## Annual Report



Fiscal Year 2010-2011



#### Message from the President

A recent survey conducted by The Chronicle of Philanthropy showed that people don't give their largest gifts to human service organizations because they don't see them as 'the best way to alleviate America's problems'. Meanwhile, findings from the 2010 National Survey of Nonprofit Government Contracting and Grants conducted by the Urban Institute reveal that among 33,000 nonprofits surveyed:

68% report government contracts don't pay the full cost of services

53% receive payments from the government late

58% experienced problems with the government changing contracts

Most of our children come to us as a result of (or have certainly been impacted by) societal ills like substance abuse, mental illness, and/or poverty. Alleviating all of these problems would certainly



lead to less children in foster care, fewer needing to be adopted, and a decline in juvenile delinquency. I always say that we'd love to be put out of business. However, until the complex problems of an adult society are solved, we have to take care of children, hundreds of them—in our State, our Counties, in our backyard—who have been hurt, whose safety has been threatened, whose lives have been flipped upside down. Don't they deserve all we've got?

These are just some of the reasons why Ennis Center---why our kids-need you to donate, to be a foster or adoptive parent, to be an advocate, to speak out and keep the light shining on children's issues. In these pages you'll read about Kenneth, who overcame tremendous odds and has a bright future ahead of him. There are many others who have come from

tragedy to a world of possibilities. This Annual Report is reflective of what can be accomplished when organizations like ours, donors, foster and adoptive parents, and other volunteers come together to care for those unable to care for themselves. I hope what you read continues to make you proud to support Ennis Center and our children and families.

Warm Regards,

Robert E. Ennis, LMSW

President and Founder

If you'd like to 'go green' and receive this and other updates electronically, please send us an e-mail at development@enniscenter.org

# Life changing work... by the numbers

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

were able to return home to a safe, stronger birth home. Our agency worked with birth parents, foster parents, schools, therapists and Courts, to be able to reunify kids with the only family they've ever known.

287
FAMILIES

Opened their homes to children in foster care

CHILDREN

were adopted into a loving, permanent home.



173
CHILDREN IN

Deemed at-risk of separation for factors including homelessness, mental illness and/or substance abuse were stabilized with the help of our Families Strengthening Families program, greatly reducing the likelihood of child abuse and/or neglect.



235
DETROIT TEENS

Successfully diverted from delinquent behaviors

PARENTS AND

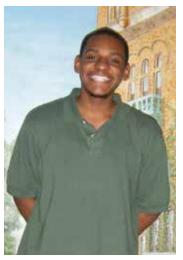
**FAMILIES** 

Received mental health therapy in an effort to keep their family together

CHILDREN

'With the support of the community, we preserve families when possible and create new families when necessary'

-Ennis Center for Children Mission Statement



#### Working to Rewrite the Ending

Ennis Center for Children was thrilled to name Kenneth Williams as the first ever recipient of its Ernestine Moore Scholarship Award. Named in honor and in memory of the life-long child advocate and attorney, the scholarship is awarded to youth currently or formerly in foster care with Ennis Center who are pursuing higher education.

Kenneth's road to college was far from easy. For close to eight years he bounced from one homeless shelter to another with his mother. When he was 16 years old, he and his two brothers were placed in Ennis Center's foster care program. As is often the case, there wasn't a home capable of taking all three children and he and his brother were separated from their youngest sibling. While in foster care, Kenneth's mother was tragically murdered.

Life events like these could lead some to become jaded, hopeless, or to feel victimized. None of these adjectives describe Kenneth. He is lively and often wears a contagious smile. More than anything, he knows his past doesn't define him and is determined not to let it affect his future.

While Kenneth had known for a long time that he wanted a better life for himself, including a good education, his mother's death spurned an even greater determination. As he puts it "my uncle put the urn containing my mother's ashes in my hand and something about the weight of it....made me want to work even harder." He also credits his foster mother for helping point him in the right direction and expecting a lot of him.

As a full-time student studying English at Wayne State University, Kenneth aspires to become an English teacher. A lover of words in all forms, Kenneth writes poetry, song lyrics, and has story ideas he hopes to get onto paper someday. He clearly remembers owning a William Shakespeare book (now lost) and finding relief in the world introduced by the author. Also important in his life was his Uncle's introduction of music. Music of all kinds, including rap and jazz, plays a major role in Kenneth's life. He wants learn to play as many instruments as possible, as soon as he can get his hands on them. An even bigger dream is to one day compose a score for a movie. While Kenneth has always wanted to go to college to achieve a better life, he has found the joy of learning and new life experiences.

