

CARE for Children News

www.careforchildren.info



Cribs for Kids® Receives Grant Funding

The Dr. Lyle F. Renodin Foundation, a Ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, New York, donated \$1,860 to CARE for Children to purchase Cribs for Kids® Safe Sleep Survival Kits for local families in need.

Developed by Cribs for Kids® National Infant Safe Sleep Initiative, the program provides safe sleep environments for families in need and provides a consistent safe sleep message to the community. The goal is to reduce the number of accidental infant sleep-related deaths.

“Infant Safe Sleep Awareness is an on-going effort and as our organization works to provide education that the safest way for a baby to sleep is alone on his or her back in a safety-approved crib, it is essential that we have cribs to distribute to those in need,” said Tina Martin, Executive Director. “We are grateful for the funding provided by the Renodin Foundation to purchase twenty Safe Sleep Survival Kits, which include a Cribs for Kids® Cribette®, SleepSack, sheet, pacifier, and educational materials, for distribution in the communities we serve in McKean County.”

CARE for Children provides child safety and injury prevention initiatives through its leadership of the Safe Kids Pennsylvania—McKean County Partnership. The partnership aims to promote the prevention of accidental child injuries through education, collaboration and advocacy.

The Renodin Foundation provides grants for programs and projects serving people in the Allegany/Cattaraugus Counties of New York and McKean County, Pennsylvania whose public charitable purposes are carried out in a manner consistent with the tradition of the Franciscan Sisters.

Grant awards show a connection to the mission of the Foundation and assist the needy, underprivileged, elderly, developmentally disabled, handicapped, or economically disadvantaged.



From left, Renodin Foundation President, Laura Whitford, and CARE for Children staff members and infant safe sleep trainers, Kimberly Engstrom, M.Ed. and Joy Haney, MSW, LSW, are shown with a safe sleep display at the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center.

Cribs for Kids® Program Active During Pandemic

Do You Know a Baby In Need of a Crib?

During the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the McKean County Cribs for Kids® Program is still operating.

CARE’s safe sleep educators conduct the infant safe sleep education for parents over the phone or via video conferencing. After the education component is complete, arrangements are made to deliver the crib and safety items to the family while practicing safe social distancing practices.

According to the National Cribs for Kids® Program, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death in infants age one month to one year, and in the United States over 3,500 babies will die unexpectedly each year.

Research indicates that many and perhaps most of these deaths are related to an unsafe sleeping environment. Researchers do not know what causes SIDS, but have identified modifiable risk factors. Education focuses on A-B-C: Alone in the Crib, babies should be placed on their Backs and should sleep in a Crib even when napping. The Cribs for Kids® Program has two important strategies to reduce these deaths which are making sure an infant has a safe place to sleep and providing education to families.

Families in need of a crib for an infant can call CARE at **814-362-4621**. Health care providers, at-home visitors, Children and Youth Services, and early childhood programs are also encouraged to make referrals to the program.

More information on safe sleep for infants and the Cribs for Kids® Program can be found at CARE’s website <https://careforchildren.info/cribs-for-kids/>.



Preschool Hosts Online STEM Programs

Rainbow Corner Preschool teachers offered a six week STEM Enrichment Program this fall in addition to what is regularly incorporated into the early learning curriculum. The programs focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and/or Mathematics.

For the past several years, the STEM program extended the school day once a week for the four-year-olds in the program. With the constraints of the pandemic, the teachers decided to offer it on Tuesday afternoons via Zoom, and invited all students to participate. The live sessions were recorded and shared with families who were unable to attend the live program.

A bag of supplies was sent home prior to the first session. Students and their parents made bird feeders and homemade bubbles, built cup towers and Play-Doh shapes, learned about color mixing, centered around the book [A Little Blue and A Little Yellow](#), and did an experiment with sinking and floating.

Early learning programs at CARE are funded, in part, with funds from the United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc.



Pictured top to bottom: Rainbow Corner Preschoolers, Levi, age 4, hangs his peanut butter bird feeder; while Violet, age 5, is excited to show off her finished product.

CARE Awarded Grants for PPE

CARE for Children has expended considerable resources on materials and supplies to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 and keep employees and program participants safe. To assist these efforts, CARE was the recipient of two grants this fall from the McKean County Community Foundation and the United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc. The grants have helped CARE offset the cost of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other items needed to support operations through the pandemic.

