



### RSVP for Hands & Hearts Today!

The 18th annual Hands & Hearts fundraising luncheon will be held in-person **Wednesday, May 4th** at Embassy Suites (Norman). Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and programming is from **12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

During this free event, guests enjoy a complimentary meal, receive agency updates and gain valuable insight into the services we provide. ***Attendees will also be asked to make a financial pledge or one-time gift to help sustain our mission.***



To learn more about Hands & Hearts contact Mary Cornelsen at [mcornelsen@ccfinorman.org](mailto:mcornelsen@ccfinorman.org) or 405-364-1420 or RSVP today!

RSVP TODAY

### ***Not able to make it to Hands & Hearts?***

If you are unable to join us at Hands & Hearts, you can still make an impact by ***making a donation or multi-year pledge!*** One-time gifts can be made online or by check or credit card in person. Multi-year pledges help ensure that the vital services CCFI provides each and every day are sustained over time. This steady, dependable support ultimately enables us to continue advocating for our community's most vulnerable members. *Click the button below to make a secure online donation today!*

DONATE TODAY

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### Big Event Offers Volunteer Support

This month, we hosted **20 student volunteers** for OU's annual **Big Event**. This year, we partnered with the President's Leadership Class (PLC) and they helped kick our Spring cleaning into gear by tackling several projects around the agency. Some of the projects included cleaning the gym walls, organizing the art playroom, cleaning and sanitizing toys and upstairs organization.

*Thank you for your willingness to serve your community and our agency!*



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### CCFI Hosts First Baby Pantry Open House

This past weekend, we hosted our agency's first Baby Pantry Open House, where we offered double diaper bundles, baby hygiene products, books and other community resources. We had an incredibly successful turn out and were able to **serve 17 families and provided a total of 806 diapers!**

During the event, the Infant Crisis Services BabyMobile was on site and provided additional support to **13 families**, while Lisa with the Little Read Wagon shared the importance of early literacy and gave away **53 new baby and children's books!** In addition to a wealth of community resources and pamphlets, visitors were also able to meet with our very own Legal Aid of Oklahoma liaison, Margaret, for any of their legal inquiries.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success!



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### CCFI Therapist Earns Certificate in Internal Family Systems

Clinical Program Manager, Jessica Hodges, recently attended a week-long training to discover the nuances of the highly coveted *Internal Family Systems*, which is a powerfully transformative, evidence-based model of psychotherapy.

“This type of therapy will make a tremendous impact on the individuals we serve at CCFI,” said Hodges. “It will be a helpful tool in supporting our caregivers and children in navigating the effects of complex trauma.”



This training is part of the Collaborative Impact Project, which is a result of the Impact Oklahoma Grant given to the Halo Project. Several members of our clinical team are part of this collaborative project and are thrilled to continue exploring new and innovative ways to implement and utilize these trainings throughout our organization.

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### CCFI Welcomes New Prevention & Education Staff

**Hannah Handy** (*pictured left*) graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University with a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and will graduate in May with her Master’s in Family and Child Development. Hannah is passionate about prevention and education programs and is looking forward to working with children and families as the Bringing Up Babies Parent Educator.

**Rachael Wisner** (*pictured right*) is a Norman native who began her work with children at the Community After School Program and quickly joined CCFI’s first group of

AmeriCorps members in the mid-2000's. After gaining valuable training from her time at CCFI, Rachael's work with children continued, eventually landing her in colorful Colorado with an early childhood education degree and American Montessori Society Infant & Toddler certificate. She is eager to help grow the Bringing Up Babies program at CCFI as the Prevention & Education Lead Clinician.



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### April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

The month of April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month. According to the latest statistics from the Kids Count Data Center, there were **15,809 confirmed cases** of child abuse and neglect in Oklahoma in 2019. Sadly, of those cases, **749 were right here in Cleveland County.**

Every day at Center for Children and Families, we strive to create better and brighter futures by working to *heal the wounds of childhood trauma*. Join us as we make our community a safer place for children and families by displaying blue ribbons, wearing blue, participating in awareness events, sharing our messages on social media or making a donation!



### ***Make a Donation in Honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month***

Our mission is to heal children, empower youth and strengthen families because every child deserves to grow up *safe, nurtured and loved*. To help make a difference for a local child or family, please consider making a donation today!

**DONATE TODAY**

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### **Support Our Mission as a Corporate Sponsor**

To help ensure every child is safe, nurtured and loved, we ask that you consider investing in CCFI by *making a corporate sponsorship gift*. With your support, we will be able to continue offering our critical services and discover new and innovative ways to serve the Norman community in the midst of these uncertain times. We are honored to show appreciation to the following businesses for their commitment!

***THANK YOU to our Legacy Sponsors!***



To learn how you can help further our mission by becoming a corporate sponsor, [visit our website](#) or contact Mary Cornelsen at [mcornelsen@ccfinorman.org](mailto:mcornelsen@ccfinorman.org) or 405-364-1420.

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### **Save the Date: May Art Walk**

Join us at Wilshire Cabinet + Co (226 E Main St, Norman, OK) for the **2nd Friday Art Walk on Friday, May 13th**. We will have a table set up from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.,



where we will be sharing information about our mission and ways to get involved. We hope to see you there!

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### Upcoming BabyMobile Schedule

The [Infant Crisis Services](#) BabyMobile will be hosting drive through events at CCFI (10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) to bring FREE essential baby items to the Norman community. The upcoming dates include: **Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

Remember, no appointment is needed and services are offered while supplies last. Guests are also welcome to stop by the CCFI Baby Pantry for additional diapers and wipes!



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**THANK YOU**  
**to our recent in-kind donors!**

Alpha Omega Pest Control, Inc., Ashland Ashcraft, Ashley Booth, Becky Terrell, David & Brenda Imy, JCPenny Leadership Program, Julie Garrett, Kirsten Blaylock, Lee Bond, McFarlin Methodist Church, Network Technology Solutions, Inc., Patty Bennett, Premiere Pediatrics, Remington Enterprises, Taylor Keeler and the Willows Apartments.

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### Our Contact Information

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