

Creating a Legacy of **LEADERSHIP**



SPOTLIGHT | SUMMER 2016



“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

- JOHN QUINCY ADAMS



AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS & NEWS

FRESH, LOCAL PRODUCE COMES TO NEWPORT THROUGH FARMER'S MARKET

Brighton Center is pleased to announce a new program, Neighborhood Farmers Market of NKY, designed to address Northern Kentucky's need for increased access to fresh, healthy food throughout five Brighton Center locations.

The Neighborhood Farmers Market of NKY will feature local produce from the Campbell County Detention Center Production Garden (Newport), Yogi and the Farmer (Covington, KY), Earth-Shares (Loveland, OH), Herbmania (Covington, KY), Little Green Pastures (Butler, KY), Elizabeth & John Dawson (Alexandria, KY), Our Harvest (Cincinnati, OH), and Urban Greens (Cincinnati, OH).

Many individuals in the area do not have reliable transportation and walk up to 25 minutes to reach the nearest location with access to fresh fruits & vegetables. Access to fresh produce is critical for a healthy diet.

Zach Price, Neighborhood Farmers Market Manager, said "When we alter a local food landscape to offer more convenient & affordable opportunities to access spinach & blackberries vs. chips & candy, healthier choices are a natural result. People respond to real food. That's why we have several convenient Brighton Center locations Monday through Friday. Fresh vegetables and fruit are now within reach."



Newport, KY Locations:

- Clothing Closet (799 Ann Street): Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 12:00 pm- 3:00 pm
- Two Rivers Apartment (411 Elm Street): Monday: 3:00 pm-6:00 pm
- Saratoga Place Apartments (798 Saratoga Street): Monday: 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm
- Bright Days Child Development Center (706 Park Avenue): Friday: 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm

Florence, KY Location:

- 11 Shelby Street: Wednesday: 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm

ACHIEVED: GRADUATION



- 98 individuals across four programs
 - 43 Center for Employment Training trainees
 - 32 Every Child Succeeds families
 - 24 Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters families
 - 5 Bright Days Child Development Center children
- 12 youth achieved high school diplomas

TOP LEADERS RECOGNIZED



Tammy Weidinger, President and CEO, recently received the Champion of Education award at the Northern Kentucky Education Council's Excellence in Education Dinner. The award recognizes a community leader who has made a significant impact on education in the region. Tammy has been with the Center since October 1981 - over 34 years!

Wonda Winkler, Executive Vice President, was nominated by Rhonda Whitaker of Duke Energy and recognized as one of the Outstanding Women of Northern Kentucky, presented by Toyota. Brighton Center is very proud of Wonda's recognition and has greatly benefited from her outstanding leadership over the past 22 years.



THE MISSION OF BRIGHTON CENTER

is to create opportunities for individuals and families to reach self-sufficiency through family support services, education, employment, and leadership. We will achieve this mission by creating an environment that rewards excellence and innovation, encourages mutual respect, and maximizes resources. With each issue of the Spotlight, we will share Brighton Center's mission in action with stories of lives transformed and hope restored.

50th Anniversary

GALA A HUGE SUCCESS!

On April 23 Brighton Center celebrated a 50 year legacy of providing hope at the Cincinnati Airport Marriott. Over 400 individuals enjoyed the celebration which included a gourmet dinner, live music by the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra, a silent and live auction, and a beautiful time line display of our 50 year history. Customers of Brighton Center also contributed through artwork of a tile mural. The event was emceed by Cris Collinsworth. This milestone event raised \$167,000 which was a record-breaker for the Center. A huge thank you to the Gala Committee (pictured below on left) for their hard work, leadership, and tireless planning to ensure the event was such a success.



SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S GALA: **SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017**

FY 2016-2017 NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Jodiann Broomall
Cincinnati Children's
Hospital Medical Center



Shannon Egan
Graydon Head



Jason Reed
Edmondson & Associates



Maida Session
Duke Energy



Tom Stapleton
Eagle Realty Group
Brighton Properties Board



Caroline K. Weltzer
Viox & Viox, Inc.
Brighton Properties Board

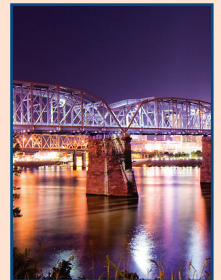
UPCOMING EVENTS

WINE OVER WATER

Saturday, August 27, 2016

Purple People Bridge, Newport, KY
6:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Sample assorted
wines, beer, and
food while enjoying
live music and
breathtaking views.



Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at door
available at:
www.brightoncenter.com/wineoverwater

FEAST FOR YOUR HOME

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Best Furniture Gallery, Fort Thomas, KY
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm



CREATING A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

RISING ABOVE HARD TIMES TO BECOME A LEADER

JERRI ELWAWI: "I found the Department of Community Based Services (DCBS) and Brighton Center's Center for Employment Training (CET) during a tough time in my life. Within a ten day period, I lost my job and my husband passed away. I knew I needed assistance to get back on my feet and turned to DCBS. While there, I was referred to CET. I enrolled in the Business and Computer Technologies skill division where I learned Microsoft Office®, customer service, and administrative skills. Brighton Center helped me to continue my education and also provided me financial help to assist with my son. They also offered childcare assistance so that I could attend school without any worries about who would be watching him during after school hours. All of the programs they offer to people are so impressive. Everyone wants to help you and I refer people to the Center all the time.

I felt like I was a leader in the classroom by modeling the way. I was quick to help new trainees in orientation and help others with their classwork. I also contributed greatly to group projects, including one where a committee and I helped plan our graduation celebration, making it a big success. I was happy to have the respect of the CET staff and my peers. I tried my best to stay motivated and encouraged. I was always a flexible team player with a positive attitude. I continued to show up even when times were tough.

In January, 2016, my hard work paid off. After graduating from CET, I was offered a position at Healthcare Services Group. I recently earned a promotion and am now an account manager with the company. Brighton Center truly brought me out of my shell. When I started at CET, I was very shy and struggled while giving presentations; yet, at work a couple months ago, I presented to almost 600 people and had no fear. Brighton Center also gave my son opportunities he would not have otherwise. He is thriving—playing sports and doing a number of other things he could



not do before. I am proud to say I am financially stable and saving for the purchase of my first home. Without the help of DCBS and Brighton Center, none of this would have been possible.

I am honored to be associated with Brighton Center because they do so much for the community. They are always adding programs, answering phones, seeing needs, and giving all the help possible. I love their no judgement zone. They don't look down on people and will do all in their power to help you. My advice to those who do not know about Brighton Center is to reach out to them. If they can't help you, they will find someone who can. There's always hope out there and Brighton Center is a great place to begin.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Youth Leadership development (YLD) program is encouraging youth to be leaders in many ways. YLD provides structured activities and opportunities for youth to acquire and improve their life skills, decision making, and leadership skills. Youth learn important skills such as communication, assertiveness, understanding and clarifying values, relationships, goal-setting, influences, decision-making and more. Experiential learning through small-group discussions, role playing, and service learning give the youth opportunities to use the new skills they are learning. The youth in YLD have gone on to be active positive members of their communities.

We sat down with YLD youth ages 10-16 and Club alumni and asked them what leadership means to them:

"A good leader has to be a good friend, have passion and is caring for others." - Isaiah grade 7

"Leadership means to be a good role model and do what is right even when everyone else is not." - Alaezha grade 6

"Leadership is the quality someone has to get people together and work together." - Ciara grade 9

"Leadership is taking the initiative to get a group of people to their desired destination, whether that be an actual destination or a figurative one, in the smoothest way possible while doing your best to keep everyone happy."

- Brittney YLD/Teen Coalition alumni

"You show leadership by being respectful, listening to other people, taking turns, doing good for others and helping others out." - Robert grade 8

"I show leadership by taking the initiative to help others. I don't wait to be told. If I see a problem that I know I can fix I do it." - Jessica YLD/Teen Coalition alumni

THROUGH EMPOWERING OTHERS

AN INTERVIEW WITH MAGGIE VOLKERING

When and how did you first become involved with Brighton Center?

I remember going through the annual kids' holiday toy sale when I was 4 or 5 years old. One dollar could buy so many toys that it would take us 3 or 4 trips to get all of our toys home. The annual kids' holiday used toy sale was something our whole neighborhood looked forward to every year, even the parents.

That is my earliest memory but one of the most meaningful memories is when a friend of mine referred me to the holiday drive sign-ups after my first child was born and that is when my real journey with Brighton Center began! With the help and guidance of Brighton Center I took the necessary steps and tests to be accepted to NKU where I earned my bachelor's degree in psychology. While attending NKU, I applied for and accepted a summer job coaching position at the Center which led to permanent part-time employment and, eventually, to my full-time career in the social service field allowing me to continue to work with the Center through community partnerships.

