



Published twice a year  
by Our Little Haven

# Our Little News

St. Louis, MO  
ourlittlehaven.org



## Helping Children Reach Their Full Potential

Above, Haven playground

photo by Jasmin Adams

## Program Spotlight: Our Little Academy Therapeutic Preschool

A new video tells the story and captures the pleasing, child-friendly environment at Our Little Academy, our therapeutic day treatment preschool, where children reach their full potential. Our Little Academy serves children ages 3-5.

Children's pre-academic and mental health needs are addressed through structure, routine, and intensive treatment. Early care that is intensive and attuned can make all the difference. Our Little

Academy provides the year-round intensive services preschoolers need to get off to a great start.

The new video shows the playground and interior areas of Our Little Academy. You can view it on YouTube, and other videos about Our Little Haven, by visiting our YouTube "channel" at [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and searching "Our Little Haven". While there, see The Cookie Jar Video, a video greeting from Kathleen and Scott, an overview of Our Little Haven's mission, and a video about Antoine and his journey.

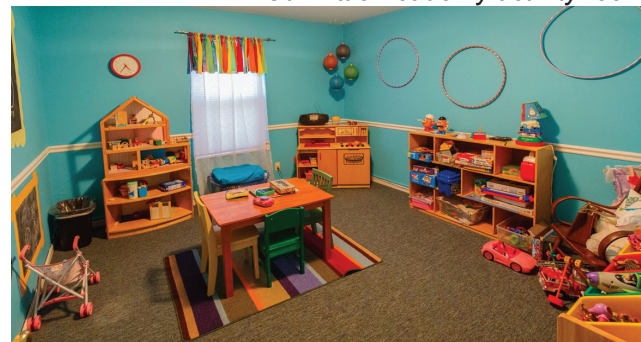
The new video of Our Little Academy was created by Thomas McMahon. We are grateful to donors such as Tom, who give of their time and talents to help us spread the good news about the healing care available through Our Little Haven programs. This gives families who are considering extra care for their preschoolers a resource to view online, which brings them up close and personal. Thank you to all who give so generously!



