

OUR LITTLE NEWS

FALL 2020

MISSION
Our Little Haven is committed to providing early intervention services for children and families. We provide professional caregivers, crisis intervention, healing environment, and support for neglect and mental health. We make the difference in the lives of children and families.

GOING ABOVE & BEYOND

HOW OUR CASE MANAGERS
SAVED THE DAY

THE OUR LITTLE HAVEN SHOW
AN EVENING OF GRATITUDE



our little haven
CARING FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES. MIND. BODY. SOUL.®



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BACK COVER

Our Little Haven Chic Boutiques

On the Cover

Nicole, Moriah, and Shamari pose inside Our Little Haven's Taylor Family Care Center waiting room.



KIDS, COOKIES, & COMMUNITY



Our Little Haven believes that when we're born, God gives us a Cookie Jar. With each positive experience – every hug, each high-five, every success – we get a cookie in our Cookie Jar.

At about ten years old (the ending of our formative years) our Cookie Jar gets sealed up. And, what we have in our Jar is what nurtures us for the rest of our lives. Now, most of our Cookie Jars are pretty full. The Haven kids do not have any cookies in their jars and it's our honor to invite the community to fill them.

That's what YOU do - YOU help fill Cookie Jars!

OUR LEADERSHIP

P. Scott Hummel, MSW, PhD (hon), Executive Director

Kathleen Hummel, MSW, PhD (hon), Therapeutic Director

Michael P. Bahlinger, Director of Finance & Operations

Dr. Lizette Smith, PhD, Director of Clinical Programs

Chris Muñoz, MA, CFRE, Development Director



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William Newbold, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

OUR LITTLE HAVEN MISSION

Our Little Haven is relentlessly committed to providing early intervention services for children and families. Our community of professional caregivers create a safe, secure, and healing environment for those impacted by abuse, neglect, and mental or behavioral health needs. We make the hurting stop, the healing begin, and the love last, one family at a time.





THE OUR LITTLE



▲
Ozzie Smith & host
Martin Kilcoyne on set
at *The Our Little Haven
Show*

►
Tonya & her son Thomas
thank Our Little Haven
and their supporters



Everyone from our front line professionals to our administration staff has overcome and adapted to all the obstacles thrown their way due to the ongoing pandemic. After deciding to cancel our Annual Gala in April 2020, we decided to host *The Our Little Haven Show*.

The Show, hosted by Martin Kilcoyne and Special Director Steve Faust, premiered on Sunday, July 19. We welcomed many special guests including Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Adam Betz, Louie the Bear, and Ozzie Smith. Pulling the set together was Theo Peoples with his beautiful music backdrop.

While *The Our Little Haven Show* had plenty of pizzazz, the real star of the evening was three-year-old Thomas Yates. Thomas and his mother Tonya joined *The Show* to thank Our Little Haven and its' supporters for helping bring their family together.

If you missed the July 19 air date, *The Show* can still be viewed on our website at ourlittlehaven.org/theolhshow.

A big special thank you to all who made *The Show* possible, including:

Host Martin Kilcoyne, Director Steve Faust, Musical Host Theo Peoples, First Rule Studios, Captiva Marketing, and all our sponsors.

▼
Theo Peoples and Anthony
Bedford sing "My Girl" on
The Our Little Haven Show



HAVEN SHOW

Dear Friends of Our Little Haven,

It was not an easy process to change our Annual Gala and switch gears to produce a one-hour "talk show". But, it was an easy decision thanks to your outpouring support during such an unprecedented time.

The Our Little Haven Show was just one of many adjustments implemented at Our Little Haven due to COVID-19. From the way we provide our services to children and families, to the way we invite our community to support our efforts, everything had to be adjusted. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, our community, and the children and families receiving our services, we want to commend our incredible team for their dedication to our mission.

2020 has undoubtedly tested our team, but they have found unique and positive ways to continue their quality care for the children and families we serve.



P. Scott Hummel, MSW, PhD
Executive Director



Kathleen Hummel, MSW, PhD
Therapeutic Director



▲ Series Six & Louie the Bear chat with host Martin Kilcoyne about Our Little Haven



◀ The Development & Marketing Team at Our Little Haven after shooting *The Our Little Haven Show*



GOING ABOVE

At Our Little Haven's Taylor Family Care Center at least one of our Foster Care Case Managers is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to serve families. For instance, one Saturday evening in May of 2020, our on-call Case Manager Shamari received an updated phone call from a foster parent. A run-a-way child was wanting to return to her foster home. Normally, we would receive this type of phone call with a sigh of a relief, but our world was figuring out how to endure through a pandemic.

