

CAMPfire connection

A New Theme Defines the Year

When it felt like the world stopped, our campers continued to live with serious illnesses because, for them, nothing changed.

When everyone was asked to prioritize what was essential before making decisions about what to eat, where to go, and who to visit; our campers relied on essentials to keep them healthy, like always. For 14 years, The Center for Courageous Kids has played an essential role in the lives of the

courageous kids we serve at no cost to their family. In 2022, we are resolved to move Fearless & Forward with our mission so that more children can experience the inclusive, medically-safe program we offer.

CCK is fearlessly setting goals that inspire us to conquer today. Plus, we are actively planning inventive ways to reach our campers so that our mission is empowered forward by creating newness for tomorrow. "We are raising our demanding standards to an even higher level with new safety measures, program activities and facility updates. We will continue to celebrate all of you with passion and joy!" says CCK's CEO, Joanie O'Bryan.



BECOME A CAMPER



Use your phone's camera to scan and apply now!

SUMMER CAMPS

June 7-11	Brave Hearts & Pulmonology
June 14-18	Physical Disabilities
June 21-25	Diabetes
June 28-July 2	Hematology/Oncology/Immune disorders
July 7-9	Autism (& siblings)
July 12-16	Health Equity - Care Camps
July 26-30	Family Camp: Myelitis/Neuroimmune disorders

Visit our website for a complete list of dates in 2022

courageouskids.org

Stormi Murtie Service Above Self Award

Imogene Vick makes beds in prep for CCK camper arrival.



Craig O'Bryan showing off a big catch while volunteering at CCK's fishing dock.

Two Faithful Volunteers Demonstrate Service Above Self

The Stormi Murtie Service Above Self Award is presented to an individual that shows initiative and dedication above all else while generously giving their time and effort. This year's award is twice as nice because the recipients have doubled! **Imogene Vick**, a Scottsville, KY native, has been volunteering since 2009 as a bedmaker. Giving back to such a deserving mission in her hometown supplies her with the motivation to continue serving year after year. Additionally, **Craig O'Bryan**, donates his time by assisting campers and families at the fishing dock while they pass time on the lake during weekend retreats. He also supports CCK by contributing his professional expertise as owner and operator of Craig O'Bryan Graphics. Our thanks goes out to these two outstanding volunteers and all of the faithful individuals who give their time to make everything we do possible!

Friends in Healthcare

Tiffany Johnson, M.D. is a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and Radiology and Imaging Sciences at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, IN. In her professional life, Dr. Johnson specializes in imaging, cardiac MRI and echocardiography. However, in her down time she enjoys volunteering as a Medical Volunteer at The Center for Courageous Kids. For over 10 years, she has dedicated one week every summer to serving our courageous kids who attend the cardiac conditions summer camp. Dr. Johnson describes the value of a camp experience at CCK as not just a place to have fun but as an opportunity to build confidence that will be a benefit later in life. "CCK gives me a whole new look at the patients I care for," says Dr. Johnson. She adds, "In the clinic or hospital, I see a more subdued, anxious side of kids and parents. Camp is an environment where I get to see the true personalities of the kids I see as patients." For these reasons and many more, Dr. Johnson recommends that any young adult pursuing a medical career spend time at CCK. "It provides a perspective of the individual child that is often missed in medical training...the importance of the whole individual who also deals daily with chronic conditions and how to make it more accepted," she said.

"CCK gives me a whole new look at the patients I care for"



Tiffany Johnson, M.D.

info on med volunteering
campnurse@courageouskids.org

Capstone for a Cause

Megan Cusick, a student of the Belmont School of Occupational Therapy, is assigned to complete an in-depth project that will benefit the mission of a service organization of her choosing. She selected The Center for Courageous Kids!! Megan approached the Volunteer Recruiter to seek ideas that could benefit CCK. Our staff came together to brainstorm with Megan about projects that may enhance the experience for our courageous kids. Her work will be done over the next several months and we are excited to see how implementing her plans in early 2023 will change things for the better.



Megan (center) volunteers at CCK's horse barn with Barn Manager Shae (right) and Asst. Manager Kelsey (left).

Tragedy Inspires a Helping Hand

When a tornado struck in our nearby community of Warren County, it was clear that we needed to help in any way that we could. Several of our year-round staff live in Warren County and knew of neighborhoods that needed help. We quickly planned a way to provide a

hot meal to workers spearheading clean up and families left without power in the area. We quickly planned a way to provide a hot meal, power tools, and skilled hands to the workers spearheading clean up and families left without power in the area.

