



JOIN US FOR TOPEKA GIVES!

JUNE 5, 2018

Join us and many other local non-profit agencies between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, for Topeka Gives – a charitable day of giving hosted by the Topeka Community Foundation. Visit our booth inside Fairlawn Plaza and show your support to Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas.

For updates about this fantastic day, keep an eye on our website, <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>, and our Facebook page, [facebook.com/ChildCareAwareKS](https://www.facebook.com/ChildCareAwareKS).



Friday, May 11, 2018

Announcing: Call for Offers

ERC Resource & Referral, Inc., dba Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas, is now accepting offers on the property owned by the agency at 1551 SW Westover Road in Topeka, Kansas, which is for sale by owner. This home is serving as the 2018 Designers' Showhouse, and open for public tours April 21 - May 13, 2018. Offers can be submitted in writing at any time. Submissions should be sent to Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas, attn. Reva Wywadis, 1100 SW Wanamaker Road, Suite 201, Topeka, KS 66604. The board of directors will consider submitted offers beginning April 23, 2018. Should an offer be accepted, closing on the sale will be scheduled for a date after May 15, 2018. The board reserves the right to accept or decline any offer. Questions can be directed to Reva Wywadis at 785-440-4507 or by emailing reva@east.ks.childcareaware.org.



Before Photos of the 2018 Designers' Showhouse



NEWS NOW!

SHOWHOUSE EDITION 2018

2018 Designers' Showhouse



Showhouse Particulars...

APRIL 21 - MAY 13, 2018

Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Located at
1551 SW Westover Road, Topeka

Tickets are \$12 at the door,
\$10 if purchased at a ticket outlet.

Last tour starts 30 minutes before closing.
Children under the age of 8 not admitted.
Lunch is available this year **only**
for scheduled group tours.

Check out the rest of this newsletter or
visit <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> for
information on group tours, special events,
ticket outlets and more!

OTHER IMPORTANT SHOWHOUSE DATES

PATRON PARTY
Friday, April 20, 2018

LADIES NIGHT
Thursday, April 26, 2018

WINE TASTING
Friday, May 4, 2018

BEER TASTING
Thursday, May 10, 2018

The Designers' Showhouse project is not only a fantastic event gracing the Topeka community for 38 years, it is also an important fundraiser that offers critical support for programs and services benefiting children and families. It is a great opportunity to tour an amazingly transformed home, see the latest in design trends, and show your support for Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas, an agency making a lasting impact.

The 2018 Designers' Showhouse has certainly undergone a vast rejuvenation, inside and out. This house, located at 1551 SW Westover Road in Topeka, has received much more than a cosmetic lift involving paint and accessories. Trees have been removed. Walls have been torn down and built. The electrical has received an overhaul. Studs have been exposed and doorways widened. Although the list of renovations could go on, lets move ahead with a quick tour that is sure to raise excitement.

We begin our tour in the **Entry** and **Living Room**, designed by Brandi Whisler and Jan Davis of Carpet One® Floor & Home. This pair of talented designers added their creative touches with the use of bold tile and beautiful carpet, and by highlighting the living room's gracious windows. Custom iron railing was also installed to bring the sunken room up to date and add character.

Although hallways and stairways are often only utilized in moving from space to space without much attention to décor, Leslie Hunsicker of Leslie Hunsicker Interiors had thought otherwise and added some eye-catching artwork throughout these **Transition Spaces**. Local pieces from Pat Abellon, Lynn Wilson and Kym Ledbetter are highlighted by updated lighting.

The **Guest Suite**, taken on by Michelle Butler of Ms. B Designs, has received quite the change in appearance. The amazing built-ins have been painted and vibrant accessories liven the suite up. The bathroom is no longer drowned in pink tile, but now offers a tasteful nod to the time period in which the house was built.

Meg Rahmeier with McPherson Contractors, Inc., is taking in her first Showhouse experience. The **Master Suite's** original tiny closet is no more. The space now hosts a much larger walk-in closet that is more fitting of a master suite. The combination tub in the bath has also been replaced by a generous walk-in shower.

CONTINUED INSIDE

ERC RESOURCE & REFERRAL, INC., D/B/A CHILD CARE AWARE® OF EASTERN KANSAS

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ERC RESOURCE & REFERRAL, INC. d/b/a

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Although the calendar says that it is spring, the weather has not been reflective of that. Nevertheless, at some point it will warm up and we will all be able to enjoy the fresh, new beginning that spring brings! This year, the Designers' Showhouse gives a beautiful Westboro home a "new beginning." The 2018 Designers' Showhouse took a new twist when the agency purchased a home to renovate, with the resale as a way for the project to generate even more revenue for programs and services benefiting children and families. The board of directors is now accepting offers from homebuyers who may see this incredible house as their next home. Details can be found on our website, <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>.

Again this year, Leslie Hunsicker brought her incredible talent to the project as she took on the role of showhouse coordinator and worked with the great team of designers and craftsmen. Leslie's touch helps to bring a continuity and flow to the look of the entire house. We have a great mix of seasoned Showhouse professionals and new faces this year, all displaying their creativity and trades.

