

Winter 2019



# CARE News

## CARE Launches Local Cribs for Kids Program

*CARE for Children partners with the National Cribs for Kids Program to lead local Safe Sleep Initiative*

CARE for Children launched a local Cribs for Kids Program and Infant Safe Sleep initiative under the umbrella of the Safe Kids Pennsylvania-McKean County Partnership in December of 2018. The program, developed by Cribs for Kids® National Infant Safe Sleep Initiative, 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.

With generous start up funding from the Philo and Sarah Blaisdell Foundation, CARE was able to purchase portable cribs from the National Cribs for Kids Program as well as fitted sheets, infant sleep sacks, and educational materials for parents.

CARE also received Community Impact funding from the United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc. to provide a training workshop for at home visiting programs and to community partners who provide pre-natal services for infants.

According to the National Cribs for Kids Program, 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. Two important strategies to reduce these deaths are making sure an infant has a safe place to sleep, and providing education to families.

“The Cribs for Kids program provides safe sleep education which promotes the safest way for a baby to sleep is alone on his or her back in a safety-approved crib,” said Tina Martin, Executive Director. “In addition to providing cribs to families in need, we will aggressively market “ABC”-- Alone – Back – Crib-- to the communities we serve in McKean County.”

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

Cribs for Kids is a national infant safe-sleep education program that helps to reduce the risk of injury and death of infants due to accidental suffocation, asphyxia, or undetermined causes in unsafe sleeping environments. Since 1998, Cribs for Kids has been making an impact on reducing the rate of infant sleep-related deaths by educating parents and caregivers on the importance of practicing safe sleep and providing portable cribs to families who otherwise cannot afford a safe place for their babies to sleep. Headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA, Cribs for Kids currently has more than 950+ partners throughout the United States implementing infant safe-sleep programs in their communities. All education is based on the American Academy for Pediatrics Guidelines for Infant Sleep Safety. Visit <https://cribsforkids.org> for more information.



*Pictured from left are Joy Haney, MSW, LSW, social worker and Kimberly Engstrom, M.Ed., preschool director and early intervention special instructor who have both been trained as Safe Sleep Educators by the national program and will make home visits to provide education and set up the cribs.*

# ANNUAL MEETING CELEBRATES PARTNERS IN INCLUSION

*Board of Directors Honors Evergreen Elm, Futures, and McKean County Special Olympics with Community CARE Awards  
Seven Staff Members Honored for Milestone Years of Service*

The annual meeting of the CARE for Children Board of Directors was held Thursday, November 29th, 2018 at the Bradford Club.

The CARE Board of Directors honored McKean County Special Olympics, Evergreen Elm, and Futures Rehabilitation Center with the organization's 2018 Community CARE Awards. CARE board members and 2017 Community CARE Award recipients Mick Marshall, Karen Gelston, and Joseph Yaros presented the three awards respectively.

"This year we are pleased to recognize three organizations who not only exemplify CARE's vision of creating an ability-focused culture but amplify it with their services and programs," said Mick Marshall, CARE board member. "We are thankful for their partnership with CARE to not only promote inclusion but to celebrate 'all abilities,'" he added.

The Community CARE Awards were established by the Board of Directors in 2003 to recognize outstanding contributions to the agency and to the children and families to whom CARE provides service. This year the board determined to recognize these outstanding organizations for their active partnership with CARE in building an inclusive community and for successfully working together to provide a continuum of services for people of all abilities.

During the meeting, CARE Board President Norm Strotman, also provided a review of CARE's 2017-2018 fiscal year which had an overall theme of *'Engage, Empower, and Inspire'* and highlighted the organization's increase in the overall number of services including Early Intervention birth to three, school-based therapy, therapeutic recreation, early learning programs, community outreach, and child safety initiatives.

Strotman also recognized outgoing board member Jan Brown for her longstanding and dedicated service to the organization. Brown recently completed an eight year tenure as a board member.