With the funds, CARE was able to purchase and have installed a stackable washer/dryer for use by the preschool and other programs, purchase PPE, like cloth masks, disposable masks, and face shields for program participants and staff, as well as thermometers, hand sanitizer, and cleaning supplies.

Additional supplies were purchased for the preschool program to assist with social distancing and to maintain necessary health and cleaning protocols.

The grant funding enables CARE to use operational dollars directly on program expenses rather than items necessary to prevent/mitigate the effects of COVID-19. Funding to offset these costs makes it easier for CARE to deliver its mission of 'improving the lives of children of all abilities'.



Occupational Therapist, Kim Miller, OTR/L, works with a student at GGB through a protective barrier made possible by grant funding.

Annual Meeting Held in December

The CARE for Children Board of Directors held its annual meeting on December 3rd, 2020.

The meeting was held via Zoom and attended by board members and staff.

Board President, Norm Strotman, gave a summary of the 2019-2020 fiscal year including organizational statistics.

Finance & Office Manager, Valorie Coast, provided a review of CARE's financial status during Fiscal Year 2019-2020, by reviewing the *Revenue and Expenditure Graphs* reported out in the Annual Report as well as providing a picture of CARE's fiscal operations during the pandemic.

Executive Director, Tina Martin, gave staff and program updates; recognized board and staff for their efforts during the pandemic; and presented a video with highlights from 2019-2020.

Several staff members presented:

Social Worker, Joy Haney, MSW, LSW, discussed Infant Mental Health.

Physical Therapist, Dana Pence, PT, presented on the challenges and triumphs of adopting tele-intervention during the pandemic. She cited the high level of teamwork which has made the therapy staff successful during these difficult times.

Pediatric Therapy Services Director, Ashley Carlson, MOT, OTR/L, explained the Early Intervention Coaching Model adopted by CARE seven years ago and how it has been successfully and actively used for tele-intervention sessions.

Development and Marketing Coordinator, Leslie Kallenborn, presented a synopsis of 2019-2020 fundraising and development efforts.

CARE for Children's Annual Report for 2019-2020 can be viewed at <https://careforchildren.info/annual-reports/>.

**Visit CARE for Children,
McKean County
on Facebook for information
on programs and events.**

Therapeutic Recreation Programs Offered Virtually

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, CARE decided to offer four different virtual programs in place of our traditional in-person therapeutic recreation programs.

In September CARE provided materials for each participating student to create and plant their own mini garden with the help of Finance and Office Manager, Valorie Coast and Physical Therapist, Ann Kane, PT. During this 30-minute virtual session, students were not only instructed on how to assemble their mini garden but how to care for it as well. Each student was provided with gloves, potting soil, a garden container, plants and garden accessories.

The next event was held just in time for Halloween. Students were provided with a white painted pumpkin, spooky stickers and paint; and were encouraged to be creative in decorating their pumpkins. This event was led by Speech Therapist, Kylie Battin, M.S., CCC-SLP; Occupational Therapy Assistant and Special Instructor, Melanie Buchanan, BS, COTA/L; and Preschool Director and Special Instructor, Kimberly Engstrom, M.Ed.

In November the “No Cook Cooking Night” had students gaining skills measuring, pouring and creating delicious treats with no actual cooking involved. Each student received a set of measuring cups and spoons, a package of Oreos, chocolate frosting, candy eyes, and Kit-Kat bars to assemble penguin cookies and also other assorted food items to make their own trail mix. This event was led by Occupational Therapist, Kim Miller, OTR/L and Physical Therapist, Dana Pence, PT.

“Build-a-Friend” was held in December and each child was given all the supplies to build their very own bear. Each student was provided with a bear, stuffing, an outfit, a mask and fabric markers to assemble, dress and name their new friend. Physical Therapist, Lauren Warmath, DPT and Speech Therapist, Gina Kane, M.S., CCC-SLP instructed this event via Zoom.

“Each of these programs focused on fine motor skills, creativity and socialization and an added bonus was the incredible level of parent engagement,” said Tina Martin, executive director. “CARE is grateful for the anonymous sponsor who made the purchase of all the supplies and materials possible as well as the United Way for the annual allocation to therapeutic recreation which underwrites the planning, preparation and staffing of these programs.”