Kenneth is a source of pride for our agency as someone who has thrived under extreme circumstances. We congratulate Kenneth for all that he has achieved and for all that we know he will achieve in the future!

#### How You Can Help

#### Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent

Ennis Center provides its foster parents with training, ongoing support and financial reimbursement. Please call 888-200-8915 to learn more about how you can make a difference in the life of a child.

#### If foster parenting or adopting isn't for you, consider a donation to one of the following:

#### **Operational Fund**

Supports our overall agency and its programs for children and families This contribution allows our leadership to apply your gift to the area of greatest need.

#### Scholarship Fund

Awards scholarships to former Ennis Center foster children pursuing a college or technical school degree

#### **Holiday Fund**

Helps provide holiday gifts and holiday parties for our kids, many of whom come from poverty and may not know the warmth of the season

## Endowment Fund Will help ensure Ennis Center is a lasting resource for children and families in need

Youth Special Needs Fund
Ensures that our children get
what they need (tutoring, drivers
training, special medical devices,
etc) and are afforded the same
opportunities as their peers

## How Others Are Helping.

## Toyota Helps make a Better Future for Children and Families in Crisis

Since 1994, Toyota and many of its employees have generously supported Ennis Center's work with children and families through volunteerism, in-kind, and financial donations of nearly \$1 million dollars, making them our largest supporter by far. At the root of the relationship between Ennis Center and Toyota is a mutually shared

concern for some of Michigan's most severely abused, neglected, and troubled children and teens. Toyota's dedication to local philanthropy, and youth in particular, plays a huge role in the number of children and families we're able to help each year.

Toyota employees have organized coin drives to support Ennis Center's mission, raised funds to send children in foster care to summer camp, and volunteered at our Annual Summer Picnic. In recent years, Toyota donated a brand new minivan for transporting between



our five offices, which through its colorful signage, helps recruit foster and adoptive homes for children throughout southeast Michigan. Toyota has been a consistent sponsor for Ennis Center's Annual 'Scramble for Kids' Golf Outing even as they hold their own Annual Toyota Supplier Outing with proceeds benefitting our organization.

Equally important have been the personal and professional contributions of Bruce Brownlee, Senior Executive Administrator at Toyota's Motor Engineering & Manufacturing facility in Michigan, as a member (and current President) of our Board of Directors. Our governing body has benefited significantly from Mr. Brownlee's business experience, wisdom and expertise. Mr. Brownlee's firsthand experience with Ennis Center also provides Toyota with added assurances of Ennis Center's fiscal and program accountability as they continue to ensure the future of Michigan's at-risk children through their generous financial support.

On behalf of those we work with who have been abused, wounded, homeless, down-on-their-luck, neglected, scared, and anxious, our staff, and our Board of Directors, we thank Toyota, it's employees, and especially Bruce Brownlee from the bottom of our hearts for helping us fulfill the promise of a future better than the past for those in need.

We are so grateful to all of our dedicated, volunteer Board Members. They are:

#### **Ennis Center Board of Directors 2010-2011**

**Bruce Brownlee** 

Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.

**Dennis Wend** 

Wend & Associates

**Karen Topolinski** 

Topolinski & Associates

**David Kee** 

Double Health, USA

Jelka Petrovic
UnitedHealthcare
Fred Simpson
Praetorian International

Dale Mansour Microsoft, Inc.

**Kimberly Stout** 

Attorney at Law

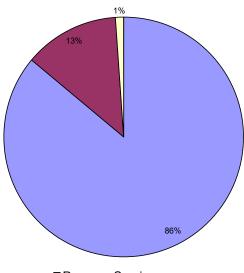
Darren Simpson Aerotek, Inc. **Honorary Members:** 

Eleanor Austin
Kristi Stepp
The Honorable Greg Mathis
Dennis Brewer

Dr. Srinivas (Bobby) Mukkamala

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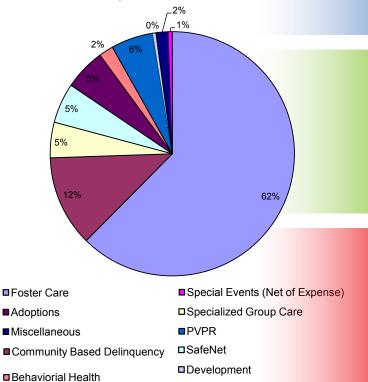




