



## MENTAL HEALTH EXPERTS FOR IOWA'S KIDS

- PG 1** Orchard Place Campus
- PG 2** Letter from the CEO  
Introducing Amanda Fletcher,  
Director of Planned Giving
- PG 3** Volunteer Spotlight -  
Brandee Ferris  
Elizabeth Mann Society  
Recognizes Legacy Donors
- PG 4** Moonlight Classic
- PG 5** Recent Donations  
Thanksgiving at Orchard Place
- PG 6** Orchard Place Photos
- PG 7** Ask the Expert - Rhonda Haler

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF ORCHARD PLACE CAMPUS

Fifty years ago, the Board of Directors from the Des Moines Children's Home faced a new challenge. Our original 1886 mission – to provide services for Iowa's kids at our orphanage – needed to change. The Board began to develop ideas for residential care and treatment for children with mental health issues. An outside consultant was hired to complete a detailed analysis of how best to create a new system of care. Out of this process, Orchard Place was born. The Board purchased land at 925 S.W. Porter in Des Moines, which at the time was an apple orchard, and the first residential building was constructed.

Much progress has been made in the treatment of mental health issues since our first clients arrived in 1965. Public and private entities focusing on mental health as well as research on behaviors, the brain and medications have made tremendous strides in successful treatment. Today, Orchard Place Campus is the largest Psychiatric Medical Institute for Children (PMIC) in the state, with 103 beds for children requiring residential treatment. Thousands of Iowa kids have been treated at our facility and often look back at their time at Orchard Place Campus as a true turning point in their lives.

Orchard Place receives notes, emails and even communications via our social media pages from former residents. It's not unusual to read the words, "Orchard Place saved my life."

Fifty years ago, the Orchard Place Board probably had no idea the groundbreaking work they started would affect so many lives in so many positive ways. As Orchard Place reflects on this milestone, we are very proud we have maintained our commitment to serving the children of Iowa all these years.

None of the progress that has been made during the years would have been possible without such a professional, dedicated and caring staff. Children at our Campus benefit from some of the most talented mental health professionals working in the field today. From 1965 to the present, Orchard Place Campus has often been noted as a model for successful residential treatment. Over the years, we have received hundreds of thank you notes and letters from parents and former residents describing how staff members on Campus made a difference in their lives.

On behalf of all of the kids we have helped over the past 50 years at Orchard Place Campus, we thank you for your contribution to our efforts. With 50 years of experience and knowledge, we are well equipped to continue the mission that is providing mental health expertise for Iowa's kids and helping them live more healthy and productive lives.

# LETTER FROM THE CEO ANNE STARR



2014 marked a major milestone at Orchard Place. We served more than 10,000 Iowa kids with mental health issues. This year, we mark a new milestone – the 50-year anniversary for our Orchard Place Campus.

Fifty years ago, the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Children's Home were seeking to address a new community challenge – residential mental health care for children. Today, we've grown to include Child Guidance Center for outpatient services, PACE Juvenile Center for community-based services, and our

Integrated Health Program for care coordination services.

Just as the Board of Directors worked to lay a strong foundation for the future 50 years ago, we continue to develop methods to build on successful models of mental health treatment. I'm excited to tell you about a new initiative we will be undertaking this year thanks to funding from Mid Iowa Health Foundation, Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, and United Way of Central Iowa.

Later this spring, Orchard Place will begin implementation of the Sanctuary Model, an advanced system of care that strongly dovetails with the work we have been doing with the Trauma Informed Care Project. Last year, we were fortunate to have the Sanctuary Model founder, Dr. Sandra Bloom, as a keynote speaker at our Trauma Informed Care Conference.

Based on more than 30 years of research, the focus of the Sanctuary Model is on helping organizations like Orchard Place facilitate the development of an organizational culture that can create an environment from which traumatic experiences can be more effectively addressed with our clients.

As the year progresses, we will continue to update you on our progress with the Sanctuary Model and its impact on our organization. A team of internal Orchard Place representatives is already at work laying the groundwork for a successful implementation.

In this edition of *CONNECTIONS*, you will see the past few months have been exceptionally busy, productive and most importantly, impactful. Your help, whether it's giving, volunteering, mentoring or participating in an event, does not go unnoticed. We appreciate everything you have done and continue to do for our organization and the 10,000 kids we served last year. Together we are developing strong futures for Iowa's youth.

