



BRIGHTON CENTER
A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

SPRING 2024

SPOTLIGHT NEWSLETTER

**Empowering Children,
Families, and Communities**





Wonda Winkler
President & CEO

It's hard to believe that 2024 marks the 58th year that Brighton Center has been creating opportunities for individuals and families to reach self-sufficiency and helping them realize the best quality of life possible. Our roots have always been grounded in what is most important to those we serve – their hopes and dreams for themselves, their children and families, and their community. That is why we are willing to tackle some of our region's most complex issues, such as workforce development, housing, and overall family well-being.

This work would not be possible without incredible collaborations and partnerships that truly align with our mission, vision, and values. As you will see throughout this Spotlight Newsletter, team Brighton Center is

engaged with customers and organizations across the region and even across the country to co-create innovative strategies that address the challenges that our families and community face.

I am incredibly grateful to lead a team of talented people who are not only experts in the work but also passionate, mission-driven leaders who give back in huge ways and remain steadfastly committed to staying true to our roots. We will continue to listen, innovate, and make a meaningful impact that fosters trust across generations for years to come. I hope you enjoy the stories of impact, celebration, and lives transformed throughout these pages.

WELL-BEING & EQUITY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Brighton Center was awarded a 3-year \$750,000 Well-Being & Equity in Early Childhood Education project from the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families, and Children's Bureau. The project will increase access to early childhood education services as a prevention mechanism for engagement with the child welfare system. Focus will be placed on young children in out-of-home services, children and families of color, and families with young children at risk of child welfare involvement. Strategies will be co-designed with those who have received child welfare services and will respond to the need for racial equity and trauma-informed support within Early Childhood Education.

The success of this initiative is dependent on cross-sector collaboration and partnerships with the child welfare system, private and nonprofit stakeholders, and educators in the region. Existing relationships with these stakeholders will serve as a baseline for collaboration and support increasing community-wide engagement. The initiative will examine current practices related to the conflation of poverty and neglect, the outcomes of mandated reporting, the stigma associated with help-seeking, and the need for community-based solutions to prevention and family well-being.

BUILDING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

Building Community Well-Being, a project that works with key partners to develop a comprehensive community, child, and family well-being system, has launched key strategies co-designed with families to improve collaboration, our regional prevention system, and increase training for families and providers.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE

One of the critical goals of Building Community Well-Being is reducing the stigma that poverty equals neglect. Community Response is focused on creating a robust community network that strengthens families, prevents child abuse and neglect, and reduces reports to the Department for Community Based Services when what a family needs is to receive support, resources, and connections to services that enhance their well-being.

WELL-BEING SUPPORTER CREDENTIAL

This credential focuses on enhancing knowledge of well-being, primary and secondary prevention, and the pivotal role we all play in the primary prevention system. Community members, providers, and community partners are all invited to explore the opportunities this credential provides. The Well-Being Supporter Credential will include training in Racial Equity, Trauma-Informed Care, Family Centered Coaching, strengthening relationships, various topics around well-being, technical upskilling, and additional educational sessions. [Contact buildingcommunitywellbeing@brightoncenter.com](mailto:buildingcommunitywellbeing@brightoncenter.com) to learn more.



Jenny Wiley (Housing & Family Well-Being Director), Angela Anderson (Building Community Well-Being Coordinator) with Commissioner Lesa Dennis (Department for Community Based Services), Secretary Eric Friedlander (Cabinet for Health and Family Services), and JooYeun Chang (Program Director for Child Well-being, Doris Duke Foundation) at the announcement of *Opt-in for Families in Washington D.C.*

LAUREN COPELAND JOINS EXECUTIVE TEAM

Lauren was promoted to our Executive Leadership Team in the fall as Brighton Center continues to grow to meet the community's needs. Lauren has 13 years of experience at Brighton, and during that time she has seen our work at every level of the organization from overseeing Emergency Assistance services, youth programming, Northern Kentucky Scholar House, Volunteer Engagement, and most recently Development and Marketing.

"I am so honored to be part of an organization that cares so deeply about this community. I have seen first-hand the impact of our transformational programs as we partner with families on their journey to achieving their hopes and dreams. I look forward to continuing our work alongside this incredible community of support," said Lauren Copeland.



EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

LAUREN COPELAND, *Senior Director*
MELISSA HALL SOMMER, *Senior Vice President*
WONDA WINKLER, *President & CEO*
JUNE MILLER, *Chief Financial & Administrative Officer*
ELLEN BATES, *Vice President*

ANITA PRATER RETIRES AFTER 26 YEARS AT BRIGHTON CENTER



After decades as an advocate and champion for youth, young adults, and women in recovery, Anita Prater has embarked on a much-deserved retirement. During her time at Brighton Center, she has had a profound impact on literally thousands of lives. In 2008, Anita opened Brighton Recovery Center for Women and has served as its Director for the past 15 years, becoming a regionally recognized leader in the recovery community. Anita has made a meaningful difference across the region and we are so grateful for her leadership and dedication.

"I have spent a long time working in recovery services, and when I think about recovery, I think of all of the people I've met along the way. I can flip through a mental photo album and remember each person's story, which in some ways are all the same and in some ways unique to the individual. When I flip through the album, I don't see a single face of someone who set out to become addicted to drugs or alcohol. My photo album looks a lot like what yours might look like - moms, teachers, best friends, baseball fans, book lovers, movie buffs, gardeners, bakers, neighbors, friends, and family. It's not an accident that my pages look a lot like yours; it's because they're the same people," said Anita Prater.

JANIE HAMILTON LEADS AS DIRECTOR OF RECOVERY SERVICES

Janie has been working side-by-side with Anita Prater since July 2023 to ensure a smooth transition in leadership. Janie is also a long-time advocate for the recovery community whose vast experience will ensure we preserve and grow our life-changing, holistic recovery services. Janie will oversee our Brighton Recovery Center for Women, Sober Living, and CENTER TABLE, *Catering with a Purpose*.

"I am so passionate about Brighton Recovery Center's social model of recovery, which leads to complete lifestyle change. We are inspiring women to go beyond simple addiction recovery, follow their dreams, and even dream bigger than ever. My passion is here, and I am honored to work for an agency that lives out its mission, vision, and values at every level. The alignment of values at Brighton Center is beyond anything I have experienced before, and I have found my place to serve the purpose of leading others to a better life," said Janie Hamilton.



MICHAEL ORR JOINS BRIGHTON CENTER AS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Michael joins Brighton Center's leadership team with extensive experience in the field of Development within higher education. Michael will oversee marketing, communications, events, fundraising, major and planned gifts, and the Junior Board. Michael resides in Newport and is passionate about connecting people to a mission he cares deeply about. To connect with Michael, email morr@brightoncenter.com or call (859) 491-8303 ext. 2406.

"Brighton Center has an incredible impact on so many people's lives in Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati. I am excited to join this organization whose mission aligns closely with my values around family, self-sufficiency, and community. Let's get to work creating opportunities and changing lives," said Michael Orr.

NEW PARTNERSHIP BRINGS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES TO CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS



Pam Green [Easterseals Redwood President & CEO], Wonda Winkler [Brighton Center President & CEO], Moira Weir [United Way of Greater Cincinnati President & CEO]

Brighton Center and Easterseals Redwood have partnered to support children with medical needs in Northern Kentucky through Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC) services at Northern Kentucky Scholar House in Newport.

Easterseals Redwood has one of the only not-for-profit PPEC models in Kentucky. PPEC is also known as medical child care and offers specialized nursing services in an all-inclusive, high-quality child care environment for children with complex medical needs that require more attention and support than can be provided in a traditional classroom.

Northern Kentucky Scholar House is a partnership with Neighborhood Foundations and is part of a statewide replication of the Scholar House model. Scholar House partners with single parents enrolled in postsecondary education by providing comprehensive support across housing, child care, and case management. On-site at Northern Kentucky Scholar House, we provide high-quality child care through Early Scholars Child Development Center. PPEC participants will be in classrooms alongside students at Early Scholars to foster an environment of diversity, acceptance, and inclusion in a judgment-free environment.

Finding additional ways to support families on their journey to success is at the core of what we do. By partnering with Easterseals Redwood to offer PPEC services, we can expand access to children at Early Scholars and beyond and provide an opportunity for parents to remain at school and work knowing their child is receiving the best possible care.



