



# THE CHILDREN'S HOME

EDUCATION & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



**BEST POINT**  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
BY THE CHILDREN'S HOME



**COSTARS**  
BY THE CHILDREN'S HOME



**HEIDT**  
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
BY THE CHILDREN'S HOME



**Got-Special**  
**KIDS**  
BY THE CHILDREN'S HOME

## STRENGTH & RESILIENCE

July 2020

### Our Services

The Children's Home offers a wide array of services to meet the various needs of children and families in our community.

**Behavioral Health Counseling**

**Medical Management Services**

**Day Treatment**

**Case Management**

**Substance Abuse Treatment for Adolescents**

**Counseling for Caregivers**

**The Children's Home K-12 School**

**Autism Services at the Heidt Center of Excellence**

**Job Readiness**

**Early Childhood Home Visiting & Kindergarten Readiness**

**Preschool**

**Educational Evaluations**

**Professional Training**

For more information call 513-272-2800 and ask for our centralized intake center or you may also visit our website at [tchcincy.org](http://tchcincy.org).

Dear partner educators,

I am writing to you during a period of great uncertainty. The global pandemic has impacted almost every facet of life including how we educate and support our children. Additionally, our country is dealing with the ramifications of injustice and racial inequity.

The upcoming school year will look different, but through it all, just as in the past 156 years, The Children's Home is still here. We're still serving and we're here to help.

**In this newsletter, you'll find some real-time updates and news on how we're continuing to serve our community, children, and the families who rely on us.**

Each school who partners with us, along with our generous friends who support our efforts, our hard-working staff, and the clients we are privileged to serve each day remain an integral part of the work we do. I am so proud to work beside each of our partner schools as we all exist for one purpose – to secure a brighter future for our kids.

The Children's Home has taken extraordinary measures to ensure the safety and well-being of the children we care for, our staff, and the families we serve as we navigate these unprecedented times.

We aren't going anywhere, and we'll get through this together. Thank you for working on behalf of the students who rely on you. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Sincerely,

John Banchy, MBA  
President & CEO

# A PRIVILEGE TO SERVE



## Mental Health Heroes

During the initial onset of COVID-19, our extraordinary mental health providers found ways to ensure we could still deliver service to children and families who rely on us. Before the guidance was officially issued by the state, our specialists had a working telehealth model in place ready for implementation.

Home offices were set up and these amazing men and women ensured no child was left without service during what was, for many, a very scary time. During Mental Health Awareness Month in May, we placed “A Mental Health Hero Lives here” placard in each provider’s yard to let their neighbors know about their remarkable work in the community.

## New Medical Director

Following a two-year search, this past fall Dr. Joe Rieman (pictured on left) became the new Medical Director of The Children’s Home in partnership with St. Joseph Orphanage. Dr. Joe oversees the agency’s medical practice including the important work of ensuring integrated healthcare. He has also been an indispensable resource to The Children’s Home throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to enjoy the expertise of our associate Medical Director, Dr. Phil Lichtenstein – affectionately known as Dr. Phil – (pictured on right).



## Celebrating the Success of Our Young People

This year we held our first-ever “drive-thru graduation” for students in our Upper School and at the Heidt Center of Excellence. As the state slowly began its phased reopening, we assembled a task force to explore whether it was even possible to do something special and more personal for our 16 graduating students. The team came up with a creative drive-thru graduation concept. Our park-like campus and circle drive allowed the graduates to travel seamlessly and safely in their car with their family and get the recognition they deserved.

John Banchy & Amanda Tipkemper present diploma to a graduate of the Heidt Center of Excellence.

## Back To School

Our education staff is looking forward to the 2020-2021 school year! Heidt Center of Excellence, Upper School, and Lower School are eagerly anticipating welcoming our students on August 20th. Additionally, day treatment services will continue, with full day students receiving academic instruction also beginning on August 20th. We are implementing CDC guidelines to provide a safe environment for students and staff. We have a school nurse as well as the Levine Family Health Center on site to address student needs.

Our therapists, counselors, and care coordinators are also looking forward to heading back to their community campuses at the start of the school year. Having a presence in our partner schools places our specialists right where they are needed most – with kids who need our services – and we’re able to do it in a school setting where students are comfortable.



# SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

## Parent & Caregiver Support

A child's behavioral health challenges impact the entire family. Parents and caregivers often may feel they lack the resources, skills, and support needed to cope. This year, The Children's Home implemented two different strategies that directly address some of the issues parents and families are facing. As part of the Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) program, a series of parent support groups are offered that bring parents together to discuss topics important to them, including how to maintain self-care while caregiving 24/7, activities to engage young children and keep them occupied throughout the day, creating good sleep habits, and how to support children of different ages and developmental stages. While our Care Coordination program has always provided support to the whole family, new this year is a parent/caregiver curriculum that provides specific, effective tools to support children's social and emotional learning at home. The curriculum is based on the Teaching Family Model and each



session contains education, an activity, and reflection that is centered on topics such as effective communication, preventive teaching, and correcting behavior.

