

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN'S SQUARE

JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Board Members 2016

Jeanette Schierbrock, President

Dennis Keithley, Vice President

Suzanne Winter, Treasurer

Barbara Schlott, Secretary

Becky Burgart, Past President

Elizabeth Bills

Jennifer Bumsted

Deanna Boese

Tracy Jerkovich

Phil Kennedy

Westy Nelson

Trudy Owens



Tracy, our board photog!

CSUSA CHILI COOK-OFF COMPETITION!



On December 1st, the CSUSA residents held a Chili cook-off competition between the cottage units. A member of the FRIENDS group was among the judges, and of course the Mayor of Council Bluffs was also in attendance along with other judging dignitaries. The competition was "heated" needing intense attention to the judging. Was that a bit of cinnamon I tasted? Is there a "sweetness," interesting yet tasty ...a bit of cloves? Though only one cottage "won," the children were all winners at the event as they all made the effort to try. It was a successful evening and most of all FUN FOR ALL!

We are in need of workers in the closet. Please consider donating time to this resource. - *Jeanette Schierbrock, Board President*

Friend's of Children's Square Instrumental in the Annual Golf Event

The Friends are key "drivers" in teeing up the annual Chip in for Children Golf Tournament held the Monday after Mother's Day each May. Members secure prizes, take care of registration the day of the event, serve as hole monitors, fund inducement gifts and

even have a golf foursome as part of their own annual sponsorship support. The event would not run as smoothly or have such a nice array of prizes and gifts without these incredible contributions. Proceeds from the event fund programming needs and special projects.



Friends Board Vice President Dennis Keithley prepares to monitor the Hole In One Contest.

An Invitation to Give



Westy Nelson, Barbara Schlott (Secretary of Friends Board) and Polina Schlott pause from preparations.

ON APRIL 22, 2016, an exquisite dinner was held at Five Oaks Lodge with all contributions going directly to the Better Spaces Brighter Futures Capital Campaign and Projects! Barbara Schlott shared her beautiful home and with the



help of numerous other friends (Westy Nelson, Elizabeth Bills, Polina Schlott, Tracy Jerkovich, Dennis Keithley). They hosted an incredible evening for 40 lucky guests at \$250 a plate! The talents of Binoy Fernandez and the guitar music of Paul Schroder made cocktail time most enjoyable. The award winning culinary competition team from Metropolitan Community College, headed up by Chef Brian O'Malley prepared and served an amazing seven-course dinner paired with special treats from Barb's wine cellar. Cathy Curtis from Metro coordinated the details with Barbara, Maria and Polina.

- Carol Wood, CEO Children's Square USA

FROM EXPERIENCE

My name is Phillip Kennedy and I have been a member of the Friends of Children's Square Board since 2012. However, my history with Children's Square goes back to February 11, 1998 when I was hired as a "youth-worker" at the emergency shelter. This was a job that I thought would bridge my time from new college grad to getting out my teacher resume and interview at area school districts. Little did I know, what God had planned for me involved the "Square" for much longer.



Word got around I had degree in education. Low and behold after an interview and a teaching practical with students, I began my career as a Special Education Teacher at the Academic Center during the 1999-2000 school year. Though challenging at times, the next 7 years teaching were some of the most memorable years of my life. The number of students we were able to have a positive impact on and all the co-workers/friends that have been a part of my life have a forever place in my heart.

Though I left teaching, and ultimately Children's Square in 2006 for another career, my time on campus did not end. Both of my children spent their first 5+ years of their lives at the Children's Center. There they learned how to interact socially with same age kids, were able to expand their minds through imagination play, received physical activity and, most of all, love from their teachers (some of whom we are still in contact with to this day).

It is easy for me to see how much Children's Square does for children of all ages. It is easy for me to recognize each program and the functions they serve. It is easy for me because I have "been there and done that." It is now incumbent on me to give back to the campus that has given so much to me and my family. It is also incumbent on me to try and articulate to others just how symbiotic the relationship is between Children's Square and the surrounding community. For these reasons I proudly serve as a member of the "Friends" board.

