

Donor Edition Spring 2024



## **Chosen's Impact**

Chosen has given away 60,000 items to nearly 1,400 children from 650 families in 13 SE Wisconsin counties.

# Chosen's 2024 Open Hearts, Open Homes Gala

Thank you to all that attended or donated to Chosen's 2024 Gala. We had a blast celebrating foster care and adoption! *Save the date for our next Gala on April 5, 2025!* 

#### A big thank you to our sponsors:

Wellpoint Care Network, WE Energies Foundation, Grady, Hayes & Neary, Waukesha County Foster Care, The Edge Contracting, Ozinga, Once Upon a Child, Norris, Just Fore Kids, and CTacess

#### Walk on the Wild Side for Foster Care:

We have an exciting "refresh" for this year's Walk on the Wild Side for Foster Care. We are moving to Boerner Botanical Gardens on Sat. Sept. 7th followed by lunch in Margie's Children Garden! Follow updates at: choseninlove.org/wildsidewalk

#### Toypalooza 2023 A Record Breaking Event!

- 300 attended
- 315 toys/teen gifts distributed
- 650 winter gear items given to families

This popular event has grown so much that we are seeking a larger 2024 venue!

# thankeyou

Thank you to **Jane Stern**, who stepped off the Exec. Board and continues as our West Allis Family Closet Coordinator. We are blessed to have had Jane on our Board and equally blessed to have her on staff. Jane has a huge heart for Chosen and for the Lord; her light shines brightly with all she works with!

Chosen Volunteer Focus: Jason Bowling, Co-Founder of Chosen

When they founded Chosen , the Bowlings were new foster parents who recognized many

unmet needs in the foster care community. Jason has been President since 2015. Chosen has grown with the Bowling family, who adopted a sibling group of 4 from foster care in 2019; their youngest also born the same year. Jason, a HS science teacher at Heritage Christian, recently decided to step off the Exec. Board and will now oversee the Advisory Board and help on the Infrastructure Committee. Thank you, Jason, for your faithful care of Chosen; we look forward to working with you in your new capacity.



#### VBS -Save the date

VBS 2024 will be hosted by Epikos Church (Mayfair) on June 29th For info, please email: info@choseninlove.org



## INTRODUCING THE MOBILE FAMILY CLOSET

Focus Groups will be held June-August (Waukesha, West Allis & Zoom) to talk about the possibility of a *Mobile Family Closet* (2025) that can reach more families! Email for more info: karen@choseninlove.org



#### **Board News**

Recently, Chosen elected new officers and welcomed one new board member. We thank all Board Members for their time and dedication to Chosen:

**Officers:** Karen Schlindwein- President, Christina Turner- Vice President, Cara Hayward- Treasurer and Grace Soiney-Secretary

**Committee Leads:** Amalie Bowling- Exec. Dir/Programming Chair, Paula Garland and Wendy Gebauer (welcome, Wendy!) Fundraising Co-chairs, Rick Moon-Fundraising Marketing Chair, Scott Garland-Infrastructure Chair.

## **Sponsors Needed!**

Chosen has a very thoughtful sponsorship program for our family programming events. Sponsorships curb event costs, freeing up more funds for our programs.

We also offer year-round sponsorship opportunities that translate into Chosen marketing your business at all of our events.

Sponsorship opportunities range from \$250-\$5,000. This is a great way for businesses, community organizations, churches, or individuals with a heart for children to get engaged and make a difference!

For more information, contact karen@choseninlove.org.



We need your help! It is a challenge in this economy to keep up with our monthly expenses. With so many to help in our community, your partnership is important.

Monthly and large donors ensure that many of our fixed expenses are taken care of so that we can do the most to support our families. Chosen's Family Closet facilities are 100% program-related and all non-program expenses are kept to a minimum. One-time or monthly donations can be set up online at: choseninlove.org.

### Every. Dollar. Matters. Won't you please make this the day to support our mission?

### Current Weekly Donation Hours: Thursdays 10:00am-1:00pm

Visit www.choseninlove.org/donation-hours for

specific hours and information for

Waukesha and West Allis locations.

~Be sure to check back periodically for updates~

#### Chosen, Inc.

400 Travis Lane, Suite 30, Waukesha, WI 53189 6751 W Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI 53214



**Programming Committee:** Help to plan our Family Programming Events (Winter Wiggles, Vacation Bible School, Back Pack Give Away, Walk on the Wild Side for Foster Care, and Toypalooza).

**Fundraising Committee:** Be a part of helping Chosen raise funds to support foster and adoptive families! Be on a subcommittee for Open Hearts, Open Homes Gala 2025 or 2025 Golf Tournament or help to plan our Matching Campaign and End of the Year Campaign. No experience is needed, just a willingness to help!

Many other opportunities are available. Fill out the volunteer interest form at: <u>https://www.choseninlove.org/volunteer-</u> <u>opportunities</u>

## Foster and Adoptive Families...

Families wishing to schedule a Family Closet appointment can complete an intake at: www.choseninlove.org/familyintake.



Once your intake form is received you will be contacted to schedule an appointment at one of our locations.

Existing Chosen families are always welcome to come back to The Family Closet! To set an appointment, email: amalie@choseninlove.org.