

## *Friends of Children's Grove | June 2022*

Welcome to Friends of Children's Grove, a bi-monthly look at the activities, events and initiatives happening at Children's Grove!



### Kindness Month Recap

We had a fabulous kindness month this April! Here are some of the activities and events that helped spread kindness around Boone County.



#### Chalking downtown

Kids from Locust Street Elementary School charked messages of kindness on 9th Street in downtown Columbia.

#### Kindness Ambassadors



Kindness Ambassadors from Hickman, Rock Bridge and Battle High Schools had students paint rocks with kindness messages and then distributed them at local parks.



Kindness Ambassadors from Hickman, Rock Bridge and Battle helped distribute food and supplies during Rock the Community.



Kindness Ambassadors from Rock Bridge read kindness books to youth at the Daniel Boone Library. The Ambassadors from Hickman read kindness books to youth at the Boys and Girls Club.

#### Getting some recognition

For the first time since COVID, we were able to host an in-person recognition dinner for this year's

Kindness Ambassadors.

The Kindness Ambassadors were joined by the family for the special celebration at the Reichmann Center at Stephens Lake Park.

Principals and counselors from each schools attended and helped distribute a certificate and t-shirt to each ambassador. The Mayor and Superintendent of Schools also attended and spoke words of praise and encouragement.



Shakespeare's Pizza and Center Point helped to underwrite the cost of the dinner.

## Lunch and Learn: Social Media and Its Impact on Children and Teens



### LUNCH & LEARN Social Media and Its Impact on Children & Teens



Dr. Chad Rose, Associate Professor in the Special Education Department at Mizzou provided an outstanding training on Zoom. You can view this training above or [on our website](#).

## Kindness Display

Children's Grove was able to have a kindness display at the Daniel Boone Library throughout the month of April.

Library staff called the display the most popular of the month.





## Kindness Clubs

We are very happy to announce that there are Kindness Clubs in all of the middle schools and half of the elementary schools in Boone County. Much of this success is due to Sarah Greenlee from Gentry Middle School who developed a curriculum for the clubs.

SEPTA (Special Education Parent Teacher Association) has been integral to the clubs' success. Their efforts aim to create an inclusive club where students with different abilities interact and support each other. A special picnic to celebrate the success of these efforts occurred at Nifong Park.

## Kindness Libraries

Packets of five kindness books were distributed throughout Boone County to preschools and early elementary.

## Earth Day

Children's Grove had a booth at Columbia's Earth Day event and distributed seeds, heart-shaped stress balls and a bingo card with earth-friendly tasks for kids to do.



## May is Mental Health Month

The first week in May is Youth Mental Health Week. A special ceremony took place in front of Shelter Fountain where the Mayor read a proclamation that designated that week as Youth Mental Health Week. Several social services attended. The ceremony was organized by Heather Harlan who is an active member of NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) and a volunteer for Children's Grove. Heather was able to get the Shelter Fountain, the Key and the new globe on Broadway to light up in green in honor of youth mental health.



## Have you seen them?

From May through mid-June, banners are flying high up and down Broadway in downtown Columbia.

The banners would not have made their stunning debut without Stephen's Creative in St. Louis donating her creative talents since our conception.

Applauds to the team at GME Supply Columbia who generously donated their time, talent and materials to print the 25 banners displayed.

The banners send a message to Columbia that "Kindness Creates Community." We are grateful for all those who have joined hands to pay it forward with our kindness movement.



## Family Fun Fests

From June through September, Children's Grove will participate in monthly Family Fun Festivals. These events provide a great opportunity to spread kindness to the youth of Columbia.

During our May event, we were very happy to have Miss Columbia, Amanda Lewis, at our booth. She is now a CG volunteer.

## Spotlight: Outstanding Children's Grove Volunteer



This month's **Outstanding Volunteer** is Amanda Lewis.

Amanda is the reigning Miss Columbia. Her platform for the Miss Missouri pageant is Youth Mental Health. She sought us out after a gathering on May 4th at Shelter Fountain. The gathering was to highlight Children's Mental Health Week.

It didn't take long for Amanda to start volunteering. She provided us with an idea, created the artwork, and showed up wearing her crown for the May 18th Family Fun Festival. The theme was "BEE Kind to Your Mind." The children were instantly drawn to her, and she worked with them as they colored their bees. She encouraged them to write a message to themselves on their Bees: "BEE awesome," "BEE kind,"

"BEE strong," and "BEE happy."

We are grateful and fortunate to have this new volunteer. **Thank you Amanda!**

You, too, can be a volunteer for Children's Grove. [Visit our website](#) to learn more and sign up.

As always, please follow us on Facebook ([ChildrensGrove](#)) and Instagram ([@childrensgrove](#)) for our daily kindness quotes and information about all of our events.

Visit our website at [childrensgrove.org](#) to check out all our valuable resources.

Children's Grove | [childrensgrove.org](#)



Children's Grove | P.O. Box 736, Columbia, MO 65205 [childrensgrove.org](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) [lacklandl@missouri.edu](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [info@childrensgrove.org](#) in collaboration  
with



Try email marketing for free today!