

Creating Families



Friday Night Pre-Party
August 11th,
5-11pm



Rumours – A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac (pictured above), 8-11pm



Danny Flanigan & the Rain Chorus (pictured left), 6-7:30pm

★ **BE A** ★
VIP

Enjoy the Amenities of the VIP Tent:

Tables Available
including High-tops

Chicken Dinner Buffet
LIVE Music

Air Conditioning
Bar Service & Potties

Sat., Aug. 12th Only

Thanks to Our Lead Picnic Sponsor:



The 168th Annual St. Joe's Picnic: For the Kids, August 11th & 12th, will feature the VIP tent sponsored by Abel Construction, kid-friendly attractions, new gaming booths, the famous chicken dinner, live music, and more! ALL proceeds go directly to St. Joe's kids and families!



For more info, or to purchase VIP tickets, visit www.sjkids.org or call 893-0241 TODAY!

ST. JOE'S KIDS AROUND TOWN



#WeAreStJoesKids

Keep up with St. Joe's kids by following them on Facebook and Instagram @stjosephchildrenshome

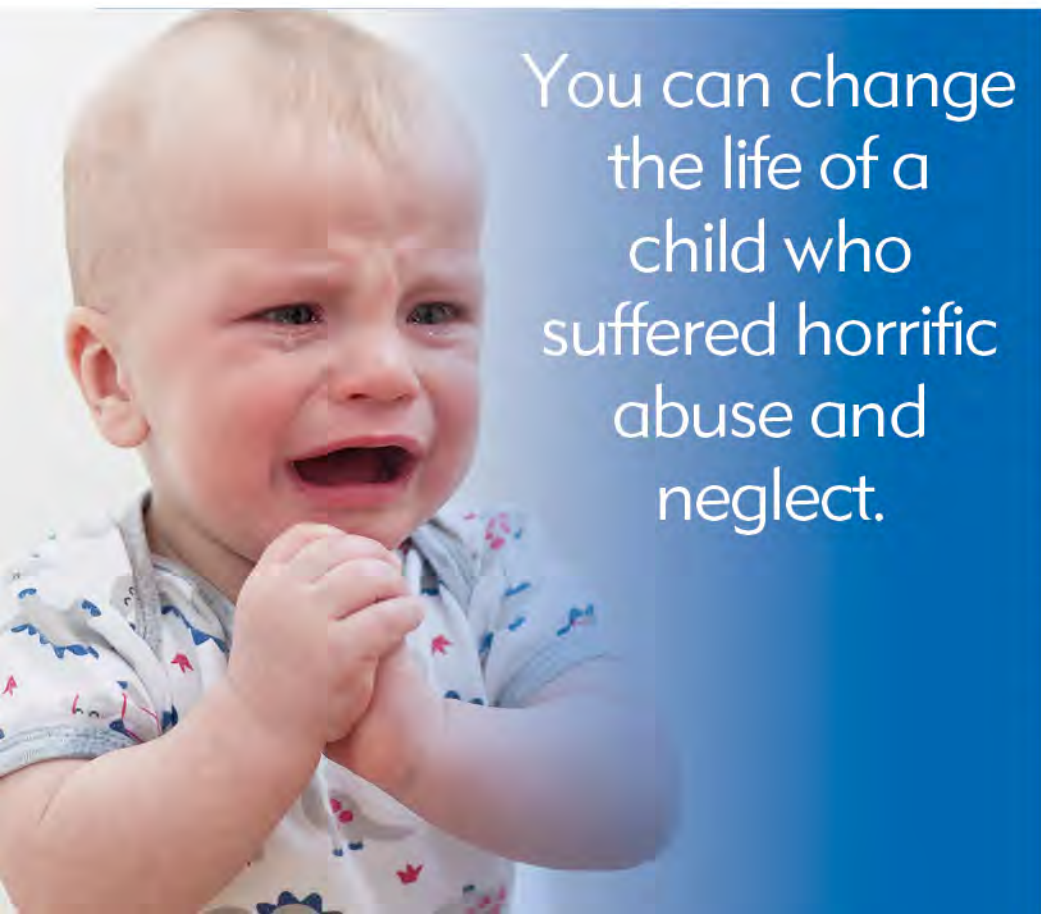


Above and right: School photos with Missy Smiles Photography, Reading with peers in the cottage



Top left to right: Trick-or-treating on Hillcrest Avenue, Star Wars movie night with the 501st Legion, Child Advocacy Day at the Kentucky state capital and St. Matthews' Midsummer's Night 5k.

