



familyconnections

Counseling resources with *family* in mind

THE CONNECTION

www.familyconnectionsinc.org

If I Only Had a Heart

VOLUME 12 Edition 2 2016

CLINIC—Call for information about our counseling services:

Weirton Medical Center
Medical Office Building
651 Colliers Way, Suite 412
Weirton, WV 26062
Phone: (304) 723-3423
Fax: (304) 723-3426
E-mail:
admin@familyconnectionsinc.org

BROOKE PLACE—Call for a referral for residential group treatment for girls:

P.O. Box 348
Tent Church Road
Colliers, WV 26035
Phone: (304) 527-3303
Fax: (304) 527-3306
This facility is funded in part under an agreement with the Bureau of Children and Families, WV Department of Health and Human Resources

Email:
brookeplace@familyconnectionsinc.org

It's so easy to get caught up in what's going on in our lives that we can forget that there are those around us dealing with their own difficulties. At Brooke Place, one of the expectations for the girls on their treatment journey is to think outside themselves and demonstrate compassion for friends, family, and people in the larger community. When the holidays sneak up on us, adding stress to already busy and complicated lives, it's a great time to look beyond ourselves and reach out.

This holiday season, the residents came up with the idea of creating cards for the children at St. Jude's at Thanksgiving and, later, in response to an event sponsored by Chambers and James Funeral Homes, for veterans at Valentine's Day. They worked with glitter and glue and markers and glitter and pencils and crayons and construction paper, and, oh, did I mention glitter? St. Jude's sent a thank you letter to the girls, which made them feel especially good about their contribution (although they were feeling pretty good about it as they worked). Community service comes about in many ways, and introducing young people to its joys is something we think is important.



Brooke Place Wish List

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Gift cards for girls' birthdays | Plastic laundry baskets w/ lids | Stationary/Stamps |
| Summer PJs—S,M,L,XL | Batteries, AA & AAA | All occasion cards |
| Slippers (all sizes) | 60 watt light bulbs | No show socks |
| Regular white towels | White twin sheet sets | Flash drives/Movie Passes |
| Toilet paper, paper towels | White washcloths | Questions? |
| Underwear—M & XXL | Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, etc...) | Please contact Bonnie at 304-527-3303 |



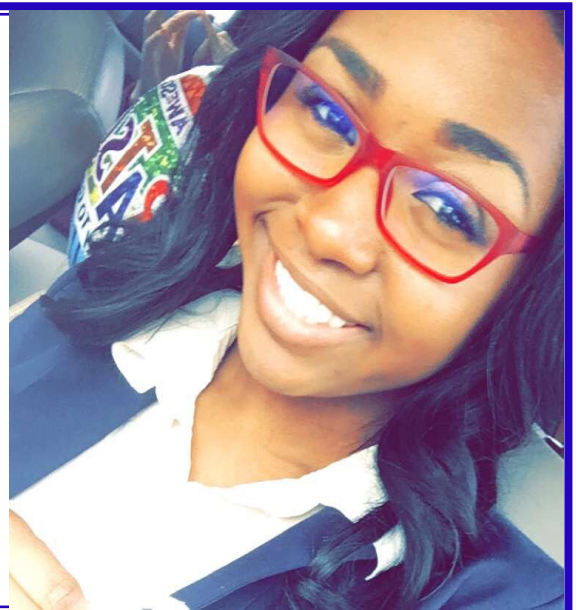
Meet Our New Intern

My name is Kelsey Ricketson, and I am a graduate student in the clinical mental health counseling program at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. I will be spending a few days a week this spring semester at Brooke Place getting to know the girls, observing individual counseling sessions, and leading group counseling. I graduated from Texas A & M in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in psychology with minors in religious studies and neuroscience. I hope to become a clinical mental health counselor and work with adolescents and families. I've enjoyed my time at Brooke Place so far. It's a great experience to learn more about counseling, adolescents, and trauma related issues. I'm excited to continue to get to know the girls better and to hopefully help them grow in positive ways throughout the semester.



Meet Our New Employee

My name is Kiera Goolsby. I am a recent graduate from Bethany College WV with a degree in Social Work. I have been with Family Connections since June 2016. My time so far at Brooke Place has been a great learning experience for me. I have always had a passion to work with children and families to help keep them together. My goal is to help each resident manage their life situations and also promote the welfare, care, and safety of residents and staff in the facility. In the near future I plan to further my education by getting my MSW and aspiring to be a child behavioral counselor.



ROCKING IT OUT



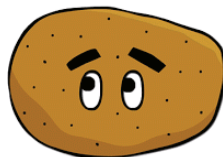
The front porch at Brooke Place is home to 12 rocking chairs that get a good workout in the spring, summer, and fall. By winter, the chairs are ready for some TLC. Todd Lancaster, our jack-of-all-trades, guided the girls through a life skills activity of scraping, sanding (some hand sanding, some power sanding), and staining. All the girls took interest in the exercise, which also involved teamwork, safety skills, sharing, and just plain old fun.



The girls expressed enthusiasm for learning more skills they can use in the future, such as using a fire extinguisher and observing how to change oil and tires. Coming up in May we will be back in the garden.

STEAK FRY— SAVE THE DATE

Save the date of June 8, 2017. It's going to be our first ever Steak Fry! It will be in the Cardinal Shelter at Brooke Hills Park on Washington Pike. We will be purchasing our steak, potato, and salad dinner from Undo's. We're putting a new twist on this steak fry. We're asking everyone to bring their own place setting and BYOB. For those of you who want your steak done just right, come on up to the grill and cook your own. Socialize with all of your friends and make some new ones. We will supply pop, water, and beer. There will also be 50/50 raffles, tip boards, and of course a Chinese auction. The cost of the tickets will be \$30 for individuals or 2 for \$50.



MISSION STATEMENT

Family Connections is committed to helping individuals function to the best of their abilities by engaging the resources that exist naturally within their family and community. Interventions provided by Family Connections are theory-based and are guided by the principle that the individual is best treated within the context of their family. Family Connections is dedicated to the care, welfare, and respect of families and the individuals who comprise them.

family connections, inc.

P.O. Box 348

Colliers, WV 26035

By giving a contribution in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend, many generous people have found a way to express their caring spirit while investing in the lives of those served by Family Connections.

In memory of Patsy T. Brancazio by Kathy Granato

In memory of Margaret Lyle by Lyles Auto

In memory of Paul Wack by Thomas G. Wack

In memory of Robert & Alice Hamilton by Tom Brown & Heather Hamilton

In memory of Cathy Sobel by Bob & Dorothy Swearingen

In honor of his Family by John T. Wack