What makes you most proud of being involved with Brighton Center?

I am just proud to be a part of an agency that makes such a HUGE difference in not only the lives of individuals and families but in building communities, and supporting school systems. They have their pulse on the real needs of the community and respond with creative solutions, programs and partnerships that affect real change on a micro and macro level. I love it when people ask me about Brighton Center, it brings a smile to my face and heart. Brighton Center will always be a part of who I am and I am proud of that.

How has Brighton Center impacted or enriched your life?

Brighton Center has impacted my life personally and professionally. Personally they provided a pathway to higher education. They not only helped me realize it was possible but they also serviced as a support system during my academic career and beyond. Academic advising, parenting skills, budgeting, community-building, work ethic, leadership opportunities, and good decision making abilities are just some of the ways Brighton Center has enriched my life and helped me accomplish all that I have.

Professionally they also took a chance with me. I did not have any experience in social services



when they offered me a summer job coaching position. That position solidified my future career goal to work in the social service field. Brighton Center gave me the opportunity to serve my community and instilled in me a core set of professional and leadership skills that to this day, I utilize on a daily basis. As a customer I was given opportunities to learn how to be the leader of my future and how to stand up for what I believed in. I was also given the opportunity to provide input on the program's future activities. Brighton Center makes professional development a priority with their staff and I took advantage of every single opportunity. I was given the opportunity to represent Brighton Center on the Fourth Street School Family Resource Center's Advisory Board and that is when I realized I had a passion for working with the public schools to ensure all children get the best education possible. This led to me completing the Prichard's Committee's Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership which showed me how to really understand school data and reports and how to be a parent leader at Newport Independent Schools, my alma mater. I served as vice president and president of the Parent Teacher Student Organization and I was a member of the Site-based Decision Making Committee at the high school for several years.

If you could send one message of appreciation to volunteers and donors of Brighton Center, what would you say?

I would let them know that they are the bones of Brighton Center, that without them, Brighton Center would not be able to do all that they do. I would tell them that I am living proof of the good that comes from the work that Brighton Center does every day.

JOIN US DURING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

BRIGHTON BITES IMPACTFUL LEARNING

Join us for our Brighton Bites-Impactful Learning Series!

You are invited to learn more about Brighton Center by attending one of the Brighton Bites-Impactful Learning Series. Each date will offer lunch catered by our own Center Table Catering followed by a program overview and tour.

Tuesday, September 20, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Center For Employment Training
601 Washington Ave. Suite 140. Newport, Ky 41071

Tuesday, October 4, 11:30 am- 1:00 pm
Brighton Recovery Center
375 Weaver Rd. Florence, Ky 41042

Space is limited so please RSVP to Becky Timberlake by emailing btimberlake@brightoncenter.com by September 16.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



Brighton Center invites you to our Community Celebration on Friday, September 16. We will be recognizing the Legacy of Leadership of Bob and Helen Brewster through the naming of

the Family Center. The Community Celebration will be held in the parking lot of our 741 Central Avenue location in Newport and runs from 3:00 pm -7:00 pm and offers families in our community an afternoon of food, games, and live music. This year we will also have a display of our 50 year history. The dedication will take place at 5:30 pm. All are welcome!

BRIGHTON EMERGING LEADERS

Brighton Center knows its own future rests in developing and empowering young leaders, and others like them who will follow in the years ahead. For that reason, Brighton Center welcomes the collective involvement of the region's young professionals through Brighton Center's Emerging Leaders Society, or BELs. Designed to support the mission of Brighton Center through leadership, advocacy, volunteerism, and fundraising, BELs offers Young Professionals (and rising leaders of all ages) a unique introduction to the diverse work of Brighton Center, and opportunities to develop as tomorrow's community leaders.

JOIN THE BELS



Mission of Brighton Emerging Leaders

This group will serve as a catalyst for Brighton Center to support its mission of assisting Northern Kentucky families on their journey to self-sufficiency. Support will include, among other things, leadership, advocacy, volunteering, and fundraising activities.

