CCFI Hosts 14th Annual Hands & Hearts Fundraiser
On Friday, April 20th, CCFI held the 14th annual Hands & Hearts fundraising luncheon at Journey Church in Norman. With close to 300 community members and agency supporters in attendance, we were able to raise funds to continue our initiatives to heal children, empower youth and strengthen families.

This year, guests were entertained with the vocal talents of Longfellow Middle School’s 8th Grade Choir and enjoyed a heartfelt, personal testimony from CCFI Board Member JJ Waggoner and her husband, Tony. Boys & Girls Club of Norman also honored the 2018 Youth of the Year recipients with a special presentation and award ceremony.

Hands & Hearts would not be possible without the generous support from our many corporate sponsors. We couldn’t do it without you!
While we are extremely grateful for our community’s support, there is still more to be done to help fill the gap. To help sustain our agency’s vital programs, please consider making a contribution. Here’s how your gift will make a lasting difference:

- **$50** provides an infant with a two week supply of diapers
- **$150** supplies approximately one hour of therapeutic counseling services to a child who has experienced trauma
- **$500** enables 12 parents to attend three hours of education support classes
- **$1,000** covers five hours of in-home parent education services to an at-risk family through our Bringing Up Babies program

Thank you for joining our mission to heal children, empower youth and strengthen families!

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**BGCN Celebrates National Boys & Girls Club Week**

Each year, Boys & Girls Clubs across the country dedicate one week to celebrate the rich history of youth development. This past month, Boys & Girls Club of Norman kicked off National Boys & Girls Club Week to highlight all of the amazing things our own Club has to offer!

Throughout the week, members focused on their futures and how BGCN helps them prepare for their dreams. They also completed a community service project by cleaning up trash from a local park. To help keep our youth motivated and inspired, our staff also created a “Blue Door” to signify the impact our services have on each individual.

To learn more about our Club or to enroll in services, click [HERE](#).
CCFI Welcomes Big Event Volunteers
On April 14th, more than 6,000 volunteers from the University of Oklahoma went to countless job sites throughout Norman to participate in this year’s Big Event. Our agency was lucky enough to host a group of energetic volunteers from the OU Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy to help finish a few outside projects. Together, volunteers and staff planted flowers, pulled weeds, laid fresh mulch and rejuvenated our respite area. Thank you, OU Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy for making our agency shine!

If you or a group/organization are interested in volunteering at CCFI, please click HERE to learn more.

Vernon Hooks Honored with Prestigious Award
Boys & Girls Club of Norman Unit Director, Vernon Hooks, was recently named the 2018 Oklahoma Professional of the Year by the Boys & Girls Club of America Professional Association.

Vernon has dedicated more than 5 years of outstanding service to CCFI and was a key component in bringing Boys & Girls Club of Norman to our community. His vision for this Club has allowed it to grow and develop into a program that serves youth all over Norman, and his presence and leadership is valued by the staff and members that interact with him daily. Vernon is more than deserving of this honor as his passion for his work is apparent in the positive change he elicits and by providing a place for youth to reach their full potential.

Congratulations, Vernon!
Service Spotlight: Parents Assistance
The Parents Assistance program helps parents create and sustain healthy, safe, and nurturing relationships with their children, and serves families who are struggling with difficult family dynamics. Some of the ways in which we do this is through parenting classes and parent-child observations.

To get a better understanding of the true impact of these specialized services, meet Matt.

Matt is a father to three young daughters and came to CCFI through a DHS court referral. During his time spent in the Parents Assistance program, Matt gained a wealth of knowledge and worked consistently to become a better parent. He has laser focus and made his daughters his number one priority, applying each and every lesson to his family. This not only improved his parenting skills, but helped him become a better person in the making. Through these guided classes and parent-child observations, Matt was ultimately able to create a happier, healthier family dynamic and has been reunited with his daughters.

To learn more about the Parents Assistance program, click HERE.

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Baby Pantry Donations Needed
A lack of an adequate supply of diapers is a serious problem, affecting 1 in 3 American families. Unfortunately, government assistance programs, such as WIC and SNAP (i.e. food stamps), do not cover diaper purchases. To help fill this gap, the CCFI Baby Pantry provides diapers, wipes and emergency baby supplies to families with limited resources.

We are currently seeking diapers [sizes 4, 5 and 6] and Pull-Ups® [all sizes] to help meet the needs of our community.

To learn more about the Baby Pantry, click HERE.

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Thank You to Our Recent In-Kind Donors
Bev DeWitt, Brandon Martin, Brookelynne Wesley, Catie Barton, Emma Jahnke, First Baptist Church, George Wesley, Jennifer Gray, Kayla Whitlock, Maddison Massengale, Susan Alrawl, Susan Willige, Vaelynne Wesley and West Wind Unitarian Universalist Congregation.