

reaching out

winter 2015



Thank you for being such a big influence in my life. Thank you so much for everything you do. I appreciate it and so does my family. Without you I don't know where I would be. You are family to me and I hope you don't forget me because I won't forget you. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!

a letter from zion

Zion, his mom and two siblings have been in a homeless crisis since the start of the school year. Moving in with an aunt gives them a safe place to stay, but **this solution is only temporary**. The four of them share space in the living room, taking turns sleeping on couches and the floor. Sometimes it's difficult for Zion to find a quiet, comfortable space for homework and sleep.

Despite crowded living conditions at home, Zion continues to flourish in school **with support from A Child's Place**. To help him with his difficulties making friends, A Child's Place organized activities with other boys in his grade to learn and practice social skills. To keep **Mom involved in his education**, A Child's Place created a safe place for her to meet with Zion's teacher. To give Zion a **comfortable outlet to share his worries, hopes and dreams**, A Child's Place introduced him to Mr. P, a caring community volunteer.

This support helps Zion look beyond the distractions and struggles of his homeless crisis and **earn high grades, maintain excellent attendance and avoid behavior issues**. He and his family are comforted knowing A Child's Place will continue to help Zion stay on track and at the same time work with Mom to **remove other barriers** that keep their family from securing stable housing.

Please consider supporting students like Zion by returning the enclosed gift remittance envelope with your tax-deductible contribution. Here's how your gift will assist A Child's Place in meeting our students' needs:

- Your **\$500** allows A Child's Place to **create individualized intervention plans** for students like Zion to address attendance and behavior issues that arise from the stress of homelessness.
- Your **\$250** ensures that A Child's Place continues to advocate for Zion's family to help them **find a stable home solution**.
- Your **\$100** matches Zion and his siblings with new, weather-appropriate outfits.
- Your **\$35** identifies and meets the need of school supplies for Zion so he has the tools necessary to **succeed in the classroom**.

our results

For the first time in our history, A Child's Place is fortunate to have two outside evaluations that show us the impact of our work: one through the United Way of Central Carolina's Collective Impact and the other by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Urban Institute. Both studies were conducted with information gathered from CMS on students served by A Child's Place.

The studies found that A Child's Place serves the neediest students, those experiencing homelessness.

These results illustrate the positive effects our services have on students.



with intervention from a child's place during the 2013-2014 school year:

academics

76% of students improved or remained stable in reading.

1/3 of students showing growth in reading improved more than one grade level.

71% of students improved or remained stable in math.

1/3 of students showing growth in reading improved more than one grade level.

attendance

63% of students showed improved attendance from 1st to 4th quarter.

family assistance

only 20% of students re-enrolled in A Child's Place from 2012-2013 to 2013-2014.

over 50% of students are in a stable home situation.

behavior

84% of students remained stable in the number of suspensions from 1st to 4th quarter.

about a child's place

All children are at risk of failure but those experiencing the chaos of homelessness are at the greatest risk of falling behind in school and possibly dropping out for good. In an effort to erase the impact of homelessness on academic performance, A Child's Place provides immediate, emergency services and referrals to children and their families in the midst of crisis. We stand by families as they progress from crisis to safer housing situations - all the while keeping the student focused on academics and learning.

A Child's Place focuses on two key areas:

student support

Resolve the child's **immediate basic needs** for food, clothing and shelter while creating a **case plan** that supports their continued focus on education in one of our partner schools.

family support

Assess and advocate within and on behalf of the student's family through a case plan to resolve issues that led to the family's immediate homeless crisis.

This unique partnership of student and family advocacy creates a holistic approach encouraging our students to stay focused on their education, develop a passion for learning and use the power of their education to change their lives.

holiday central in review

1,122 individuals sponsored (336 families)

470 volunteers

940 hours spent gift wrapping

159 sponsors

Over **3,000** gifts



thank you!



Savvy + Co Real Estate and **SpringHill Suites by Marriott** hosted **Art Night in Ballantyne** that auctioned pieces by local artists to raise money for A Child's Place.



Eric and Kristen Greenwald selected A Child's Place as the beneficiary of their 4th annual **Huntersville Christmas Lights**, an award-winning animated light display choreographed to Christmas music.



All proceeds from **WB Moore's** mulligan and raffle ticket sales at their annual golf tournament were donated to A Child's Place.



Jon King biked 25 miles to raise money for A Child's Place. This is the second year in a row that he's ridden to support our students.



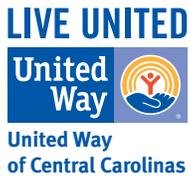
Krusch & Sellers' 4th annual **Sharing With Shoes** collected 350 new sneakers for our students, enough to fill two **Hendrick MINI** Coopers!



Obrie Smith and his Sunday school class at **Friendship Missionary Baptist Church** collected gift cards to purchase supplies for our families. The church also provided new coats and shoes to some of our students at their **Spirit of Christmas** celebration.

interested in organizing your own fundraiser for a child's place?

Though A Swine Evening is the only fundraising event hosted by A Child's Place, we are always excited to help promote events organized by outside individuals and groups on our behalf. Dozens of events occur throughout the year including sports tournaments, bake sales, fashion shows, raffles and auctions. Gather your friends and co-workers and begin planning your event today by visiting our website at www.achildsplace.org for ideas and information on how to get started.



mkg is all about acp

It's no surprise that **Michael Kidd-Gilchrist** is at it again! With the help of **The Cowfish Sushi Burger Bar** chefs, Kidd-Gilchrist created a new menu item called **Motor Keeps Going (MKG)**, a half-pound turkey burger with raclette, spinach, fried leeks and hot pepper jelly served with a half vegetarian sushi roll and sweet potato fries. From now through the end of April, **The Cowfish will donate \$5 of every MKG sale to A Child's Place.** We encourage you to take your friends, family and colleagues to **The Cowfish** over the next few months and enjoy an MKG for ACP. **Thank you, Michael and The Cowfish!**



Tell us how much you enjoyed your MKG by tagging @ACPCharlotte, @CowfishCLT and #MKG4ACP on social media!



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stay in the acp loop! Send your e-mail address to jfletcher@achildsplace.org so we can add it to our database. Thank you.

our mission

a child's place works to erase the impact of homelessness on children and their education.

