



Keeping children safe, strengthening families, and building healthy communities since 1899

## Bethany Celebrates 125 Years!

Bethany for Children & Families is celebrating **125 years of transforming the hearts and homes** of the most vulnerable children, adults, and families in the greater Quad Cities area!

What began as an orphanage and just one baby boy has grown into a service agency that addresses child welfare, poverty, mental illness, domestic violence, parenting, sex education, homelessness, and much more through 37 programs and services.

Since its inception in 1899, Bethany has helped at-risk individuals and families navigate tough times through:

- 22 presidential administrations;
- World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, Gulf War, and Afghanistan War;
- The Great Depression and The Great Recession; and
- The Spanish flu, polio epidemic, AIDS/HIV epidemic, and COVID-19 pandemic.

Now located in its **seventh service center** at 1701 River Drive in Moline and through its **new affiliate, Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center in Clinton, Iowa**, Bethany continues the mission to keep children safe, strengthen families, and build healthy communities.

See details inside on how to **celebrate our history and our future on July 25<sup>th</sup>!**



## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Where: 1701 River Drive, Moline, IL in Bethany's west parking lot

When: **5:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**

What: **Free popsicles, face painting, chalk art, kids activities, and more!**

The first 125 participants will receive a free Bethany music speaker or lantern.

Join us at Bass Street Landing (east of the new building on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and River Drive) for a **free concert** between 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Bring a lawn chair. Food and drinks will be available to purchase.

**BASS STREET LANDING**

**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**  
*Thursdays 7-9pm*

LOCAL SOLO AND DUO PERFORMANCES AT 6PM

May 16	<b>FUNKTASTIC 5</b>
May 23	<b>FAIR WARNING</b>
May 30	<b>WICKED LIZ AND THE BELLYSWIRLS</b>
June 6	<b>JOHN RESCH &amp; DOGGIN' OUT</b>
June 13	<b>JASON CARL AND THE WHOLE DAMN BAND</b>
June 20	<b>FOR THOSE ABOUT TO YACHT</b>
June 27	<b>TOTES MCGOTES</b>
July 11	<b>SMOOTH GROOVE <span style="background-color: blue; color: white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">FREE!</span></b>
July 18	<b>FAR OUT 293</b>
July 25	<b>CROOKED CACTUS BAND</b>
August 1	<b>CORPORATE ROCK</b>
August 8	<b>DANI LYNN HOWE BAND</b>

Sponsored by **HUTCHISON ENGINEERING INC**  
**JOHN DEERE PAVILION AND STORE**  
**SEXTON FORD**

MOLINE REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, BENT RIVER BREWING  
RUHL & RUHL REALTORS, THE FAMILY CREDIT UNION  
RIA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, QUAD CITY STORM, QC PICKLEBALL CLUB  
MOLINE ROTARY CLUB, SANKORION, BETHANY FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
ASCENTRA CREDIT UNION, MOLINE KIWANIS CLUB

BRING A LAWN CHAIR • FOOD & DRINK FOR PURCHASE • NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL

# Birdies for Charity

Bethany is fortunate to participate in Birdies for Charity, an easy and fun way to donate to the programs and services offered by the agency.



**Donations** to Bethany through Birdies for Charity are **guaranteed a bonus of five to 10%!**

Participation is easy!

- Donate online at [www.birdiesforcharity.com](http://www.birdiesforcharity.com). Choose Bethany or **Birdies #178**, or
- Email [cmcnamara-schmidt@bethany-qc.org](mailto:cmcnamara-schmidt@bethany-qc.org) for a pledge form.

Contest entries are due June 26<sup>th</sup>. **Final pledges are due July 7<sup>th</sup>.**  
*Don't forget to add Bethany's Birdies number: #178.*

# Cones for Kids

There's nothing sweeter than ice cream and helping children thrive! Enjoy a cone of your favorite Whitey's flavor during Cones for Kids on **Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**. **Whitey's will donate half of the proceeds for each cone sold during the event to Bethany.**



All Whitey's Quad Cities locations will participate in Cones for Kids all day long!



# Program Spotlight: Adoption

Bethany's first purpose in this community was to serve as an adoption agency for parents not able or not willing to care for newborns. While only **three infants were placed with adoptive parents in the past three years**, the program that served as the agency's foundation still exists.

Bethany is a licensed adoption agency in Illinois and child placement agency in Iowa. The agency offers domestic infant adoption and special needs adoption (for children older than one year who have been abused or neglected, have physical disabilities, or have behavior issues).

The decision to adopt a child is truly life-altering and requires a lifetime commitment. **Individuals considering adoption** go through a process including:

- A criminal background check and review of the child abuse registry;
- A home study;
- Numerous visits by a trained, professional, adoption worker;
- A review of the family's financial stability;
- Letters of reference; and
- Attendance at several preparation classes.