Our Little Academy classroom

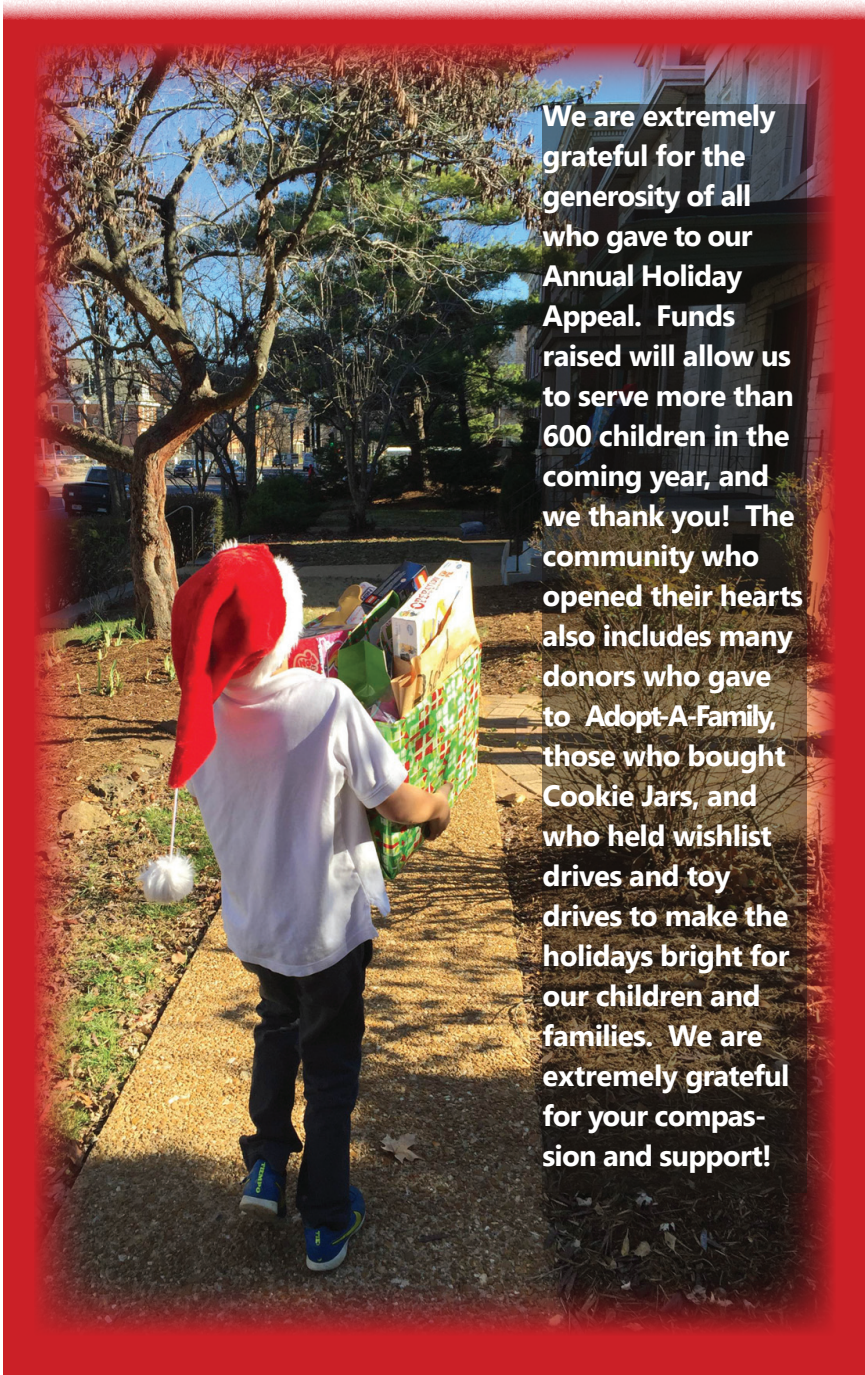


Our Little Academy activity room



Therapy room

## Holiday Community Support Makes The Season Bright



We are extremely grateful for the generosity of all who gave to our Annual Holiday Appeal. Funds raised will allow us to serve more than 600 children in the coming year, and we thank you! The community who opened their hearts also includes many donors who gave to Adopt-A-Family, those who bought Cookie Jars, and who held wishlist drives and toy drives to make the holidays bright for our children and families. We are extremely grateful for your compassion and support!

If you know of a child who would benefit from services provided by Our Little Academy, please contact Susan Villasana, (314) 533-2229 x222

photos by Thomas McMahon

## Annual Dinner Auction April 24th!



Dig into an amazing evening! Please join us on Sunday, April 24, 2016 from 5-9 pm at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel, downtown St. Louis, as our Event Chairs, Margy and Bob Kemp and Dan and Andrea Tarlas welcome you to our Spring Auction Gala in support of special children at Our Little Haven. Again, we celebrate "Cookies For Life: A Full Cookie Jar For Every Child."

This outstanding annual event raises funds so Our Little Haven can continue to serve even more children in the coming year. The fun evening includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, sit down dinner, Silent and Live Auctions, Fund The Need and a welcome by Our Little Haven 'alumni' youth. Enjoy the Wine Pull, where you choose a mystery bottle valued at \$25 to \$250!!

Your ticket includes complimentary valet parking, open bar, photo booth, a theme

activity, and live music by Delicious Fishes. Sponsor tables, tables of 10 and individual tickets are available. The evening celebrates FULL COOKIE JARS for our special children, who come to us with complex needs due to mental or behavioral health concerns, abuse, neglect, trauma or abandonment.

Don't miss this outstanding event! We can't wait to see you there! Invitations will be mailed and will be available for viewing online. **Please save the date and watch for more information online! Go to: [ourlittlehaven.org/events/](https://ourlittlehaven.org/events/).** Contact Chris Munoz for information about sponsorships and tables. [cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org](mailto:cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org) (314) 533-2229 x232.

**Check our website to view exciting featured auction items! [ourlittlehaven.org](https://ourlittlehaven.org)**





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## Our Little Haven Board of Trustees

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**Executive Director: P. Scott Hummel, MSW, PhD(hon)**  
**Therapeutic Director: Kathleen Hummel, MSW, PhD(hon)**  
**Director of Finance: Michael P. Bahlinger, CPA**  
**Director of Clinical Programs: Dr. Lizette Smith, PhD**

## Strategic Plan Report

Our continuous work on our Strategic Plan allows us to continue to get better. For 23 years, Our Little Haven, through the generous support of the community, has been offering a safe, secure and healing environment for children and families impacted by abuse, neglect, mental or behavioral health needs. We know how to make the hurting stop, the healing begin, and the love last. Guided by our belief in a loving God, we're always working to improve our practice of effective child and family early intervention services. So, we ask ourselves: *How can we get better at what we do?*

Through months of facilitated planning, our staff contemplated, *"With early intervention as our constant, how can we make a good thing even better?"*

Together we identified four focus areas:

- Further strengthen program effectiveness
- Improve internal operations and management effectiveness
- Develop organizational capacity and capability
- Enhance community awareness of Our Little Haven's impact.

