



The Red Wagon News

Spring 2023

Hello Christ Child Members and Friends,

At a layette assembly in March, a friend asked, "How do you pay for all of this?" The big answer is God provides. The nitty gritty is a little more complex. The thank you list of recent benefactors tells part of the story. We have also received several grants. Our first and most iconic fundraiser is our baby bottle campaign that we have conducted in our parishes since 2006. Two of those are scheduled this spring.

In February, we hosted a Shower of Love in a member's home. We created a baby registry for Christ Child (IL) at Target and Walmart. Eighteen women came to the shower and enjoyed a lovely lunch with good company. Many donors sent gifts but did not attend. A bonus of this event is that we received six new memberships. The shower brought in over \$2300 in gifts in kind and cash. We would love to have more showers in different homes with different sets of friends who could become acquainted with our work.

At the Shower of Love, Jeanne Wonio asked why we didn't participate in Birdies for Charity. We now participate. Thank you, Jeanne, and Ruth Bloom, for getting us set up in the program.

Another new fundraiser for us is an evening at Playcrafters. See the information below and please help us make this a success!

God Bless,

Lisa Levy, Chapter President



We have rented Playcrafters Barn Theatre for a benefit performance of Little Women on Thursday, July 27th. Proceeds will benefit the Christ Child Society of the Quad Cities. We need members to help sell the 250 tickets and bake homemade cookies to be served at intermission. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students under 18. Hopefully, the lower student price will allow our members to bring young relatives and friends to a wholesome theatre production.



The Christ Child Society of the Quad Cities has joined the list of approved public charities that donors who wish to participate in the Birdies for Charity Program may pledge to. Members have received letters and pledge forms that may be returned by mail. Anyone may pledge online. The minimum online pledge is \$20. Any amount may be sent in by mail. Our Charity ID is #2384.

Upcoming Events

May 6, 2023, Day of Reflection
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Farrell Hall, St. Pius X Parish, Rock Island

May 18, 2023, Head Start Parent Celebration 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Horace Mann, Rock Island

May 18, 2023, All Member Meeting, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe, Silvis, IL

June 1, 2023, Layette Assembly, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe, Silvis, IL

June 30, 2023, Birdies for Charity pledge deadline

July 27, 2023, Playcrafters' Benefit, Little Women

Making An Impact

Head Start

We will be participating in the final Rock Island Head Start family event of the school year at Horace Mann Early Learning Center in Rock Island on Thursday May 18th from 4 to 6 p.m. Alyssa Leone has designed a spring craft for students to complete. We will also hand out books to promote summer reading! Throughout the past school year, CCS-QC has distributed more than 450 age-appropriate books to Head Start students. Be on the lookout in August for ways to assist with these events during the 2023-2024 school year!

Last spring, we received a clothing grant of \$1300.00 which was distributed to us through National Christ Child Society. We determined that there was a great need at Head Start and purchased socks, underwear, slacks, leggings, T-shirts, and shoes for their students. A portion of the grant was also used to purchase 10 pairs of boots which were delivered last fall along with another 50 pairs of boots donated by our members. This year, we have allotted \$1000.00 in our budget to purchase basic clothing for Head Start students. We are grateful to Pam Hughes for managing those purchases.

Hospital Layettes

We are now distributing large layettes containing a basic infant wardrobe, board book and infant care items at all Genesis and UnityPoint hospitals in the Quad Cities. We are on track to distribute at least 225 large layettes this year. Each layette contains lovely new gifts for a newborn child in need. The value of each layette is around \$100.00. We can give these generous gifts through our fundraising activities and wholesale purchasing, as well as many gifts in kind from generous donors. We have been assured by nurse case managers that our gifts are appreciated by both families and staff.

Women's Choice Center

In addition to large layettes, mini-layettes and car seats supplied to WCC, we also began donating winter coats to them last fall. We teamed with the Knights of Columbus to donate 90 winter jackets and baby buntings. We discovered that Head Start children and school age children have access to warm winter jackets through several local programs. The very young children served through WCC often do not have that same access. This fall, we will again distribute baby buntings and jackets through WCC in sizes NB to 4T.

Thank You

Judy Scarpinato for your board service and assistance developing a parish database.

St. Pius X Knights of Columbus for sharing with us \$1000.00 from the proceeds of their pancake breakfast.

St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Davenport for the donation of \$1066.00.

Sacred Heart Parish, Rock Island for donating \$400.00 worth of diapers, wipes, blankets, and bibs.

St. Pius X Parish, Rock Island for donating \$250.00 worth of diapers, wipes, and blankets.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Women's Club, Silvis, for their donation of \$200.00.

St. Malachy, Geneseo, youth for collecting books under the direction of Kimberly Souba for our Head Start partnership.



Above: New Christ Child member, Lisa West, displays a beautiful quilt crafted by Pam Hughes that she won in our Shower of Love raffle. Congratulations, Lisa! Thanks to Pam, Lisa and all of our friends and members who supported our Shower of Love.

Save the Date- All Member Meeting

What: All Member Meeting

When: Thursday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Hall

Come to meet and greet Christ Child friends, induct new members, receive updates on our activities, brainstorm for the future and enjoy a social time together.