For those **considering placing a child for adoption**, Bethany provides free counseling to explore options.

## Adoption questions?

Contact Vicki Burke, Adoption Program Supervisor at (309) 736-6604 or email her at [vburke@bethany-qc.org](mailto:vburke@bethany-qc.org).

# MERIT Award Winner

Our MERIT Award winner for January-March 2024 is **Clay Huffstutler**! Clay is the supervisor of Bethany's Therapeutic Recreational Program (TRP). Clay has a **30-year history** with the agency!



He began his career as a program coordinator for the Supportive Living Program. For the past 25 years, he has worked for TRP and has served as the program supervisor since 2007.

His nomination stated, "Clay has demonstrated he is responsible through his actions and words. He maintains responsibility for his actions or what he says and holds the kids accountable for their actions without demonstrating favoritism. He is a strong believer in treating the children equally including any times when they may violate a rule or make a mistake. He does not degrade the children or make them feel shame, but disciplines in a way that presents as a teaching moment. Clay tries not take anything they say personally and has encouraged coworkers to do the same."

TRP is an after-school program designed for boys and girls with serious emotional and behavioral problems which may lead to placement outside the home. It utilizes recreation and leisure activities as constructive and productive intervention tools. TRP is for at-risk youth ages eight to 17 years old. It helps youth and adolescents manage and reduce aggressive behaviors, improve social skills and moral reasoning, and build healthy relationships.

*The "MERIT Employee of Distinction Award" recognizes an employee for his/her distinguished service to the agency on a quarterly basis. This individual has displayed **Motivation, Excellence, Responsibility, Integrity, and Teamwork** in the execution of going beyond his/her job duty and responsibilities.*

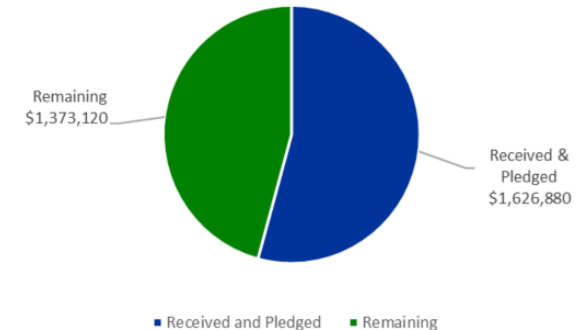
# Capital Campaign Update

Bethany is **54.23%** of the way to its **\$3 million Capital Campaign goal** for its new headquarters!

You have an opportunity to **Gift and Uplift** with a donation to the Capital Campaign. While all donors will be acknowledged, gifts of \$1,000 or more will be noted on the recognition wall located on the main floor of the Caxton Block building. Please indicate on the enclosed remittance envelope that your donation is for the Capital Campaign.

## Levels of Support include:

- Visionary - \$500,000+
- Philanthropist - \$250,000-\$499,999
- Dignitary - \$100,000-\$249,999
- Champion - \$50,000-\$99,999
- Leader - \$25,000-\$49,999
- Advocate - \$15,000-\$24,999
- Benefactor - \$10,000-\$14,999
- Patron - \$5,000-\$9,999
- Supporter - \$2,500-\$4,999
- Friend - \$1,000-\$2,499



Interested in naming a room with your donation to memorialize a loved one, to honor a parent or grandparent, or to showcase your business? **Naming opportunities** are available!

Please contact Christina McNamara-Schmidt, Director of Development and Communication at (309) 736-6642 or email her at [cmcnamara-schmidt@bethany-qc.org](mailto:cmcnamara-schmidt@bethany-qc.org).





## How Can You Help?



Donate funds to Bethany's Capital Campaign by enclosing a donation in the remittance envelope. Please indicate that it is for the Capital Campaign.



Name Bethany as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance, or in your annual required minimum Distribution (RMD).



Set up a recurring donation at [www.bethany-qc.org](http://www.bethany-qc.org).



Donate hygiene products, cleaning supplies, school supplies, furniture, diapers, and new baby items that directly benefit the children and families we serve. Please call Christina McNamara-Schmidt at (309) 797-6642 to inquire about in-kind donations.



Call (309) 797-7700 today to support a safer, stronger, and healthier Quad Cities.

### How to Make a Donation

#### Want to donate online?

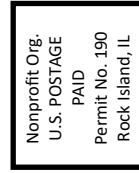
Visit [www.bethany-qc.org](http://www.bethany-qc.org)

#### Prefer to mail your donation?

Mail donations to:  
P.O. Box 697  
Moline, IL 61266



1701 River Dr., Suite 200  
Moline, IL 61265



Return Service Requested



Bethany4CF

[www.bethany-qc.org](http://www.bethany-qc.org)