colleagues in the school system as well as other employees of Bethany."



John Huber
October 2015
MERIT Award Winner

John Huber is a Program Coordinator in the agency's Behavioral Health Intervention Services program. The nomination stated, "For the past few months, John has worked diligently on the creation and implementation of a new billing system for the Iowa Family Services Division. He has had to dissect the current system and provide an enormous amount of information and data in order for the programmers to design this custom-made package. John has worked between 12 and 14 hours a day to meet the deadlines. He has been extremely flexible and has maintained a positive attitude throughout this entire process. John's level of excellence and teamwork has been exemplary."



Kendra Terry
November 2015
MERIT Award Winners
Nora Wenzel



Kendra Terry and Nora Wenzel are Behavioral Health Intervention Services case managers in Clinton. The nomination stated, “Kendra and Nora both manage difficult caseloads in Clinton. They work extremely well as a team, always assisting one another when needed. Kendra and Nora often spend extra time going to community events and local agency meetings to promote Bethany’s services, and they keep in constant contact with all schools to ensure the best possible case coordination for their clients. Our main referral source in the Clinton area speaks very highly of both Kendra and Nora and the excellent work they do with their clients and families. They both always have positive attitudes, are eager to pitch in when needed, and often go above and beyond for their clients and families.”

Bethany Welcomes Two New *Directors*



John “Omar” Bradley works as President of Revive Community Development Company, a real estate investment company specializing in historic repurposing. He worked in Quad Cities area banks for over twenty years, holds multiple securities licenses, and has consulted with a number of companies involved in banking, transportation, real estate, and energy. He holds a Bachelor’s

degree from Luther College and a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Iowa.



Scott Welker has worked for the U.S. Army as a civilian since 1983 and has been the senior ranking civilian on the Rock Island Arsenal since 2005 as a member of the Senior Executive Service Corps of the Federal Government. At the equivalent rank of an Army two star General Officer, Scott is currently serving as the Deputy to the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command. Scott

holds a Bachelor’s degree from Washington State University and a Master’s in Business Administration from St. Ambrose University.

The Next Step

On December 4, Bethany for Children & Families co-hosted ***The Next Step***, a free conference designed for 11th and 12th grade girls in Quad Cities schools that addresses the challenges and opportunities presented to young women today. Almost 100 juniors and seniors from 11 local high schools attended the conference, and presenters covered a wide range of topics, including:

- Balancing Education, Work, and Life (Presented by Karen Dahlstrom - Associate Director of Admissions at Augustana College) [Photo 1]
- Being a Teen Parent—Life Goes On (Presented by Kay Luna - Senior Writer at John Deere) [Photo 2]
- How Employable Are You? (Presented by Harriet "Bunny" Thomas - International Tours Manager at John Deere) [Photo 3]
- Signs of Suicide—Knowing How to Help (Presented by Christine Schmidt - Founder of the All Love, Only Love Coalition) [Photo 4]
- Sex—How Risky Can It Be? (Presented by Salem Osland - Training & Education Coordinator at Eyes Open Iowa) [Photo 5]

Lunch entertainment was provided by ***Guys in Ties*** [Photo 6], an elite traveling improv comedy troupe based out of Rock Island, Illinois. The girls also had the opportunity to tour the Western Illinois University—Quad Cities Campus and develop ideas for the future as they transition from being teenagers into being young adults.



The Next Step



1



2



3



4



5



6



Program Spotlight

Prevention Education

Bethany offers an array of education services taught by skilled educators to youth, parents, and the community. These programs are designed to teach self-esteem, strengthen communication skills, and develop responsible decision-making skills in an effort to prevent or reduce risky behaviors and to meet the many challenges that youth face today.

