

HIGHLIGHTS THIS QUARTER

Winter 2020

Our community's commitment to creating opportunities that help individuals and families achieve stability is living proof that each of us has the ability to make a difference. With investments from caring members of our community like you, we are proud to announce the following results for this quarter:

INVESTMENT



24,171

individuals experienced an increase in food stability

908



adults and/or children with increased access to healthcare, safe housing and independent living

328



children were prepared for academic success



580

mentor relationships established for children to facilitate their overall success

133



community members pursuing career growth with increased financial literacy skills

IMPACT

CREATING SUCCESS STORIES

A Letter of Support from a Hardin County Cradle School Parent

"This was the first year that I had ever heard of Cradle School, so when my mother-in-law told me about it I could not wait to take my son. When September came I was so excited to start. My son only being 14.5 months old at the time I was very interested to see what all he could learn. It makes me so happy to see my now 17.5 month old and all the things he can do. I honestly have loved some of the crafts that I have done them at home for him. He absolutely loves to paint and loves the sensory bins, he is also helping me glue things down on his crafts. He is already saying colors, can count to three, say the Alphabet A-F, and can match shapes with the holes that go in. He is good at sharing and playing with the other kids.

[His teacher] is a wonderful teacher, she really helps the children learn and play. She plays with them individually as well. She goes above and beyond in my eyes, for example, my son loves to play with buttons and knobs so she found an old CD player for him to play with. I am so happy that we started going to cradle school, we go all three days and we absolutely love it. I feel like cradle school is a wonderful thing for kids to go to, there is a huge benefit for their learning and social skills. My son is one of the youngest that go and I feel like he is gaining so much not just from the class itself but from being around older children. This program is a wonderful way to get children ready for Preschool and Kindergarten, it instills learning and listening habits at an early age and also gets them used to being around and playing/sharing with other children."



Photos courtesy of Kacenda Bland
Parent Educator
Hardin County Schools



Impact of CASA of the Heartland

"In January 2017, four children ranging in age from 10 to 16 were removed from their parents due to substance abuse and arrest. Three of the children were placed with family members and the youngest was placed with fictive kin; a family friend. A new CASA Volunteer on her first case was assigned in the Summer of 2017 and began visiting and getting to know the children. Only a few months into the case, the children had been moved two times and would eventually be placed in two separate foster homes. At one point, all 4 children were again placed with the family member, only to be removed again after a short time. After some movement for all four in foster care, the two oldest and the two youngest were paired and placed in homes that would become permanent. The CASA Volunteer remained an advocate for the four children for two years and she was able to see them through permanency. In her words, 'These children have grown and grown and thrived in loving homes, and are in a place where they are finally able to be children'.

The three youngest children continue to improve in their academics and self-esteem, and the oldest, who at the beginning of the case was on probation and was generally disrespectful to adults or anyone in any kind of authority role, has taken the initiative to catch up in earning high school credits that he fell behind on and states he wants to be a Marine. One of the most important things this CASA Volunteer did for these children was to show them that adults can be consistent in their lives. By staying with them, getting to know them and genuinely caring about their future, she was able to impact their futures in a positive way. She says she still hears from them from time to time, just so that she knows they are happy."

Story courtesy of Natalie Cabbage
CASA of the Heartland, Inc.

DID YOU KNOW?

What information do I need from United Way of Central Kentucky to claim a tax deduction?

Payroll contributions to support United Way of Central Kentucky are tax-deductible.

Payroll Deduction: For contributions through payroll deduction, your final year-end paycheck or W-2 will reflect your total United Way contribution for the year.

Check: For contributions to United Way by check in the amount of \$249 or less, your cancelled check is sufficient to act as your receipt. For contributions of \$250 or more, United Way of Central Kentucky will provide you with a letter stating that no goods or services were given to you in exchange for your contribution and include our charitable EIN number. For contributions of less than \$250, we will happily provide a similar letter at the request of the donor.