The Designers' Showhouse is truly a labor of love. Showhouse Chair Gina Nellis has assembled an incredible team of volunteers who are busy recruiting others to help with spring tours. It takes nearly 300 volunteers to make the Showhouse happen each year. This year's volunteers took on lots of additional projects like pulling up old carpet, stripping wallpaper, cleaning up brush and spreading mulch. If you haven't already signed on, it is not too late. Visit our website to learn about volunteer opportunities and how you can help.

The Showhouse is not just a chance to see new interior design ideas you can use in your own home, attend a fun event with friends, or shop for unique gifts in our Showhouse Boutique. This fundraiser provides vital services for young children and families. What happens in early childhood has a lasting impact on a child's life. Our efforts help to ensure that children arrive at school with the skills they need to be successful, and that families can access the community resources and support they need, including child care while they work or attend school. Thank you so much for supporting this important cause.

See you at the Showhouse!



40 YEARS OF HELPING FAMILIES FIND CHILD CARE

by Laurie Pigg

The statewide Parent Resource Center operated by Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas continues to offer families assistance in locating child care programs to fit their unique needs. Although the service delivery areas and the methods of offering this service have changed over the years, it is exciting to note that the agency will be celebrating our 40th anniversary of offering referrals this December.

Major developments over the past few years have led to the conversion to a statewide database that has made online child care searches much easier. It is also easier for child care programs to update their information electronically. Resource specialists are still available by phone to help families with referrals, and to help problem solve and share parenting resources.

The referral service is offered at no cost to both parents and to child care programs. Information that is maintained on child care programs includes current vacancies by age, hours and schedule of each program, subsidy information, transportation options, as well as training and education of their staff. By keeping this information current, families receive up-to-date data.

The data that the Parent Resource Center maintains is used regionally, statewide and nationally. Real-time data regarding the number of families seeking care and specifics on the ages of children needing care can be shared. This data was recently used with a statewide report available at www.ks.childcareaware.org regarding supply and demand issues in each Kansas county.

Helping families connect with child care resources has always been a service priority for our agency. Our staff is pleased that we can continue to offer families throughout the state referral services that had a humble beginning in the basement of the YWCA in Topeka so many years ago. Locating available and affordable child care continues to be a relevant need for Kansas families.

SHOWHOUSE, CONT.

The **Study** has been lightened up by Carolyn Cox from The Open Window. Carolyn kept the original knotty pine walls and polished them up, but chose to white-wash the fireplace to brighten the room. A custom desk and chair from W Design create a new focal point in this comfortable space.

Traveling up the stairs, you have multiple options of destinations greeting you right at the top. Straight ahead is the **2nd Floor Powder Room**, designed by newcomer Megan Moss of Megan Moss Designs. The small space may have a neutral palette, but comes to life with new hardware and wonderful hanging terrariums.

The room to the right of the stairs is now known as the "**Oasis Room**," also taken on by Megan Moss. This versatile space may look like a relaxing home office, but it can quickly be altered to become a craft room, artist's escape, reading zone, etc.

This home was adorned with multiple built-ins that add an incredible amount of character. The room boasting the most is the **2nd Floor Northwest Bedroom** that has been taken on by Caroline Bivens of CB Designs. The most dramatic change came with the addition of shiplap throughout the space. The neutral colors provide a relaxing feel, with added flare from both new and vintage décor.

Lorrie Dickey of Lowe's® Home Improvement Center dedicated her creative touch to the upstairs **Jack & Jill Bath**. Working with the existing tile and tub, Lorrie was able to refresh the bath with an amazing new vanity and top, faucet and more.

New to the home, thanks to the addition of a wall and moving a closet door, was the transformation of the second floor family room to the **2nd Floor South Bedroom**. Carolyn Ward of Simply Staging glammed up the now functional bedroom with gold accents and deep blues, as well as brought in some drama with the addition of striking wallpaper to one wall.

Returning to the first floor, you will find the **Main Floor Powder Room** tucked away. Sarah Kellogg of Kellogg Interiors turned the outdated bathroom into a stunning space that now features tall wainscoting, bold stenciling and other calming touches.

The **Kitchen, Dining Room** and **Sunroom** are still three separate spaces, but made to seem like a more free-flowing area that is perfect for entertaining or for a busy family! Monica Parsel and the crew at Winston Brown Remodeling took on all three spaces and started their massive project by widening the doorways between each space.

The **Kitchen** was gutted and reconfigured with the addition of incredible custom cabinets, soap stone countertops and all new appliances provided by Factory Direct. This space has an added familiar, yet modern touch provided by the new backsplash.

The built-ins in the **Dining Room** were updated with new hardware and by removing some of the cabinet doors. The addition of a stunning new light fixture helps to bring new life to this space.

