



Fall 2018

TRUE TO LIFE

A publication of Evangelical Child & Family Agency

5K 4 Kids 2018

We thank God for a bright, beautiful, warm day at the Dupage Forest Preserve in Wheaton for ECFA's Annual 5K for Kids! 102 participants for the Toddler Trot, Kids Fun Run, 5K Run/Walk and the 10-mile Bike Ride came with family and friends to cheer them on.

As early as 6 am, ECFA staff and volunteers started the set up for the event. Before the race, Pregnancy Support Services Supervisor, Faith Allman shared about how our Christ-centered program touches lives and makes a difference to those who need encouragement and support. Our Executive Director, Ken Withrow, led in prayer to kick-off the race.

The day was filled with smiles and excitement as Chick-Fil-A (Wheaton/Lombard) gave out gift cards, provided games, and the Chick-Fil-A mascot "Cow" mingled to share in the fun with attendees. Prizes were awarded to the top three runners of the 5K. Each toddler received a medal after they finished their race. The Boys and Girls Fun Run's top three runners received medals to recognize their excellent finish. The face painting, balloon maker's creations, and the bubbles filling the air surely added color and cheer to the event.

It was a thrill to see people getting together and having fun for a worthy cause. We are thankful for all those who invest their time, talents and energy into ECFA's

Pregnancy Support Services Program. We are also deeply grateful for the volunteers who helped us set up, assist in registration, give out water to the participants, assist the race timer, and tear down after the event. Most of all, we thank God for all the wonderful things that occurred on this special day!



Annual Benefit Auction

Accepting Reservations until Friday, October 26th

Join us!

Friday, November 2, 2018

Abbingdon Distinctive Banquets

3S002 Rt. 53, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Doors Open: 5:00 pm

Dinner: 6:45 pm

Live Auction: 8:00 pm

Building Update

It has been several months since a fire severely damaged our office building at 1530 N. Main Street in Wheaton over the Memorial Day Weekend. One half of our staff has relocated to 213 W. Wesley Street in downtown Wheaton and the other half of our staff is working from 4614 S. Main Street in Lisle. Our mail continues to be addressed to 1530 N. Main Street since it is convenient for us to pick it up at the Wheaton Post Office located a half block away from our Wesley Street location.

Our desire is to restore our building. Architectural plans are needed and we have hired a general contractor to begin the demolition and restoration process. We hope to have the exterior work completed before winter so that the interior can be renovated during the colder months. We anticipate eventually having a beautifully restored office building to serve clients and families for many years to come.



Thanks Kiwanis Of Lombard!

Jay Wojcik, former President of the Kiwanis Club of Lombard, presented ECFA with a check for \$400.00 at their Installation of New Officers and Community Giving Breakfast Meeting at the Westin Hotel on October 4th. David Brown was installed as the Club's new president. We are grateful for everyone involved in Kiwanis and especially for their dedication to children and families in need in the Lombard community.

Christmas in July

Our "Christmas in July" appeal was a little different this year. Usually we put up a tree in the waiting room of our building and decorate it with paper ornaments that our donors send back to us along with their gifts. However, because of the fire on May 26th, we had no place to put up a tree. Nevertheless, we received an outpouring of support from 103 friends and The DuPage Foundation which provided a \$5000.00 dollar-for-dollar match to the funds given. In total, \$17,738 was raised from this appeal.

Thank you so much on behalf of the children, families and individuals who benefit from your kindness and generosity!

Art & Play Therapy

One year ago I wrote an article for this newsletter to let you know about the art and play therapy we are doing with our younger clients. We continue to see these children both in and out of the office using many materials in our work with them. They are making progress in changing behavior patterns that have been detrimental to healthy family relationships. Currently the back of my car is home to most of our play therapy materials and will continue to be home until we are back in our restored building sometime in 2019.



Many of you supported us with donations to help transform and create our play therapy room into a comfortable place for our child clients. Unfortunately the fire destroyed the majority of the beautiful materials that we had been using. Some of them have been replaced, but as we look to rebuild and put together a new room, we will need additional items.

Ways to bless this ministry can be done through cash donations to ECFA Counseling or by gifting some of the following items:

puppet theater
child easel
hand puppets

dress-up clothing
costume jewelry
play dishes

dri-erase board
table and chairs
art supplies

For additional information, contact ECFA by calling 630/653-6400 or emailing Julie@evanfca.org.

Julie Sellers
MA, ALMFT

Pregnancy Support Services (PSS)

Over the years, our PSS clients have enjoyed receiving diapers, wipes, and other baby care necessities as a benefit of being in the program. When the agency had the fire, the PSS program lost everything in its resource closet that workers would normally share with the clients. Despite the challenges, God has been faithful in providing for our clients' needs in the months following the fire.



The outpouring of concern and support shown to the agency and specifically, the PSS clients has been very encouraging. Due to our current storage limitations, the program is only able to accept "frequently asked for items" such as diapers, wipes, and formula. We are also able to accept gift cards! If you desire to support ECFA and the PSS program through donations, please see the below list of needed items.

PSS current needs:

- Diapers sizes 2-4
- Diaper wipes
- Baby lotion and baby wash
- Fragrance- free laundry detergent
- Infant Formula (Similac for Supplementation, Enfamil Gentle Ease or Infant Formulas)
- Gift cards – Target, WalMart, Amazon

Faith Allman, Supervisor PSS
630/653-6400

Memorials - In Loving Memory

Bill Barthel

From: Janice Barthel

Bud Barthel

From: Janice Barthel

Elsie Barthel

From: Janice Barthel

Evelyn Boonstra

From: Charles and Debbie Slager

Bonnie Fisher

From: Betty A. Beenes

Dr. and Mrs. Daryl Caneva

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Collins

Gregory Fisher

Willie Mae Fletcher

From: Pamela Fletcher

Thomas Greene

From: Mrs. Esther Pikel

Donna Rose Reeve Kouros

From: Rose Reeve and family

Irene Highfield Levander

From: John Levander

John Oldenburger

From: Ms. Ruth Decker

Ms. Rita Farrell

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Llewellyn

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Oldenburger

Ms. Eunice Schoenthal

Walter Rahrman

From: Ralph and Jessie Todd

Ryan R. Reeve

From: Rose Reeve and family

Carol Reneau

From: Gary and Carol Knosp

Rev. Herbert and Mrs. Eleanor Gotaas

From: June White

Tributes - In Honor of

Cathy Sarno

From: Jen Wilson

Stephen Zabicki Jr.

From: William Zabicki

ECFA Foundation Inc.

Initiated in 1995, ECFA Foundation Inc. was designed to provide Christ-centered resources for children, individuals, and families. Affiliated with Evangelical Child and Family Agency, the Foundation's ministry is committed to serving as a significant funding source for the Agency. For more information regarding the Foundation, please contact Tim Carrick or Ken Withrow at 630-653-6400.

Is It Time to Make Your Will?

Request our workbook *Preparing a Christian Will*. It will guide you through the process of gathering the information that is needed by your attorney to draft your personal document. There is no charge or obligation. For information on Planned Giving and Estate Planning, see our website: http://www.evanca.org/opportunities/planned_giving.html Contact Rita at 630-653-6400 for your workbook.

ECFA True to Life – Fall 2018 – Fourth Quarter 2018 Vol. 46, No. 4

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