Families tour Early Scholars Child Development Center

*If you or anyone you know is interested please contact:
dedwards@brightoncenter.com or (859) 491-8303 ext. 2007*

TWO NEW WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS LAUNCH

WOMEN OF COLOR IN TECH

Women of Color in Tech leverages Google Career Certificates to help women in the region upskill or reskill to launch careers in tech. This partnership includes JP Morgan Chase, Grow with Google, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, Brighton Center, Community Action Agency, Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio, and the Gaskins Foundation. This free 12-week training program prepares women for roles in cybersecurity, data analytics, digital marketing, e-commerce, IT support, project management, and UX design. The programs are designed to meet participants where they are with flexible, virtual, and in-person options. Once complete, partners will facilitate employer interviews tailored to each participant to help them secure a job that best fits their new skillset, personal needs, and career aspirations.

BRIDGE TO HEALTHCARE CAREERS

This short-term cohort program provides exposure, fundamental skills, and career exploration to those interested in healthcare. Individuals will participate in digital literacy, introduction to the patient care experience, introduction to the medical office environment, basic medical terminology, CPR and First Aid, and the Kentucky Essential Skills Certification. Through this model, potential talent will be able to understand the healthcare field better and begin to picture their future as an employee in the healthcare field.

*If you or anyone you know is interested please contact:
admissions@brightoncenter.com or (859) 491-8303 ext. 2203*

GET INVOLVED



Volunteer



Host a donation drive



Host an event and designate Brighton Center



Create or promote a matching gift program



Connect us to your network





Photo: Keith Knippling

ULTRA MARATHONER HARVEY LEWIS RUNS FOR A CAUSE

Harvey Lewis, a teacher at Cincinnati Public Schools and Ultramarathon runner who has broken several world records, chose Brighton Center to support during the October Big Dog's Backyard Ultra Individual World Championships in Short Creek, Tennessee. Harvey ran in support of Brighton Center's housing programs and broke a new world record after running for five straight days, 108 total hours, completing 450 miles, and winning the Backyard Ultra. During his incredible run Harvey asked his supporters worldwide to donate in his honor to Brighton Center, raising over \$40,000 to support our comprehensive housing continuum.

"I felt compelled to support Brighton Center for their work in assisting the community with humanitarian needs and helping people who wouldn't otherwise likely find it. Financial literacy training and a pathway to homeownership are deeply important to me," said Lewis.

INCREASED ACCESS TO SNAP BENEFITS REDUCES FOOD INSECURITY

Brighton Center's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach Program engages individuals and families experiencing food insecurity to connect them with eligible benefits as they also navigate the impacts of the economy. These challenges include inflation, rising grocery costs, transportation cost increases, and housing that is not income-aligned (more than 30% of a family's monthly budget). According to the most recent statistics published by Feeding Kentucky, one in eight families in Kentucky struggle with food insecurity. Children face an even more dire situation with one in six experiencing hunger.

Brighton Center is one of only a few nonprofit organizations in the state that can provide detailed explanations of SNAP benefits to potential applicants, assist eligible individuals with Kentucky applications for SNAP, and submit applications through the Self Service Portal. We also host outreach events throughout the eight counties of Northern Kentucky to inform potential participants of the benefits of the SNAP program and conduct screenings for eligibility. These efforts directly decrease the number of families and children experiencing food insecurity.



"My experience working with Brighton Center to gain SNAP assistance was great. With the help of Brighton staff, it only took two phone calls for me to get assistance and emergency SNAP benefits. My experience in the past was that it felt impossible to get anywhere. I know that I can call Brighton Center staff with questions anytime and they respond with willingness to help." - Richard

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT



1 in 8 [12.9%] families in Kentucky struggle with food insecurity.



Kentucky has the 8th-highest rate of food insecurity.



Food insecurity in Kentucky disproportionality affects older adults, where 14.6% of older adults (age 50-59) experience food insecurity.

Data provided by Feeding Kentucky

Engage with us on Social Media



Sponsor & attend an event



Become a monthly donor



Strengthen the talent pipeline by sponsoring fellowship opportunities



SCAN ME

ADDRESSING HOUSING NEEDS AS A REGION

In 2023, the eight fiscal courts within the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD), with the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, published a comprehensive housing study conducted by a third-party consultant that provides a detailed assessment of current and projected housing inventory relative to demand, cost, and relationship to economic conditions and jobs. Some of the key data from the study is outlined below. Brighton Center has received funding from Interact for Health and United Way of Greater Cincinnati to support efforts that will advance possible solutions to address gaps identified in the study.