The conversations, discussions and decisions on these 4 focus areas are facilitated through a Performance Quality Improvement process involving the Strategic Leadership Team which is commissioned by our leadership through the OLH Board of Trustees. The process welcomes all staff to help strengthen the success and identify opportunities where we can get better at what we do. There has been quite a bit of activity – listening, focusing, learning, resolving and creating – all designed to help OLH get better at what we do best - caring for kids and families that need some nurturing, loving care.

The process has included, for example, opportunities to creatively refine, renew and realign what we do and how we do it:

- Re-affirming the Mission Statement
- Establishing an "invitational" approach to service
- Identifying measurable outcomes and responses to results
- Improving cross-program referrals
- Increasing staff capacity to better serve the kids and families

You're invited to see the full Strategic Plan on-line at [www.ourlittlehaven.org](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org)

It's all about getting better at serving kids and families – and boil that down, it's all about inviting the community to help create an organization that is willing to learn about how to get better at filling those precious Cookie Jars.



## Board of Trustees Update



Professor Adrienne Davis

We are proud to announce that Prof. Adrienne Davis has joined Our Little Haven's Board of Trustees.

**Professor Adrienne D. Davis** is Vice Provost and William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law at Washington University in St. Louis. As Vice Provost she focuses on faculty diversity and development, consulting and collaborating with Washington University's seven schools on their goals for diversity and leadership development and also managing a suite of programs from the Office of the Provost. She chairs the University's Diversity Commission, which is charged with designing a university-wide plan for

diversity. She also works closely with other stakeholders at the University, including Public Affairs, Facilities, Student Affairs, Alumni & Development, and Human Resources, on a range of institutional initiatives and programs.

As a legal scholar, Davis is renowned for her scholarship and teaching on gender and race relations; theories of justice and reparations; feminist and critical race theory; and law and popular culture. She has written extensively on the gendered and private law dimensions of American slavery, the legal regulation of intimacy, and how culture and law converge to distribute justice. A Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians, Professor Davis directed the Black Sexual Economies Project at the law school's Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Work and Social Capital from 2009-2013. She also founded and is co-director of the Law, Identity & Culture Initiative. Professor Davis is the past recipient of a Bellagio Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation and two research grants from the Ford Foundation on such topics as black women and labor, and women, slavery, sexuality, and religion. Professor Davis also is actively involved in several civic institutions: she is a member of the Links, Inc., St. Louis Chapter, and serves on the Board of Trustees of Opera Theatre St. Louis, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Our Little Haven, *december* literary magazine, and is currently in her third term as President of the Board of Trustees at the St. Louis Art Museum.



**Leave A Legacy of Hope for generations to come. For more about Our Little Haven's legacy giving, including tax-wise options, call Mike Bahlinger, (314) 533-2229 x225.**



# JOB OPENINGS

## CURRENT OPENINGS FOR PAID POSITIONS

CLINICAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, F/T  
KEYSTONE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
PART-TIME CONTRACTED PSYCHIATRIST,  
KEYSTONE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

see website [www.ourlittlehaven.org/job-listings](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org/job-listings)  
Our Little Haven is an equal opportunity employer.

### VOLUNTEER POSITION

VOLUNTEER PAINTER, ONGOING AS-NEEDED, 4-BLDG CAMPUS

## Haven Club News



Calling all young professionals:  
The Haven Club furthers the mission of Our Little Haven by fostering relationships, raising awareness and providing support to the Our Little Haven Board of Trustees, staff, and community. Through social gatherings, events, and special projects, The Haven Club is proud to support Our Little Haven as they help children and families. If you are interested in finding out more please visit our web page and send in your information. All are welcome to this growing group.

## Trivia Night Success

Thank you to the Haven Club, volunteers, and all who attended the 2016 Trivia Night. The Haven Club hosted over 300 guests who enjoyed an evening of trivia fun. The event was emceed by St. Louis radio and TV celebrity Martin Kilcoyne. Looking forward to Trivia 2017 on January 28, 2017!

