



1925 Delaware Street Lawrence, Kansas 66046 November 2024

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Director Gina Meier-Hummel

President Marty Yost

Vice President Wesley Smith

Secretary Marc White

Treasurer Kelly Loneker

Members Becky Cheek-King Keith Dabney Bill DeWitt Gale Lantis John Rathbun Scott Risley Susan Williams

O'Connell Children's Shelter exists to serve and be an answer for children, youth, and families in our community and our state.

oconnellchildrensshelter.org

## From our Executive Director Gina Meier-Hummel

We are looking forward to seeing you at the **2024 Festival of Trees**, the annual fundraiser for O'Connell Children's Shelter and a much-loved holiday tradition in Lawrence.



Lawrence community members give their time and talents to design, create, and donate unique and creative trees, wreaths, and gingerbread houses.

With over 80 donations this year, we are thrilled to present Lawrence with a magical holiday experience while also providing the opportunity to support our ongoing good work with at-risk youth and families.

Suggested entrance fees of \$5 per person (or \$20 per family) during viewing hours directly support our residential and prevention programs. In addition, the donated holiday items are auctioned to the community through a silent auction as well as at a live auction party on Friday, December 6. The 2023 Festival of Trees raised over \$200,000 for O'Connell; we anticipate even greater community support at the 2024 festival.

Through these generous gifts, O'Connell is able to provide residential foster care for youth, providing a safe home-like environment, life skills, and healthy relationships. We also support youth and families through an extensive array of prevention programs designed to keep families healthy and together.

The wealth of creativity in these holiday donations is truly stunning. Attend the 2024 Festival of Trees to discover the amazing range of talent Lawrence unleashes in support of needy youth and families.

We are so grateful to the Lawrence community for your ongoing support of O'Connell Children's Shelter and the work we do with youth and families. We appreciate you.

## 2024 Festival of Trees

## At a Glance

| Date Event           |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Friday November 29   | Viewing Hours 10 am – 8 pm   |
| Saturday November 30 | Breakfast with Santa 10 am – 12 noon<br><b>Viewing Hours 12 noon – 8 pm</b><br>Cocktails and Carols 8 pm – 10 pm |
| Sunday December 1    | Viewing Hours 10 am – 6 pm   |
| Monday December 2    | <b>Viewing Hours 1:30 pm – 8 pm</b><br>Cookies with Santa 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm                                      |
| Tuesday December 3   | Viewing Hours 10 am – 8 pm<br>Cookies with Santa 4:30 – 6:30 pm  |
| Wednesday December 4 | <b>Viewing Hours 2 pm – 6:30 pm</b><br>Holiday Trivia 7:00 pm  |
| Thursday December 5  | Viewing Hours 10 am – 4:30 pm<br>Senior Viewing Hours 10:00 am – 12 noon   |
| Friday December 6    | Viewing Hours 10 am – 3 pm<br>Auction Party 7:00 pm  |
| Saturday December 7  | <b>Viewing Hours 11 am – 6 pm</b><br>Christmas Parade Breakfast with Santa 9 am –<br>11 am                       |
| Sunday December 8    | Viewing Hours 10 am – 2 pm   |

Join us at Maceli's, 1031 New Hampshire St, Lawrence, KS 66044