Data provided by the NKADD Housing Data Analysis www.nkadd.org



The Northern Kentucky region needs to build 6,650 housing units to support economic development in the next 5 years, which equates to 1,330 units per year.



3,260 units for workforce households (wage range \$15 - \$25/hr, monthly housing costs \$500 - \$1,500), including 1,860 one- and two-bedroom units are needed to increase the region's economic development and employment, including housing that is attainable by prevailing wage-earners in new jobs centers.



500 units for very low-income households (monthly housing costs below \$320) are needed.

The region needs 4,220 one- and two-bedroom units, reflecting a shift in demographics and preferences away from the three- and four-bedroom single-family houses that have been the primary mode of production for the past 20 years.



In Boone, Kenton, and Campbell County, workforce job creation is out-pacing workforce housing: The logistics industry is central to job growth in the region, generating demand for high-growth but lower wage "workforce" jobs. Today, there are 2.68 workforce jobs for each housing unit they could afford.



In Grant, Gallatin, Carroll, Pendleton, and Owen County, job growth is concentrated in northern counties industry clusters while the southern counties maintain a steady baseline of jobs. Job creation generates demand for housing. The majority of housing demand is being met closer to the jobs.

EMPOWERING CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

LINDA'S JOURNEY | Brighton Center gave me a place to call home and a community. After living at Saratoga Place (96 units of housing for older adults) for the past three years, I can confidently say it is the perfect place to live. In 2021, my landlord sold his building, leaving me no place to live. I heard about Saratoga Place from a few friends and applied. It took a few months, but I was able to get an apartment I could afford on a fixed income.

It is fantastic living in a facility built explicitly for older adults. There are many safety features like grab bars and rails, amazing staff who are always ready to listen to you, extremely helpful maintenance personnel that fix everything, and more. I don't have to worry about paying for gas, water, and sanitation. My apartment is the perfect size, and it feels amazing knowing it is all within my monthly budget. I am never overwhelmed.

Saratoga Place allowed me to make friends and build a family around me. We hold lots of communal events like Bingo, Yahtzee, games, puzzles, activities, and even a cook-off. We are constantly helping one another. I enjoy helping others by picking up items from Brighton Center's Food Pantry for those who are unable to. I also love decorating during the holidays to give even just one person something to smile about. I know that by helping others here, they will be there to help whenever I need help.

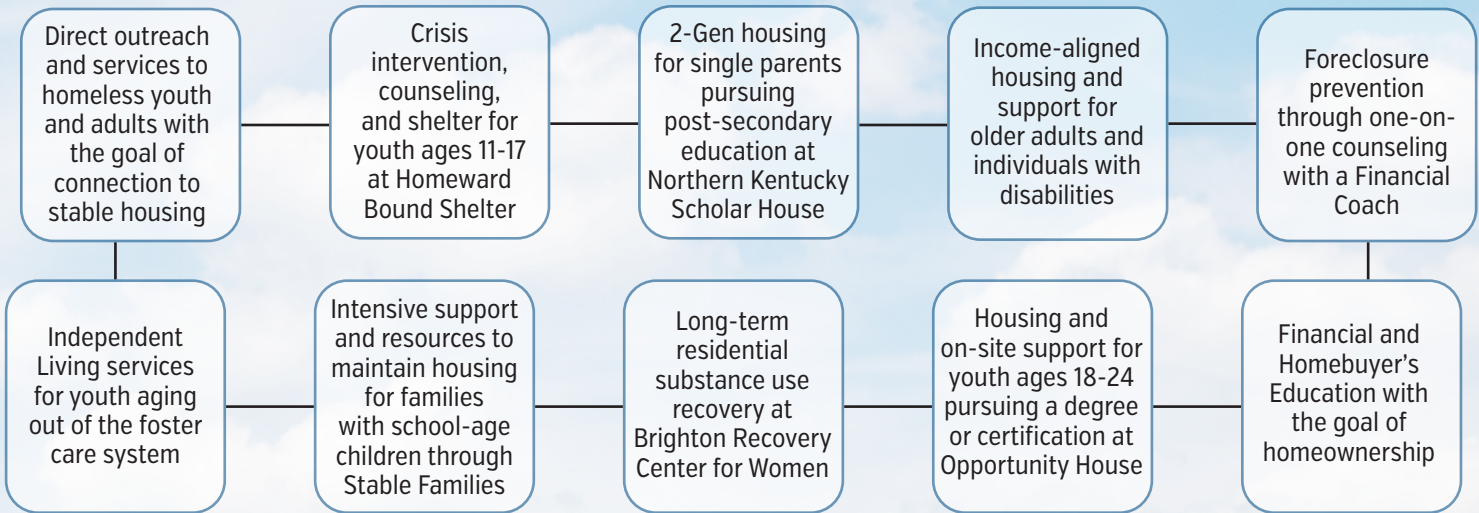
Brighton Center and Saratoga Place put a roof over my head, a secure place I can call my own. They gave me the environment to create my community. There are so many friendly faces here that are ready to help at any given moment. Saratoga Place is so worth it.