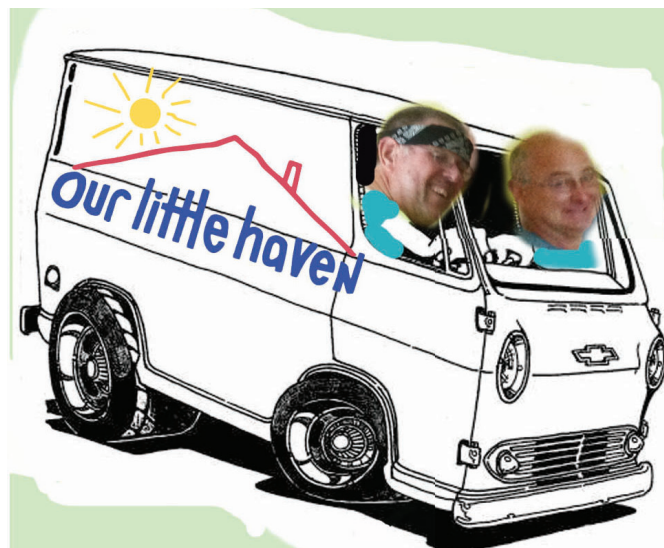
**Young Professionals!** want to have some fun?  
Join The Haven Club, [www.ourlittlehaven.org](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org)

## Springtime Capital Needs



**100+ year old Carriage House is used as a storage outbuilding. Badly in need of major repairs to siding, roof, trim, painted surfaces, doors and windows. Rear 4435 W. Pine**

Our venerable old carriage house is over a hundred years old and located behind the Foster Care Case Management - Taylor Family Care Center. Repairs are needed urgently, due to its age. If you would like to learn more about the needs at the Carriage House, as well as repairs to the exterior of the Children's Services Building and the front porch of the Family Care Center, and how you can help, please contact Mike Bahlinger at (314) 533-2229 x225, [mikebahlinger@ourlittlehaven.org](mailto:mikebahlinger@ourlittlehaven.org)



## Van-Go!

After twenty years of faithful service, the old Haven van ran out of steam. It was past needing TLC, and needed replacement. If you can donate to the new cargo van fund, please contact Mike Bahlinger, phone (314) 533-2229 x225, [mikebahlinger@ourlittlehaven.org](mailto:mikebahlinger@ourlittlehaven.org).

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**"Our Little House"** Fill an Our Little Haven Change House with love...and your loose change! These coin collection boxes are shaped like a house because home is where our unique story begins for every child. Available in large and small. Call (314) 533-2229 x232.

## YOP, NAP Tax Credits ~ A Giving Benefit for You

Any individual, corporation, shareholder/partner in an S Corp, limited liability company or partnership, or a self-employed individual may be eligible for a 50% MO State Tax Credit for any contribution greater than \$1,000. Individual tax credits may be available, please call Mike Bahlinger (314) 533-2229, x225, Or email Mike [mikebahlinger@ourlittlehaven.org](mailto:mikebahlinger@ourlittlehaven.org)

## New Staff



**Tiffany Crumer, Foster Care Case Manager**  
Tiffany graduated with a Master's Degree in Counseling from Lindenwood University. She worked a little over a year as an investigator with the state foster care system. Prior to joining OLH, says Tiffany, she frequently got the message "you are not a foster care case manager, you are only here to investigate!" Tiffany says that since she has come to work at Our Little Haven as a Foster Care Case Manager, "I now enjoy being on the other side: working more in-depth with the families to assist them in any area they feel would benefit them." Tiffany has 4 beautiful children, 3 girls and 1 boy, who keep her extremely busy and they are the love of her life!!!



### Alissa Samuels - PRN Our Little Academy

"I am so glad to be a part of the Our Little Haven team!" says Alissa. "I think my dedication to children began with my mom. My mother was a preschool teacher for over 16 years and I was fortunate enough to work in her classroom sporadically throughout high school and college. I chose to major in social work after volunteering for Heartlinks in Belleville, IL. Co-leading grief support groups, especially for children, was incredibly rewarding and I knew I had found my career path. I completed my practicum at Marygrove in Florissant, MO. This experience was so rewarding and my supervisor encouraged me to spend my career working with children. After earning my MSW, I worked at Castlewood for about a year and a half. I am thrilled to be working with children again! I live in Wildwood with my husband, John. We have two rescue dogs, Sammy and Zoey. We like to hike, spend time with friends, and take trips to Chicago where John and I grew up. I also love floral design. I worked as a florist in high school and college and continue to do small weddings and events for friends and family. Thank you to all who have helped me feel welcome since I started in November. It doesn't take long to recognize what a special place this is and I am thankful to be a part of it!"

