Cones for **Kids**!

Whitey’s sweet fundraiser helps Bethany beat the heat!

Thank you to Whitey’s Ice Cream for sponsoring **Cones for Kids Day** on Monday, June 22. Half of all cone and dip sales on that day were donated to the programs and services of Bethany for Children & Families. Ice cream lovers in the Quad Cities enjoyed a delicious treat for a great cause!
U.S. Bank of Davenport, Iowa awarded $25,000 to five local charities, including $5,000 for Bethany! The gift was the result of a competition among regional U.S. Bank branches to log the highest number of volunteer hours.

The Blue Thong Society donated household items for the Independent Living Opportunities program, which helps youth who are aging out of Foster Care.

QC Next Up donated $500 from their trivia night fundraiser to benefit the Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth program.

St. Ambrose University donated gently used stoves and refrigerators to the Family Furniture Assistance Program.
Awards and **Excellence**

**MOTIVATION**

**EXCELLENCE**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

**INTEGRITY**

**TEAMWORK**

The monthly MERIT award recognizes an employee for distinguished service to the agency. MERIT awardees are nominated by their peers or members of the community and are recognized for their outstanding commitment to children and families served by Bethany.

**John Huber** is a Program Coordinator in the Iowa Family Services Division. The nomination stated, “John brought the idea of Bethany participating in the KWQC Women’s Health and Lifestyle Fair to his supervisor in late 2014. He knew it would be a great way to showcase our various programs to a large audience! John ensured all programs were represented, organized all of the items needed for a great presentation, and put together a tropical theme for the booth that included palm trees, flower leis, beach balls, and candy. The booth looked amazing and caught the eye of everyone passing by. He did an excellent job representing Bethany and his hard work resulted in several referrals for multiple programs.”

**Joy Bakeris** is the Accounting Clerk at Bethany. The nomination stated, “Joy’s responsibilities for the agency are wide-ranging and complex. Despite her busy schedule and constant demands for her assistance, Joy maintains a professional and positive attitude. She is quick to offer friendly advice, shares best-practices for making agency billing work more efficient, and does a wonderful job of making sure that the needs of staff members and clients are met in an expedient manner.”
The staff members and Board of Directors of Bethany for Children & Families would like to welcome Brett Van to his new position as Chair of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Van is the Treasurer and Investment Manager at Modern Woodmen of America. He has served on the agency’s volunteer Board of Directors since 2008. His roles on the Board have included Vice Chair, Chair of the Evaluation and Strategic Planning Committee, and member of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Van is completing the term of departing Board Chair Ron Edwards, who recently accepted a new position in Des Moines, Iowa, as Associate Chief Counsel at John Deere Financial. Mr. Edwards said, “It has been the utmost pleasure to serve on the Bethany for Children & Families Board of Directors. I would like to thank the entire Bethany staff who are, quite frankly, second to none.”

Upon accepting his new role as Chair, Mr. Van said, “I am excited for the opportunity to fill the position of Board Chair. Today’s climate is a challenging environment for all non-profits, but Bethany is in a position of strength. Because of this position, there will be some exciting opportunities to keep children safe, strengthen families, and build a healthy community in the future.”
Recent Grants

The Amy Helpenstell Foundation Fund gave $20,000 for the Housing for Chronically Homeless Families program. The grant is awarded in a two-year cycle.

The Grant W. Brissman and Virginia M. Brissman Foundation gave $2,500 for children served in Milan, Illinois, by the Give Kids a Smile mobile dental program.

Community Foundation of the Great River Bend awarded a Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant of $15,000 for laptop and technology upgrades for mobile case management. The grant is awarded in a three-year cycle.

Junior Board of Rock Island gave $1,500 for the Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth program.

Downtown Moline Blood Drive

Will you give?

Make Bethany your home for regular blood donations! Bethany partners with the Mississippi Valley Blood Center, Moline Community Development Corporation, the Dispatch/Argus, Moline Centre, and the City of Moline to host blood drives at the agency’s downtown Moline location.

Blood Drive

Tuesday, August 18
Noon—3:00 p.m.
Bethany for Children & Families
1830 6th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265

Appointments are appreciated, but not required. For further information, contact Joscelyn Stone at jstone@bethany-qc.org or visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org.

Save the dates!

2015 Downtown Moline Blood Drive Dates:
October 20, December 16
What About the Boys?

On April 10, Bethany for Children & Families presented a free conference for high school boys at the Western Illinois University Quad Cities Riverfront Campus. Students enjoyed engaging speakers, participated in exciting programs, took a guided tour of the campus, and were provided with college financial aid information.

