

Thank you!

Thank you to all who toured, volunteered, sponsored, donated to and played a role in making the 2019 Designers' Showhouse a success. We truly appreciate you and your support!

Thank you to the Showhouse designers who offered their time and talents to make this year's house one to remember!

Dining Room: Caroline Bivens, *CB Designs*

Powder Bath: Kelly Schuster, *The Linen Tree*

Kitchen, Pantry & Living Room:
Leslie Hunsicker, Sarah Kellogg & Jennifer Metzger, *Interior Design Resources*, & Thad Wende, *Wende Woodworking, LLC*

Den: Carolyn Ward, *Simply Staging*

Laundry Room: Monica Parsel, *Winston Brown Remodeling*

Master Suite: Tammy Thiessen, *Thiessen Design Co.*

2nd Floor North Bedroom Suite:
Chris Page, *Chris Page Designs*

2nd Floor Center Bedroom Suite:
Kelly Ballard, *Home Court Designs*

Showhouse Room: Designed by YOU:
Led by Gina Nellis & Cora Spencer, who turned the public's vision via online voting into an amazing craft room!

2nd Floor Family Room:
Jan Hutt, *Jan Hutt Interiors*

Lower Level Family Room & Half Bath:
Topeka Area Building Association Professional Remodelers Council

Dear friends,

The 2019 Designers' Showhouse is a "wrap," with the last load of supplies now safely tucked away in our storage unit. This beautiful home attracted thousands who came to tour and support our cause. I continue to hear so many positive comments as people share their feedback about this amazing endeavor. As I write this note, the home is for sale and we are excited about turning over the keys to this incredible property to a new family who will make it their own.

A project of this magnitude takes hundreds of hours of volunteer time to execute. We are so grateful to all who worked on the project in any capacity. Gina Nellis served as our Showhouse chair again this year. She worked tirelessly to recruit and coordinate our many volunteers, all while remaining hands-on with the renovation of the house. The talented designers and craftsmen who showcased their incredible skills as they transformed this home into a Showhouse, orchestrated by Showhouse Coordinator Leslie Hunsicker, never cease to impress with their creativity and vision. At every turn, you saw examples of stellar craftsmanship and design. Corporate and business support was amazing this year and we are so grateful to each and every one! We hope you will patronize the businesses that support our agency, as their support is a key factor in the success of this annual event.



Volunteers scraped lots (and lots!) of wallpaper, pulled up old carpeting, and installed door hinges and hardware in preparation for the design teams to do their work. They guided guests through the house, ran registers, organized and cleaned, pulled off memorable events, and much more! To the many volunteers who helped in any capacity before, during and after the time that we were open for public tours and events, we are so grateful. Please accept our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all you did to make the 2019 Designers' Showhouse a success.

The Designers' Showhouse makes it possible for Child Care Aware[®] of Eastern Kansas to offer positive support and critically needed services to young children and their families. We work with child care programs throughout our service delivery area, helping them improve the quality of care they provide. We assist parents by helping them locate child care that supports their child's growth and development, as well as connecting parents with community resources to support their important role. What happens in a child's early years significantly impacts their success later in life. We are reminded daily of the need for the services we provide. Funding from Showhouse tours, events, sponsorships and the sale of the home all support the programs and services offered. Because of the support received from our donors, partners and friends, our efforts will continue to make a lasting difference for others and we are extremely grateful. Thank you!

Until next time...

Gina Nellis

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Resource Specialists
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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & HAPPENINGS

All programs and services offered through Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas help us fulfill our mission of supporting the development and early education of young children by improving access to resources for families, including high-quality child care options. Below are some highlights that outline a few of the many efforts currently in place throughout our service delivery area.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR PROGRAMS BENEFITING CHILDREN

Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas offers a variety of programs to child care providers to assist them in improving their services offered to young children. We want to help ensure that young children receive a high-quality early childhood education that prepares them for school and for life. We currently have two long-term programs enrolling child care providers to be served this year. Literacy Connections is open to child care programs in Shawnee County serving children meeting “at-risk” criteria established by the Kansas Children’s Cabinet. Participating programs receive coaching support, free professional development opportunities, a mini-grant for classroom materials, and much more. This program is funded by the Kansas Children’s Cabinet through the Shawnee County Early Childhood Block Grant. It will reach 300 at-risk children and their families, as well as positively impact additional children served in these classrooms.

The Child Care Quality Initiative (CCQI) is available this year in Labette and Neosho counties in southeast Kansas and will serve 12 child care providers. This program provides collaborative learning sessions combined with on-site coaching, bringing information and resources to enrolled participants. This program is funded by the Kansas Children’s Cabinet through Child Care Aware® of Kansas.