## Full Cookie Jars



Every hug, kiss, and high-five, kids get a Cookie in our Cookie Jar. These Cookies nurture us for the rest of our lives. Children come to Our Little Haven with Cookie Jars that aren't full. It's our job, with your help, to fill these Cookie Jars.



## Large Baskets Needed

for auction items for the Dinner Auction. Please drop off at Admin Building, 4316 Lindell. Thank you!

Our Little Haven serves children and families with complex needs due to mental and/or behavioral health concerns, abuse, neglect, trauma or abandonment. We provide professional *early intervention services* to build foundations for their futures. Thank you!



## Upcoming EVENTS



**Sunday, April 24, 2016 - Annual Dinner Auction to Benefit Our Little Haven, 5-9 pm Marriott Saint Louis Grand Hotel**  
800 Washington Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63101. Dig Into An Amazing Evening celebrating care for special children. Cocktails, Hors D'Oeuvres, Dinner, Silent and Live Auctions, Wine Pull, Music by Delicious Fishes, Fund The Need; Complimentary Valet Parking, Cocktail Attire. Tables of Ten and individual tickets available. See <https://www.ourlittlehaven.org/event/dinner-auction-gala/>

**Wednesday, June 8, 2016 (TBD) - Annual Card Party - Chaminade College Prep School.** Call Scott (314) 533-2229 x224.



**September 26 & 27, 2016 - 23rd Annual Our Little Haven Golf Tournaments - Sunset Country Club.**  
Contact Scott to receive a registration/invitation, or for more info about sponsorship opportunities: [scotthummel@ourlittlehaven.org](mailto:scotthummel@ourlittlehaven.org)



**Saturday, November 5, 2016 - Chic Boutiques Fashion Show and Sale to Benefit Our Little Haven, St. Louis Frontenac Hilton Hotel Ballroom, 10 am – 2 pm.** Enjoy boutique shopping, auctions, raffle, lunch and a fashion show. For more

information, contact Chris at (314) 533-2229 x232 or [cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org](mailto:cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org)

## Wish List

Gift cards are extremely helpful. Children enter foster care, often with nothing, and foster parents are scrambling to find clothing that fits. A gift card would help meet this immediate need.

### EVERYDAY ITEMS/GIFT CARDS

- Schnucks, Aldi's/Shop N Save, Dierberg's
- iTunes (for the preschool)
- Target/Walmart/Amazon
- Michael's/Hobby Lobby

### EVERYDAY NEEDS

- Paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex
- Healthy snacks: 100 calorie packs, etc.
- Copy paper, large white paper for painting
- Model magic, stickers, felt, playdoh, tie dye kits, Crayola Washable Kids Paint/Glitter Colors
- Small prizes for clinician's Treasure Boxes
- People playsets; animal playsets
- Matchbox cars, movie character playsets.

### SPECIAL WISHES Call Ann, x227

- Preschool: Playmobil sets, especially construction or community sets
- Fisher-Price Loving Family Dollhouse furniture & people (we have the house)
- Lazy-Boy reclining chair (for therapeutic work to help clients struggling w/anxiety)
- **SEE COMPLETE LIST ONLINE**  
[www.ourlittlehaven.org](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org)



P.O. Box 23010  
St. Louis, Missouri 63156-3010  
[www.ourlittlehaven.org](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org)

## Our Little News

### Spring 2016

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2016 Pot of Gold Sponsor  
Lion's Choice



**POT of GOLD**  
**\$5,000**  
maximum pot

Only 300 chances will be sold!!!  
Drawing April 24, 2016  
(You need not be present to win.)

chances x \$100 = \$  
but I'd like to donate \$

[www.ourlittlehaven.org/events](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org/events) to  
RESERVE YOUR TICKETS and get  
your POT OF GOLD chances! phone  
Scott: (314) 533-2229 x224

PRESENTED BY

and

THE TARLAS FAMILY



**OAKTREE  
PRODUCTS, INC.**

**SUNDAY,  
APRIL 24,  
2016  
5-9 PM  
MARRIOTT  
ST. LOUIS  
GRAND HOTEL**

**BUY  
TICKETS  
AT WWW.  
OURLITTLE-  
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ORG**



**ANNUAL DINNER AUCTION**  
in support of Our Special Children