

THANKS TO YOU!

Over 200 kids have a holiday season to remember

As the last few snowflakes of the winter season fall, we want to give a special thank you to all of our Christmas season partners. You helped create so many magical moments for kids in all of our programs. Every specific wish you fulfilled surely made a child feel special.

Thank you to each person and partner who shopped, collected, and delivered to our office. Thank you to all who donated monetarily so that we could resume our foster family and independent living parties.

You helped create a joyful season in Southwest Ohio for those who needed a little extra Christmas cheer. This type of extra special magic is only possible with your donations. Thank you to all first time and returning partners of the 2022 season!



- 71 winter coat matches
- 60 Adopt a Teen matches
- 17 Adopt a Family matches
- 40 giftcards provide Thanksgiving & Christmas Meals
- 1000+ gifts for specific wishes and to help over 25 foster families "shop" in our Santa Room
- 2 AMAZING in person parties

Thank you for creating these special memories

THE STATS

July 2022 - December 2022



Thank you to the Software Solutions team for partnering with CHOICES and Big Smiles Dayton to help our kids. Additionally, they sponsored a special raffle for our mission at their Annual Conference in October.

You are a key in creating success

CHOICES Foster Alumni Panel

Former Independent Living youth share their experience with peers



CHOICES was chosen by students of Oakwood High School's Philanthropy 101 class to share more about the issue of youth aging out of foster care. This was a two-part presentation. Robert, our independent living manager presented in class to the students. Followed by a small group site visit to our office. It was during this time we had three independent living alumni share about their experience with CHOICES. Each talked about the support they received while in the program and about the fun events too! Camp Kern was definitely at the top of the list. Two of our alumni are also scholarship recipients. All three shared they are never felt alone. The students really enjoyed the interaction, and had the top presentation for the class resulting in a donation to the independent living program.

MEMORIES AND MILESTONES YOU HELPED CREATE



We celebrated the adoption of 7 kiddos July to December. Your donations provide celebration gift cards to forever families



Thank you for helping our transitional age youth during the holiday season. In total 60 wish lists were sponsored by you!



Your donations helped us host our first Trunk or Treat night followed by pizza for our foster families.

Your support made these stories possible thank you!

Foster Parents of the Year 2022

Alan & Mandy Whiteside

In their over 15 years of fostering and seemingly hundreds of placements, the word "foster" never really seemed to stick. Through the highs and lows, the good and bad, the shaky and stable, the crisis and celebrations - they are there...and always ready and willing to be front and center for it all. If you've been to any of the CHOICES events, it's no doubt you've seen their family roll up in their big huge van filled with smiling kiddos and lots of energy. The Whiteside's are faithful to attend all CHOICES activities, to jump in and lend a hand to other parents, especially those in need, to show up for sporting events with their kids, to encourage youth to participate in new activities, and to go the extra mile. The Whiteside's have adopted, officially and unofficially, several children and work hard to remain committed, wholeheartedly, to ensure that they'll never have to face another hard day alone.





Our favorite CHOICES activity is to attend ball games. We love getting the kids concession food and dancing between innings

Whiteside Family Fun Facts

- Years Fostering: 18
- Number of Youth Fostered: 80 +
- Favorite Family Activity: Travel mountains or beach
- Favorite CHOICES Sponsored Activity: Ball games
- One thing you tell others about Fostering: You don't have to be perfect to do it. You just have to want to connect with and care for a young person.



I like that my caseworker makes me do activities and helps me with my lifebook. I like that she helps me change my behavior. I like when she says the best apology is a changed behavior. I like how she brings me a bookbag.



March Madness for Foster Futures! Join us in supporting the Quatez B. Scott Scholarship Fund with a donation during March Madness. One time or recurring gifts help CHOICES youth who go on to achieve a post-secondary education or trade school! This fund has helped 13 youth work towards their degree or certification - many multiple years.

Save the Date!! Join us on July 27 for our 3rd Annual CHOICES Summer Classic Golf Outing. Sponsorships and team registrations help support our mission and programs in a big way! Mark you calendar to join us for a day of fun, prizes and door prizes. Contact Ashley at apester@choicesohio.org if you want to be notified when registration is open.



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DONATE ONLINE

Donate easily by filling out the form below or online at choicesohio.org and click "DONATE".

Questions? Contact Ashley Pester at apester@choicesohio.org or (937) 264-0084 ext. 122.

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