

PROGRAM UPDATE

For April, May & June 2022



Emergency Shelter Program

ESP services were provided for **15** children who received a total of 349 nights of service. The children represented ages 2-17, with neglect, and family violence being the reasons for placement. **6** counties were represented through shelter placement by the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services.

Runaway & Homeless Youth Program

RHY shelter services were provided for **1** youth, age 16, for a total of 20 nights of service. The youth represented **1** county and was identified as runaway and youth at-risk of homelessness. **10** crisis calls were managed by RHY staff, providing resources for youth in need of services. A total of **34** Safe Place Sites are available in a 5 county area to assist youth in crisis and connect them to local services.

Overnight Respite Program

Overnight respite services were provided for **1** foster care children for a total of 3 nights of service. The Overnight Respite Program offers foster parents a short respite from providing 24-hour care for children in the state foster care system.

Transitional Living Program

TLP services were provided for **9** youth for a total of 290 nights of service. **4** counties were represented through the services offered by TLP. Youth participated in life skills classes, volunteer activities, educational enrollment, and employment as part of the TLP program.

Children's Advocacy Center

CAC services were offered for **66** children and their non-offending caregivers. Services include forensic interviewing, victim advocacy, on-site mental health, and referrals for other services. These children represented child abuse cases involving alleged sexual abuse, physical abuse, and witnesses to a violent crime. **9** counties were represented through the services offered by the CAC, along with monthly Multi-disciplinary Meetings and case review in the counties of Clay, Choctaw, Lowndes, Oktibbeha, and Noxubee.

Sally Kate Winters Family Services provided a total of 1,977 meals for children in need during this quarter. A total of 120 individuals donated 745.5 volunteer hours during the quarter.



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*Empowering children and families
to seek and experience an improved
quality of life.*



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“Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline”

The National Suicide Prevention hotline transitioned to a three digit number in July 2022. This will make it easier to remember and for individuals to call. The three digit number **988**, will connect them to the current National Suicide Hotline; 1-800-273-8255.

“Did You Know?”

Did you know that you can view our quarterly newsletter digitally? You can check it out on our website, or email outreach@sallykatewinters.org to be added to our email list!

The runaway and homeless youth – BCP project is supported by the Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services as part of financial assistance totaling \$178,577 representing 70% funded by ACF/HHS and 30% funded by non-government sources. The content/opinion of SKWFS do not necessarily represent endorsement by ACF/HHS or the U.S. Government. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov>

“Summer Intern”

We are excited to have Isabella Walsh this summer for her internship. She is a Family Studies Major at Mississippi State University. Isabella will be spending her time assisting with all four programs. We are grateful for our partnership with several universities' Social Work and Family Studies programs to have new inters each semester!



Transforming Lives.

Volume 101, April-June, 2022

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Davis; Shelia Bush; and Lakita Goss



A MESSAGE FROM SHEILA:

Choice is defined as an act of selecting or making a decision when faced with two or more possibilities. Part of the freedoms we enjoy as Americans is the abundant opportunities of choice. Sometimes we make good choices, sometimes not so good, but within the big picture our choices often define our lives. As adults, many of our choices affect our children. Day-to-day choices that we make impact their safety, stability, and well-being in both big and small ways. Our choices, good and bad, begin to deeply influence the adult-version of our children. A word of caution from Toby Mac #SpeakLife is so relevant – “We often repeat what we don’t repair”. This simple statement is so profound for children experiencing trauma from child

June 30th marked the end of our thirty-two years of service to children, youth, and families. Sally Kate Winters Family Services has worked with 4,730 children and youth in crisis. These children represent an array of poor choices by the adults in their lives. Children are left with insecurities, anxiety, mental health issues, and decreased self-worth as they attempt to navigate childhood or their teen years. Can you imagine? I certainly can’t imagine this scenario for my two children. Our agency is charged with changing the trajectory of their lives in some way – understanding how it feels to be safe, exploring their trauma history, developing coping skills, setting boundaries, and finding value within themselves. Hoping to repair some parts of their lives in order to keep them from repeating!!

We are excited to announce the addition of a new board member and staff to help fulfill this mission. Alex Jackson from West Point has joined our Board of Directors. His volunteer service will help guide the programmatic and fiscal governance of our organization. Ora Davis and Tameka Cunningham have joined the Direct-Care Staff within our Emergency Shelter Program. These two ladies work alongside the other eight individuals employed to provide around-the-clock care for children and youth placed in the shelter. Thankfully, these additions put us at full capacity for board membership and fully staffed!! Fully staffed for our organization includes 22 Full-Time, 3 part-time, and 3 weekend relief positions for a total of twenty-eight employees. All of these individuals are an asset to our agency and the hundreds of children, youth, and families that access services each year!!