- Program Services
- Management & General
- □ Fund Development

## Denses

for year ended 9/30/2011



#### Foundation, Corporate and Group Donors

AAA Michigan Employees Advantage Engineering, Inc. AISIN World Corp. of America Allen Park Rotary Club Applebee's Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers of Michigan Auntie Anne's **Belle Tire** Berends Hendricks Stuit Berry Moorman, P.C. Black Family Development, Inc Bordine's **Brady's Business Solutions** The Brickman Group **Brightside Consulting Brookwood Golf Club** Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar Carl's Appliance Carl's Golfland Cartridge World Cattails Golf Club Central Care Management Organization Central Michigan University-**Upward Bound Program Christ Enrichment Center** 

Cintas

Citizens Bank Employees CJL Strategies, LLC Clint's Hair Center Coca-Cola Enterprises Cochran Tax Service, Inc. Coffee Break Service, Inc. Concord Tool & Manufacturing Craig Ryan Menswear, Inc. David's Pizza and Catering Delphi Automotive Employees-**UAW Local 651 Denver Mattress Company** 

Detroit Behavioral Institute, Inc. **Detroit Pistons Detroit Red Wings Detroit Tigers** Dick's Sporting Goods Don Bosco Hall Dortch Enterprises, LLC Double Health USA, Inc. **Downey Potato Chips** DYNA MIG **Emhart Teknologies Engineered Sinter Components Exclusive Realty** Fazoli's Fenton Seventh Day Adventist Church

Flexngate Flint Children's Museum **Garland Resort** General Motors-Flint Assembly Employees General Motors Men's Club **General Motors Customer Care** & Aftersales- Pontiac Employees Genesee County Sheriff's Department / Jail Employees Genesee Valley Meadows Genesys Regional Medical Ctr-Main Lab Employees Genesys Regional Medical Ctr-Medical Records Employees George Krull, DDS Gifford, Krass, Sprinkle, Anderson & Citkowski, PC **GKN Sinter Metals Golfview Arms** GoodSearch Growth Works, Inc. Guardian Automotive Corp. **Guardian Industries** Gypsy Mama, LLC Hair Care Services by Antoinette Harman Becker Automotive Systems

First Baptist Church of Clio

#### Foundation, Corporate and Group Donors, cont.



HDR Cummings & Barnard, Inc. **Employees** Highfields, Inc. Highland Hills Golf Course Hino Motors Manufacturing USA, Inc. Holly Presbyterian Church Holy Cross Children's Services **HSS** Employees Ingenuity Group, LLC **ITW Alpine Systems** Ivv House James and Lynelle Holden Fund Japan Business Society of Detroit Foundation Johnson Controls JTEKT North America, Inc. Kerby's Koney Island Kiwanis Club of Flint Kongsberg Automotive **Koyo Bearings** Kroger L.A.'s Graphics & Elan Marketing Lacks Trim Systems Lakeridge Village, Inc. Lakes Area Montessori Students Nicole Leigh, DDS PC Loose Senior Center **Lotus Engineering** Robert B. MacIntosh, DDS, PC Magna International of America, Inc. Magna Seating Systems Engineering Martha Merkley Charitable Trust McKechnie Vehicle Components Melvin M. Kaftan Revocable **Living Trust** 

Michigan State Police-Gaming **Section Employees** Microsoft Giving Campaign Midway Products Group, Inc. MOMS Club of Ortonville/ Goodrich Mulberry Hills Golf Club **New Century Chorale Oakland County Parks** Oakland Schools Technical **Campus-Southeast Students** Oakley Industries, Inc. **Oracle Corporation Employees** Oracle Matching Gifts Program Orchard's Children's Services Pamela's Salon Parker Hannifin Seal Group Peace Lutheran Church **Quilters Group** Pioneer Automotive Technologies Plante & Moran, LLP **Project Night Night** Red Hat Society-Longtime Lassies Red Hat Society-Ruby Jewels Regency Beauty Institute Reid Elementary, Mrs. Millerchin's Kindergarten Students Road to Freedom Robert Bosch LLC Romano's Macaroni Grill **Royal Oak Jaycees** 

Rubenstein Isaacs, P.C.

**Spartan Stores Foundation** 

Spectrum Human Services, Inc.

