

YOUR LEGACY

News from the Legacy Giving Office at
Child Saving Institute

The place where “childs” go

It's always intriguing to learn how supporters developed their bonds to Child Saving Institute. Some of you have an adoptive connection; others of you have a long history through your church or service organization. Then there are those of you who come to us out of the blue—because of curiosity, perhaps—as was the case when agency volunteer Angie Drew drove by one day with her then three-year-old daughter. Passing by, little Georgia exclaimed, “Mama, that looks like a place where childs go!”

Angie and Tom Drew and their two children, Georgia and Jake, had just moved to Omaha from Kansas City six years ago when they discovered Child Saving Institute. After Georgia made the comment, Angie and Georgia looked up the agency on the computer and Angie was impressed with the many services the agency provides for abused and neglected kids in our community.

When the Drews moved to Omaha, they had made a conscious effort to simplify their lives by selling cars, furniture and “stuff” and embracing a simpler, pared down lifestyle. This included encouraging the children to keep only one or two of the many gifts received from friends and family on birthdays and holidays and donating the rest to charity.

As Georgia neared her fifth birthday, she was still talking about how CSI helps kids. That year, Angie suggested to Georgia that she make her birthday party a fundraiser for the children served—especially the babies. “It was really fun, and the parents were genuinely appreciative,” Angie recalls. “They know how much stuff their own kids have, and they embraced the idea of helping others.”

This past February, for the fifth year in a row, the Drew family delivered a vehicle full of diapers, strollers, sleepers and more for use in CSI's Baby Boutique—the bounty from Georgia's



party for her 9th birthday. But the Drews' generosity doesn't stop there. Angie, who is Director of Corporate Communications, Public Relations and Brand at Oriental Trading Co. (OTC), joined the CSI Guild three years ago. Two years ago she was approached to serve on the Guild Board. She dove in head first, volunteering to co-chair the Guild's popular PurseOnalities event, a fundraiser for CSI's scholarship program benefitting past clients. Angie is returning to the event in her leadership role again this year, but that's only part of the story. With her unique position at OTC, she has donated hundreds of costumes for CSI foster

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Significant Gifts: Limited Resources



Individuals with great philanthropic intent often run into a “gap” between their desire to make transformational gifts to their favorite nonprofits (e.g. Child Saving Institute) and their need for financial security. These concerns come from a number of places including limited asset base, cash flow requirements, and uncertainty in retirement to name a few. Under the right set of financial circumstances, both goals are achievable through planned gifts, specifically, charitable gift annuities, retained life estates, and bequests.

A charitable gift annuity is an irrevocable contract where a nonprofit agrees to pay a fixed amount to a donor(s) during life in return for the remainder of the gift annuity at maturity. In the current interest rate environment, charitable gift annuities can be a solution to both increasing cash flow, while bridging this philanthropic gap. For rate or other information you can talk to your financial advisor, meet with a planned giving representative, or visit the American Council on Gift Annuities site at www.acga-web.org.

A retained life estate is an irrevocable gift of a remainder interest in a residence, vacation home, or a farm to a nonprofit where donors retain the right to the use and enjoyment of the property for life or a term. By gifting this non-liquid asset not only do donors realize a current year charitable deduction, but also they have made a substantial gift to a nonprofit that would otherwise not have been possible.

Finally, designating a nonprofit in your Last Will and Testament with either a specific, general, or residual bequest are wonderful methods to leave a legacy, leverage resources not available during life, and ensure the nonprofit’s mission continues. In general terms, specific bequests are identifiable such as, “I leave 100 shares of XYZ stock to my nonprofit.” General bequests specify a sum, but do not identify the origin: “I leave \$10,000 to my nonprofit.” Residual bequests are the leftovers: “All my remaining property should be split in equal shares between my daughter and my nonprofit.”

Donors have many options for giving and can transform nonprofits and the communities they serve by including planned gifts as part of their philanthropic plan. Please consult your individual financial, tax, and legal advisors to know which of these gifts or others would be right in your circumstances.

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The place where “childs” go, cont. from page 1

children and their families, as well as Easter treats, arts and craft supplies for the childcare and crisis shelter, and all of the beautiful decorations for both PurseOnalities and CSI’s Cabaret fundraiser. She and Georgia also comb the stores year-around in search of ethnic baby dolls for CSI’s annual Substitute Santa holiday program.

Child Saving Institute is not the only beneficiary of the

Drew family’s kindness: Angie and Jake, 15, volunteer on a regular basis at a local homeless shelter.

“It’s just painful to me to know how much horrific need there is in Omaha alone,” Angie observes. “Tom and I felt it was very important to establish compassion in our children early on. It’s too easy to live in a manicured neighborhood and be oblivious to the suffering of others. We want Georgia and Jake to know there’s a bigger world out there and they can make a difference.” ❤️

Look what you did now



Whether it's your co-workers, children or grandkids, you know how critical consistent, quality childcare is to a family's success. That's why your continued support of Child Saving Institute's KidSquad program is so appreciated. KidSquad provides support as well as the tools for families and childcare teachers who are working with little kids ages five and under with challenging behaviors.