2019 CAPITAL CITY LEARN & SHARE CONFERENCE & BEYOND

The agency is busy with preparations for the 2019 Capital City Learn & Share, a large conference for child care providers held in Topeka this September. This year’s program, “Managing Emotional Mayhem,” features keynote speaker Shana Schmidt, a Conscious Discipline® certified instructor, licensed professional counselor and infant mental health specialist. Schmidt will teach participants ways to recognize patterns of behavior and simple techniques that build attachment, self-control and courage. This amazing event is cosponsored by Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas and Capital Area Successful Start.

As a follow up to the 2019 Capital City Learn & Share, the agency is offering a unique opportunity to extend learning and support child care providers as they help children learn self-regulation skills. A Peer Learning Community will be held for 25 enrolled Shawnee County providers who attended the conference to discuss implementation strategies learned at the event. Participants will also receive a kit that includes the “Managing Emotional Mayhem” teacher resource book and other materials. Funding for this opportunity is provided by the Women’s Fund.

SUCCESSFUL CONNECTIONS LUNCH & LEARN EVENTS

The Successful Connections program connects new and expectant mothers/families with home visitation programs, and other resources and services they need to be successful parents. Additionally, Successful Connections supports the needs of the social service community partners serving families by coordinating monthly Lunch & Learn events. These free events allow attendees to hear a professional speaker share their knowledge on a relevant topic, leading to an increased ability to understand and meet the unique and ever-changing needs of families. Upcoming presentations include “Pregnancy & Postpartum Support” by the Pregnancy & Postpartum Resource Center and “CASA and ‘Navigating CINC (Child In Need of Care)’” with Delette Ford of CASA.



39TH ANNUAL DESIGNERS' SHOWHOUSE AT INDIAN WOODS

Thank You!

Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas wishes to thank the individuals, organizations and companies whose contributions helped ensure a successful Designers' Showhouse.

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WIBW Channel 13

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Skinner Garden Store

CORPORATE VIP FRIENDS, continued

Techno Movers
The White Linen
Topeka Capital-Journal
Wheatland Pest Control

MANY THANKS

BOK Financial, for many years of
providing tours and lunch for clients!
Breaker's Sports Bar & Grill
Capital City Tree Care
ERC/Child Care Aware® of Eastern
Kansas Board & Staff
Fellowship Bible Church
Front Door Catering
Ron Gwaltney
Leah Gabler Marshall & friends, for your
assistance with the Patron Party!
Shawnee County

Many thanks to the Indian Woods neighbors for graciously supporting the Designers' Showhouse! Also, thank you to all of the area businesses that supported the Designers' Showhouse by promoting it on their marquees and attending the event with their staff!

Volunteer Thank You Party

Did you volunteer at the 2019 Designers' Showhouse, at our office or in another capacity? If so, we would like to invite you to join us for a Volunteer Thank You Party!

When: Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2019, at 6 PM
Dinner will be served.

Where: Big Gage Shelter House
(Next to the Topeka Zoo)
635 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS

A reservation for each attendee is required. Please RSVP online at <https://east.ks.childcareaware.org> or call 785-357-5171, option 1.

This event is sponsored by BMW of Topeka.



BMW OF TOPEKA

Board Service Opportunities

The Board Governance and Leadership Committee is beginning the nominating process for new board members for terms that begin in January 2020. Anyone interested in learning more should contact Reva Wywadis at 785-440-4507 or reva@east.ks.childcareaware.org.

Wishing Billie a Wonderful Retirement!

Billie Segrist joined the agency on Aug. 25, 1997, as a resource specialist. Billie had operated a licensed family child care home for 14 years prior to joining our staff. Her experience as a child care provider, parent and grandparent made this position a natural “fit” for her.

“Billie has been such an integral part of our team for so many years,” said Reva Wywadis, executive director. “She develops a special connection with both the families and the child care providers she speaks with. We wish Billie the very best as she retires and makes time for all the things she loves to do!”



HELPING KANSAS FAMILIES



The Parent Resource Center operated out of the Topeka Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas office helps families throughout the state find child care that meets their unique needs. These needs can be challenging due to circumstances including transportation issues, location, evening or weekend schedules, cost factors and availability of openings.

Staff make an attempt to do a follow-up call with each parent as a part of our services to ensure they received the help that was needed. According to those surveyed starting July 1, 2018, 91 percent said that they would use our services again. One parent went on to say, “I thought the service provided was very good. I appreciated the resources! I plan to refer others to this resource as often as possible.”

Funding for the Parent Resource Center comes from the Department for Children and Families (DCF) through Child Care Aware® of Kansas.

1100 SW Wanamaker Road, Suite 201, Topeka, KS 66604 • 785-357-5171 or 877-678-2548 • <https://east.ks.childcareaware.org>



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