



Family & Children's Place
Building brighter futures.

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*You are making a powerful difference
in the lives, now and in the futures, of
children in our community!*

Join us for a campus tour by contacting Micah Jorrisch at
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Thank you for your pinwheel commitment to end child abuse!

April was Child Abuse Prevention Month, so as a way to rally behind families and children affected by abuse, Family & Children's Place asked people to sponsor a pinwheel, the symbol of child abuse prevention, for only \$5!

Each pinwheel represented help, hope and healing for a child who had been abused or neglected.

The result was overwhelming!

Thanks to generous and caring supporters, we were able to plant nearly 800 sponsored pinwheels in our pinwheel garden, each representing a commitment to help us end abuse and neglect in our community.



Family & Children's Place

We CAN because you ARE!

Homelessness won't be in family's future again

Kristina Brown and her four children were living in a shelter when they began working with Quentin Childers in March of 2015.

Ms. Brown had ended a relationship with the father of her children and he had moved out. Unable to pay the bills, she was evicted.

Ms. Brown worked at Walmart before becoming homeless, and despite the challenges of childcare and transportation, had maintained full-time employment.

Quentin worked with Ms. Brown to save money to buy a car, and Ms. Brown saved every month and earned a promotion, to supervisor, making \$50,000 a year.

Though Ms. Brown's progress was significant, Quentin was still



concerned about her ability to afford housing on her own, so he connected Ms. Brown to the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate. Unfortunately, her credit disqualified her, so Quentin connected Ms. Brown to the Fuller Center to apply for housing assistance with that organization. He didn't stop there, though.

Quentin also put in an application with the new Move Up program through the Louisville Metro

Housing Authority and Coalition for the Homeless. The program allows those in housing programs connected to the Continuum of Care and Coalition for the Homeless to apply for Section 8. If approved, they receive a voucher without having to sit on the waiting list.

This opens up new spots in housing programs with case management for other people and families experiencing

Doug Haynes shares the 'why' of his board service

People join boards of directors for a number of reasons – to develop business relationships, build a resume or amplify a career, to do something good for the world. For Doug Haynes, the latter clearly is his motivator for service on the Family & Children's Place Board.

For in addition to being a top-rated attorney, Haynes has his Master of Social Work degree.

Family & Children's Place is the leading agency in Louisville delivering preventive and corrective solutions through six program areas – Child & Family Services, Child Advocacy Center, Family & School Services, Family Stabilization Program, HANDS and the PAL Initiative –to the complex issues surrounding children who have been witness or subject to violence, neglect and abuse.

That MSW, he says, connects him to the work in a profound way.

"As a family law attorney,



my job is to represent to the best of my ability and within the law, the best interest of clients through issues such as domestic violence, divorce, adoption, paternity, alcohol and substance abuse and other crises.

"But my social work background helps me see the beyond the legal points, who gets what property, how does visitation work, to the impact on the children, and themselves, their self-worth and confidence, their safety and security. That's what led me to seek an

invitation to join the board for Family & Children's Place."

And while this isn't Haynes' first experience on a board, it's the most satisfying.

"This is a working board," he says. "We get to know the programs, go on home visits with our HANDS workers, and meet the students in or Family & School Services program at Meyzeek Middle.

"We see the environments these families and students live in and the challenges they face, and we see firsthand the support they get from professionally trained staff that genuinely care about helping them succeed."

That, Haynes says, is very satisfying. "I get to use both the hardware (law) and software (social work background), and work with other board members, volunteers and donors to be sure staff have the tools and resources to help and save these children from a very uncertain future."

Mr. Bobby gets a special invite to a Father-Daughter dance

Deasia Sweat is a 12-year-old sixth grader at Meyzeek Middle School, where she participates in the Family & Children's Place Collaborative Learning After School Program (CLASP). Her life has been anything but easy, but she refuses to let it get her down. She enjoys, even celebrates her life.

Deasia lost her father to a heart attack when she was just 10 years old. She also was the one who found him in the home after he had passed away and she hasn't had a father figure since then.

When she heard about the Father-Daughter dance Deasia really wanted to go. She thought of the men in her life she might ask.

Once decided, she said she was very nervous about asking someone to the dance but found Mr. Bobby to be the right fit.

"Mr. Bobby is funny, he helps me with my homework and plays games with me too," she said. "He's just really chill."



Bobby says he felt "honored and blessed, because out of everyone she could have asked, she asked me!"

He bought Deasia a corsage and taught her proper hand and foot positions for certain dances.

She did the same for him.

Bobby admits he had a great time and had a chance to see and talk to several students and parents from the program, which brought him much joy.

They were able to sit, eat and talk throughout the night and being able to spend time with members from the program "reinforced that sense of community we expose our youth to in program," he said.

Deasia said she had a great time too. She danced with her friends a lot, but she and Mr. Bobby had a chance to dance to some songs as well. Deasia said, "I feel like Mr. Bobby is a nice guy. He's goofy and I'm glad he said yes!"

Deasia's positivity doesn't stop there. She makes sure that FSS staff knew she was not alone in her struggles.

"You know, I'm not the only one that's experienced this," she said. "I've met a lot of people that have gone through what I have."

Deasia is able to offer them advice and talk to them about similar experiences with losing a parent. She tells them, "Be strong and don't let anything bring you down!"