

What We're Working on @ HQ

September/October 2020

"It is safer to search in the maze than remain in a cheeseless situation"

From "Who Moved My Cheese"

The virtual convention was another first for our organization. Thank you to everyone who took time out of their Saturday schedule to be with us virtually. Listening to Charles Henault share his stories from the early years was an inspiration to all of us. The video highlighting the stories of dream recipients including a young girl, a college age student and an adult demonstrated the impact of a dream at the time of the dream, the continued positive impact several years later and the impact well into adulthood. As everyone is aware, the positive impact of a dream does not stop when the dream is completed. What you and every single volunteer are doing is changing a life for a lifetime!

Even in the middle of a pandemic, the lives of 150 children and their families were positively impacted by receiving a dream. That number of dreams completed is not what we all wanted, but to each of those 150 children, it is everything they wanted.

Highlights from the Board of Directors Meeting

- Congrats to:
- Jereme Miner (3 year term) elected to serve as chapter rep on the Executive Committee, and
- Bob Pennington (2 year remaining term) elected to serve as chapter rep on the Executive Committee

Policy Updates/Changes-complete policies are attached to this email. Updates to the SOP will be made with these changes included. Below are brief summaries of the policies.

1. Initial Meeting/Screening

Initial meetings and initial screenings with parents and dream children can and do occur in a number of settings. Initial meetings in a child's home will require 2 volunteers.

2. Process for filing a complaint against CEO/Staff/Volunteers

A process, that is fair to everyone involved, is provided to address complaints against the National Director/CEO, HQ staff or chapter volunteers.

3.Pools/hot tubs

A detailed description of the steps required when either a pool or hot-tub is a child's dream.

4. Gift Acceptance Policy

Because there is there is the potential for controversy if certain gifts are accepted, Dream Factory, Inc. has adopted a gift acceptance policy.



**DREAM
FACTORY**

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Congratulations to the following Awards Winners:

Outstanding Fundraising Event Under \$10,000 was awarded to the Rochester Chapter for 11 year old Teresa donating her birthday money to help fund a dream.

Outstanding Fundraising Event Over \$10,000 was awarded to the Memphis Chapter for their Ski-Freeze fundraiser.

Most Unusual Dream was awarded to the Lexington Chapter for granting a young man's dream to return home to Rwanda to spend his last days with his family.

Best In Kind Dream was awarded to the Jersey Shore Chapter for their involvement of a local motorcycle club in enhancing a dream by installing a backyard playset and basketball hoop.

Outstanding Special Project was awarded to the Kansas City Chapter for Hudson's very own drive by parade.

Volunteer of the Year was awarded to **ALL Volunteers** from **ALL Chapters**.

President's Daniel Forrest Award was presented to Tim Bach for his long time financial and personal commitment to the Dream Factory as well as Charles Henault for his vision and tenacity in starting the Dream Factory.

Tammy Keel Dream Award was not presented this year due to the impact of the pandemic. We look forward to awarding this special honor at next year's convention!

Service Pins were awarded to the following:

30 years Virginia Avery (York, Maine), Ralph Coldiron (Lexington), Melonie Graves (Lexington), Darrell Ishmael (Lexington), Kathy Ishmael (Lexington)

25 years Stephanie McKenzie (Lexington), Debbie Tudor (Lexington), Mary-Alicha Weldon (Lexington)

20 years Tracey Avery Pardoe (York, Maine)

15 years Beth Mendenhall (Lexington)

10 years Ashlee Harris (Lexington), Pat Hahn (Jersey Shore), Luanne Wood (Jersey Shore), Jackie Lemieux (Lexington), Vincent Lemieux (Lexington), Brett McCracken (Kansas City), Todd Wallace (Lexington)

5 years Heather Anschutz (Nebraska), Krystal Culbertson (Southeast Missouri), Lindsey Downey (Kansas City), Lyndsie Mullin (Nebraska), Deb Poole (Nebraska), Erin Shiley (Nebraska), Sara Sommer (Kansas City), Jamie Spangler (Kansas City)

370 years of experience giving dreams to kids and their families in 2019

340 years of experience giving dreams to kids and their families in 2018

470 years of experience giving dreams to kids and their families in 2017

**1180 years of service to kids and their families
recognized the last 3 years.**

Special Recognition and Thanks: Every year all of our chapters assist other chapters in a variety of ways. This year both the St Louis and Central Missouri chapters are providing the financial support to pay the rent of the national office for the year ahead.

Dreams Update

The following question has been asked by numerous volunteers: Prior to the Give Kids The World Village reopening, can GKTW help secure theme park tickets for Dream Factory families? The answer is no. GKTW cannot help with tickets or provide any discounts to the parks until the village is opened again. However, if your chapter is working with a dream child who needs to medically rush his/her dream, then reach out to Tommie at Nationals for options. GKTW might be able to help with these types of situations. Otherwise, in the meantime, you can continue with a non-GKTW Orlando dream with the understanding that the cost will be significantly higher than a normal GKTW dream, or postpone the trip until the GKTW Village is opened again. Also a reminder that we will receive a three-month notice of when the Village will reopen.

For our online forms, those will be forwarded to your chapter email as they come in. These will be forwarded from the email, forms@dreamfactoryinc.org. These include Refer A Child Form, Volunteer With Us Form, and Contact Us Form. Please respond to these accordingly.

Reminders

Chapter contracts, board member list for 2020-2021 and financial solvency forms are now due to Mike or Ellen.

Chapters should have someone checking their **Dream Factory email** on a regular basis. We receive **volunteer referrals** almost daily and the best way to keep our mission going is to continue to bring new volunteers on board.

Background Checks: As per the SOP, "It is the policy of The Dream Factory, Inc. that all paid staff, members of the National Executive Committee, Chapter Board Members and most volunteers must be screened by a firm approved by The Dream Factory prior to their involvement in organizational activities. **As approved by the Board of Directors in September 2010, this screening must be repeated every three years.**" Each chapter should have an up-to-date list of their volunteers. If you need to know who in your chapter needs to have screening, please email Ellen at ellen.wilson@dreamfactoryinc.org. The screening form is available on the website.

Financial Overview thru August 31, 2020

	Sep '19 - Aug 20	YTD Budget	\$ Over (Under) Budget
Total Income	\$ 275,305.02	\$ 323,850.00	\$ (48,544.98)
Total Program Services Expenses	\$ 62,059.87	\$ 62,498.00	\$ (438.13)
Total Fundraising Expenses	\$ 51,657.39	\$ 59,730.00	\$ (8,072.61)
Total Administrative Expenses	\$ 192,334.35	\$ 201,450.00	\$ (9,115.65)
Net Income	\$ (30,746.59)	\$ 172.00	\$ (30,918.59)

Dream Count

Aug-20	Aug-19	Aug-18
150	265	227