Donation to Fund Therapeutic Recreation Programs



Pictured outside the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center from left to right are John Calcagno, Tina Martin, executive director at CARE, and Rick Cottillion. Retired postal workers, Calcagno and Cottillion both served as past presidents of the local branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers and were instrumental in creating the fund in memory of their friend Thomas M. “Tommy” Frontino.

The National Association of Letter Carriers Branch #293 recently dissolved the Thomas M. “Tommy” Frontino Memorial Fund and contributed the balance of \$4,793.40 to CARE for Children.

The donation was designated to support CARE’s therapeutic recreation program, which aligns with the original intent of the fund, to help local children access recreational opportunities. The contribution will be placed in CARE’s endowment fund, which provides funding each year for free therapeutic recreation programs for local children.

Recreation programs are staffed by CARE therapists and serve as an extension of traditional school-based therapy allowing children to practice skills and have fun in a community-based, inclusive environment.



Virtual recreation programs were a hit! Pictured top to bottom: Brady, age 12, planted a mini garden; Nick, age 10, made a pumpkin masterpiece; Delaney, age 11, created beautiful penguin cookies; and Gavin, age 14, is proud that he built a new friend.

CARE for Children Tribute Gifts

MEMORIALS

September 1st through December 31st, 2020

In Memory of:

Maureen Ackerman
Betty Bigley
Patty Bliss
Scott Bloomgren
Ernest Boucher
Rick Brocius
John Brown
Cathleen Carlson

Joan Cohen
Thomas Colwell IV
Dave Cornelius
Anthony Danias
Daniel DeCorte
Joseph C. DeMott
Salvador James DiMaria
Gerald "Jerry" Erwin
Donald "Bud" Fowler, Jr.

Patrick Franco Sr.
John Frisina

Daniel Frontino
Zachary Giordano
Kenneth Graham
Patricia L. Griffin

Eric Hanold
Mary Harrington
Kristine Hillard
Thomas Hogan
Marilyn Hollenbeck

Patrick Holleran
Rose Hvizdzak

Terence "Terry" Johnson
Brett Kelly
Margaret "Peggy" King
Fred Kleiderlein
Marjorie LaBella
Micheal 'Pink' Langianese
Eleanor Leslie
Janet Mabee
Wayne MacDonald

Given by:

Dave and Nancy Fuhrman & Family; Bob and Tammie Hannon; Ron and Terri Orris; Kay Smeal; Pasquale Vigliotta
Dave and Nancy Fuhrman
Todd and Sharon Bridge & Family
Ellie Douthit; Jim and Theresa Stoddard
Marshall Insurance Services
Bob and Tammie Hannon
Jim and Staci McCord; Mike and Barb McGarry & Family
Todd and Sharon Bridge; CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Jeff and Val Coast; Craig, Kimberly and Elias Engstrom; Jim and Leslie Kallenborn; Tina Martin, Jim Andrews and Max Paterniti; Jim and Staci McCord
Todd and Sharon Bridge
Tina Martin, Jim Andrews, and Max Paterniti; Jim and Staci McCord
Greg and Cherie Booth
Ron and Terri Orris
Tina Martin; Mike Martin & Family
CARE for Children; Jim and Leslie Kallenborn; Tina Martin
Ken and Ann Kane
Kevin and Cindy Keane
Greg and Cherie Booth; Ron and Bonnie Booth & Family; Sue Hillard; Katlyn Hillard; Meagan and Paige Stone; Dick and Bev Kloss; Kaylee Kloss; Tim and Erica Kloss; Jeff and Devon Kloss; Marshall Insurance Services
Robert and Tammie Hannon; Kevin and Cindy Keane
Jeff and Val Coast; Gene and Helen DeFrank; Ellie Douthit & Family; Bob and Tammie Hannon; Kevin and Cindy Keane; Rick and Roxanne Langianese; Tina Martin; Jim and Staci McCord; Lou and Angela Monti; Sam Sylvester
Todd and Sharon Bridge; Dave and Nancy Fuhrman & Family
Ron and Bonnie Booth; Richard and Maureen Peroginelli
Jeff and Debbie Backer
Greg and Cherie Booth; Patricia Hitchcock; Greg and Deborah Hogue; Mick and Michele Marshall; Susan Martin; Mike Martin and Debbie Curtin; Margaret and Gary Myers; Bob, Marilyn and Megan Phillips & Mike Lifshitz; Bob and Wendy Thomson
Mike and Patty Gamble
Mary Winner
Sue Hillard; Katlyn Hillard; Meagan and Paige Stone
Patti DeFrank
Jeff and Sara Andrews; Robbie Carter & Family; Tim and Sandy Ekas & Family; Dave and Nancy Fuhrman; Bill and Debbie Taylor
The Frisina Family; Dave and Nancy Fuhrman; Mick and Michele Marshall & Family; Tina Martin and Max Bill and Barb Black; CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Debbie Cline, Tyler and Whitney Ferguson; Jeff and Val Coast; Bunny Comilla; Mark Frisina; Dave and Nancy Fuhrman; Clip and Judy Gregory; Bob and Tammie Hannon; Jean Hvizdzak; Michael and Lisa Maholic; Mick and Michele Marshall; Tina Martin and Max; Mike and Barb McGarry; Michael and Donna Miles; Steven, Martha and Julianna Morris; Susan Morrison; Danzer Lumber North America, Inc.; Nancy O'Donnell; Minard Run Oil Company; Michelle Bizzarro and Steve Stidd; Jim and Mona Sullivan; Paul and Marie-Luise Westerburg
Tina Martin, Leslie Kallenborn, and the CARE for Children Staff
Greg and Cherie Booth; Ron and Bonnie Booth & Family; Mike and Susan Carlson; Curt and Mary MacDonald
Jeff and Val Coast
Fred and Beth Hilzinger
Catherine MacDonald; Dennis and Nancy Ridgeway
Gus and Mary Ann Crissman; Bob and Tammie Hannon; Kevin and Cindy Keane; Tina Martin and Max
Mike and Susan Carlson
Ellie Douthit & Family
Greg and Cherie Booth; CARE for Children; Pat and Gloria Carroll; Carl and Carol Cavallero; Gus and Mary Ann Crissman; Dave and Nancy Fuhrman & Family; Jeff and Cathy Gabel; Carole Longo Harris; Bob and Mary Hart & Family; Arthur and Monica Hernandez; Patricia Hitchcock; Paul and Shirley Madison & Family; Mike and Barb McGarry & Family; Joan McGreevey; Robert McGreevey; Betty and Aloyse McGreevey; Pete and Marsha Peterson; Curtis Anderson and Claudia Quinn; Nancy Reynolds; Lynn and Jane Sanderson; John and Jeanie Satterwhite; Grace Titus; Edwin and Patricia Zelaski

MEMORIALS

September 1st through December 31st, 2020

In Memory of:

Barbara MacMurray
Jose Pablo Madrigal
Doreen Martin
Stephen Massa Jr.
Sandy O'Brien
Cathy O'Mara
Glenn Osgood
Norman Perschke
Marvin Race
Jim Rodebaugh
Warren Roll
Lawrence "Larry" Ross
Joseph A. Schmidt
Terry Schwab
Brenda Seybert
Mary Jo Smith
Lawrence Smith Jr.

Kent Stauffer
Zoranne Stewart
Lucielle Stromberg
Marie Swift
Sgt Major James T. Roberts
Myron Taylor
Linda Thompson

Charmaine Viola
Christine Wilcox
Rose Wilson
Thomas Yohe

Given by:

Jan Brown and Mary Sue Golen
Jeff and Debbie Backer
Bob and Tammie Hannon
Dave and Nancy Fuhrman & Family; Mike and Barb McGarry & Family
Bob and Tammie Hannon
Lisa Zurat
Gene and Helen DeFrank & Family; Dave and Nancy Fuhrman & Family
Jim and Theresa Stoddard
Bob and Tammie Hannon
Ellie Douthit
Steven, Martha and Julianna Morris
Mike and Patty Gamble
Joan Mansour; Lisa Zurat
Walter and Trudy Gulnac
Jim and Staci McCord
Greg and Cherie Booth; Tina Martin, Jim Andrews, and Max Paterniti
Ron and Bonnie Booth; Greg and Cherie Booth; Gus, Tim and Mary Ann Crissman; The Frisina Family;
Dave and Nancy Fuhrman, Shelly and Scott, Pug and Maggie; Richard Kessel and Sandra McKinley;
Mick and Michele Marshall & Family; Mary Martin
Bob and Tammie Hannon
Ron and Terri Orris; Lou and Mary Kay Sokoly
Mike and Patty Gamble
The Wiley Family
Val, Tina, Leslie, Staci and CARE Staff
Richard and Maureen Peroginelli; Mary Winner
Lynn and Lisa Allen; Joe Bruno; Jolynne Bundy; CARE for Children; Holland Baptist Church;
Mark, Mandi, Austen and Maranda Davis; McKean County Department of Human Services Staff; Jim and Mary Pat Dornish; Linda Gault; James and Glenda Johnson; Kevin and Cindy Keane; Debbie Kovach; Sue Lineman;
Susan Martin; McKean County Housing Authority Staff; Ed and Karen Pecht; Mike and Darlene Samick; BCM, Peer Support and Psych Rehab Services of the Guidance Center; Andrea Stahl; Gene and Nadine Staiger;
Arlene Wehler; Marjorie White; Dick and Linda Williams; Denise Sharkey Yeager
Mary Martin
Jeff and Val Coast
Don and Cheryl Wiley
Ron and Terri Orris

HONORARIUMS

September 1st through December 31st, 2020

In Honor of:

Josh Haney
Tim, Stephanie & Olivia Kellner
Emily Marshall
Erica Marshall
Ryan Marshall
Johnny Mike Miller
Sami Placer
Jonah Schmidt
Kate Still
Louise Stoltz
Preston Taylor
The Zippo Team

Given by:

Glenn and Bonnie McDonald
David and Marcia Rimer
Mick and Michele Marshall
Mick and Michele Marshall
Mick and Michele Marshall
Barb Reid
Martha Morris
James W. Belardia
Dave and Nancy Fuhrman
Phyllis Sylvester and Kathy Sylvester
Kathy Symington
Chief Digital Advisors

DONATIONS IN MEMORY

September 1st through December 31st, 2020

Donations In Memory of:

Don and Rosanne Backer
Vicki Boser
Leo and Jessie Gallina & Philip Gallina
Bryan T. Hannon
Joseph Hannon
Middalia Kan
Ann Kessel
Peyton Kirk
Lee McKinley
Andy D. Nuzzo
Jim Reid
Andrew R. Taylor
Diane Taylor
E. Claire Toal

Given by:

Jeff and Debbie Backer
Phil and Lisa Miller
Reverend Leo J. Gallina
Ron and Kathy Symington
Ron and Kathy Symington
Mary Kinney and Bill Summerson
Paul and Rose Kessel
Mike Kirk and Kyle Kirk
Paul and Rose Kessel
Ron and Kathy Symington
Barb Reid
Bill, Debbie, and Annie Taylor
Mary Wolford
Ron and Kathy Symington

Donors who make an annual fund contribution or general gift, including in-kind gifts of goods and services, will be recognized in the Annual Report. Thank you for your generosity. If any mistakes or omissions occurred in the production of this newsletter please let us know so that we may apologize and correct the error.

CARE for Children
P.O. Box 616
Bradford, PA 16701
814-362-4621
FAX: 814-362-1066
e-mail: care@careforchildren.info

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 029
Bradford, PA
16701

Return Service Requested

Board of Directors

Norm Strotman, *President*
Tyler R. Hannah, *Vice President*
Joseph Yaros, *Treasurer*
Thomas E. Ball, *Secretary*

Greg Booth
Alla Marie 'Bunny' Comilla
Karen Gelston
Fred Graham
Anne M. Hardy
Richard S. Johnson
Lynne Kuntz
Joe Lashway
Jim Macfarlane
Mick Marshall
Deborah Price



Services & Programs

Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Speech-Language Pathology
Early Intervention Services
School-Based Therapy
Social Work/Family Support
Rainbow Corner Preschool
Developmental Screenings
Therapeutic Recreation & Respite
Adaptive Equipment Clinics
Pediatric Equipment Loan
Community Outreach
Child Safety & Injury Prevention
McKean County Cribs for Kids

Executive Director:
Tina M. Martin

The generosity of our community makes a lasting impact on services for local children...

Give a gift in honor or memory of someone special to support services for children of all abilities.

The recipient will receive a special printed card acknowledging the gift.

Please call 814-362-4621 or visit www.careforchildren.info for more information.