With many unknowns of COVID-19 and her own personal health concerns, the foster parent did not feel comfortable taking the child back into her home. Shamari's next step was to take the child to the hospital for an evaluation. After several hours, the child was released into Our Little Haven's care. Shamari and the child left the hospital at two in the morning.

Behind the scenes, making several phone calls, was Shamari's team member Moriah and Program Manager Nicole. With no luck finding a new foster parent that night, Shamari and the child headed back to Our Little Haven's Taylor Family Care Center.

Shamari, Moriah, Nicole, and the Our Little Haven team are what make us stand out from the rest.



Left to right:
Nicole Pashia, MA Program Manager
Shamari Logan, Foster Care Case Manager
Moriah Tageson, MSW Supervisor Manager

"Moriah and Nicole offered me so much support that night - I can only hope the foster child felt that same support from me."

- Shamari Logan

After making sure the room was comfortable, the child fell asleep while Shamari stood watch. By 8:00 AM that morning Moriah and Nicole had a new foster family ready.

Staying overnight with a foster child and making endless phone calls over the weekend are not on any of Our Little Haven's job descriptions. But, Shamari, Moriah, and Nicole went above and beyond to make sure this child felt safe, welcomed, and cared for in a vulnerable time.

Shamari, Moriah, Nicole, and the Our Little Haven team are what make us stand out from the rest. Our professional caregivers do more than just provide early intervention services to children and their families - and this is just one exemplary example.

AND BEYOND

PROGRAM STORIES

St. Louis Region Foster Care Facts

6

is the average age of a child entering the foster care system in the St. Louis Region

10,193

cases of abuse and neglect were reported in the St. Louis Region

685

new foster care cases in our region in 2019

Missouri Kids Count Data Book 2020.

US Dept of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

Together with our partner agencies, Our Little Haven manages over 580 children in foster care each year. Case managers assist families in the goal of reunification, but if that is not possible, they work to secure a safe, loving, and permanent home for foster children.

Moving children to permanency means that we want to place children in a forever home/family situation as soon as possible. This could involve a return to the biological family, a relative placement, or an adoptive home. Staff work directly with the children and families in the community, with our network of referral/support agencies and the courts to coordinate plans of care that meet the outcome criteria of this contract. As noted earlier, at least one staff member is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to serve families and take emergency referrals.

Become a Foster Parent

Being a Foster Parent is a unique and highly rewarding experience. When a foster family welcomes a child into their home, they are able to care for and cherish a child who is need of their love and compassion.

For more information visit ourlittlehaven.org or call Nicole at (314) 531-3183 x 234.





HOLIDAYS AT THE HAVEN

Holiday preparations start early at Our Little Haven. With over 500 children and families receiving services, we have a lot of boxes to check off before celebrating the season.

Does Joey have a coat, hat, & gloves? CHECK! Will Tanya have presents under the tree? CHECK! But we still have a lot more boxes to check off and we cannot do it without your help.



HOW YOU CAN HELP!

HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Visit ourlittlehaven.org/wishlist or contact Chris Muñoz at cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org or 314-669-9386.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Let us match you with a family at Our Little Haven! Office Manager Teresa will give you the family's wish list, making sure every child will find presents under their tree on Christmas morning. Contact Teresa Green at: (314) 531-3183x229 tgreen@ourlittlehaven.org

CHRISTMAS COOKIE JAR

Get your Our Little Haven cookie jar. In each jar are individually wrapped holiday Colleen's Cookies. On the back of each cookie is a special request for a child helped by Our Little Haven. Jars and cookies can be delivered to your office, group meeting, or conference and we are happy to share the cookie jar story of Our Little Haven with your group. Specific wish list price levels can be requested. Contact Chris Muñoz at cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org or 314-669-9386.

HONOR OR REMEMBER A LOVED ONE

Make a special gift to honor or remember a special person in your life. We will send a special card to that person or family recognizing the generosity you shared on their behalf. The card can feature a personal message from you. To learn more, or order your card, please visit our donate page or call Annette Kissel at (314) 533-2229x226 or akissel@ourlittlehaven.org.