"CCK is my people helping my people. It warms my heart to see CCK do this."

-a resident of the affected area and also a camper mom

Warmth and Hope for the Children of Allen County

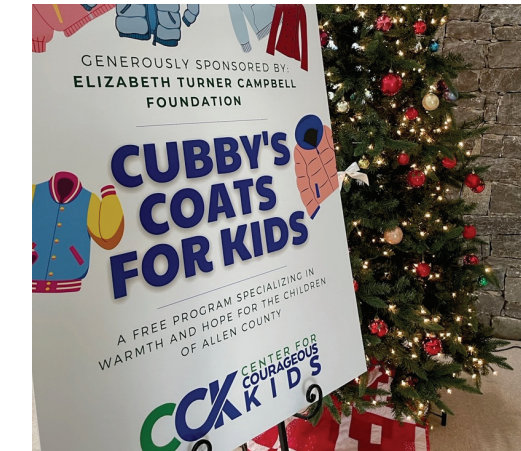
This holiday season, CCK was honored to do something very special for the local families of our Allen County community. Cubby's Coats for Kids is a free program specializing in warmth and hope. With the sponsoring support of the Elizabeth Turner Campbell Foundation, CCK opened our Dining Hall



Warm coats ready and waiting to be picked up

doors for a festive night of celebration. This family fun night was full of yummy snacks, a gift-wrapping station, a table full of arts & crafts, and a warm campfire. The best part,

we were able to supply 268 coats to deserving families in need! Opportunities to serve our very own community allow us to get our entire staff involved with the preparation, set up, and facilitation of the program. Each and every one of the CCK employees get excited for an experience to give back to the community that has supported us from our beginning. It is our hope to continue this program for years to come!



Make Your Impact: Become a Volunteer

The Center for Courageous Kids needs enthusiastic and energetic volunteers all year round! If you are in search of an experience that will build your resume but also build your sense of self, make your impact as a volunteer at CCK. Earn volunteer service hours while making a difference in the lives of our courageous kids. There are several options that fit in everyone's schedule:

- a weekend in the fall or spring
- a week in the summer
- for a couple of hours in our Horse Barn or Dining Hall

For more information:
volunteer@courageouskids.org



Setting up to prepare a hot meal.



CCK Facilities staff waiting to put tools and skill to helpful use.



Packing lunch bags for anyone who is hungry.





Truist Financial Builds Better Communities

Our friends at Truist Financial believe in doing their part as corporate citizens to help build a better quality of life for the communities in which they live and work. The Truist Lighthouse Project is a community service effort, providing the opportunity for employees to partner with local nonprofits to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Associates from the Bowling Green office came to CCK to prepare 100 Cubby Crates to be delivered to hospitals in our region. Thanks to the generosity of Truist Financial and the Lighthouse Project, a camp-in-a-box experience will be distributed to 100 children in the coming year.

Moonshine & Music goes Platinum

The Third Annual Moonshine & Music presented by The Perry Richey Group of Baird Private Wealth Management has been CCK's biggest event yet! We are excited to share that we raised over \$245,000! It is because of the generous individuals in the room, that the joy of camp is made possible for so many brave and courageous kids in the years to come.

The 350 attendees and 40 corporate sponsors enjoyed cocktails, moonshine tastings, an elegant plated meal, over 100 silent auction items, a live auction featuring a racehorse ownership experience, luxury trips, and a musical performance by the award winning band, A Thousand Horses and soloist Eric Paslay! The highlight of the night was special guest Levi Logsdon, CCK's National Camper Ambassador. Levi shared what his favorite things are about CCK, all while lighting up the room with his contagious smile. Through his inspirational words, every single person in the room that night witnessed the impact CCK has on thousands of courageous kids just like Levi!



Presented by:

The Perry Richey Group
Private Wealth Management



Pictured (top right) National Camper Ambassador Levi Logsdon with A Thousand Horses, Eric Paslay, and Caroline Hobby, (top left) Dr. Daniel and Erin Birkenhauer and Debbie & Terry Finley, (bottom right) The Perry Richey Group, (bottom left) Lisa and Les Bale of South Central Bank

Are You Inspired by these stories?

Share Your Own with Us!

Email: Emily@courageouskids.org re: My Camp Story

Instilling inspiration and empowerment while enhancing the lives of children with serious illnesses.

www.courageouskids.org

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