SSDCS Services, Inc., Employees

Sara Lee Corporation

**Snacktime Services** 

Solomon's Temple

St. Joseph Catholic Church Congregation & Staff St. Sabina's Men's Activities Club Stanton Charity for Children Stephen E. Hershey, DDS Stir Crazy Sunright America, Inc. Swartz Creek Middle School Students Sweet Lorraine's Synergy Step Solutions, Inc. **Synergy Technologies Target** TGI Fridav's The Williams Firm, PC Title Source, Inc. Title Source, Inc., Employees **Toshiba Business Solutions Tower Automotive** Toyota Tram, Inc. Tyrone Hills Golf Club **UAW General Motors Center** for Human Resources **UAW Local 653 United Construction Services** Limited LLC UnitedHealthcare VG's Grocery & Pharmacy Vista Maria, Inc. Wend & Associates, Inc. West Flint Church of Nazarene -Little Lambs Closet Wolverine Human Services Woman's Life Chapter 830 MI Woman's Life Chapter C-757 Young Chevrolet Oldsmobile Cadillac



#### Home at Last

Regina was a teenager looking for a family to belong to when she was featured on the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) website. A family that had previously adopted a child through Ennis Center read her profile and immediately contacted us to ask about her. Regina was now 17 years old. If the extensive adoption process wasn't finalized before her 18th birthday, she couldn't be adopted. With great determination, the family did all that was required of them, as did the Ennis Center Adoption Specialist, who drove through several counties during a severe snowstorm to finish the final requirements. Happily, and just 17 days before her 18th birthday, the Court proclaimed Regina the family's daughter.

## Individual Donors

Mary Ann Adams Darla Alderson Angela Austin **Andrew Bailey** Paul & Deborah Ballard Susan Ballenger Cheryl Bannister

James & Alexis Belknap Steven & Julie Bergdolt

Michael & Sherrill Berman June Bidzinski

Chad & Sharmon Bordeau

**Dan Bowers** Joseph Brady Stacy Brinks Craig Brockmon

Bruce & Suzanne Brownlee

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Leonard & Lee Carleton

**Daniel Chaney** 

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William & Jeanne Dosmann Richard & Asha Downs Stephen & Melissa Duke

Craig & Karen Dumas

**Donald Eitniear** Shanita Elliott

Dennis & Loretta Ellwood

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Nicole Smith Glovita Sparkman

James & Shannon Speckmann

Heather L. Steinaway Kimberly Stout **Robert Strasz** Glen & Mary Strom Robert & Heidi Tack

Troy Tooker

Brian & Trisha Umphrey Mark & Shelly Umphrey Steven & Sandra Umphrey

Lori VanHoof Marion Varvel Lori Wade Kenneth Waite Katie Waldron Kurt Walker

Ronald & Debra Wangrud Gary & Karen Wend Ruth E. Westmoreland

Jack Randall & Barbara Withenshaw



# Success for our biggest fundraiser of the year - The Annual 'Scramble for Kids' Golf Outing

The weather was perfect for a day on the links when participants in our 18th Annual 'Scramble for Kids' Golf Outing teed off. After 18 holes, golfers enjoyed a steak dinner while hearing from Cassandra McReynolds, an MSU graduate previously in foster care at Ennis Center. She shared that the foster home(s) she was in 'taught me values and traditions and formed me into the young woman I am today'. A very special foster parent also had the rapt attention of the audience as she described her experiences caring for medically-fragile special needs infants. Both speakers and ECC President Bob Ennis thanked those in attendance for their support of the outing which raised over \$30,000 for our programs for children and families in crisis.

Funds raised by the Scramble for Kids are crucial to our budget and so important in allowing us to continue in our mission. We've also been told by participants that it's one of the most fun and well organized events they've attended!

We are always looking for golfers and sponsors. If you or your company are interested in being involved in 2013, please contact our Development Department at development@enniscenter.org or 810-233-4031.



A team from UnitedHealthcare prepares to tee off at beautiful Moose Ridge Golf Course.



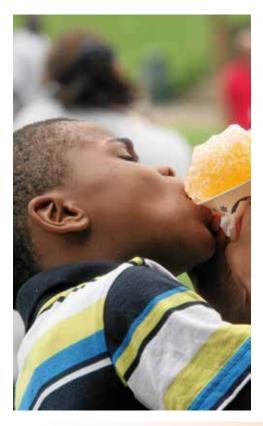
#### **Ennis Center Earns National Re-Accreditation**

Every four years (since 1992) our organization seeks accreditation by the Council on Accreditation to ensure that we will be continuously challenged to reach even higher standards of excellence in our programs and throughout our agency. Any areas identified during the accreditation process as needing improvement will be addressed through Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) and implemented in plans which support program goals, client satisfaction, and positive client outcomes.