When CSI mental health consultant Katie Ladd met three-year-old "Caleb" in November 2010, he had been referred to KidSquad because he refused to follow directions, exhibited aggressive behavior toward his friends and teachers, threw tantrums, and struggled with transitions, like moving smoothly from lunch time to nap time, etc. Katie could see Caleb was very intelligent, but he lacked social skills and couldn't handle ordinary frustrations. Caleb's parents also experienced his frequent melt-downs at home and were very willing to partner with the school and teachers to insure his success in school and life.

With their cooperation, Katie went into the family's home and helped them determine when Caleb exhibited the most challenging behaviors and how they were addressing them. Katie prepared a poster for the family to put up in their home in order to help remind Caleb—and his older brother, 4 ½—of the family's expectations for good behavior. The poster included pictures representing messages like: "gentle touches are safe touches" or "we have walking feet" (meaning we don't jump on the furniture or kick our brother).

Katie also prepared a schedule with pictures representing Caleb's daily routine. Katie explained the schedule also served as a "neutralizer" for the adults, allowing them to say, "I know you don't want to take a bath right now, but that's what the schedule says, and after bath we'll get to read a special story" or other fun incentive.

With a system in place at home, Katie turned her focus to the classroom, helping Caleb to establish relationships with his teacher and classmates. She suggested bonding activities and encouraged the teacher to provide positive reinforcement, praise and coaching.

Over the next few months, Caleb transitioned into a calmer, much happier kid. He began to embrace the routine, participate in transitions, follow directions, express emotions appropriately and have fewer tantrums—at school and home. Best of all, Caleb entered Kindergarten last fall fully ready and able to learn and succeed.

"The KidSquad program is all about the power of relationships, starting with the young child and working all the way up to my relationship with the

parents and the teacher and all of us working together," Katie explains. "It's all about the ability to create change through relationships."

Like your relationship with Child Saving Institute and kids in need. Thank you.

All About KidSquad

KidSquad is made up of four agencies with two KidSquad educational consultants and 17 child mental health consultants who work directly with participating childcare providers. The consultants observe and work together with the child, teachers and parents to teach appropriate social skills and relationships and decrease challenging behaviors in order to reduce the risk of expulsion. KidSquad also focuses on supporting teachers by offering tools for more stimulating and rewarding child-friendly environments. Best of all, with your help and the support of others like you, this program is FREE to eligible child care homes and centers in Douglas and Sarpy Counties that serve Title XX families.

The Legacy Society

Anonymous • Anonymous • Margaret J. & Sam W. Brown • Kathryn & Russ Cranston Paul E. & Ruth Warden Few • Wanda & Mike Gottschalk • Robert W. & Wilma E. Hauptman Morgan & Walter Hecht • Barbara E. Johnson • Edward "Ned" Kirklin Rebecca Z. & Michael W. McNeil • Kenneth W. Moore • Lea Morrison Cheryl Smith • Loretta Thompson • Donna Tubach-Davis & Stephen A. Davis



If you would like to become part of the Legacy Society and have made a planned gift to CSI, or if you would like to know more about how you can make a planned gift, contact Becky McNeil, Legacy Giving Director, at 402.504.3663 or bmclineil@childsaving.org.

You carry them to safety



She was two months old, but looked like a newborn. Light as a feather, she wriggled a little before snuggling into the crook of my arm.

After worship, her daddy brought her from the church nursery so I could hold her. He had taken her there as I was preaching, passing almost directly under the pulpit. Even as I worked to keep my place in my sermon, I saw how tiny she was. I was a guest preacher that day. I spoke about Child Saving Institute, and about vulnerable children, and I asked everyone there to do something new for children that they have never done before.

Holding the baby girl after the service, I jokingly asked if I could take her home with me for a while. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw her mothers' worried look. Had I known their story, I would not have laughed about taking this little one home. The story tumbled out. Mama is 19. Daddy is 25. They met when she was living on the streets of Vegas. He took her in. She became pregnant. He lost his job. They moved to Nebraska to be closer to her family, but the family wanted nothing to do with them. The baby was born early and tiny. He had a job at McDonald's. The baby got sick and

was in the hospital—twice. Now 8 weeks old, the baby weighs less than 8 lbs. He lost his job. They are about to be evicted. This church was in their neighborhood. They asked me, "Will you offer a prayer of blessing for our baby?"

Choking back tears, I prayed. Aloud I spoke tender words of

hope and compassion for mother, father and child. My silent prayers were for help. I was not in Omaha. Our Child Saving Institute services were not available to this little family in need.

My prayer ended and from the choir loft behind me, a woman tapped my shoulder. She was a leader in the church and in the community, and she knew how to connect this family with services there. I gave the beautiful, sleeping child back to her mama.

I have been carrying her with me in my thoughts and in my heart ever since.

You, dear donors, carry Omaha's vulnerable little ones to safety every day through your gifts to Child Saving Institute. All around us—at the grocery store, in the classrooms, down the street, maybe even sharing our pew—there are children who need the help we provide. Because you believe childhood matters, Child Saving Institute has been here, is here and will be here for years to come. Thank you. **Thank YOU.**

Becky Zahller McNeil, Legacy Giving Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Becky".

