

## KC CAN! Newsletter – Spring 2010



Kansas City  
children's  
Assistance  
Network

### **Faith & Mercy Drive**

This spring, KC CAN! is excited to announce our second annual 'Faith & Mercy' drive in partnership with Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics. This drive helps fulfill Children's Mercy's need to have toys, games, art supplies, books and movies available to children in for treatment. The Faith & Mercy Drive helps bridge that gap by raising donations for Child Life Services and funding donated to the Cardiac Surgery Research Lab at Children's Mercy.

KC CAN! is organizing locations which will be accepting donations for the drive from April 17th to May 1st. Additionally, there will be a final Faith and Mercy drive event at Chartreuse Caboose in Lenexa, KS on Saturday, May 1 from 12 - 2 PM. There will be lots of entertainment for the family (bounce house, face painter, balloon artist) and great food discounts, so join us there!

If you are interested in participating in the Faith & Mercy Drive, either to have a donation barrel placed at your place of business or to donate needed items, please contact Tiffany Roberts ([trfaithandmercy@yahoo.com](mailto:trfaithandmercy@yahoo.com), 816-260-9535) or visit [www.kccan.org](http://www.kccan.org) for more info.

### **Angels of Grace**

KC CAN! is partnering with Angels of Grace Family Center, a daycare center for at-need families in Kansas City, Kansas, to help fulfill some of the center's essential needs. KC CAN! has previously partnered with Wanda Bibbs, the head of the Angels of Grace project, on other initiatives for low-income families in Wyandotte County.

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One critical need identified is a playground for infants and toddlers – this playground is needed for Angels of Grace to open its doors to that age group. KC CAN! is partnering with Angels of Grace to purchase a playground, have it professionally installed, and incorporate all necessary safety features (e.g., rubber mulch or surfacing, etc.) to ensure a safe, fun outdoor play environment for the children at the daycare facility.

### **Charlie's House**

KC CAN! has partnered with the Charlie's House organization and their goal to promote children's safety. They intend to build a fully furnished house that is completely child-proofed to ensure children's safety. The program would guide parents through the house and show them methods to childproof their own homes.

Almost \$8000 was raised for the Charlie's House (CH) program at the 2009 KC CAN! Auction. KC CAN! is assisting CH on site selection for the house - potential locations in the Kansas City metro core are being evaluated. KC CAN! will continue partnering with CH as the program build and launch plan is defined.

### **Safety Street Operations**

Last year, KC CAN! completed our three year commitment to the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department to help fund Safety Street operations. This funding allowed the Health Department to assume operational management of the site and the safety programs led there.

Based on the number of children going through the Safety Street program and the benefit provided by the curriculum, KC CAN! is working with the Health Department to extend our commitment to Safety Street. To this end, KC CAN! has been paying the transportation costs for school classes who want to attend Safety Street but cannot pay for the bus trip. Since mid-2009, several hundred schoolchildren participated in children's safety classes due to the financial support provide by KC CAN!

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Mr. Kevin Mallot	Mrs. Veronica Mallouk
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We are always looking for individuals that are interested in becoming more involved in KC CAN! projects and activities. If you want more information on becoming an Executive Board or an Advisory Board member, please contact Hank Stratemeier (slstrat@kc.rr.com, 913-671-7648) or go to [www.kccan.org](http://www.kccan.org).

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## Gillis Christmas Project

In late 2009, KC CAN! completed our third-annual Gillis holiday project. This program brightened the season for children living at Gillis, a children's home in Kansas City, Missouri. With funds and donations from KC CAN!, volunteers provided Christmas gifts for children and their family members. The gifts and donations were used to stock a 'holiday store' where at-need families and children served by Gillis could select gift items. This ensured that Gillis children would have a gift with their name on it during the holiday season.

Gillis was very appreciative of KC CAN!'s efforts, and this project provided a happy holiday for the grateful children.

## 2010 KC CAN! Auction

Please save the date for the 2010 auction on Friday, October 8, 2010. "Horror Night at the Movies" will be the primary KC CAN! fundraiser for 2010, and it promises to be a very enjoyable evening. If you would like information or tickets for the event, or if you have any items you would like to donate for either the silent or live auctions, please contact Mike Keegan (mfkeegan@hotmail.com; 913-568-5334). Thanks.

## THANK YOU!!

As always, thank you for your continued support and involvement in KC CAN! With your help, we continue to make a difference in the lives of Kansas City children.



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3400 College Blvd.  
Leawood, KS 66211