We were thrilled when in the final report of our reaccreditation process this year, Ennis Center was awarded an expedited accreditation as there were no areas identified as non-compliances. This is a major achievement and testament to the dedication of our staff and Board of Directors. We hope it also serves as another reason to be proud of your involvement with Ennis Center for Children.

Reaccreditation means that we continue to meet the highest national standards for service delivery. It represents the fulfillment of countless hours of hard work and dedication of many people. It also provides assurance that we are performing services which the community needs, conducting our operations successfully, and managing our funds effectively.

## Celebrating Summertime!



On any given day, Ennis Center for Children is responsible for the care and safety of close to 300 children placed in foster care due to abuse, neglect, and/or abandonment. Recognizing the importance of new experiences for growing minds, we host a Summer Picnic for them each year. The day includes food, games, and fun that gives children-some of whom have never been out of the inner city, an opportunity for outdoor childhood activities. It also gives siblings who may be living in separate foster homes an extra opportunity to spend time together while foster parents benefit from the interaction with other foster parents.





At right: Volunteers from the Catholic Urban Project provided much-needed manpower for two days of painting and reorganizing at our Flint facility.

At left: Colleen Ramsey, Assistant Vice President of Finance at Title Source presents ECC President Bob Ennis and Development Officer Jennifer King a check for \$2,000.

Title Source raised funds for our Annual Summer Picnic through a month-long social media campaign wherein they donated \$1 for every 'like' their Facebook page received in the month of June. In the end they received 1,000 likes equaling \$1,000 and then matched that amount for a grand total of a very generous \$2,000.





We need empty HP printer cartridges and VG's receipts! Both can be turned into cash for our organization. Please call our Development Department at 810-233-4031 to discuss delivery or pick-up.

## A Very Special Time of Year.

The holidays are a special time when most of us bask in the love of our families and are grateful for all we hold dear. Unfortunately, for the youth we work with, the holidays can also be a time of sadness as they miss their birth home and are uncertain about what the future holds for them. We know that once a youth enters our program they are on a path toward an improved life. If possible, they will be returned to their family of origin once it is safe and strong or they will be adopted into a permanent, loving home. In the meantime, we expect confusion and pain to surface, which is one of the reasons we make providing holiday gifts and parties a priority. Adding joy and tradition to these youngsters' lives can go a long way toward making them feel loved. Every year we are overwhelmed by the compassion of the many, many people who help us make this happen.



Pamela Yagiela, owner of Pamela's Salon in Novi, collects gifts from clients and staff for Ennis Center kids. She's pictured here (on the right) with just a small portion of the donation, which nearly filled a 16-ft. moving truck.



Gift bags were distributed to every child who attended one of our holiday parties. These pretty, festive bags were donated and assembled by students at Lakes Area Montessori.



Six-year-old Jackson gives Santa a squeeze.

Ennis Center can earn a donation when you shop online!
Download the GoodSearch – Ennis Center for Children toolbar at
http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/ennis-center-for-children and each
time you shop online at participating stores including Amazon, eBay,
Target, Staples, a percentage of your purchase will be donated - even if
you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first!



## Spotlight On: Families Strengthening Families

This year Ennis Center was awarded a contract for a pilot program aimed at preventing the abuse and/or neglect of children. Our Families Strengthening Families program works intensively with families at-risk of separation due to factors including homelessness, mental health issues, lack of support system or other factors. We were extremely excited to start this program, working to gain the trust of families struggling with poverty and other difficult problems that often require navigation of an equally complex system of assistance. Clients attend practical and interactive workshops on resourcefulness, effective communication, employability skills, coping with stress, and conflict resolution, among others. Our trained staff also visit families in their home and are available 24/7 for emergencies.

At the end of the 2010-2011 fiscal year, our Families Strengthening Families program had worked with 102 families and played an important role in maintaining the safety of their combined 173 children. Prevention is a fiscally sound investment when compared to the cost of foster care but knowing that children have been protected from potential pain and trauma is priceless.





#### Serving Wayne, Oakland, St. Clair, Genesee and surrounding counties through offices in:

Northwest Detroit: 20100 Greenfield Rd, Detroit, MI 48235

Downtown Detroit: 1959 E. Jefferson Ave, Detroit, MI 48207

Pontiac: 91 S. Telegraph Rd, Pontiac, MI 48329

Port Huron: 222 Huron Ave, Port Huron, MI 48060

Flint: 129 E. Third St, Flint, MI 48502

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