



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

emergency shelter • foster care • adoption • girls residential treatment • national safe place

YOUR IMPACT: BECOMING A FAMILY

It has been a long, sometimes difficult journey for Lillian and Michael Rodriguez to adopt, but they always knew it was their calling. A victim of abuse herself, Lillian grew up with her adoptive aunt and uncle. Michael's father was adopted, as well.

Michael is a partner at Munck Wilson Mandala law firm and a veteran of the US Navy, having served in Afghanistan. Lillian is currently working on her college degree. They are both busy adults who decided they could make a difference in a child's life.

With your support, they were able to connect with Jonathan's Place and start the training and licensing process to become foster-to-adopt parents.

"Shortly after we married, we started to explore the different agencies and options for adoption. Jonathan's Place offers honesty and clarity to not only the difficulty of the process but the commitment required on our end," said Lillian.

In October 2012, they welcomed three foster children who came from the Emergency Shelter at Jonathan's Place.

They grew to love those children, but the adoption was not meant to be and the children were placed with biological relatives.

Lillian and Michael were devastated, but they persevered through their pain knowing they were still able to make a positive impact in the lives of abused children.

Soon, the couple began the process again and welcomed three foster children into their home - Taylor, Jocelyn, and Braden. continued on page 4





Children from our Emergency Shelter waving to welcome Santa in December 2013. The special trip from the North Pole was made possible by the Texas Department of Public Safety who collected gifts and delivered them to our children via helicopter.

THE HOLIDAYS AT JONATHAN'S PLACE

Jonathan's Place actually sees some of its busiest times around the holidays. Imagine waking up in December in a strange home, separated from your family. Even though each child is safe, we count on the support of the community to help provide an amazing holiday season for each of the children in our care.

Donating Clothes and Toys

Jonathan's Place is home to hundreds of children each year. To help provide basic necessities for our children, we count on donations of clothing, toiletries, household goods, and toys. **Gift cards to local stores are preferred** to provide each child the best clothing for their different sizes and personalities.

Donations of new items may be mailed or dropped off to our location at:

Jonathan's Place
6065 Duck Creek Drive
Garland, TX 75043

We appreciate gently used clothing and toys, as well. These items can be dropped off at 12 donation cottages across North Texas, including Jonathan's Place.

To see a full list of drop-off locations and a complete listing of specific items currently needed, please visit www.jpkids.org/needs.

Sponsor a Child

Make a difference in the life of a child in foster care this holiday season. Sponsor one of the children in our care and agree to provide clothes or toys from their Christmas wish list.

For information, contact Cassie Evans at cevens@kidnet.org or call 972-303-5303 ext. 248.

Provide a Holiday Meal

Ms. Dorothy is the first employee of Jonathan's Place and has cooked almost every meal for the children in our care for more than 20 years. The kids adore her.

Please consider giving her a break during the holidays by bringing a meal for the children. The meals need to serve around 30 and must be brought from a licensed commercial kitchen or restaurant.

To schedule a meal, contact Cassie Evans at cevens@kidnet.org or call 972-303-5303 ext. 248.



THANK YOU HOBLITZELLE FOUNDATION

Thank you to the Hoblitzelle Foundation for their very generous support of campus improvements at Jonathan's Place.

Their \$50,000 gift has allowed us to update facilities that are used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by some of the thousands of children abused each year in North Texas.

"We are incredibly thankful to the Hoblitzelle Foundation for ensuring we have the infrastructure to help abused children at any hour of the day or night," said Alicia Graham Frye, CEO of Jonathan's Place.

"We are proud to support Jonathan's Place and partner with them to ensure North Texas' abused and neglected children are cared for in a manner and facility that helps them work through their traumatic past," said Paul W. Harris, president and CEO of The Hoblitzelle Foundation.

NOVEMBER IS ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

More than 10,500 children are available for adoption right now in Texas alone

During the past 12 months, Jonathan's Place has helped finalize the adoption of 19 children. With support from donors and foundations, Jonathan's Place has made new investments in our Foster Care & Adoption program that are showing incredible results.

Each day, we have new families coming to Jonathan's Place interested in fostering-to-adopt abused and neglected children. Each of these children will have a powerful story on how your gifts have changed their lives. Thank you for your continued support.





Thank you to the Provisional Members from the Junior League of Dallas!
They helped make significant renovations and campus improvements in September 2014.

A SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR FROM ALLICIA FRYE, CEO

I want you to know that your gifts make a huge difference in the lives of abused children from across North Texas.

Because of your generosity, we have increased the number of children we serve and are able to provide them with new and fun opportunities.

The holidays are a special time of year when your gifts are even more important. During this season, the support we receive from you and people across North Texas helps us provide a Christmas that these children will cherish.

While the children will spend the season away from their biological family, they are here with their Jonathan's Place family - and we make sure it is something to remember. From carriage rides in Highland Park to special visits from Santa in a helicopter, your support always amazes me.

With your continued support, our staff is equipped to work 24/7 to care for each child in need. Thank you for your generous support.

Allicia



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The children were neglected by their mother who had a history of drug abuse and a history with Child Protective Services.

After several months, your gifts made it possible for Lillian and Michael Rodriguez to adopt these three beautiful children this past September.

Today, the girls are thriving in private school and Braden is a joy of a toddler.

"Our life has changed from two happily married adults into a family of five. Something is always going great and something is always about to break. Life has been pulled by its tethers to reveal a beautiful tapestry of laughter, fun, joy, frustration, sorrow and, above all, happiness."

Thank you for your continued support that allows Jonathan's Place to help children.

Your generous support made it possible for Lillian and Michael to finally have the family they've always dreamed of and Taylor, Jocelyn, and Braden the parents they deserve.

972.303.5303 • jpkids.org/give