The keynote address was presented by Sam Killermann, noted social justice advocate and comedian. Sam spoke to students about snap judgments, identity, and oppression in a funny and disarming way that helped to kick off the conference on a light-hearted yet meaningful note.

What About the Boys? is organized by the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Advisory Committee, a partnership of educators and community stakeholders.

Thank you to our event sponsors!

Potter Family Foundation

Personal Responsibility Education Program
Guys in Ties entertained the crowd during lunch! Audience participation had all the boys laughing!

Everyone loved their goodie bags, but the cool hats from John Deere stole the show!

Educator Stuart Scott (above) and Deere employee Neil Dahlstrom (right) talked to teens in two of six breakout sessions that focused upon making good choices, planning for the future, social responsibility, and other topics for young men today.
Celebrating 30 Years of Service

This summer, Bethany for Children & Families is celebrating the 30 year anniversaries of two staff members!

Julie Caven, Division Director of Illinois Child Welfare Services, has been a cornerstone of the agency’s child welfare programs for three decades. Julie started at Bethany in 1978 as a residential worker. Julie laughs as she recounts a story that she told the lead worker at the time that she wanted to work at Bethany for a couple of years, but she didn’t want to “make a life” of the work! After a brief break from the agency, she returned to oversee multiple programs, including Intact Family Services, Illinois Counseling & Therapy, Foster Care, Direct Family Interventions, and many more. Julie is a dynamic advocate for children and has invested countless hours in ensuring their safety and protecting their well-being. Julie retired from Bethany on May 29th.

Mary Ann McLeod, Division Director of Community Services, oversees Prevention Education Services, the Give Kids a Smile mobile dental program, the agency’s homeless programs, and the Therapeutic Recreation Program. A lifelong educator, Mary Ann first joined Bethany in the Parents Too Soon program, dedicated to teen parents. Mary Ann says she has “truly found her passion in life in providing young people with much-needed information on sexuality and responsible decision-making.” Mary Ann still teaches Prevention courses in schools, providing information to high-school and junior-high aged youth and their parents to help them make informed decisions for bright futures. She adds, “I appreciate the love and support of my family throughout those years and the privilege to work with dedicated staff.”

Join us in congratulating Julie and Mary Ann on 30 years of service to Bethany and to the Quad Cities community!

Give a gift of $30 in honor of Julie and Mary Ann—30 years of keeping children safe, strengthening families, and building healthy communities!
A team of volunteers from *Alcoa Davenport Works* built new porches at the agency’s donated duplex in East Moline! Once renovations are complete, the duplex will be sold as a fundraiser for Bethany.

Volunteers from *Crossways Confirmation Camp* filled over 1,500 goodie bags with toothpaste, toothbrushes, and dental floss for the Give Kids a Smile mobile dental program!
Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 2015 Wild 5! Special thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, and participants!
Thank you to Mel Foster Company for choosing Bethany for Children & Families as a Charity Partner for the 2015 Mel Foster Company Color the Quads 5K Run!

Proceeds from the race will be donated to Bethany, Gigi’s Playhouse, and Hand-in-Hand. We were honored to be chosen as a Charity Partner, and we had a blast at the race!
Now accepting nominations

The 2015 Family Awards Celebration!

November 5
Modern Woodmen Park

Please consider entering a nomination for the following categories:

**Ruth Evelyn Katz Adoptive Family of the Year Award**
This award honors an adoptive family that shows a strong commitment to strengthening and encouraging an adopted child’s growth. This award honors any adoptive family structure.

**Foster Family of the Year**
This award honors a family that creates a safe home for children who have been displaced. The foster family exhibits extraordinary courage, patience, and care while working with foster children.

**Leadership Family of the Year**
This award honors a family that exhibits a strong commitment to raising their children, while also making the community more child- and family-friendly.

**Community-Focused Business or Employer of the Year**
This award honors a Quad City business or employer that values employees, their families, and demonstrates compassion to the community.

**Youth Volunteer of the Year**
This award honors a person under age 18 who has helped strengthen the community by demonstrating outstanding leadership skills and volunteer actions.

**Community Service Group of the Year**
This award honors a philanthropic group that gives to the community by helping nonprofit organizations through volunteering and donations.

Submit nominations online at [bethany-qc.org/events.html](http://bethany-qc.org/events.html)

(309) 797-7700 or (563) 324-9169
[www.bethany-qc.org](http://www.bethany-qc.org)

This mailing was prepared by students in the Blackhawk Area Education Center Vocational Education class. For more information, visit [www.bhased.org](http://www.bhased.org).