

5 tips to protect children during holidays

The holidays are all about children and for us that starts with keeping them safe. We asked Lala Fogarty to give us her 5 top tips for parents over the holidays.



1. Set boundaries. When a child doesn't want to be tickled or hugged or otherwise touched, parents need to step in and make sure the boundaries are understood and respected.
2. Minimize Opportunity. One on one situations should be avoided.
3. Talk openly with your children about appropriate and inappropriate touching.
4. Recognize your child's signs for being in distress or feeling uncomfortable.
5. Trust your instincts and teach your children to trust theirs.
-Information taken from Stop Child Abuse Campaign's website - www.stopabusecampaign.com



Embassy Suites, Rogers provides safe experience for children at Trick or Suite

We are thankful to Embassy Suites for hosting Trick or Suites where funds benefited both the CAC and NWA Women's Shelter. Collective Bias graciously partnered with the CAC and provided a unique experience for guests to take pictures with the characters from the movie "Inside Out". Thanks to them all, the children had a safe place to trick or treat.

#GIVING TUESDAY™

#GivingTuesday is December 1st

#GivingTuesday is just around the corner. Please consider supporting the CAC and our cause of empowering children by making a donation today at: www.cacbentonco.com/donate

Ways you can get involved: Volunteer. Advocate. Donate.

Name _____

\$5,000 \$1,000 \$500

Address _____

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$20

City _____

Other _____

State _____ Zip _____

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard

Telephone Number _____

Account # _____

Email _____

Expiration Date _____ CSC _____

Donation made in honor or memory of _____

Please bill me. Please mail me a receipt.

One-time gift Recurring gift
(please circle one: monthly quarterly yearly)

I am interested in donating stocks, bonds, cds, etc.

Please make checks payable to CAC of Benton County and mail to 2113 Little Flock Drive, Little Flock, AR 72756. Donations can also be made online at cacbentonco.com.

Empowering Children to Find their Voice

CAC QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FALL 2015

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER



Benton County
Established 2000

Employees of the Month - Christy and Austin



September 2015

Congratulations Christy Hathcock, CAC Advocate and Employee of the Month! Christy is compassionate with our kids and families and exemplifies our CAC mission and values by aligning with our core values and demonstrating her dedication to excellence in everything. She is a team-player and shows so much care and

patience in working with the CAC staff and counselors, and her caring personality and ability to make kids and families feel at ease allows her to make a lasting impact. Thanks, Christy, for a job well done to #EmpowerKids!



October 2015

Congratulations Austin Harms, CAC Child Advocate and Employee of the Month! Austin exemplifies true character and helps carry out the mission of the CAC in all that he does by expressing compassion with families and especially the children he sees every day. He is definitely committed to the CAC and to the team and even has

special toys on his desk and his office to help him to build rapport with clients of different ages that we serve. Austin is easy going, courteous, smart and willing to take on extra tasks and he often works after-hours cases, but never is he heard complaining. He is a great example of how to #EmpowerKids!



Congratulations Hayley Novich - CAC Volunteer

Congratulations to Hayley Novich, CAC volunteer, and recipient of the Youth in Philanthropy award presented by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. She was nominated by our CAC for her constant engagement in our mission of empowering kids! She is pictured here with CAC staff and board members after AFP's Philanthropy Day luncheon at Embassy Suites on November 11th. We were honored to celebrate with her and her family.



15 years of dedicated service - Kathy Morrison

On September 1st, we presented Kathy Morrison, our Business Manager, with a special staff appreciation award in celebration of her 15 years of faithful service to the CAC. She is truly amazing and has proven to be dedicated to our mission of empowering kids!

Annual Tribute to Children Lost to Abuse

This year, we hosted our 3rd annual Tribute to Children Lost to Child Abuse at the CAC Memory Garden. This event is held on November 20th each year, upon the anniversary of Jersey Bridgeman's death, to pay tribute in memory of the children whose lives were lost due to abuse since the CAC opened 15 years ago. Doves were released and pinwheels were placed around the memory garden by attendees. We hope you plan to join us next year to recognize the lives of our most innocent victims.



NATALIE TIBBS



ERIN KRANER

New Leadership - Natalie Tibbs new Executive Director and Erin Kraner, new Assistant Director

We are happy to announce that as of August 1st, Natalie Tibbs has stepped into the role of Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Center of Benton County! Additionally, this fall, Erin Kraner was named the new Assistant Director of the CAC. This year both Natalie and Erin celebrated 9 years at the organization!

New CAC Playhouse dedicated to Beverly R. Engle

Living Word Lutheran Church recently donated resources, time and craftsmanship to construct and supply a new playhouse, called "Beverly's Place" for the Children's Advocacy Center in honor of the legacy of the former executive director, Beverly Engle. A fond memory of hers was always looking out her window to see the children playing outdoors exemplifying their innocence and resilience even through the most difficult and traumatic circumstances. "Beverly's Place" was recently dedicated by the church in front of church members, the group that constructed the playhouse and CAC staff. We are most grateful for the generosity and beautiful new playhouse for the children at our Center to play in!



Longest signature events surpass goals

These are a few pictures taken at our Annual Cherishing Children Dinner in September and Sweetest Day fundraiser in October. We are grateful to everyone who made both of these events a success, raising over \$160,000 for us to continue providing services free of charge to victims of child abuse in Northwest Arkansas.

Sweetest Day

On October 17, more than 125 individuals enjoyed live music, a catered meal by Bonefish Grill, and a silent auction at the 11th annual Sweetest Day fundraising event hosted by John and Karen Scholes at their Pinnacle home. This year, a record-breaking \$55,000 was brought in for the Children's Advocacy Center of Benton County to continue providing services free of charge to victims of child abuse in Northwest Arkansas.



Cherishing Children Annual Dinner

On September 17th, we held our 11th Annual Cherishing Children dinner and awards presentation at John Q. Hammons Center in Rogers, hosted by honorary event chairs - Doug and Shelley McMillon and presented by IRI. This year, Michelle Knight shared her personal story of abuse in hopes to raise awareness about the issue. Over 500 guests attended the event, including the Governor and First Lady of Arkansas - Mr. Asa and Mrs. Susan Hutchinson. This year's award recipients included Walmart Technology, Don and Jo Soderquist, Vickie Price and Dr. Daniel Weedon.