Best regards,

Anne Starr

## INTRODUCING AMANDA FLETCHER, DIRECTOR OF PLANNED GIVING



Amanda Fletcher has joined Orchard Place as Director of Planned Giving. Amanda has 14 years of experience in fundraising, with extensive expertise in planned giving. She initiated the planned giving program at Hope

Ministries in Des Moines, and has served as a senior level manager with several other non-profit organizations, including Everybody Wins! Iowa, Mercy Foundation and Wesley Life.

Amanda replaces Sandi Tuttle, who established Orchard Place's Planned Giving Program in 2009. Sandi retired at the end of February. Amanda notes, "I love working with individuals who have a philanthropic spirit and connecting them with the type of planned gift that works best for them. I am excited to be able to spend my time and utilize my talents to further the mission of Orchard Place!"

For more information about ways you can make a planned gift to Orchard Place, **contact Amanda at 515.287.9648 or [afletcher@orchardplace.org](mailto:afletcher@orchardplace.org)**.

**HAVE YOU  
REMEMBERED  
THE CHILDREN OF  
ORCHARD PLACE  
IN YOUR WILL OR  
OTHER ESTATE  
PLANS?**

**CONTACT AMANDA AT 515-287-9648  
WITH QUESTIONS**



Brandee Ferriss (left) and Megan Ronnenberg, Director of Volunteers (right)

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: BRANDEE FERRISS

Brandee Ferriss joined PACE Juvenile Center’s Lunch Buddy program in 2010 after learning of our need for volunteers through the Principal Volunteer Network, which fulfills the volunteer needs of many nonprofit agencies around Des Moines. Brandee believes that spreading awareness is the most important part of her community work.

Brandee has worked with four girls in the Lunch Buddy program, and is still in touch with all of her former buddies. “They’ll call me when they need to talk, and sometimes I just meet them somewhere,” Brandee says. She also says that she is thrilled that the girls like to keep the relationship going once they’ve left PACE.

In addition to Brandee’s work as a Lunch Buddy, she also organizes the Toys for Tots and Adopt a Family programs at Principal to support holiday giving. Each year at holiday time, Brandee asks for wish lists from the Orchard Place kids and makes sure that each one is fulfilled by a Principal employee.

## ELIZABETH MANN SOCIETY RECOGNIZES LEGACY DONORS

The Elizabeth Mann Society held its fifth annual luncheon on a beautiful fall day at Wakonda Club. More than twenty members gathered for the festive occasion, which recognizes the special friends of Orchard Place who have included the organization in their estate plans. Membership in the Society has grown to 55 individuals or couples.

The event featured Clarice Vincent, Team Lead of Orchard Place’s Integrated Health Program, who spoke about the program’s work providing care coordination services to nearly 1,400 children and their families.

Perhaps you have already remembered Orchard Place in your estate plans. If so, please let us know so that we can add your name to our Society roster and include you in updates about our work on behalf of Iowa’s children.



Clarice Vincent, Dan Anderson and Anne Starr, Orchard Place CEO (left to right)

**For additional information about the Elizabeth Mann Society and making a legacy gift to Orchard Place, contact Amanda Fletcher, Director of Planned Giving, at 515.287.9648 or [afletcher@orchardplace.org](mailto:afletcher@orchardplace.org).**

### ELIZABETH MANN SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Dan Anderson  
Margaret Ann Bannister\*  
Leila M. Berg  
Nancy and Melvin Bobo  
Sherrie Boldt\*  
Wesley Boldt  
Lois and H. Dale Bright\*  
Janice R. Burns  
Donald W. Cordes\*  
Richard Crary Estate  
Doris Eby\*

Edna Dahl\*  
Mary Alice Epperly  
Bob and Joan Fells  
Ann Wallace Fleming\*  
Marilee Fredericks\*  
Anne and Robert Gavin  
Dennis Tuttle and Riz Gilani  
Angela R. Glasgow  
Arlene and Earl Gleason\*  
Holly Grimes  
Dean L.\* and Alice M. Hedman  
Larry and Carolyn Hejtmanek

Maxine Hiatt\*  
Philip Bonner Hill\*  
Brad and Cathy Isaak  
Earl and Madeleine Kelly  
David and Jan Koder  
Lisa and Chris Kofoed  
Mary Kohl\*  
Jennifer L. Kramer  
Bernard D. Kurtz, Sr.\*  
Todd A. Millang  
Jean W. Musgrave Trust\*