Utilizing evidence-based, medically accurate information, Bethany educators work with local schools to meet with junior high and high school students on a regular or as-requested basis to discuss a range of topics, including:

- Self-Esteem & Peer Pressure
- Communication & Refusal Skills
- Decision-Making
- Internet Safety
- Sexuality & Sexual Identity
- Pregnancy & Sexual Safety
- Consequences of Early Sexual Activity

Bethany's implementation of Wise Guys, an evidence-based education program designed to teach adolescent males about teen pregnancy prevention, has been so successful that it has achieved national attention.

Bethany's Prevention Education reaches thousands of students throughout the Quad Cities every year, and the programs provide these students with vital information that helps them make smart and healthy decisions as they transition into adulthood.



Quincy Davis, Program Coordinator for Wise Guys, talks to young men about male responsibility and good decision-making skills.

Three Cheers for *Volunteers*



Above: Kelsey Woodard, Weekend Meteorologist for WQAD-TV8, volunteered part of an afternoon to speak with students in Bethany's Therapeutic Recreation Program about the importance of education and about setting and achieving goals.

Below: Volunteers from Menasha Packaging in Rock Island, Illinois, helped Bethany prepare for a mass mailing and also decided to help make the visit rooms used by Foster Care and Therapy spotlessly clean.



Recent *Grants*



Variety - The Children's Charity of Iowa awarded Bethany with a brand new Dodge Grand Caravan.



The **Riverboat Development Authority** awarded Bethany a grant of \$35,000 to match federal funds for Bethany's homeless programs.

The Give Kids a Smile mobile dental program received a grant of \$20,000 from the **James R. and Anita Horne Jenkins Family Foundation**.

The Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth program received a grant of \$7,500 from the **Doris & Victor Day Foundation**.

The Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth program received a grant of \$2,000 from the **Moline Foundation**.



In from the Cold awarded \$550 to Bethany's Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth program.



The **Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque** granted \$1,000 to School-Based Therapy in Maquoketa, Iowa, through **Theisen's More for Your Community** program.

Illinois Foster Care Alliance



Illinois foster care agencies are coming together to recruit, train, and license foster homes.

Our collective goal is to license foster homes to ensure successful placements and **eliminate multiple moves for the children we serve.**

Help the children in our community who need it most!

For more information about becoming a foster parent, please contact us:

Bethany for Children & Families
(309) 797-7700

The Center for Youth & Family Solutions
(309) 786-0770

Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
(309) 794-3500

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
(309) 786-6400



We need your help!

2015 Family Awards Celebration

On Thursday, November 5, Bethany for Children & Families honored the outstanding families, individuals, and businesses who make a positive difference in the lives of others. The 2015 Family Awards Celebration was held at Modern Woodmen Park in Davenport, Iowa.



The Ruth Evelyn Katz Adoptive Family of the Year Award was presented to Aaron and Courtney Ziegler. Also pictured are their children and Tim and Paula Ziegler, who nominated Aaron and Courtney for the award.

The Foster Family of the Year award was presented to Raphael and Tonique Garrison, who attended the Family Awards Celebration with their children and foster children.



Dan and Allison Haskill received the Leadership Family of the Year Award, who attended the celebration with their four children.

2015 Family Awards Celebration

Right: The Community Service Group of the Year Award was presented to Rebuilding Together Quad Cities.

Below: Andy Howell, representing Slumberland Furniture, received the Community-Focused Business of the Year Award.



The Haskill daughters, Amber and Amy, received the Youth Volunteers of the Year Award.



Presenting Sponsor:

Modern Woodmen

FRATERNAL FINANCIAL



Local Union 91



Wild 5 - Save the Date!



Awards for fastest overall male & female and
top three runners in 12 age categories!

Water and refreshments provided at post-race party at
UnityPoint Health - Trinity Healing Garden.

Race proceeds benefit Bethany for Children & Families

For additional information, sponsorship opportunities, or to
volunteer, email Joscelyn Stone at jstone@bethany-qc.org.

Saturday, May 28, 2016

UnityPoint Health-Trinity
4500 Utica Ridge Road, Bettendorf



(309) 797-7700 or (563) 324-9169
www.bethany-qc.org



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