



2024 Newsletter

*The Poshard Foundation  
for Abused Children*

[www.poshardfoundation.org](http://www.poshardfoundation.org)



**Thank you! Thank you!**

For 25 years you have partnered with us to help care for thousands of vulnerable children throughout Southern Illinois. You've helped us raise millions of dollars to provide special medical care and counseling; build shelters; train hundreds of social workers, teachers and child care professionals to work with traumatized children; collaboration with the SIU School of Medicine, Harvard University and Prevent Child Abuse Illinois in supporting resilient children who, despite their trauma, are succeeding in school; a bed ministry which has provided hundreds of beds for children who had no place to sleep; hundreds of thousands of dollars to area food pantries for the purchase of nutritional food for deprived children; the renovation of facilities that house abused, abandoned and neglected children; one of the biggest Christmas toy giveaways in all of Southern Illinois; as well as scholarships for students who have suffered abuse. And so much more....

Whether you are a union helping us to build shelters, a business sponsoring a workshop, a foundation contributing to our mission, or an individual donor wanting to help these children, please know that with the support of our partner, John A. Logan College, and an all-volunteer staff, your generous donations go to the direct support of the children. We thank you on behalf of the thousands of children your love and generosity have helped heal from wounds that might have lasted a lifetime. Please allow us to thank you in person on September 7 at our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

**Note: Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is Saturday, September 7 from 10:30 AM to 1 PM at JALC with brief remarks at 12 noon. Advanced registration is required, and there is no charge for the event. Email [joposhard@jalc.edu](mailto:joposhard@jalc.edu) no later than August 23 if you would like to attend and did not receive your invitation.**

**Anyone who suspects the abuse of a child should call 1-800-25-ABUSE.**

## Here Comes Santa Claus!

Our annual toy distribution was held at JALC on December 6 and 7 with 14 agencies participating. We distributed 3 items per child and helped 634 children who would otherwise have had nothing under the tree.

We are grateful to Ameren Illinois for a \$10,000 grant and to BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois for a \$1000 grant. Additionally, area businesses contributed toys: Richard Clark and Margaret Kukuk of Tri-State Business in Harrisburg, Donnellon McCarthy Enterprises, Jeff Rushing and Modern Woodmen of America, Janet Jenson and America's Car-Mart, Lauren Craig and Eccentrics, and Verna Webb and Our Directions. Individuals who contributed toys were Barbara Berry, Tom Chandler, Anita Hoffman, Leann Johnson, Kristen Poshard, Jane Redmon, George Tregoning, Darla Wexstten, Bonnie Wheeler, and Jan Witmer.



**Our Christmas Elves!** (Photo courtesy of JALC Media Services)

Our Christmas gathering is never complete without the generosity of Pat McCann and Hangin' by a Thread from Vienna making quilts, blankets, layettes, stuffed animals (Ruth Michaels), and creating decorative mugs with candy (Janet Anderson and Carolyn White); Colleen Bogard and volunteers from the Williamson Baptist Association making colorful totes for the children; and Janet Demoe for socks, caps and mittens. These gifts were given out in addition to the toys.

Our Christmas Elves deserve our thanks for setting up toy displays, assisting agency representatives with selecting toys, and bagging and carrying items to vehicles. They include Joyce and David Ambler, Cyndi Bogard, Carterville Lions Club, Anita Hoffman, the JALC Social Workers for Change, Gloria Mager, Ashley Poshard, and Jane Redmon.

### April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

The annual Southern Region Child Abuse Prevention Month Kick-off was held on the John A. Logan College campus on Monday, April 1. Jo Poshard welcomed the crowd and introduced Dr. Stephanie Chaney Hartford, Provost of Academic Affairs at JALC, who read the Governor's Proclamation declaring April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Illinois. Speakers were: Rachel Chruszczyk, Prevention Specialist for Prevent Child Abuse Illinois; Stephanie Grigsby, Southern Regional Administrator – Child Protection, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services; Judge Amanda Byassee-Gott of the First Judicial Circuit of Illinois and Jason Plichta, Police Officer for the Marion Police Department.

Resource tables were provided for those in attendance with experts in the field of child abuse available to answer questions. Networking opportunities were available as well. Pinwheels were planted as a reminder to all that every child deserves to grow up in a nurturing environment free from abuse, neglect, violence or endangerment of any kind.



Gary, the Marion Police Department's K-9 Cares Community Therapy Dog, attended the kick-off with Officer Jason Plichta.