Display created by Linda

SERVICES SUPPORTING HOMELESS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

A thriving community includes individuals and families of all income levels who can afford to live comfortably. Brighton Center's housing services support individuals and families at all stages of life from navigating homelessness and housing instability to becoming a homeowner. We do this through providing comprehensive wraparound services that support housing stability for individuals and families.



HOW WE ARE CONTINUING TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WITH THEIR HOUSING NEEDS



Develop housing units at price points that align with the regional job economy



Work with landlords to increase access to housing for families



Convene regional partners to create a strategic response to address housing needs at all income levels

EMPOWERING CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

GEORGINA'S JOURNEY | Every new parent can use a little extra help, and thanks to a friend who recommended the Every Child Succeeds (ECS) program, I found an incredible support system! My daughter and I started it when she was only one month old. The tools and knowledge that my Home Visitor gave me were key to making my motherhood journey the best experience. Because of ECS, my daughter met all of her growth and psychosocial development objectives. Learning new things about my daughter's behavior at each stage of her growth has helped me be more aware of her needs as a mother.

My daughter and I graduated ECS in November of 2023 and then became a part of the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program. I am now a Home Visitor myself, and my daughter, Sophia, is now two years old. I recommend it to every mother since it provides all the skills necessary for parents to help their children prepare for Kindergarten and life-long learning. I am grateful to Brighton Center for giving me the opportunity to be part of a team that helps provide education and essential tools for the development of children.



Thanks to both of these programs, my daughter will be ready when she goes to school. She has good self-esteem, is confident, and is sociable. As a mother, that fills me with pride because I know that this is thanks to all the things I learned in the program and my dedication every day to being present and helping her learn, grow, and develop.

Working with families, especially providing services to Hispanic families, has been an enriching experience; each child is different, and I learn from each one. I plan to continue giving the best of myself to each family and each child who is part of Brighton Center.

EMPOWERING CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES



RITA'S JOURNEY | Brighton Recovery Center (BRC) taught me to love myself again. They showed me that I am worth so much more than I thought I was. On June 15th, 2018, I entered BRC after I was ordered to be there by the Department of Corrections. Initially, I did not want to be there. It was only after hearing that a close friend had passed from an overdose that I felt like I needed to be there. I had to change for myself. From that day forward, I started working on the steps to fight addiction.

Recovery at BRC is more than just fighting addiction; it's about finding who you are. I became a Peer Mentor and gained a sense of responsibility. I learned to be a leader and overcame my public speaking fears. I was given the opportunity to work in the kitchen and on the catering crew through CENTER TABLE, *Catering with a Purpose*, a social enterprise catering business venture where proceeds directly support women in recovery. Through this experience, I learned how to cook and run a business.

Attending parenting classes at BRC changed my beliefs on what it means to be a mother. I realized my self-value. Once I completed the first two phases of the program, I entered the Peer Mentor office. I worked 40 hours a week, taught classes to fellow residents, and assisted others in the program. BRC offered on-site financial classes through Brighton Center's Financial Wellness services, where I learned what it meant to save, bank, and spend responsibly. Because of these skills, I purchased my first car ever right off the lot in 2020 and have never missed a payment.