The **Sunroom** still has its original charm, but has been rejuvenated. Paint helps to liven the space up, as does the plaster wash added to the original red-brick fireplace. A new mantel tops off the fireplace and the room.

Lastly, guests will travel outdoors to what has to be one of the most transformed areas at this year's Designers' Showhouse. Aaron Jones, Erin Clarke and the Schendel Lawn & Landscape crew took on the huge task of the **Landscape**, while welcoming the assistance of fantastic volunteers. They removed the overgrowth and added beautiful plants, flowers and trees. The front and back yards now present a welcoming atmosphere that the Showhouse guests and future homeowners will surely enjoy.

We have included "**Finishing Touches**" pages in the Showhouse program book over the recent years. This project could not happen without the businesses and individuals who donate their time and talent to the Showhouse. Thank you to CWC Electric, Casey Schrempf Painting, Brian E. Hall Painting, Sherwin-Williams, Budget Blinds, Long Lighting Studio, McElroy' Inc., McCray Lumber & Millwork, West Wood Floors, Hardwood Interiors, Chavez Restoration & Cleaning, Clear View Inc., Garage Force of Topeka, Red Door Home Store and the MANY others that have given their product, time and talent. Please be sure to check out this year's "Finishing Touches" pages in the Designers' Showhouse program book for all of the details.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, makes for a memorable 2018 Designers' Showhouse! Don't forget that this year's Designers' Showhouse is for sale, with proceeds benefiting Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas and our mission of supporting the development and early education of children by improving access to resources for families, including high-quality child care options. Find more information about Showhouse hours, purchasing tickets, special events and more throughout this newsletter, as well as online at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>.

Support this important fundraiser, which provides crucial programs and services for children and families!

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ABOUT THE 2018 DESIGNERS' SHOWHOUSE CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTP://EAST.KS.CHILDCAREAWARE.ORG](http://east.ks.childcareaware.org)

SPECIAL SHOWHOUSE EVENTS

LADIES NIGHT

Thursday, April 26, 2018, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of fun and festivity specifically for the ladies (although guys will not be excluded). Tour the Showhouse and enjoy hors d'oeuvres from Aboud's – Engroff Catering, wine and other beverages!



This event is open to the public, and is graciously being co-hosted by the Topeka (Kansas) Chapter of The Links, Inc., and the Junior League of Topeka.

Thank you to our Ladies Night sponsors, FHLBank Topeka and Debacker's, Inc.

Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. Cost is \$30 per person. Deadline to register is 10 a.m. on April 24, 2018.



WINE TASTING

Friday, May 4, 2018, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand, this evening provides a wonderful opportunity to learn about wine! Sample a variety of wines paired with selected foods from Aboud's – Engroff Catering, receive a Riedel wine glass, and enjoy a tour of the Showhouse.

Thank you to our wine experts Steve Bergstrom, Clay Devlin, Stacy Young and Nancy Gargan! Wine glasses have been graciously provided by Devlin's Wine & Spirits. Thank you to HyVee for providing the delicious cheese pairings.

Thank you to our Wine Tasting sponsors, Summers, Spencer & Company, P.A. and Topeka Periodontics.

Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. This event is open to the public for those that are 21 and over. Cost is \$40 per person. Deadline to register is 10 a.m. on May 2, 2018.

BEER TASTING

Thursday, May 10, 2018, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy a fun evening touring the Showhouse, partaking in an array of foods from Front Door Catering, and sampling beers from Blind Tiger Brewery & Restaurant, Happy Basset Brewing Company and Norsemen Brewing Company. Many of the contractors and craftsmen who participated in this year's Showhouse will be on-hand to share information on their talented skill, products and more.



This event is graciously being hosted by the Topeka Area Building Association Professional Remodelers Council.

Thank you to our Beer Tasting sponsors, Security Benefit and Envista Credit Union.

Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. This event is open to the public for those that are 21 and over. Cost is \$30 per person. Deadline to register is May 8, 2018.

SHUTTLES AVAILABLE FOR THESE SPECIAL SHOWHOUSE EVENTS

A shuttle provided by Ed Bozarth Chevrolet #1 Buick GMC will be available from the Lowman United Methodist Church parking lot at 4000 SW Drury Lane in Topeka.

GROUP TOURS AT THE SHOWHOUSE

There is still time to book a group tour at this year's Showhouse! Group tours are great for special interest clubs and groups, or even just a group of your fabulous friends! Groups of 8 or more attending the Showhouse together may enjoy a self-guided tour during normal Showhouse hours. Special guided group tours are also available on Mondays by appointment. Come and enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the Showhouse!

Lunch is available **only** for scheduled group tours. Advance reservations and payment are required.

For more information about group tours, visit our website at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> or call 785-357-5171, option 1.

VOLUNTEER AT THE SHOWHOUSE

If you are interested in volunteering at the Showhouse, we are looking to fill open docent time slots. Pick the dates and times that work best with your schedule. Visit the Volunteer section of the Designers' Showhouse portion of our website, <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>, to see what time slots and dates are available.

