

# NOTES FROM THE HOME



# WINTER 2024



As we embrace a new year, I'm filled with gratitude for your support and the generosity that continues to surround us here at the Home.

December 2023 saw our most impactful fundraising month in recent history and through our 12 Days of Christmas social media campaign, our warehouse is well prepared to fill the needs of our children and families for the months ahead. But our work is not done, and we are looking forward to another great year of support from this community.

We are proud to share just a few of the exciting activities that have happened at the Home in this season's newsletter. From the most successful Jude's Jingle Tree fundraiser ever, to the 27th annual holiday party with the Louisville Division of Fire, to fun decorations and collaboration in our Residential Treatment and Emergency Shelter program, the end of 2023 was certainly filled with moments to cherish.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey and for standing by us as we strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

We look forward to sharing more stories and activities with you in 2024.

Paul Robinson  
President & CEO



## Jude's Jingle Tree: Best Year Ever!

For the sixth year, WDRB meteorologist Jude Redfield promoted the Jude's Jingle Tree fundraiser to benefit the Home. Each year, he asks viewers to help decorate his tree at the WDRB studio by sending ornaments or dropping them off at the station. He also asks viewers to help raise money for the Home by donating online.

This year was truly record breaking as the community raised an astonishing \$105,000! We are so thankful for everyone who sent an ornament or donated to the Home.

Once again, this year, WDRB matched the first \$5,000 in donations and Jingle Tree Sponsor, Scooter's Coffee, pledged to donate up to \$5,000 from sales of their holiday drinks from their Louisville locations. In a last-minute addition to get us well over the \$100,000 mark, Coyle Automotive Group pledged an additional \$6,000!



It was such a wonderful morning with the Home's team members, Kosair for Kids Complex Care Center residents, and the WDRB team as we celebrated a more successful Jingle Tree than any of us could have imagined.



**To experience our full impact from last year, take a look at our annual report.**



## Sparking Smiles: Annual Firefighter Party



For the 27th year, the Home welcomed the Louisville Division of Fire for a holiday party geared towards our residents. Captain Michael Bryan, other Louisville firefighters and recruits, Santa, Mrs. Claus, and even the Grinch showed up to visit with Kosair for Kids Complex Care Center residents and serve lunch and deliver presents to residents from our Residential Treatment and Emergency Shelter program. 2023 marked the 8th year Captain Bryan has overseen the event and the 14th event that he’s participated in.

“It is the goal of myself and the members of The Louisville Division of Fire to provide the children who reside at the Home a festive day that displays the true support and compassion our members have for the community and the appreciation for the Home’s team members who care for them every day,” said Captain Bryan. “Last year, division members, Local Fire union #54 and through the assistance of area businesses we were able to raise monetary donations and secure gifts, food, refreshments, and entertainment in support of this annual event.”

On December 7th, the firefighters shopped for gifts for each resident at Home of the Innocents as well as gifts to raffle off for team members working at the Home.

As always, the event was full of laughter, music, food, and fun for everyone involved!



## Program Spotlight: Residential Treatment and Emergency Shelter Gets Creative

In October, our Residential Treatment and Emergency Shelter residents came together for a Halloween door decorating contest. This tradition began in 2018 and the residents were given the following guidelines:

1. The door must be resident friendly and not too scary.
2. The only money that could be spent on decorations was the \$25 provided by the activity coordinator.
3. The doors must be completed by a certain date for judging.

With these expectations in place, the residents got to work. The houses came together to discuss the contest guidelines and vote on a theme for the house door. During this voting process, the houses communicated with one another to ensure no one was duplicating an idea. Once the theme for each house was decided, the designing and decorating could begin.