A LEGACY GIFT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Robert and Ruth recently visited Our Little Haven to share some great news. On a Friday morning this Summer they were welcomed to Our Little Haven by Executive Director, Scott Hummel. Scott shared updates and future plans for Our Little Haven including how our team continues to respond to the pandemic and the sustainability of Our Little Haven.

Robert and Ruth recently met with their financial advisor and with her help, designated Our Little Haven as a beneficiary of their will. Their family has been

long time supporters of Our Little Haven. Robert and Ruth wanted to be sure their legacy impacted the lives of many children and their families well into the future.

You can join Robert and Ruth and make a significant impact in the lives of hundreds of children and their families by designating Our Little Haven as a beneficiary of your estate. Each gift is designated for the established Courage Fund, investments that ensure services provided by Our Little Haven are available for those who need them most.

Legacy Giving at Our Little Haven can take many forms:

Designating Our Little Haven as a beneficiary of your **will** or **trust**.

Giving to Our Little Haven through your **IRA Required Monthly Distributions**.

Setting up a **Charitable Remainder Trust** or **Annuity** providing you with income while directly supporting the mission of Our Little Haven.

If you are interested in discussing ways your Legacy can make a big difference or to share that your family has designated Our Little Haven as a beneficiary of your estate; feel free to contact Chris Muñoz at (314) 669-9386 or cmunoz@ourlittlehaven.org





A MARATHON FOR THE HAVEN

Summer camps were canceled. Vacation plans were changed. Families were sticking to hanging out with their closest family and friends.

With not much to do, Maddie Copeland and Natalie Druger decided to take advantage of all the newfound time on their hands. So, this last May, these rising Sophomores planned their own marathon.

Family and friends pledged to make a donation to the girls favorite nonprofit, Our Little Haven, for every mile they walked. So with this extra motivation, Maddie and Natalie walked from Crestwood, around Kirkwood, and back.

After several hours, some lunch, and lots of laughs, Maddie and Natalie completed all 26.2 miles. Thank you ladies for supporting the children and families of Our Little Haven in such a creative manner!



THE HAVEN CLUB YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The Haven Club furthers our mission by fostering relationships, raising awareness, and providing support to our Board of Trustees, staff, and community.

The Haven Club is a group of Young Professionals supporting Our Little Haven. The group is lead by two directors and a staff advisor. During a typical year, members are invited to participate in social gatherings and events that raise support and awareness for Our Little Haven. Our Young Professionals have done a fantastic job raising \$20,000 annually for the last 5 years.

In addition to the social functions and events, our Young Professionals plan and execute at least one major service project as a group. Over the last few years the Haven Club has revamped a family welcome room, updated the kitchen for our foster care team, and painted the entire first floor in the Administration Building.

If you are interested in learning more about The Haven Club, please visit ourlittlehaven.org.





Thank you, Lydia, for making masks for the parents whose children are receiving our services! ➤



◀ Thank you Jess Kramper and Arrow Box for helping us with Chic Boutiques.

▲ Grace shared her beautiful talents with the kids at Our Little Haven by creating pediatric masks. Thank you, Grace!

**KIDS.
FAMILIES.
COMMUNITY.**



▲ Another successful icon Mechanical Clay Day hosted by Trustee Steve Faust and Melissa Bednarz! Pictured are all the volunteers who came to help out. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported The John R. Seiler Scholarship at our Annual Golf Tournament and online. ◀





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to receive the latest news.



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www.ourlittlehaven.org ~ hschmidt@ourlittlehaven.org

OUR LITTLE HAVEN'S CHIC BOUTIQUE

Our Chic Boutique event is going virtual! Over the course of the first two weekends in November, several boutiques will be donating 20% or more back to Our Little Haven. We encourage you to support these wonderful boutiques and, in turn, support the children and families at Our Little Haven.

FRIDAY, NOV 6 - SUNDAY, NOV 8

Embroider The Occasion

Eye Candy

Kendra Scott

Noboleis Winery

Tru Candle Studio

FRIDAY, NOV 13 - SUNDAY, NOV 15

Collections by Joya

Lass & Laddie

Lularoe

Series Six



Please visit ourlittlehaven.org/chicboutiques or contact
Heather Schmidt at hschmidt@ourlittlehaven.org for more
information about our Chic Boutiques Virtual Event.