Carolyn F. Nehls  
Nancy Norman-Uhl  
Louis H. Norris  
Kelly and Toby O’Berry  
Barbara D. Pottorff  
Marjorie E. Ramsey  
Richard Riley\*  
Karen and Wes Ritchie  
Doug and Val Saltgaver  
Deb Wiley and John Schmidt  
Charles Schoppe\*

Kimberly and Craig Shadur  
Bryan and Lyn Shiffler  
Anne and Bart Starr  
Mel Straub\*  
Kathleen and Ted Stuart  
Don C. and Margaret B. Swanson\*  
Gene and Sandi Tuttle  
Robert D. Walters Estate\*  
Helen Howard Westfall Trust\*  
Brock and Kimberly Wolff

\* Deceased



ORCHARD PLACE

# MOONLIGHT ★ CLASSIC ★

PRESENTED BY SAMMONS<sup>®</sup> FINANCIAL GROUP

Join us for our annual night time bike ride through the streets of downtown Des Moines and nearby trails presented by Sammons Financial Group. Come, enjoy the friendship and live music before and after the ride. Prizes will be given in the categories of Best Bike Lights, Best Helmet Lights, Best Costume and Best Team Bus!

Come alone, with a friend, or gather a posse to qualify as the largest registered team and win the coveted Moonlight Cup Trophy and group prize!

**Saturday, May 30, 2015**

**9:30 p.m.**

**El Bait Shop, 200 SW 2nd St.  
Downtown Des Moines**

**We need event volunteers!**

**Register to ride or volunteer at [MoonlightClassicDSM.com](http://MoonlightClassicDSM.com)**

# THANKSGIVING AT ORCHARD PLACE

On November 24, more than 300 Orchard Place staff, kids, Board members, community partners, volunteers and legislators gathered together for our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon.

Originating in 1968 when many Orchard Place children did not go home for Thanksgiving, the event helped build a sense of community among the kids. Over the decades, the event has grown to recognize individuals who have made a difference in helping the children of Orchard Place.



This year's Margaret Swanson Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Dan Anderson, who goes above and beyond as a classroom volunteer and mentor at Orchard Place.



The 2014 Voice for Children Award was given to State Senator Joe Bolkcom (above) and State Representative Kevin Koester (right) for their work in advocating for children's issues.



## RECENT DONATIONS

Thank you for your financial support and selfless volunteerism. The work of Orchard Place could not continue without your generosity and compassion for the children we serve.



1

### 1 GLEN OAKS WOMEN'S CHARITY FOUNDATION

Orchard Place gratefully received \$55,000 from Glen Oaks Women's Charity Foundation, raised through the group's annual dinner and golf classic. The gift will be used to purchase two vans to transport Orchard Place Campus residents and PACE clients.



3

### 2 RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Iowa presented Orchard Place a gift of \$8,235 for bathroom renovations in Aliber House Orchard Place Campus. The work is part of a major renovation project of several residences on the Campus.



2

### 3 VARIETY - THE CHILDREN'S CHARITY OF IOWA

Orchard Place was presented a check for \$25,000 by Variety - the Children's Charity of Iowa, to install an electronic security entry system at Orchard Place Campus. Variety has been a major supporter of our work for 30 years.

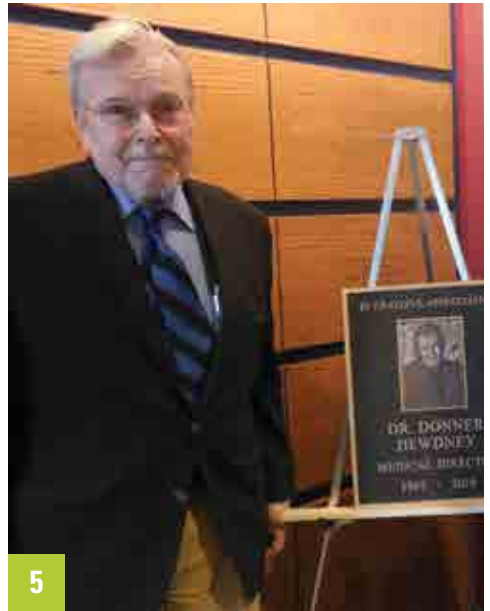


4

### 4 THE UPS FOUNDATION

The UPS Foundation recently gave Orchard Place a \$10,000 grant, earmarked to help with the emergency needs of children and families served by all Orchard Place divisions.