After completing BRC, I became the House Manager of a Sober Living home and then went on to my own apartment. I built a relationship with my kids and took them on their first vacations. I earned my Peer Support certification, furthered my education in Human Resource Management, and even opened my own business. The skills I learned at BRC and through working on the catering team helped me build confidence to open Hidden Moon Wicked Delight, a dessert company where I bake and decorate cakes and cookies with my daughter. I also work full-time at a recovery center, helping others learn the skills to achieve sobriety. Brighton Center showed me that I had to be the one who wanted to change and that I had to better myself for my own good. At BRC, I fought addiction and began my life again. Now, I dream of opening my own bakery and supporting my daughters and grandchildren.

FY24 SIX MONTH IMPACT | July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023



3,516

individuals received food, diapers, personal care items, or other basic necessities



2,685

home visits were conducted by our Every Child Succeeds program to ensure the best possible start for babies and new parents



138

women received holistic, peer-driven residential services for substance use disorder at Brighton Recovery Center for Women



100%

of graduates who completed Center for Employment Training obtained employment



115

children received quality early childhood education at Bright Days and Early Scholars Child Development Centers



138

individuals attended a financial education workshop to increase their knowledge of budgeting, credit, asset building, and more financial skills

EMPOWERING CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES



DEMETRIA'S JOURNEY | I learned about Center for Employment Training (CET) in 2014 when I was in high school from my dad. He graduated from the program and tried to convince me then to also go to CET, but I ended up going to a university for nursing where I discovered it just wasn't for me. It was also too expensive.

I enrolled at CET in 2016, but when my work schedule changed, and I was the sole provider, I ended up quitting. Over the next several years, I went from job to job, trying to figure things out while making minimum wage. Eventually, my mom suggested trying CET again, but I didn't think they would take me back. After a few months of my mom encouraging me, I finally went to CET on a Friday afternoon, enrolled, and started classes the following Monday.

My son is my whole world, and I want to provide a better life for him. I knew I needed a stable career to support him. Being at CET has also allowed me to meet with a Financial Coach, create a budget, learn about credit, how to build it, and the importance of paying all my bills on time within my budget. Through CET, I am also able to earn an income through Federal Work Study.

Since starting at CET, I have made a huge turnaround. At first, I didn't like change and was hesitant to do clinicals. Now, I am an Ambassador who went from not wanting to do clinicals to teaching others. For me, CET is more than just school, it's like the orientation stage of a job where I learn everything I will need to know.

When I first started, I didn't know what specialty I wanted to be in; I just knew that I have always wanted to be in the medical field. Through one of my clinical check-offs, I learned how Medical Assistants can work in surgery and knew it was a perfect fit for me. My husband and I hope to continue working with Financial Wellness to improve our credit scores in hopes of being able to purchase a home. I am excited to finish the program and have a steady career with benefits and paid time off that will allow my family to take a vacation without sacrificing income.

I love Brighton Center and CET because of the way they help and don't want to see anyone fail. Brighton Center is a community of resources that is willing to help anybody no matter their race, color, sexual identity, religion, they are willing to help everybody. All you have to do is reach out.

FY24 SIX MONTH IMPACT | July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023



4,108

individuals received services through the Kentucky Career Center



1,025

home visits were conducted by Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters to ensure parents have the tools to prepare their children for Kindergarten and beyond



109

youth participated in social emotional learning, career exploration, service learning, and more through Youth Leadership Development



25

individuals participated in Homeownership Education

21

individuals became homeowners



166

events were catered by CENTER TABLE, *Catering with a Purpose*, giving women in recovery the opportunity to learn a career skill



87

families retained housing within 30% of their income through foreclosure prevention services

HAPPENINGS AROUND BRIGHTON CENTER

ANNUAL HOLIDAY DRIVE SUPPORTS FAMILIES AND CHILDREN



897 families (2,904 individuals) received holiday food and gifts



296 volunteers helped make the Holiday Drive possible



146 children shopped our Used Toy Sale



269 families received Thanksgiving meals

2023 Brighton Center Holiday Drive

Brighton Center's annual Holiday Drive allows hard-working individuals and families to receive food and gifts during the holiday season. This decades-long tradition helps alleviate what can be a stressful time for families and ensures they can continue providing for their children while maintaining their budget.

