

Cornerstone Quarterly

April 2018

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“Every adoptive family needs these services. They just may not know it yet.”

“I continue to pray God brings more families to Cornerstone.”

-Pam Schuering on the family’s help from Cornerstone therapist Trina Vogel

The Schuering family received specialized counseling through Adoption Support and Preservation

Adoptive Family Learns to Connect

Cornerstone therapist Trina Vogel spends a lot of time educating adoptive parents on the trauma and loss their adopted children may have experienced in the past, and how that experience can show up as behavioral challenges. Trina provides specialized counseling to adoptive families, provided at no cost to clients through the Adoption Support and Preservation (ASAP) program. Cornerstone has the state contract for adoptive services in the area.

Cornerstone has had the privilege of serving the Schuering family with ASAP services and as Pam Schuering says, “Anybody who has adopted a child should be here. They just may not know it yet. Our eyes are not trained to see the signs of trauma.” The Schuerings had had their little son Daniel home for about a year and a half and weren’t quite yet connecting as they had hope and prayed for. Daniel was showing some behavior that they did not understand and they didn’t yet have the resources and knowledge they needed to help him. That’s when a dear friend told them about Cornerstone and Trina. “Very shortly after we started meeting with Trina, we started to see healing. Really quickly,” says Pam. “With Cornerstone’s services we immediately had a greater appreciation and understanding of the great loss that Daniel had experienced and we started to understand some of his different and difficult behavior. Trina gave us the simple tools to help us connect with Daniel and create an environment where he felt safe. We started building a relationship where he trusted us and could receive all of the love that we wanted to give him.” Due to the trauma and

loss so many adopted children experience, they struggle with trust, hope and connecting with others.

The Adoption Support and Preservation program at Cornerstone provides for individual sessions for children ages 18 months to 18 years, as well as sessions for siblings and the whole family. Therapist Trina Vogel is a certified Theraplay® Level One Practitioner and specializes in trauma-focused behavioral therapies. Trina loves working with families. “I greatly enjoy working with children and their families,” she says. “I use creative and playful techniques to meet kids on their level to help meet their goals.” Trina can also provide specialized therapy for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder using AutPlay®, a directive play therapy approach designed specifically to address the complex needs of Autism including connection, social skills, and emotional regulation. If you are an adoptive family, Cornerstone would love to help you!



Thank you to the Schuering Family for Sharing Daniel’s Story!

Local Dancers "Bring It" in All Star Competition



2018 Local Stars pose together on the stage

Cornerstone wishes to thank all those who helped make the All Star eighth edition of Dancing with Local Stars another successful fundraiser and a beautiful night. Each dance couple brought their unique dance styles, hairstyles and costumes to the stage in pursuit of the treasured mirror ball trophy. We even had the sweet surprise of a gender reveal at the end of Dr. Dustin and Melinda Higgins's Swing routine. In a pop of light blue at the end, we found out they were having a boy, their fifth! Before the dance competition Jack Crickard helped Cornerstone honor Ray Wilson as Humanitarian of the Year. A very special thanks goes out to our incredible volunteer event committee members Donna Smith, Darla Rischar, Anita Failor and Eric Thomas. Bravo!

Overall Winners: Crissie Duran and Zeke Cernea (Coached by Beth Heinze/Heinze Dance Academy)

People's Choice: April Azotea and Eddie Edmondson

Best Costume: Catie Doyle and Max Dancer

Best Chemistry: Casey Little and Zach Sharnhorst

Biggest Ego: Shannon Davis and David Amelotti

Kickin' It Up (Most Spirited): Talia Newkirk and Matt Anderson

Rock Stars: April Azotea and Eddie Edmondson

Best Hair: Amber Fafoglia and Korey Haner



Thank you Dancers, Coaches, Judges, Sponsors, Volunteers and Attendees!

Sizzling Salsa Sponsor: County Market

Tango Level Sponsors: American Family Insurance Gerard Fischer and Associates, LLC; BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois; Columbia Honda; Comfort Inn & Suites/Best Western on the River/Days Inn in Hannibal; Continental Cement Company; Doyle; Gem City Gymnastics; Gully Transportation; Holiday Inn/Tony's Too; Media Development; Mercantile Bank; NuFit; Paige C. Holt, MD Glori Traeder CNP Plastic Surgery & Aesthetics; Quincy Medical Group; Quincy Recycle; Refreshment Services Pepsi; Shottenkirk Automotive; Smith Brothers Powersports; Staradio; Table Sixteen Productions; Town & Country Bank Midwest; United Community Credit Union; Wells Fargo

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Hokey Pokey Sponsors: Dr.&Mrs. Merle Jacobs; Sam's Club

Dance Team Sponsors: Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing; Brumbaugh Tree Service; BSN Sports Tim Tappe; Columbia Honda; Designer's Edge Day Spa; Doyle; Electric Fountain Brewing; For Home & Her; Freel

Enterprises; Gem City Gymnastics; Grawe Enterprises; Gully Transportation; Morgan Creek; Quincy Medical Group; Smith Brothers Powersports; United Community Credit Union; Verve Aesthetics; WDM Support & Tax Service

Emcee: Craig Freeman

Dance Team Coaches: Amy Terwelp/Vancil Performing Arts Studio; Amy Veach; Beth Heinze/Heinze Dance Academy; Diane Tappe/The Dance Factory; Jill Schuckman/Cheryl Loatsch Studio; Holly Schell/Elite Studio; Tiffany Frese/Q Dance

First Steps Program Prevents Child Abuse and Neglect



First Steps Caseworker Raquel Kroencke with baby River

Since the first presidential proclamation in 1983 [Child Abuse Prevention Month](#) has been observed each April. Since then millions across the country have participated in activities to raise awareness that all children deserve to grow up in safe, nurturing homes.

At Cornerstone we not only believe in great childhoods, we have a program aimed at educating new parents to prevent child abuse or neglect from ever happening. Affiliated with Healthy Families Illinois, it's called First Steps, and it is the only program of its kind in Adams County. Operating for 18 years and supervised by Cornerstone Family Support Caseworker Raquel Kroencke, First Steps is an in-home visitation program that supports parents in their efforts to provide a loving and nurturing environment for their new babies, working with families until their child is age 5. Raquel and her team meet with parents in their homes to not only teach parenting skills but monitor the child's development and connect them with any community resources that may be helpful.

Voluntary participants value the program's benefits of a relationship with professionals they can trust, which eases their minds, builds their confidence and helps them become the best parents they can be. From

client Ashley, "The program has helped me more firmly believe in my choices to parent in a healthy, non-violent way as well as encouraged me to keep up with self-care." First Steps clients know they matter!

Ready to Scramble

May 18, 2018

Spring Lake Country Club



Spring is just around the corner and we're gearing up for Cornerstone's 13th Annual Golf Benefit! Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a four person scramble. Registration includes lunch, refreshments and hors d'oeuvres after play. Join us for a chance to win great Hole in One prizes sponsored by Shottenkirk Chevrolet and a new iPad provided by Chip-Off Contest sponsor Winters Insurance. Registration forms available at www.cornerstone-quincy.org Events tab. Call 217/222-8254 for information. See you there!





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You matter.

*Our Mission:
Helping people meet life's
challenges by providing the
skills, support and hope
needed for effective fulfilling
lives.*

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Department of Children and Family Services and the United Way of Adams County.*