



O'Connell Children's Shelter

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From our Executive Director, Gina Meier-Hummel



Hello Friends, we hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well and getting ready for the holidays. It was a very active summer and fall for all of us. Our youth in the residential program were offered many opportunities this summer. We offered art classes with visiting artists. We had a couple of youth who worked regularly in our garden under our Master Gardener Volunteer Susan Anderson. The youth enjoyed horse riding, music lessons, fishing, and bible study and participated regularly in physical fitness programming with most of this programming being run by our fantastic volunteers.

We also continued the work with our bridging program which assists youth aging out of the foster care system in developing a support network. This year alone we have 8 more youth aging out of our system, and we would love to have you join our coaching/volunteer team; if you are interested, contact Jim at jimclark5959@aol.com.

Other ways you can help us: Come to the **Festival of Trees** Auction Party on Wednesday, November 30 to buy a tree, wreath, or new this year, gingerbread houses; ride the **Pulling for a Change** carriage rides through beautiful downtown Lawrence over the holiday season; or get a mitten from the **Mitten Tree** at the Festival of Trees for one of our prevention families. You can buy youth a gift from their **Amazon Wish List** on our website or support the **St. Patrick's Day Committee** activities (OCS is a beneficiary this year). Check out our fundraising website fot22ocs.givesmart.com for more details.

I am so very proud of the transformative work that occurs every day by our staff at OCS. We are keeping kids in schools, supporting foster families, offering emergency placement services for our community, and supporting vulnerable families so they do not have to be separated and enter the foster care system; but none of this happens without you. You are the most important partner we have in changing lives. God bless you and your loved ones this holiday season.



Gingerbread Houses on Parade

On display Monday, Nov. 28 - Sunday, Dec. 4 in various downtown storefronts
Stop by FOT HQ at Liberty Hall to get your map and scavenger hunt sheet to find all the houses downtown!
Houses will be auctioned off on fot22ocs.givesmart.com.



all proceeds benefit O'Connell Children's Shelter

1646 North 1320 Road
Lawrence, KS 66046
785-842-9356
Office.oyr@gmail.com

November 2022

Viewing Hours



NOV. 28: 10 AM - 8 PM
NOV. 29: 10 AM - 8 PM
NOV. 30: 10 AM - 4 PM
DEC. 1: 10 AM - 5 PM
DEC. 2: 10 AM - 9 PM
DEC. 3: 10 AM - 5 PM
DEC. 4: 10 AM - 2 PM

SUGGESTED DONATION
\$5 AGES 10+



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LIBERTY HALL

FOT22OCS.GIVESMART.COM

644 MASS

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Lawrence, KS 66046