As we expand our support of parents across programs we have also added a new provider to our Counseling for Caregivers program. This way, parents/caregivers who need targeted mental health and psychiatric services can get it alongside the services of their child(ren). Being able to support more families holistically through health, mental health, and treatment services streamlines their care and support and eases the burden families often experience in trying to find providers, juggle work schedules, arrange transportation, and other logistics.



## Prevention Services Coming to Your School

This year, the state allocated \$18-million for prevention services for students in grades K-12. The Children's Home added prevention to our array of services through our certification with Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) to be able to support our community. Best Point plans to provide parent support groups, social/emotional skill groups for children, violence prevention programming, and trauma informed care training and consultation for teachers in our partner schools.

## Approved Provider for Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)

After years of advancing our education of high school-aged youth we made the decision we had to do more. We had to address life skills, job readiness, and secondary education more formally. We began to advance curriculum and programming and hired a Transition Coordinator to focus solely on these efforts across our campus schools. With the addition of CARF accreditation, we were able to apply for and become a qualified Vocation Rehabilitation provider. With Budget Bootcamp, a mock apartment, Got-Special Kids, and our approval with OOD . . . we are ready to roll! By this coming school year we will have advanced our school-based and out of school/community job readiness programming to include: career exploration, pre-employment training, job development/coaching, and employment opportunities for high schoolers and young adults who are on the autism spectrum and/or have other mental health conditions.



## Got-Special Kids

Got-Special Kids is dedicated to improving the lives of children with special needs. We provide proven and cost-effective educational resources, therapeutic play, sensory products and solutions that enhance learning, promote independence and affirm important life skills. Our goal is for ALL KIDS to be happy, confident and future-ready. We're here to support parents, educators and professionals who are passionate about empowering special kids! Many school district go online and purchase materials for use in calming rooms and to meet individual student needs. Have a look at what's available by going to the website at [got-specialkids.com](http://got-specialkids.com).

## Our CoStars Preschool

When it became painfully obvious that COVID-19 would become part of daily life, we knew that to simply stop serving the children and families who depend on us for safe, quality and reliable preschool education was not an option. We quickly modified drop off, pick up and access procedures as well as our teacher-to-student ratios. Our 5-Star Step-Up to Quality rated preschool has continually operated through the pandemic without incident. Check out the News and Resources section of [tchcincy.org](http://tchcincy.org) to read about the impact our preschool has had on parents who are essential employees within the community!



# PARTNERING WITH YOU

## Expanding Partnerships To Serve Our Kids

If you are interested in expanding your partnership with The Children's Home or discussing opportunities and strategies to serve students, families, and educators in your school, call 513-272-2800 and ask to speak with Pam or Debbie or email them at [pmckie@tchcincy.org](mailto:pmckie@tchcincy.org) or [dgingrich@bestpoint.org](mailto:dgingrich@bestpoint.org).



**Pam McKie, LISW-S**  
**Chief Operating Officer**

Pam leads The Children's Home's daily business operations and provides leadership and oversight to the more than 30 distinct programs the organization brings to the community. She provides direct guidance to the president and CEO to ensure overall compliance with legal, regulatory and policy requirements that govern the agency.



**Debbie Gingrich, LISW-S**  
**Vice President of Behavioral Health**

Debbie leads the agency's programs that fall under Best Point Behavioral Health. She has 17 years of experience in mental health care and leads a group of more than 130 mental health professionals who deliver behavioral health counseling, care coordination, school-based day treatment, and infant and early childhood mental health care.

## Accessing Services Has Never Been Easier!

It has never been easier to access services – our intake and engagement specialists are just a phone call or email away. Call 513-272-2800 and ask for our centralized intake center or email [referrals@tchcincy.org](mailto:referrals@tchcincy.org).

We've implemented creative solutions to ensure a speedy intake process for children and families seeking services from us for the first time, including online scheduling, completing consent paperwork online, and conducting initial intake sessions via telehealth.



## WHO | WHAT | WHERE



**83%**

Children  
Experienced  
Trauma



**85%**

Families  
Living in  
Poverty



**177,718**

Hours of Behavioral  
Health Services  
Provided



**27%**

Individuals  
Served on  
our Campus

**73%**

Individuals  
Served in the  
Community



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5050 Madison Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45227  
513.272.2800

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