The Holiday Drive would not be possible without the help of the many dedicated volunteers and generous donors who gave over 4,000 gifts that were distributed during the first two weeks in December.

To learn more about how you can support Holiday Drive or get involved as a volunteer, please email volunteer@brightoncenter.com

TEAM BRIGHTON CENTER PLEDGES \$56,000 TO OUR COMMUNITY

Brighton Center's history is deeply rooted in the firm belief that giving back in support of others is an important responsibility of us all to ensure our community thrives. It is innately part of our culture that everyone deserves to have the best quality of life possible. The impact of our staff's deep belief in the work we do is seen everyday. As an organization, our team raised \$56,000 during our Annual Give Back Spirit Week to support agency programs, United Way, scholarships for high school seniors, an employee emergency fund, a professional development fund, and other community initiatives.



WELCOME HOME BASKETS OFFER RESIDENTS A FRESH START



Our Community of Support is amazing at finding unique and impactful ways to give back. Recently, a group of supporters came together to host a "Scholar Shower" for residents at Northern Kentucky Scholar House. The group collected items and put together Welcome Home Baskets for new residents and Bundle of Joy Baskets for new parents.

These baskets ensure parents have essential home supplies when they first move into their apartments and essential baby items when welcoming a new family member.

To learn more about how you can support Welcome Home or Bundle of Joy Baskets, please email volunteer@brightoncenter.com

ITEMS FOR WELCOME HOME BASKETS



Laundry Detergent	Dish Soap
Laundry Basket	Disinfecting Wipes
Broom	Dish Set
Mop	Utensils
Dish Towels	Shower Curtain

ITEMS FOR BUNDLE OF JOY BASKETS



Crib Sheets	Diapers
Burp Cloths	Baby Blanket
Bibs	Sleep Sack
Wipes	Soft Toy

HAPPENINGS AROUND BRIGHTON CENTER

JUNIOR BOARD HOSTS SUCCESSFUL FRIENDSGIVING EVENT

Brighton Center's Junior Board are a group of civic-minded young professionals who seek to improve the community while making personal and career connections. These rising professionals are empowered to lead through fundraising and volunteer events. They also benefit from mentorship by members of Brighton Center's Board of Directors. This exceptional group of leaders has provided critical support to Brighton Center through innovative and unique fundraising events including their signature event FriendsGiving. This most recent FriendsGiving event raised over \$18,000 in support of our mission. This event was planned by members of the Junior Board and included a silent auction full of amazing packages.



For more information about the Junior Board, email volunteer@brightoncenter.com

MARDI GRAS FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN SUPPORTS HOMEWARD BOUND



Mardi Gras for Homeless Children was created by the Northern Kentucky Restaurant Association (NKRA) in 1992 in response to the death of three local homeless children in an abandoned garage fire. This annual event continues to raise money and increase awareness regarding the challenges faced by homeless children in our community. Part of the event's proceeds benefit Brighton Center's Homeward Bound Shelter in Covington and helps cover three meals a day plus snacks for every youth who receives services or shelter care.

HOMEWARD BOUND SHELTER

Homeward Bound is the only 24-hour direct access emergency shelter for youth under the age of 18 in Northern Kentucky. Located in Covington, KY, Homeward Bound Shelter provides a safe environment and residential treatment services for runaway, homeless, abused, neglected, and dependent youth ages 11-17.

Last year, 113 youth received crisis intervention services and 46 received emergency shelter care.

PRESENTING SPONSORS

Mercedes-Benz of Fort Mitchell
Wylar Family Foundation

KING SPONSOR

Aetna

PLATINUM SPONSORS

altafiber
Fifth Third Bank
Pepsi
St. Elizabeth Healthcare
Pivot Realty Group
Enterprise

GOLD SPONSORS

Newport Racing & Gaming
Turfway Racing & Gaming
Romar Management
C-Forward
Neighborhood Foundations
SECO Electric
SafeWaste

ROYAL COURT SPONSOR

Donatos

QUEEN SPONSORS

Paradigm Pain & Spine Consultants
Meet NKY
Peter Paul Office Equipment

Brighton Bites



June 5, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
Center for Employment Training
601 Washington Ave, Newport, KY

A chance to learn more about Brighton Center and our transformational programs.