Photo courtesy of JALC Media Services

## *2023-2024 Agencies Served Specifically for Children in Need*

Arrowleaf, Vienna  
 Attucks Community Service Board  
 Baptist Children's Home & Family Services, Carmi  
 Boys and Girls Clubs of Southern Illinois  
 Brightpoint, Herrin  
 Cairo Women's Shelter, Inc., Cairo and Metropolis  
 Caritas Family Solutions, Carterville and Mt. Vernon  
 CASA of Franklin and Hamilton Counties  
 CASA of Jefferson County  
 CASA of South Central Illinois  
 CASA of Southeastern Illinois  
 Centerstone of Illinois, Inc.  
 Children's Medical and Mental Health Resource Network, Anna  
 Clarity Women's Care, Carbondale and Marion  
 Damas Latinas, Carbondale  
 Dept. of Children and Family Services, Southern Region  
 Du Quoin Youth Club  
 Franklin-Williamson Child Advocacy Center  
 Healthy Families Illinois - Shawnee Health, Carbondale  
 Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church, Carbondale  
 Hoyleton Youth & Family Services  
 I Can Read of Southern Illinois

Illinois Hunger Coalition - Southern Region  
 John A. Logan College Snack Locker  
 Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, Marion, Harrisburg, and Vienna  
 Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, Prisoner and Family Ministry  
 National Runaway Safeline  
 Perry-Jackson Child Advocacy Center, Pinckneyville and Murphysboro  
 Prevent Child Abuse Illinois  
 Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless, Marion  
 Southern Illinois Resource and Advocacy Center, Shawneetown  
 SIU School of Medicine  
 Specialized Equine Services, Carbondale  
 Spero Family Services, Mt. Vernon and West Frankfort  
 Stress and Trauma Treatment Center, Inc., Eldorado  
 Survivor Empowerment Center, Carbondale  
 Team Illinois Youth Police Camp, Southern Region  
 The Amy Center, Mt. Vernon  
 The Guardian Center, Carmi  
 The Little Resource Center, Carbondale  
 The Night's Shield, West Frankfort  
 The Promise, Marion  
 Two Rivers Child Advocacy Center, Anna  
 Young Hearts with Goals and Purpose, Marion

*Look for your "Invitation to Give" in fall of 2024!*

## Grants to 28 Southern Illinois Agencies

As part of Child Abuse Prevention Month, The Poshard Foundation awarded grants totaling \$104,000 to 28 agencies at a press conference held on April 30 at John A. Logan College.

“It has been our mission for twenty-five years to help the abused, abandoned and neglected children of Southern Illinois to overcome their abuse and return to a more normal childhood through counseling, medical intervention, food security and recreational activities. These grants, administered by our committed social service workers, serve that purpose.”

– Glenn Poshard



Smiling faces on Grant Distribution Day!  
Photo courtesy of Swinford Media Group

Go to [www.poshardfoundation.org](http://www.poshardfoundation.org) for complete listing of agencies.

## Special Thanks - Special Gifts 2023-2024

### Our Dedicated Volunteers

JALC President Kirk Overstreet, the Board of Trustees, and Staff Ameren Illinois

The George A. Bates Memorial Foundation  
Susan K. Carter and H. Randall Carter  
Betty Davis, Office Administration Volunteer  
John Davis, Executive Board Member

The Falcarthy Foundation  
Hangin' by a Thread and Pat McCann, Vienna  
Henry Printing, Inc.

John P. Huber Charitable Trust, TUW, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee  
IBEW Local Union 702

Dan Kubasiak, Executive Board Member  
JALC Social Workers for Change and Professor Thomas Chandler  
Shay Malone, Facebook and Photography  
Phyllis McCowen, Office Administration Volunteer

Memorials in honor of the following individuals:

Marilyn Annable, Thomas K. Berry, Lois Malone, William R. Malone, and Ron Mitchell

Mona Miller, Facebook

Treva O'Neill, Executive Board Member

The Bernard and Naomi L. Podolsky Charitable Trust  
Coach Fae Ragan and the Carbondale High School Girls' Volleyball Teams

Jini and Carlos Roby

Sarah (Doran) Rizkalla and Baher Rizkalla

Steelwater Solutions, Robert Carter, Anna

Bonnie and Steve Wheeler

Mary Williams

Williamson Baptist Association and Colleen Bogard

## What We Accomplished Together Last Year...

- ☺ \$123,000 given to 45 local agencies that help abused, abandoned and neglected children in Southern Illinois.
- ☺ \$116,500 given to 61 local food pantries for food for children.
- ☺ Over \$30,000 in monetary and in-kind donations received for children at Christmas. Gifts and toys were distributed to 634 children through 14 agencies and organizations in Southern Illinois.
- ☺ \$6,300 in scholarships for select Southern Illinois University Carbondale students who experienced severe adversity as children.
- ☺ \$5,456 toward Training and Education Programs for the prevention of child abuse.
- ☺ \$5,376 for 48 beds/cribs for abused children in Southern Illinois.
- ☺ Approximately 2500 children and families were provided assistance with various services not covered by traditional funding.

