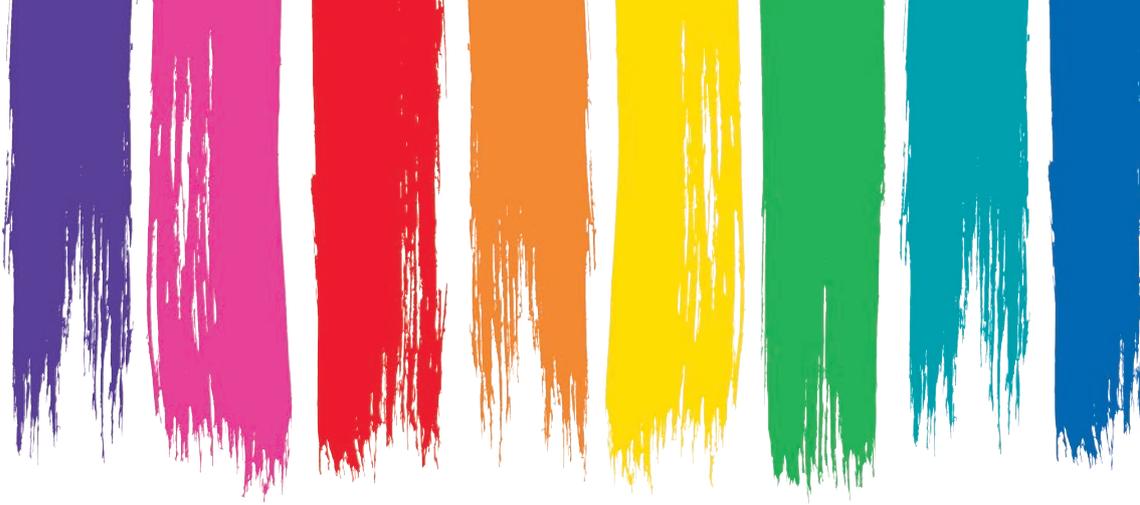


# Creating Families



Lic # ORG0000688



Pictured left to right: Sherlease Moppins - Picnic Chair; Grace Akers - St. Joe's Executive Director; Chris Whelan - President of the St. Joe's Board of Trustees.



Returning musical act for Picnic Pre-Party, Back 2 Mac - A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac.

## Eat, Play, Chill

For 169 years, generations of friends and family have gathered every August for the annual Picnic at St. Joseph Children's Home to play games, visit, eat, drink, and volunteer. St. Joe's Picnic continues to be the largest picnic in Kentucky with approximately 60,000 attendees!

Avoid the ticket lines by purchasing your tickets online at [www.sjkids.org/picnic/](http://www.sjkids.org/picnic/) until August 3rd. Pre-sale tickets for food, beverages, rides, and activities can be mailed directly to you (if ordered by July 31st) or can be picked up at St. Joe's receptionist's desk any time before August 10th.

ALL proceeds from the Picnic support children who have suffered severe abuse and neglect as well as help continue St. Joe's mission of "Giving Children a Home." Become a part of Picnic history today!

#sjpicnic #picnic169



So many chances to win prizes!



Famous fried chicken dinners made by St. Albert Gap Group and sponsored by Applebee's Bar & Grill.

Picnic photos by Eggplant Photography

**NEW THIS YEAR!**

- Carnival rides • Casino tent
  - Escape! tents from LOU Escape Crew
- Learn more at [www.sjkids.org](http://www.sjkids.org)**



Thanks to Our Sponsors:





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#GiveForGoodLou**

**SEPT  
13**



**GIVE FOR GOOD LOUISVILLE™**  
HOSTED BY **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF LOUISVILLE**

Stay connected with SJ kids on Facebook and Instagram  
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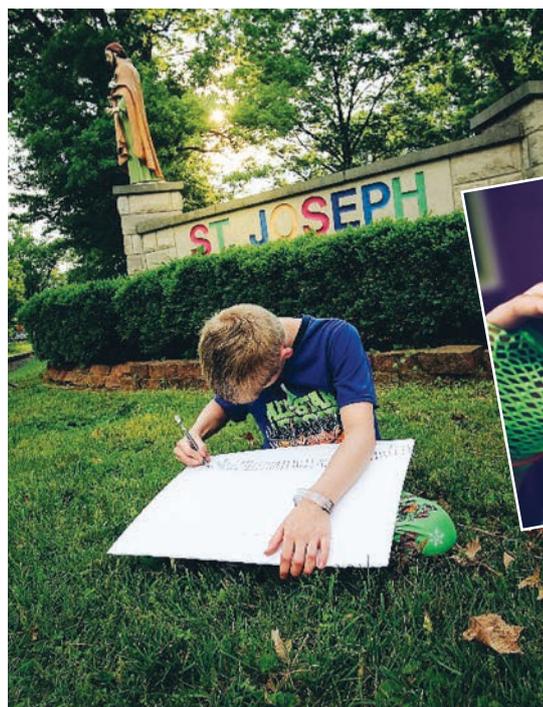


## WHAT'S NEW WITH SJ KIDS

Summer is here and St. Joe's kids are having fun! In addition to camps, activities, and trips, St. Joe's kids also attend seven weeks of summer school. Lasting a few hours in the morning, summer school helps the children thrive both academically and behaviorally. When they aren't in school or therapy, St. Joe's kids are off exploring new places, playing with friends, and making a difference in the community. One St. Joe's kid, "Billy," hosted a successful bake sale to raise money for Jefferson County Public Schools after learning that his teachers use their own money to buy supplies and rewards. Thanks to your continued support, St. Joe's kids are thriving!



St. Joe's staff go above and beyond for the kids!



Art therapy is a cornerstone of St. Joe's therapeutic care.



St. Joe's kids threw a totally rad 80's party for our volunteers!

*Photography by Jess Amburgey*

## LET'S TALK FOSTER CARE

Each month, more and more children are being removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect, and drug use. Currently, there are over 9,500 children in Kentucky who have been placed in out-of-home care: the highest it has ever been. Multiple factors play into children entering out-of-home care including but not limited to poverty, access to healthcare, family cycle of abuse and/or addiction, and more. Due to a lack of available foster homes, many children languish in the system as they wait for safe and loving homes to become available.

Fortunately, the state government has made reforming Kentucky's foster care system a top priority. During this past legislative session, House Bill 1 was signed into law and set forth a comprehensive plan to strengthen how the commonwealth supports children and their families impacted by abuse or neglect. The bill strengthens supports that help keep families together safely and, when that's not possible, addresses timelines for adoption so that children can more easily move toward finding a permanent family. HB 1 includes a number of changes that evaluate and improve programs serving kids and families and helps ensure decisions that prioritize the best interests of the child. The bill also thoughtfully addresses neonatal substance exposure to ensure women seek and receive substance use treatment for the health and safety of their child.

Kentucky's children deserve to be in safe homes where



The Dennison Family

they are loved and supported. If you or someone you know is interested in foster care, please direct them to contact Lisa Barber-Atwell at [alicab@sjkids.org](mailto:alicab@sjkids.org). Learn more about St. Joe's Therapeutic Foster Care and Adoption program at [www.sjkids.org](http://www.sjkids.org).



The Taylor Family

Photography by Jess Amburgey



*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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Grace C. Akers, MDIV  
*Executive Director*

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**S**t. Joe's Picnic: For the Kids relies heavily on the generosity of our picnic volunteers and sponsors to make this event successful. It is a great opportunity for youth to gain service hours and for families to give back to children in need. Sign up to volunteer today by contacting Billie Healy at [billieh@sjkids.org](mailto:billieh@sjkids.org).



### ***Every child is good and worthy of love***

Help St. Joe's kids find their forever home by making a monthly recurring donation. Visit [www.sjkids.org](http://www.sjkids.org) or contact Development Director, Andrea Saylor, at [andreap@sjkids.org](mailto:andreap@sjkids.org).



### **Stay connected!**

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, contact Pam Stone at [pams@sjkids.org](mailto:pams@sjkids.org)