# ORCHARD PLACE PHOTOS



- 1 A group of 10 volunteers from Nationwide spent an afternoon wrapping gifts for children served by Orchard Place as part of our annual holiday drive. Corporations, individuals and civic groups contributed a record number of gifts for 505 children this year.
- 2 On February 11, the Orchard Place Campus celebrated 50th anniversary. To mark the occasion, the first resident of Orchard Place Campus, Howard Deever, returned to meet with staff and current residents. Pictured are Merwin Crow, the first CEO of Orchard Place, Howard Deever, and former Orchard Place case worker Grant Jordan.
- 3 The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines awarded Orchard Place a leadership grant of \$25,000 to help implement the Sanctuary Model, an organizational approach for addressing psychological trauma in children. The model will involve a comprehensive three-year plan guided by national leaders in the field. Orchard Place will become the first non-profit organization in Iowa to be accredited in this model of service delivery.
- 4 Twenty-six Sammons Financial Group employees volunteered at Orchard Place on United Way's Day of Action. They completed a wide variety of projects, including picking 12 boxes of fruit, raking, organizing the clothing closet, cleaning exercise equipment, and assisting with administrative tasks.
- 5 In December, Dr. Donner Dewdney, medical director of Orchard Place from 1969-2014, was honored with a staff reception and presentation of a bronze plaque recognizing his long and dedicated service to Orchard Place. Dr. Dewdney retired last year but continues to facilitate training sessions for Campus staff. The plaque has been hung in a prominent position in the Variety Family Service Center at Orchard Place Campus.



# ASK THE EXPERT

**Suicide Prevention  
Awareness Is Key in Helping**

Each year, nearly 40,000 Americans die by suicide, and research has indicated that 90% of them communicated some intent to kill themselves to someone, usually not their clinician. By recognizing the warning signs and taking suicidal talk seriously, you can help prevent suicide.

It's a myth that young people talk about suicide simply for attention. It is important to never dismiss talk of suicide, even from a child or teen who may not mean it, or from someone who seems to have a "perfect life" on the outside. Responding to threats and other warning signs in a serious and thoughtful manner lets a friend or loved one know you value their life, and they should, too.

## GET SUPPORT FROM ORCHARD PLACE

If a loved one is in need of help, Orchard Place is here. Our Child Guidance Center offers outpatient therapy services for youth age 18 and under. Families can access these services by calling 515-244-2267 and asking to speak to our intake specialist, who will assess the risk of your loved one and make a referral to the emergency room for further assessment, if needed. If you are unable to keep your loved one safe, do not wait and go directly to the nearest emergency room.

**PEOPLE WHO ARE CONTEMPLATING SUICIDE OFTEN EXHIBIT ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING WARNING SIGNS:**

### TALKS ABOUT:

- Killing himself or herself
- Feeling hopeless, worthless or trapped
- Having no reason to live
- Being a burden to others

### CHANGES IN BEHAVIOR OR INCREASES IN THE OCCURRENCE OF:

- Using drugs or alcohol
- Searching for a gun or other weapon online or in stores
- Withdrawing from normal activities
- Giving away prized possessions
- Calling or visiting people to say goodbye
- Displaying severe mood swings
- Participating in risky behavior
- Sleeping too much or too little
- Exhibiting agitation or hopelessness

**For young people 15-24 years old, suicide is the second leading cause of death in Iowa.**

To access help 24/7, you can also call **the National Hopeline Network at 1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433)** or **the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (800-273-8255)** or **1-800-799-4889 for the hearing impaired.**

# CONNECTIONS

SPRING 2015 ISSUE



**MENTAL HEALTH EXPERTS FOR IOWA'S KIDS**  
2116 Grand Avenue • Des Moines, IA 50312  
ORCHARDPLACE.ORG • 515-246-3514

## YOU CAN HELP

Your support through gifts of time, cash and contributions help us to meet the special needs of our children and youth. All types of gifts are welcome and appreciated. For information contact Nancy Bobo.

[nbobo@orchardplace.org](mailto:nbobo@orchardplace.org) • 515-287-9610



**MENTAL HEALTH  
EXPERTS FOR  
IOWA'S KIDS**

## THE MISSION OF ORCHARD PLACE

To Develop Strong Futures for Children and Youth with Mental Health and Behavioral Challenges.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**May 3-9** National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

**May 30** Orchard Place Moonlight Classic, *Downtown Des Moines*

*Details on page 4*

**June 9-11** 5th Annual Psychological Trauma and Juvenile Justice

Conference: Impact on Mind, Body and Community

*Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines*

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Des Moines, IA  
Permit No. 1816