St. Joe's Residential Treatment program has experienced a lot of positive growth over the past year as **100%** of St. Joe's kids transitioned into a safe and loving home in 2017. Currently, St. Joe's is home to 48 children, ages 6-14, including boys, girls, and sibling groups who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. Our goal at St. Joe's is to provide the children with the necessary tools to be successful in a family. Through trauma-informed care, individual treatment plans, intensive therapy, education, therapeutic activities and a normal home-like environment, children can begin the healing process. It is not uncommon that a child will say, "For the first time, I feel safe." St. Joe's provides stability and treatment for some of Kentucky's most vulnerable children by working every day to achieve our mission of *Giving Children a Home*.



You can change the life of a child who suffered horrific abuse and neglect.

Save the Date!

In 2016 there were 364 overdoses from heroin in Jefferson County and surrounding Louisville areas. That is **one** death each day. It is no coincidence that Kentucky has a record number of kids entering the foster care system due to the drug epidemic.

Since 2014, referrals to the St. Joe's Therapeutic Foster Care and Adoption Program have increased 249%. Help create families for Kentucky's most abused and neglected children by supporting our upcoming campaign **Give for Good Louisville on Thursday, September 14th**. Mark your calendars and join in on the largest day of giving in Kentucky! By giving online September 14th, you will help St. Joe's meet our goal of \$75,000 for 2017!

Your gift to Give for Good will help create families in Kentucky!



CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Kindergarten Readiness at St. Joe's Child Development Center

St. Joe's Child Development Center is committed to cultivating an environment of learning and kindergarten readiness in young children. We focus on pre-literacy and pre-math skills as well as provide parent workshops on kindergarten readiness topics. The CDC is proud to report that **96% of St. Joe's students are ready to enter Kindergarten** in comparison to the state's average of only 50%.



Celebrating 10 Years with Star Duck Charities



An interview with Board Chair, Jon Heck

How and why did Star Duck Charities begin?

Members of Star Duck actually began volunteering back in 1993. We ran -and still do- the duck pond. In 2007, a few of us began thinking "we have a solid core of volunteers for the picnic, why not do something throughout the year?" We reached out to St. Joe's and created a birthday program. Later we incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Our name came from the duck pond at Picnic. Since 2007, our role has expanded beyond providing for birthdays. Now we do events throughout the year.

Why St. Joe's? What drew you all here, specifically?

I had a relationship with St. Joe's since my college days at Bellarmine in 1993. Over the years of working the Picnic we got to know some

of the staff and administrators. We all got along well and there was a need we could help with. It was a logical fit.

What kinds of things, activities, areas of need has Star Duck focused on over the years? Has that shifted/evolved?

So in addition to birthday parties we have done a variety of activities. A few weeks ago we spent an afternoon playing dodge ball-something simple. We've also traveled to Cincinnati for a Red's game. So it's a broad range of activities. What's important is that we want the kids to have fun and even though things have been difficult in their lives, they are entitled to have the same experiences as their peers at school.

What are a few memorable moments?

The Duck Pond booth at the annual Picnic is always memorable. It's all in good fun and the kids who come to the booth have a good time. I encourage everyone to stop by and say "Hi!"



Star Duck Charities, Picnic 2014



Giving Children a Home

Residential Treatment
Child Development Center
Therapeutic Foster Care & Adoption Services

2823 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40206
(502) 893-0241 • (502) 896-2394 (fax)
www.sjkids.org for more information

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St. Joe's celebrated
7 Adoptions
in 2016

"Congrats to our families"

Elzy family
Welshans family
Price family
McDaniel family



Above, the Welshan family and right, the Elzy family.



Today, there are more than 8,400 children in Kentucky's foster care system and that number continues to rise each month as more and more children are removed from their homes due to substance use, abuse, neglect, and homelessness. At St. Joe's, it is our privilege to connect a child with the right family, whether it is only temporary or their forever adoptive family.

Unfortunately, the reality is that there are always more children in need than there are available foster families. St. Joe's needs families interested in both fostering and adopting—especially those

interested in sibling groups, older children, teens, children with behavior problems and children with special needs. If not you, then who? If not now, then when? Start your journey of foster care and adoption by enrolling in the next training session today!

For more info, contact Lisa Barber-Atwell at alicab@sjkids.org or call (502) 893-0241.

Grace C. Akers, MDIV
Executive Director

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Thanks to This Year's Picnic Sponsors:



Would you like to help St. Joe's kids?

Please make your gift today. www.sjkids.org or contact Development Director **Andrea Saylor** at 502-893-0241 or andreap@sjkids.org



Check us out on Facebook & Instagram



If you would like to receive your St. Joe's newsletter by email, contact Pam Stone at pams@sjkids.org