- Phillip Kennedy



Tamara Brunow was the successful bidder for the membership to the Friends of Children's Square U.S.A. that was auctioned at the annual Christmas Enchantment held on December 3 at Hoy Kilnoski Funeral Home. This even raises funds for the Spiritual Life Program. In addition to providing auction items, friends members supported the event by other personal donations, attending the event and bidding/ winning some of the many outstanding items that were generously donated and beautifully displayed. We want to welcome Tamara to the Friends and give a special thanks to Gail Hunter for inviting Tamara and coaxing such a great bid!

Friends of Children's Square

Build the Future

The Friends are building brighter futures every day through their good works, friendship, service and support! Children's Square, USA, THANKS YOU for the bottom of our hearts!

Special thanks to the Friends of Children's Square and individual members for their support of Children's Square's \$9,000,000 Better Spaces, Brighter Futures Capital Campaign.

The Friends' support of the campaign and what it makes possible for kids in care goes well beyond. Many have made personal gifts. In addition, the Board voted to provide \$3,000 towards the campaign with the stipulation that it be matched dollar for dollar. \$1500 in match dollars have been raised so far towards this special match opportunity. Additional contributions are welcomed to complete the remaining \$1500 needed to fulfill the match.

Ground was broken on June 1 for the new residential treatment complex that is the first facility to be constructed through this campaign. Steady progress has been made and the building will soon be enclosed. Completion is scheduled for this summer.



For more information on the campaign and the projects funded through it, visit www.childrensquare.org, click on "How to Help" then on Better Spaces Brighter Futures. Gifts can be made on line under the same "How to Help" tab, then on the Friends of Children's Square page or through the Better Spacers site. Just be sure to make a note to apply your gift to the Friends' match! Every dollar helps! Thank you !!

- Carol Wood, CEO Children's Square, USA



Friends of Children's Square 2017 Membership

Promoter \$450 & above

Dorothy Bennett
Jim & Becky Burgart
Dennis & Cynthia Keithley
Barbara Schlott

Partner \$250 to \$449

Jennifer Bumsted
Judy Davis
Polina Schlott
Carol Wood

Advocate \$100 to \$249

David & Elizabeth Bills
Tamara Brunow
Steve & Rosemary Dermody
M.J. Doll
Maria Fernandez
Sharon Conlon & Jack Heidel
Gail Hunter
Henry Kammandel, JR
Phil & Jodi Kennedy
Jane Peters
Thomas & Jeanette Schierbrock
Billie & Marty Shelton
Elizabeth Shrier
John & Tracy Jerkovich

Benefactor \$50 to \$99

Michael & Patricia Barker
Don & Lynette Brynes
John & Jean Rinde
David & Becky Snedeker
Julie Verry
Mike & Suzanne Winter

Sustaining \$25 to \$49

Lisa Jansen Bartholow
Mary Bazata
Theresa Proud
Greg & Linda Steensland
Rob Tiedgen

Member \$10 to \$24

Eddith Buis
Brent Ganey
John & Sandra Tracy

Memorials:

In memory of Marjorie Grayson
Dennis & Cynthia Keithley
Barbara Schlott

In memory of Jim Hunter
Barbara Schlott

In memory of Ellie Carrington
Barbara Schlott

Become a Member of Friends

through www.childrensquare.org
click on "Friends" PayPal
or send your check to:
"Friends of Children's Square"
% Suzanne Winter
125 Pelican Drive
Council Bluffs, IA 51501

Treasurer's Report

In 2016 the funds donated to Friends of Children's Square, through the different levels of memberships, were used to help Children's Square by giving:

\$400 for car seats needed by the day care center

\$1,550 for a Bronze Sponsorship to Children's Square U.S.A

\$250 for golf participant gifts for the annual Chip in For Children Golf Tournament

\$1,500 to Spiritual Life program

\$3,000 for Capitol Campaign (new residential units on campus)

Miscellaneous expenses, such as postage and Annual Luncheon expenses for members

- *Suzanne Winter, Treasurer, Friends of Children's Square*



Capital Campaign Progress as of January 6, 2017

(taken from Lincoln Monument)



Please join us for the Friends of Children's Square Annual Meeting Luncheon

for election of board officers and goals for 2017cs

Friday, February 3, 2017, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lemen Visitors' Center

North 6th & Avenue E, Council Bluffs, IA 51503