Lunch included.

RSVP to: development@brightoncenter.com

Hunger Walk/5K



Monday, May 27, 2024
124 E. Mehring Way
Cincinnati, OH 45202
9:00 a.m.

Wine Over Water



Saturday, September 14, 2024
Purple People Bridge
Newport, KY
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**SPRING
SPOTLIGHT
2024**

THE MISSION OF BRIGHTON CENTER is to create opportunities for individuals and families to reach self-sufficiency through family support services, education, employment, and leadership. We will achieve this mission by creating an environment that rewards excellence and innovation, encourages mutual respect, and maximizes resources.

Brighton Center, Inc., Board of Directors 2023-2024

Dan Groneck, Chair
Retired, U.S. Bank

Ken Blackburn
The Procter & Gamble Company

Julia Johnson
Retired, City of Cincinnati
Metropolitan Sewer District

Sophia Roberts
LifeCenter

Jamie Wagner
Truist

Eric Johnson, Vice Chair
Grant Thornton

Bonita Brown
Northern Kentucky University

Dave Koeninger
Retired, Millennium Physician Group

Joe Schamer
SECO Electric

Wanda Walker-Smith
Hamilton County Small Business
Development Center

Jake Bartel, Treasurer
Birchcreek Wealth Mangament

Anne Busse
Thomas More University

Michael Lakin
HUB | Horan

Marianne Schmidt
Retired, PNC Bank

Katie Walters
iHeart Media

Alicia B. Townsend, Secretary
U.S. Bank

Shannon O'Connell Egan
Dinsmore & Shohl

Christopher Owens
Taylor Oswald

Maida Session
Duke Energy

Ingrid Washington
Gateway Community & Technical
College

Damon V. Allen
Federal Home Loan Bank of
Cincinnati

Mark Exterkamp
First Financial Bank

Leyla Pena
Cincinnati Public Schools

Madison Smith
Fifth Third Bank

Jason Wessel
Encompass Health Cincinnati

Christy Alwell
Pivot Realty Group

David Fleischer
Alpha+Beta Strategies

Laura Pleiman
Boone County Fiscal Court

Tom Stoll
Union Savings Bank

Caroline K. Weltzer
Viox & Viox, Inc.

Jennifer Barnes
Al. Neyer

Jeremy A. Hayden
Taft Law

Annamarie Reilly
MCM, CPAs & Advisors

Justin Vanderglas
Clark Schaefer Hackett

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GBBN Architects, Inc.

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Ever Spark, LLC

Brighton Center Directory

Administrative Offices

President & CEO: Wonda Winkler
Chief Financial & Administrative Officer: June Miller
Senior Vice President: Melissa Hall Sommer
Vice President: Ellen Bates
Senior Director: Lauren Copeland
Human Resources Director: Mary Decker
Development Director: Michael Orr
Evaluation & Data Administrator: Cassie Hitch
Director of Facilities & Property Management: Tony Herms
Housing Development Director: Stephanie Stiene

Find us on social media



Community Resource Center

Director: Eric Owsley
799 Ann Street
Newport, KY 41071

Family and Child Development

Director: Dellisa Ford-Edwards
Bright Days Child Development Center
7th & Park Ave.
Newport, KY 41071
Northern Kentucky Scholar House
402 W. 6th Street
Newport, KY 41071

Housing and Family Well-Being

Director: Jenny Wiley
799 Ann Street
Newport, KY 41071

Parenting Services

Director: Jessica Schierling
799 Ann Street
Newport, KY 41071

Kentucky Career Center

Director of Operations: Lauren Allhands
Director: Douglas Beard
1324 Madison Avenue
Covington, KY 41011

Workforce Development

Director: Jonika Greene
Center for Employment Training
601 Washington Avenue, Suite 140
Newport, KY 41071

Recovery Services

Director: Janie Hamilton
375 Weaver Road
Florence, KY 41042
Phone: [859] 282-9390

Youth Services

Director: Kate Kassis
13 E. 20th Street
Covington, KY 41014
Phone: [859] 581-1111



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