Goals of Brighton Emerging Leaders

- To develop a group of young leaders who will serve as advocates for Brighton Center.
- To give young professionals looking for engagement, the opportunity to become civically involved in their community.
- To help young professionals create a network of other like-minded or like-guided persons.
- To help young professionals find a professional mentor from the current Brighton Center leadership team or Board of Directors.
- To expand the services of Brighton Center to include a program of professional development for future community leaders.
- To help the Development Committee raise funds for the Center.

If you are interested in joining Brighton Emerging Leaders please contact Deana Sowders at dsowders@brightoncenter.com or [859] 491-8303 ext. 2410

FOUR DECADES OF PARTNERSHIP: UNITED WAY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

United Way has been a leader in our community for the past 100 years. Each day in our region we see the impact of their work as they help people learn, grow, aspire, and live their best lives. Brighton Center is proud to have been an agency partner with United Way for the past 46 years. We partner and collaborate with them as they advance the common good for all in our community in the areas of education, income, and health.

In the early days of Brighton Center's history, Bob Brewster, former Executive Director of Brighton Center, did the only thing he could think of to keep things going financially. He walked into American National Bank, where the Center had its checking account, and asked the man sitting at the front desk if he could help. Bob Borchers was the bank Vice President and he agreed to help. Within a few days several strategies were put into place.

In order to fund programs based on the Community Assessment, Bob Borchers contacted Community Chest (now known as United Way) to plead the Center's case. In January 1970 Community Chest agreed to fund Brighton Street Center for a three year developmental grant. Funding for the first year was \$5000. At the end of the three year developmental funding the Center was admitted as a member agency.

As we celebrate our legacy of 50 years of transforming lives, we thank United Way for their leadership and belief in our mission. Our impact would not be possible without their partnership and collaboration. The staff of Brighton Center also recognizes the significance of United Way's support as we remain one of the top agency partners in their annual campaign. In the last ten years, our employees have Lived United by giving \$400,714 to United Way.



THOUGHTS FROM UNITED WAY: Brighton Center joined as a United Way partner in 1970 and we have worked together ever since. Last year we were happy to award Brighton Center with total funding of \$1,678,173 for 10 different services and programs that cover the Education, Income, and Health focus areas of United Way's Bold Goals.

Brighton Center consistently delivers very strong results and outcomes for the services they provide in the community, they are one of the agencies we at United Way can point to for implementing Continuous Quality Improvement by always looking at their data, outcomes, processes, and ways they can improve services.

Brighton Center's Financial Opportunity Center embodies United Way's bold play strategy of "integrated service delivery (ISD)". This is a model of providing bundled services to individuals and families to help them achieve and succeed financially. These models were implemented six years ago through the leadership of Brighton Center and others in the community.

Brighton Lives United and has always had strong employee participation in the United Way campaign, leading as a Pacesetter agency among the region's non-profits for the past several years.

We can always count on Brighton Center staff being well represented and/or taking a leading role in most of the large community-wide initiatives in both Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati. This includes workforce, early care and education, youth achieve, and health initiatives/partnerships.

Brighton Center does a great job of involving families in the work that they do by using the approach that "families become our partners in creating change by sharing their hopes and dreams" then setting goals to accomplish them, which is admirable.

"We are proud of our 46 year partnership with Brighton Center. They lead the way in Northern Kentucky working with families to realize their dreams of achieving financial stability and self-sufficiency. Brighton Center is in the forefront of innovation and quality improvement and has received numerous local and national awards for its efforts. Brighton is always at the table and frequently convenes community-wide initiatives and collaborations to solve the region's most pressing problems. We congratulate Brighton on its 50 years of outstanding service to the community!"



United Way
of Greater Cincinnati

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: DAN GRONECK: A LIFELONG RELATIONSHIP WITH BRIGHTON

In the late 1960s, I was attending Newport Catholic High School and living on the West End of Newport with my family as the middle child (11th) of 21 kids. Father Neuroth put together an unofficial Junior Board and appointed me Junior Board President for the newly created Brighton Street Center, now known as Brighton Center. My job was to recruit other young people to be the workforce. We sold raffle tickets, cleaned, and anything else that needed to be done. At the time I was also lifeguarding during the summer while helping out at the Center.

My most fond memory of Brighton Center is from my junior year of high school. That year, sadly my father passed away and since it was always a tradition in my house for the older kids to get together and do something special for my mom, we stayed up late on Christmas Eve finishing a kitchen renovation for her. I will never forget the image of a young Bob Brewster and another gentleman walking up our driveway with a fruit basket. They knew our father had died and wanted to give us something. It was that special thought that Brighton Center bestowed upon our family.

