



Heartland for Children

NEWSLETTER

January 2024

Page 1

A Note from Our Director

From personal experience I can tell you the importance of a youth feeling connected and part of a family. My son Kevin first came into care about the age of 9 and aged out of foster care at age 18. That is not a permanency journey we want any youth to experience, but he will tell you it helped form the man he is now. He often joins us at Information Nights and other events to share his story and the successful man he has become because of the adults that walked alongside him in his journey.

As my last day with Heartland is January 5, I wanted to take an opportunity to say goodbye and thank you for the many years I have been able to serve alongside you. I am humbled every day by the hard work you do and extraordinarily proud of the work we have done here together. I hope to bring that passion and success to my new position in North Carolina.

Farewell and Thank you,
Susan Ripley

J's Journey with the Pricketts



We want to highlight the Prickett foster home and the amazing journey that they helped “J” traverse. Never anticipating taking a teen, one day they heard the need and said “YES!” This turned into helping with her first car, her first job, going off to college, and now being the proud parents of a newly married young woman. We can't thank you enough for saying “yes,” Beth Ann and Dustin! The support you provided will resonate forever in J's life.

Introducing Transition Age Youth Services (TAYS)

Transition Age Youth Services (TAYS), also known as Independent Living Services, provides education, services, and supports to help prepare youth and young adults between the ages of 13-23 to be successful adults.

Please look out for more information on specific services in upcoming newsletters. You can learn more now by going to our website:

www.heartlandforchildren.org/youth



TLC Association

TLC Association Inc. is a foster, adoptive, and caregiver support group. Our plans are to meet every month, trying to stick to the 3rd Friday of the month. Our first meeting for 2024 will be January 19th and we plan to meet in Mulberry (South Lakeland). Membership is \$25.00 for the year. More details to follow.

Website tlcfamilies.org

Fun things to celebrate in January 2024...

Sometimes we just need to make a little fun in our day. If you are looking for a reason, check out these actual days to celebrate:

- January 5: National Bird Day
- January 13: Rubber Ducky Day
- January 17: Museum Selfie Day
- January 28: National Kazoo Day

Need more? Do a quick internet search to see what you can find!



The 19th annual Rudolph Round-Up Toy Drive was a huge success. It was a record-breaking year as we were able to provide gifts and toys to over 1,830 children and young adults within the child welfare system and living in Polk, Highlands, and Hardee Counties. This was only made possible because of our generous donors, staff, and volunteers.

If you'd be willing to take a few minutes to complete our [Rudolph Round-Up Questionnaire](#), we'd love to capture your Rudolph Story! If you're willing to share any photos/videos, we can put hearts over the children's faces to protect their identities.

Foster Home Statistics

As of 11/30/23

- 21 homes licensed since July 1st, 2023
- 34 inquiries for the month of November
- 182 homes total in Circuit 10
 - 3 – Hardee County
 - 9 – Highlands County
 - 2 – Hillsborough
 - 1 – Lake County
 - 167 – Polk County

Between 10/23/23 and 11/23/23, 32 children & teens came into care. (Source: 12/10/23 PQI Report)



HUB Home News

Happy New Year to you and yours! 2023 was a great year with the Hub Home rollout. I want to thank everyone for your dedication to this program. I believe 2024 will bring us all closer and the HUB Home program will continue to flourish. Fostering is hard, but with a great village it can be easier. To Hub Homes, please reach out to your leaders. To Hub Home Leaders, continue reaching out to your homes. Thank you again for your continued support.

Lori Chapman Peacock
Hub Home Leader
& Coordinator



From Our Contract Department:

Medications are an important aspect of proper care for many of the children and youth we serve. Please remember that at each home visit, the case manager needs to review and get a copy of the Medication Administration Record you keep for each child that is taking any type of medication. This form must also be maintained in the Child's Resource Record.

For your convenience, a copy of this form can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

A special holiday message for you!



<https://youtu.be/VK4xpHU9ej8>

We so appreciate you for all that you give all year-long. You truly make a difference every day!

From Shibani Kyani, Director of Business Affairs

I trust this finds you well. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the payment schedule for 2024. This calendar can also be found on our website.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| January 9, 2024 | July 9, 2024 |
| February 13, 2024 | August 13, 2024 |
| March 12, 2024 | September 10, 2024 |
| April 9, 2024 | October 8, 2024 |
| May 14, 2024 | November 13, 2024 |
| June 11, 2024 | December 10, 2024 |

Should you have any inquiries or concerns regarding your accounts or payments, please contact me at:
(863) 519-8900, Ext 203
SKyani@heartlandforchildren.org

We greatly value our partnership with you and express our sincere appreciation for commitment to the foster care program. We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year!

Medication Administration Record

Monthly Log

Child's Name:
Month/Year:

Medication/Treatment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Med Name:																																
Method of Administration (circle one): oral topical injected																																
Dosage/amount administered:																																
Frequency:																																
Reason:																																
Start:																																
Exp:																																

Side Effects of the Medication:

Prescribing Physician:
Phone Number:

Medication/Treatment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Med Name:																																
Method of Administration (circle one): oral topical injected																																
Dosage/amount administered:																																
Frequency:																																
Reason:																																
Start:																																
Exp:																																

Side Effects of the Medication:

Prescribing Physician:
Phone Number:

Instructions: Initial each date/time given. If child did not receive the medication, enter one of the following codes or provide an explanation:
 L = On Leave/Respite/Visit O = Omitted
 R = Refused A = AWOL

Allergies:	
Other Medication Concerns:	
Date of Birth:	
Primary Physician:	
Phone Number:	

Signature of Person Administering Medication: _____
 Relationship to Client: _____

Signature of Person Administering Medication: _____
 Relationship to Client: _____

Signature of Person Administering Medication: _____
 Relationship to Client: _____

Signature of Person Administering Medication: _____
 Relationship to Client: _____

Signature of Case Manager Reviewing MAR w/caregiver: _____
 Date: _____