In June, IBEW Local 702 presented the Poshard Foundation with a \$10,000 check from their annual golf outing. For nearly twenty-five years, IBEW 702 has supported abused, abandoned and neglected children with their

generous donations as well as providing labor and materials to build shelters. These children have no greater champions than the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 702.



Photo: L to R Jack Steele-702 retired officer, Paul Noble-IBEW International Secretary-Treasurer, Matt Moore-6th, District International Representative, Glenn Poshard, Mike Clemons-6th District International V.P., Steve Hughart-702 Business Manager, Corey Jarrett-702 Business Representative (Photo Courtesy of Rick Linton)

**We appreciate your support over the last 25 years!**

**If you wish to donate, make checks payable to:**

**The Poshard Foundation  
John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Drive  
Carterville, IL 62918**

**Go to [www.poshardfoundation.org](http://www.poshardfoundation.org) to make your credit card donation online.**

**We are an all-volunteer agency!**

**Find us on Facebook!**

*Every child deserves a safe place, a safe person, and a safe community.*

## 2023-2024 Sponsorships (August 1, 2023—July 31, 2024)

Anonymous	Rick and Joan Erickson	John and Karen Pfeifer
Eddie and Naomi Acord	The Falcarthy Foundation	The Bernard and Naomi L. Podolsky Charitable Trust
Ameren Illinois	First Mid Bank & Trust, Carbondale	Michael and Dr. Irina Podolsky
Anchor QEA, LLC	Mona Geyer	William E. and Phyllis Poshard
In Memory of Marilyn Annable	David and Amy Gillies, The Rust Foundation	Darrell and Gaila Ridgway
Marcia Anderson	Goldenberg Heller & Antognoli, P.C.	Sarah (Doran) Rizkalla and Baher Rizkalla
Zafiria Artemiadis	Dr. Sam Goldman	Dr. Jini Roby and Carlos Roby
Kevin and Lyn Bame	John and Robin Haller	Thyra and Herbert Russell
Banterra Bank	Robert and Patricia Hite	Deb Sarvela
Harold and Lana Bardo	Bill and Sarah Hoback	William Schuwerk
The George A. Bates Memorial Foundation	Frank Houdek and Susan Tulis	William and Sandra Schwartz
Benjamin and Christine Begley	John P. Huber Charitable Trust, TUW, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee	Wayne and Betty Sirles
Alice Berry	Jerry and Louise Humble	SIU Credit Union
Audrey Biby	IBEW Local 702	Simmons Hanly Conroy
BlueCross BlueShield of IL - Marion Office	John S. Jackson and Nancy W. Jackson	Susan Spellman
Norma Brown	Leann Johnson	Gordon and Denise Stine
Marjorie Akers Bryson	Jim and Sandra Lambert	Louise Stone
Bob Campbell	John A. Logan College	Donald and Mary Stucky
Susan K. and H. Randall Carter	Dr. and Mrs. Zahoor Makhdoom	Jim and Mary Jo Taylor
John and Sue Chaney	Malone's Early Learning Center, Inc.	TLC of Southern & Central IL Inc.
John T. Cherry Foundation, Inc.	Larry and Rebecca Mayer	Marsha Turner
Dr. George R. Cybulski	Jim and Sharon McMillan	UA Local 551 Plumbers and Pipefitters
John and Julie Davis	Clint and Bonnie Misselhorn	Thomas M. Vaught
Linda Deck	Richard and Susan Morris	John and Susan Verduin III
Matt Donkin	Bobbie Ogletree	Cindy Vines
Herb and Carolyn Donow	Partnership for Community Innovation (PCI)	Bob and Jan Weiss
Judy Drolet and Larry Townsend	Janice Burns Payne & Associates, LLC	Steve and Bonnie Wheeler
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Eader, Jerry and Laura Claxton Eader Charitable Fund of the St. Louis Community Foundation		Linda and Gail White
		Cathy Wood

The Poshard Foundation is a not for profit tax exempt organization (501c3).

Poshard Foundation  
John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Drive  
Carterville, IL 62918