I grew up quick after my dad passed away and took a leadership role within the family often serving as the go-between with the younger and older siblings. Negotiating became a very important leadership skill I developed. While helping at Brighton Center and lifeguarding during the summer, I also started working at First National Bank, now US Bank, in the mail room.

My senior year of high school, I went to pay the taxes on our house and noticed an application for money to make improvements to our home through Community Development Block money. We desperately needed a new roof. I took the application down to Bob Brewster for clarification and he spent an hour helping me fill it out. I was so excited when we were approved for the money. It was around Thanksgiving and the money had to be used by the end of the year. The neighbors all pitched in and help us put a new roof on in the bitter cold.

After high school, I started attending Northern Kentucky University while continuing to work at the Bank and lost touch with Brighton Center until 2008 when I received a call to be on the Board. It was an easy decision to get involved again.



The most important thing about leadership is focusing on the next generation to mentor and get them ready as leaders. I'll take as much time as possible with people to develop their leadership skills, help them navigate, and embrace the idea that they are in charge or will be soon.

I am so proud of Brighton Center's professionalism and roots here in Newport. My goal after retirement is to move back to Newport. It's in my blood. I am most impressed with the diversity and collaborations of the programs. Northern Kentucky Scholar House is a great example of that in creating an environment for single parents with a focus on education, affordable housing, and on-site childcare. I've also never seen a Board that after their term limit they come back. It speaks highly to the mission. People want to be connected and love the mission.

My message to the community about Brighton Center is that I would want people to get involved and be an ambassador for Brighton Center. It means so much more. Give to Brighton Center. Help spread the word. Come down and be a mentor to one person here. At least get involved by supporting Brighton Center in some way. Consider a donation or create a legacy like I have with a Planned Gift so that Brighton Center will continue to help those generations ahead of us. I will never forget Bob Brewster walking up to our yard with that basket of fruit. It was the first Christmas without our dad. The fact that a non-family member thought of us was so cool.

- Dan Groneck

Brighton Center appreciates Dan's leadership and commitment to our Agency and for all he has done for the Northern Kentucky community. We congratulate him on his recent NKU Lincoln Award! Well deserved!

PREVIOUS EVENTS



SHARE WHAT YOU CAN

Collected: 725 Pounds of Food

We were able to collect 725 pounds of food! During the summer the need is greater and we serve an average of 500 families a month. A big thanks to the City of Fort Thomas, Citizens Bank of Northern Kentucky, Crawford Downing Insurance, Katie Walters of Q102, and all those that attended.



ATTENTION DONORS



Starting with our next Annual Report, which will be available in November, we will be recognizing donors by giving levels. If you would prefer to not be listed in this manner please let us know by contacting Becky Timberlake, Development Director, at btimberlake@brightoncenter.com or (859) 491-8303 ext. 2406. We appreciate all of our supporters.



BRIGHTON CENTER
A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

P.O. Box 325
Newport, KY 41072

SPOTLIGHT

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Brighton Center Directory Of Services

Administrative Offices

President & CEO: Tammy Weidinger
Executive Vice President: Wonda Winkler
Chief Financial Officer: June Miller
Director of Development: Becky Timberlake
Director of Facilities & Community Development: Joe Rowe
Senior Director Family Economic Success: Melissa Hall Sommer
Grants & Quality Improvement Administrator: Jennifer Hansert

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www.brightoncenter.com

Brighton Recovery Center for Women

Director: Anita Prater
375 Weaver Road
Florence, KY 41042
Phone: [859] 282-9390

Community and Youth Services

Director: Kate Arthur
13 E. 20th Street
Covington, KY 41014
Phone: [859] 581-1111

Early Childhood Education

Director: Dellisa Ford-Edwards
7th & Park Ave.
P.O. Box 325
Newport, KY 41072-0325
Phone: [859] 491-8303

Family Center

799 Ann Street
P.O. Box 325
Newport, KY 41072-0325
Phone: [859] 491-8303

Financial Services

Director: Stephanie Stiene
799 Ann Street
P.O. Box 325
Newport, KY 41072-0325
Phone: [859] 491-8303

Northern Kentucky Scholar House

Director: Lauren Copeland
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Newport, KY 41071
Phone: [859] 491-8303

Workforce Development

Director: Talia Frye
Center for Employment Training
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