*Top, from left to right: Norm Strotman, President CARE Board of Directors, Bill Leven, President and CEO (retired), Futures; Barbara Race, President, Board of Directors, Evergreen Elm; Patrick Ryan, McKean County Special Olympics; and Tina Martin, Executive Director, CARE.*



*Bottom, front row left to right: DeAnn Persichini, COTA/L, occupational therapy assistant, 15 years; Barbara McGarry, preschool aide, 10 years. Back row: Leslie Kallenborn, development & marketing coordinator, 5 years; Katlyn Hillard, M.Ed., summer early learning programs and recreation, 10 years; Dana Pence, PT, physical therapist, 10 years; and Valorie Coast, finance & office manager, 15 years. Janice Stiles, preschool aide, 15 years is not pictured.*

## Save The Date

**2019 CARE 'fore' Children Golf Tournament  
Sunday, August 4th, 2019 ~ Pine Acres Country Club**

## HOLIDAY COOKIE NIGHT TAKES THE CAKE



CARE therapists and staff hosted a cookie baking night at the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center on Thursday, December 6th, 2018.

Eleven children, along with their parents, had fun decorating sugar cookies and played holiday-themed Bingo for prizes.

John Williams European Pastry Shop generously donated the dough and frosting. Members from the Pitt-Bradford Softball Team and Tennis Team provided one-on-one help with frosting!

The Cookie Night is one of CARE's therapeutic recreation programs with a focus on building fine motor skills, encouraging socialization and self help skills and having fun!

*Pictured top to bottom: Nick, age 8, concentrates to get his cookie "just right" and Preston, age 6, decorated cookies like a pro with a little help from a Pitt-Bradford student.*



## PRESCHOOLERS CELEBRATE 'FRIENDS-GIVING'

Rainbow Corner Preschoolers observed Election Day by taking home a ballot which decided the menu for the Friends-Giving Feast held at the school the week before Thanksgiving.

The voting activity promoted family engagement by enabling parents to talk with their child about the choices presented and then vote for their favorite. Children could choose from Pizza, Chicken Nuggets and

fries or Macaroni and Cheese. Macaroni and Cheese won by a wide margin. *Pictured top left: Preschool Moms Dara Haynoski and Katelyn Rettger help students prepare Mac and Cheese. Bottom right: A table of students give thanks before digging into the "Friends-Giving" Feast.*

The Friends-Giving Feast is an annual activity that promotes gratitude, thankfulness and friendship in the early learning classrooms. Children, along with help from the staff and volunteer parents, help prepare the food, set the tables, and then join together to enjoy.



## CARE'S HOLIDAY MOVIE



The Grinch didn't manage to steal Christmas for almost 170 children and family members who attended "The Grinch" as part of CARE's annual Holiday Movie Celebration at the Bradford Main Street Movie House on November 18th, 2018.

Movie admission, popcorn, juice and water are sponsored each year by a generous anonymous donor.

*Pictured middle: Trey, age 11, with his sisters (l-r) Regan and Alayna in front of the Movie Poster.*

# CARE for Children Tribute Gifts

## MEMORIALS

### In Memory of:

Dorothy Bean  
Mary Brzenski  
Carolyn Burgess  
Helen Cannioto  
John K. Cassidy  
Gloria Conklin  
Raymond Cumiskey  
Matthew R. Davis  
Daniel Denning  
George Dexter  
Ruth Dixon  
Kookie Dougherty  
Joan H. Douglas  
Lena Durnein  
Kenneth Eddy  
Joan Marie Fair  
Ricky Allen Farnham  
Francis "Gene" Fazio  
Theodora Feell

Cassie Forte  
Alyce Grady  
Wilson Guerra  
Alyssa Hawk  
Mary Hendrickson

William F. Higie  
Catherine Hoyer  
Mary Keller  
Philip Koos  
Edward Kuser  
David Maben  
Corky Magoon  
Bonnie Mascioni  
Harry McGavisk  
Angie Moshier  
Ron Ours  
Sarah Ann Patterson  
Andrew Pehonsky  
Ben Reynolds  
Larry Reynolds  
Steven Scott Ruth  
Lillian Shields  
Jack Shine  
Denise Soyke  
Linda Sweeten  
Russell E. Teague