As we start a new of year of service, we applaud our staff, board, volunteers, and donors for your shared interest in protecting children. Each group, each individual made a choice to make a difference. The success of SKWFS and the life-changing impact shared with children is credited to your involvement. Thank you for your continued support!!

Sheila G. Brand

MEMORIALS

- In Memory of Jimmy and Jerry Pollan**
By Reta Washam

In Memory of Donald Bunch
By David & Elaine Loftin

In Memory of T. A. Dendy
By Trina Dendy

In Memory of John Cohen
By Willie Hightower

In Memory of Jayn Duncan
By Scott Reed

In Memory of Jayn Duncan
By Kyle and Susan Chandler

In Memory of Judy Hill
By David and Elaine Loftin

In Memory of Lorean Flippen
By Carl Bryan
- In Memory of Billy Harris**
By Nancy Cox, Roy & Tina Cox

In Memory of Dot Hightower
By Willie Hightower

In Memory of Mark Bruce
By Trina Dendy

In Memory of Lucy Byrd
By John & Heather Cunningham & Jane Meeks

In Memory of Jerry Guest
By Ken and Janice Harrelson & Carl Bryan

In Memory of Lorean Flippen
By George and Julie Hurst

In Memory of Anna Stockton and Mike Walker
By David and Elaine Loftin
- In Memory of Catherine Fears, Geonette Pendley, Pam Edwards, & Bobbie Jean Hazelwood**
By Kim Hood

In Memory of Cassie Gilbertson & Jerry Guest
By Gale Griggs

In Memory of Mary Dendy Brand & T.A. Dendy
By Becky Dendy

In Memory of Mike Walker, Jerry Guest, and Brenda Edwards
By Donnie and Vicki Dimino

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Amazon Smiles

Scott and Lisa Dobbs

Kappa Delta Sorority – MSU

Frontstream

Ed and Tonda Riley

Eddie Longstreet

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- In Honor of Libby Judkins Birthday**
By Lindsey Hazzard
- In Honor of Robin McCormick**
By Larry Barton

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Steve Clark

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Ruth McCary

Cato Fashion

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- Willene Jefferson

MSSTATE Swim Club

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Milos Sweet Tea

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- First United Methodist Church Youth

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“Donations”

We are excited to start accepting donations again. The last Wednesday of the month, will be our dedicated day to accept used item donations. We appreciate everyone's generosity and support! If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at 662-494-4867.



“Child Abuse Prevention Parade”
We are so excited we were able to have our annual Child Abuse Prevention Parade this year! Thank you to East Side Elementary, Oak Hill, Clay County Daycare, First Baptist Church Daycare, Child Protection Services, Kappa Delta Sorority, West Point Police Department, and West Point Fire Department for helping make this a great morning! This year’s theme “Stand Up for Children! No Excuse for Child Abuse”



“Child Abuse Prevention Month”
This year we were excited to have 3 fundraisers to raise awareness and support for local children struggling with child abuse, neglect, and homelessness. We had local stars from the golden triangle volunteer their time to creating paintings that were auctioned off at our Gala event. SuperTalk MS came on site to host a remote event where staff, board members, and local agencies came and participated in each news segment. We also had a Giving Kids a Shot Skeet Shoot! Local supporters put together teams for a morning of fun supporting a great cause. What a busy and successful month bringing awareness to Child Abuse Prevention. Thank you to all of our supporters and Sponsors for the month!

BancorpSouth, Renasant Bank, The First Bank, Bank of Commerce Haas Outdoors/Mossy Oak, Lewis Electric, Pediatric Dentistry of Columbus, Galloway-Chandler-McKinney Insurance, Cannon Motors, Lann Chemical, Larry Clark Chevrolet, Adventure ATV, North MS Medical Center- West Point, Pro Soak, LLC, State Farm-Jamey Ballard, Southern Ionics, T.E. Lott & Company, Bank First, Hudson Law Firm, Petal Pushers, Caledonia Community Clinic, Aberdeen Machine Works.



“Mental Health Awareness Month”
May is Mental Health Awareness Month, to help raise awareness, fight stigmas, and provide resources. During this month we took part in a Mental Health Fair with West Point High School, Canopy’s Mental Health Summit, and Mental Health Moments.