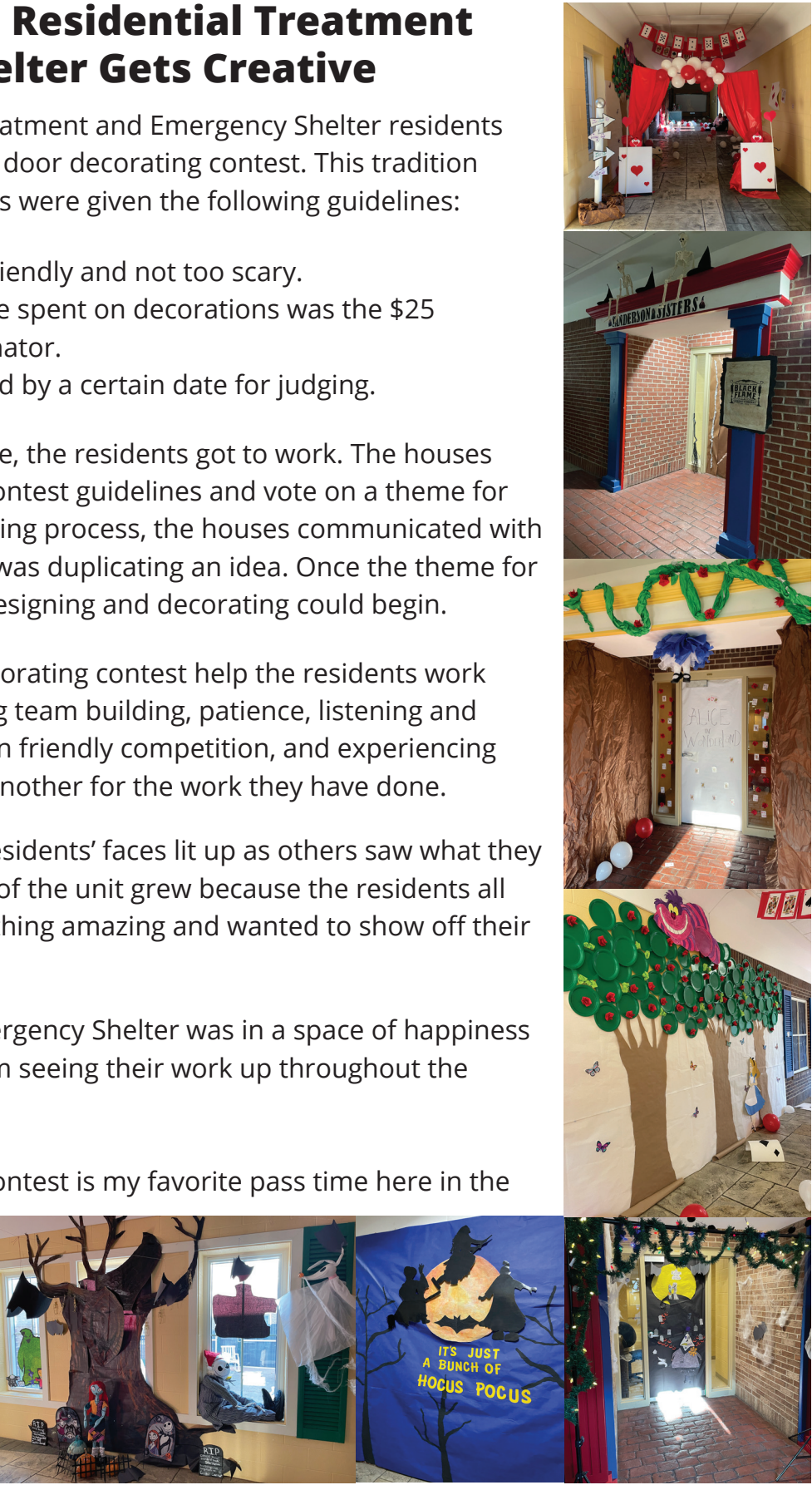
Opportunities like the door decorating contest help the residents work on important life skills including team building, patience, listening and following directions, engaging in friendly competition, and experiencing pride for themselves and one another for the work they have done.

When the judging began, the residents’ faces lit up as others saw what they created. The pride and morale of the unit grew because the residents all agreed they had created something amazing and wanted to show off their hard work.

Residential Treatment and Emergency Shelter was in a space of happiness and pride during the event from seeing their work up throughout the hallways.

I can say the Halloween door contest is my favorite pass time here in the Residential Treatment and Emergency Shelter!

Shequay Barbour  
Amelia’s House  
Program Manager





## Make a Plan, Leave a Legacy

During our lives, we find the causes that speak to our values and support their missions any way we can. **Did you know there's a way for your impact to continue even after you're gone?**

Including a charitable gift in your estate plan is simple and ensures your positive influence in the community lives on. There is no minimum amount for your gift, so rest assured that whatever you can give will be greatly appreciated and used responsibly.

According to Giving USA: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2022,

- In 2022, charitable giving in the US approached \$500 billion.
- Bequests made up \$45.6 billion of that total.
- People are remembering charities in their plans because they want to continue supporting the causes they believe in after their passing.

To learn more on how Home of the Innocents can be part of your legacy, contact Lisa Cobb, Major Gift Director, at 502.596.1069 or [lcobb@homeoftheinnocents.org](mailto:lcobb@homeoftheinnocents.org).

*Written by Chris Staples, COO, Baird Trust Co. & Home of the Innocents Volunteer*



**Would you like to see the Home up close?** Contact Liz James, Director of Development at [ljames@homeoftheinnocents.org](mailto:ljames@homeoftheinnocents.org) or 502.596.1034 to schedule your tour today.

**home**  
of the innocents  
1100 East Market Street  
Louisville, KY 40206  
502.596.1000  
[homeoftheinnocents.org](http://homeoftheinnocents.org)