Inga Thomas  
Tammy Tingley  
Ronald VanScoter  
Thomas Williams  
Joan Wolford

September 1st, 2018 through December 31st, 2018

### Given by:

Tina Martin and Max; Pasquale Vigliotta  
Sam Sylvester  
Mick and Michele Marshall; Jim and Theresa Stoddard  
Tina Martin, Jim Andrews and Max  
Patti DeFrank  
Louis and Mary Kay Sokoly  
Lisa Zurat  
Dale and Julia Anderson & Family  
Mary Winner  
Greg and Cherie Booth  
Greg and Cherie Booth; Ron and Bonnie Booth  
Jim and Theresa Stoddard  
Pasquale Vigliotta  
Mick and Michele Marshall  
Craig, Kimberly and Elias Engstrom; Nancy Engstrom  
Lisa Zurat  
Joe, Wendy, Joey, and Jordan Yaros  
Louis and Mary Kay Sokoly  
Greg and Cherie Booth; CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff;  
Jeff and Val Coast; Jim and Leslie Kallenborn; Tina Martin  
Michele Mongillo & Family  
Rick and Marcia Morrison  
Patti DeFrank  
David and Marcia Rimer  
CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Ashley, Nate and Ryan Carlson;  
Jeff and Val Coast; Jim and Leslie Kallenborn; Tina Martin, Jim Andrews and Max  
CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Tina Martin  
Cheryl and Don Wiley  
Todd and Sharon Bridge  
David and Marcia Rimer  
CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Jim McGill  
Lewis Keller & Family  
Jim and Karen Gelston  
Todd and Sharon Bridge  
Jim Maduri  
Patti DeFrank; Tina Martin and Max  
Greg and Cherie Booth  
Mrs. Peter Hvizdak & Family  
Louis and Mary Kay Sokoly  
Lewis Keller & Family  
Lewis Keller & Family  
Lee and Gloria Eliason; Ed and Dee Sayers; Pasquale Vigliotta  
Mary Winner  
Jim and Theresa Stoddard  
Robert and Ann Esch; Jim and Staci McCord  
Dewey and Ann Marsh  
Jim Belardia; CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Michael Price; Zippo Manufacturing  
Company Employees  
Dewey and Ann Marsh  
Walter and Trudy Gulnac; Jim and Staci McCord; Doug and Jan Stiles  
Louis and Mary Kay Sokoly  
Lynn and Jane Sanderson  
Doug and Jan Stiles

## HONORARIUMS

September 1st, 2018 through December 31st, 2018

### In Honor of:

Jan Brown  
Dave Hale  
John and Marlene Kijowski  
Bill Leven  
Emily Marshall  
Erica Marshall  
Ryan Marshall  
Pat Ryan  
Emi Tanaka  
Preston Taylor

### Given by:

CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff  
Debbie Hayden  
Jim and Karen Gelston  
CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff; Tina Martin  
Mick and Michele Marshall  
Mick and Michele Marshall  
Mick and Michele Marshall  
CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff ; Tina Martin  
George and Ginny Carlson  
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.

# Cribs for Kids McKean County



If you or someone you knows needs  
a crib for their infant please contact:



**814-362-4621**

[www.careforchildren.info](http://www.careforchildren.info)

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

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## 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



United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc.

## Services & Programs

Physical Therapy  
Occupational Therapy  
Speech-Language Pathology  
Early Intervention Services  
Social Work/Family Support  
Rainbow Corner Preschool  
Developmental Screenings  
Child Safety & Injury Prevention  
Therapeutic Recreation & Respite  
Adaptive Equipment Clinics  
Pediatric Equipment Loan  
Resource & Adaptive Toy Library  
Disability Awareness  
Child Safety & Injury Prevention

Executive Director:  
Tina M. Martin



## SAVE-the-DATE

The 7th Annual McKean County Kids Fest  
Saturday, April 27th, 2019 at the Bradford Family YMCA  
Hosted by the McKean County Collaborative Board and the Bradford Family YMCA  
**Interactive, Fun Displays and Programs; Developmental Screenings;  
Kid-Friendly Snacks and Entertainment; Giveaways**  
[www.facebook.com/KidsFestMcKean/](http://www.facebook.com/KidsFestMcKean/)