



newsletter

May 2019

Our kids are going places!

Thanks to a generous donation from Kosair Charities, our children have a new bus!

"We got a lot of mileage out of our old bus, kindly donated to us by The Kings Daughters Silent Workers Circle when they purchased a new one," said Board Chair Sheila Mason Burton. "However, after years of trying to hold it together, and relying on help from Frankfort Transit, we finally had to let it go for the safety of the children. Board members and staff were elated to learn that Kosair Charities would fund our request."

"We are proud to help fund a new bus for the Kings Center which will make enriching field trip experiences possible for more kids in the Frankfort area," said Keith Inman, president of Kosair Charities.

The new bus arrived at the Kings Center March 12, escorted by Frankfort police in cruisers with blue lights flashing and greeted with cheers from the children. Over spring break, the children enjoyed riding in their new bus to the Capital City Museum, the Kentucky History Center, and to both the fire and police departments. More field trips are in the works.



Photo by Bryan Reynolds,
courtesy of The State Journal

Poetry project: Peace of Mind



Every Friday afternoon, 15 to 20 Kings Center kids scribble their inner thoughts in journals, play with rhyme schemes, revise their words, and share their poetry with each other. This new program, called Peace of Mind, is the brainchild of KC Board member James Hatchett. A fellow poet from his Def Poetry Jams days, Adam Henze drives from Indiana each week to engage the children in writing the "spoken word."

Adam Henze is a slam poet *and* a doctoral candidate at the Indiana University School of Education who teaches a summer writing series at the Indiana Women's Prison and serves as director of a poetry writing and performance camp for high school youth.

With generous donations from the Williams Family Trust and KECU, this program serves an enthusiastic group of children ready to give everyone a "peace of their mind." Local poets often join the group to read their poems, offer their own unique styles, and give encouragement to the budding poets/rappers.

The beat goes on . . .

Thanks to generous grants from the Franklin County Community Fund and Frankfort Regional Medical Center, Jeri Katherine Howell's popular HeartBEATS program continues to engage and delight Kings Center children as they learn to use music and technology to express their emotions and build positive relationships through beat making and Hip Hop.



The Kings Center is a nonprofit community center that has been dedicated to helping children thrive for more than 20 years. We are grateful for generous support from the Frankfort community.



New fence

Thanks to a generous grant from the Kings Daughters and Sons Foundation, the Kings Center play yard is now fenced in! The children are looking forward to seeing monarchs fly in to visit their butterfly waystation, and *not* worrying about balls flying off into the neighbor's yard.

Colorful walls and a chalkboard, too!

Friends from Independence Bank painted two walls of the Kings Center play room "fresh water blue" and one "grenadine red," colors chosen by the Kings Center children. Also at the children's request, they painted the fourth wall black - chalkboard black - so the kids can use sidewalk chalk to create new art whenever they wish.



Neighborly neighbors

The good folks at St. Peter's Church, at the end of Logan Street, often invite the Kings Center children to come for a play date. While some enjoyed fixing snacks or doing arts and crafts, three future architects constructed an elaborate building we may see one day in the future!

SFPC cleans house

Because 30-40 kids a day can leave a lot of footprints and fingerprints, more than 20 members and friends of South Frankfort Presbyterian Church spent three hours cleaning and sprucing up the Kings Center in April. Director Deneen Petty said the staff and kids thought the Center looked great! If your organization is interested in planning a clean-up date, please email margaret.townsley@gmail.com.



Annual Dinner, Friday, June 14, 6 pm at FUMC

Mark your calendars for a delightful evening of celebrating our most recent graduates and reflecting on opportunities the Kings Center children have had over the past year. Enjoy a delicious dinner of Hill of Beans BBQ (a delicious vegetarian option is available, if requested ahead), and have great conversations with fellow supporters while you bid on silent auction items donated by generous local businesses. Please join us at First United Methodist Church on Friday, June 14.

Tickets are \$30/each, four for \$100, or tables of 8 for \$200 - available from Deneen Petty at The Kings Center or from any board member.



The Kings Center

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