

Family Matters

WINTER 2020

Trusted by Michigan Families for Over 95 Years.



Judson Center



an affiliate of Judson Center

AUTISM CONNECTIONS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

DISABILITY SERVICES

FAMILY HEALTH

LEADERSHIP



Judson Center

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WELCOME



This edition of Family Matters looks back at Judson Center's 95 year history of Commitment to Community.

Since 1924, we have been trusted by Michigan families to bring hope and healing to children and adults impacted by mental, physical, and/or family challenges.

We help children with autism reconnect with the world, nurture troubled minds and bodies back to health, and help adults with disabilities find fulfilling jobs. We also remain true to our roots as an orphanage and continue to find loving homes for children who have been placed in the foster care system through no fault of their own.

Our newsletter's name - Family Matters - accurately sums up our work. Family is who we all should be able to look to for love and support. But even the strongest families need help occasionally. And sometimes, the best families for some children are caring individuals ready and able to open their hearts and homes to them.

Judson Center is there to give all families - whether formed via birth, foster care, or adoption - the resources they need to prosper. We are honored that they turn to us when they are most vulnerable and that they trust us with their most precious members: their children.

Today we serve families through five areas of excellence: Child & Family, Autism, Behavioral Health, Disability Services, and Integrated Primary Health Care through our new Family Health Clinic in Warren. In August, we moved our administrative staff to Farmington Hills to open up even more space for our programs at our Royal Oak campus.

I believe our founders would be pleased to know that the simple orphanage they established 95 years ago has grown into a dynamic human services agency that supports over 12,000 children and adults each year. With assistance from donors, volunteers, and the community, Judson Center will continue to help Michigan children and families thrive for decades more to come.

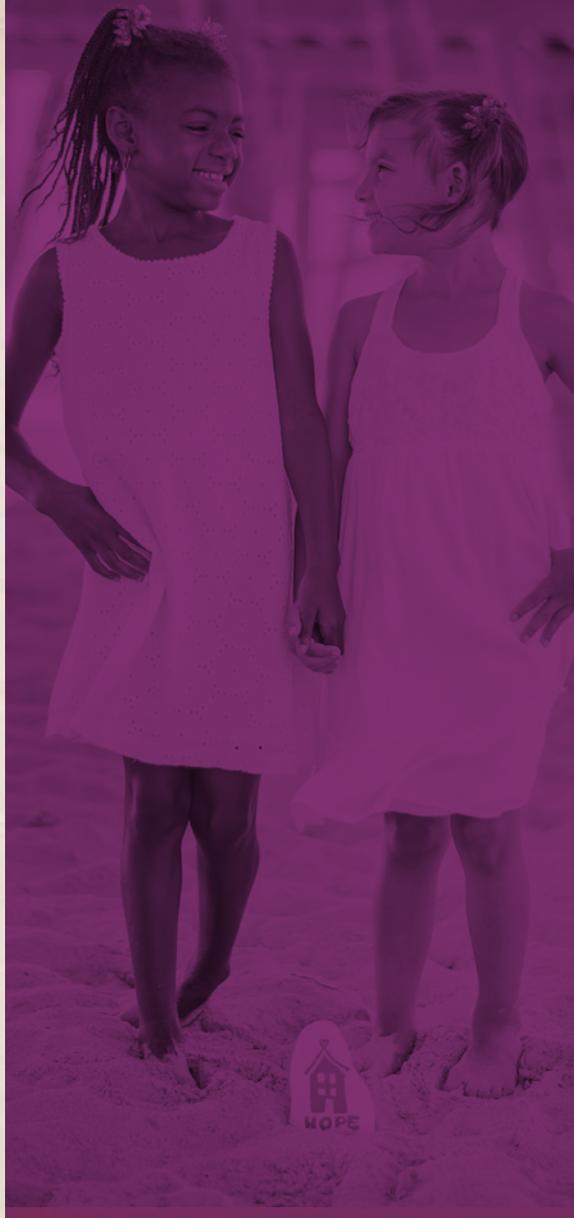
Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lenora Hardy-Foster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lenora Hardy-Foster
President & CEO

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

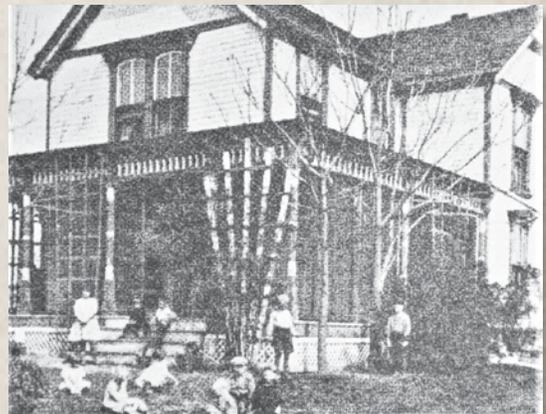
SINCE 1924



In the early 1920s, many Detroit area congregations were alarmed by the large number of abandoned and neglected children in the region. Church leaders, including Dr. Henry C. Gleiss, Executive Secretary of the Detroit Baptist Union, felt it was their duty to respond.

In May 1924, Gleiss led the Detroit Association of American Baptist Churches to establish the Detroit Baptist Children's Home. A four-acre farmstead consisting of a farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings located at the corner of Greenfield and 13 Mile Road in Royal Oak - the same site as Judson Center's main program campus today - was purchased for \$25,000.

On November 24, the Home welcomed its first children. The Home cared for orphans as well as children who needed temporary care because of family hardship. Early records report of cases where grieving widowers asked the Home to care for their children until they could get back on their feet, and of abandoned wives seeking short-term shelter for their babies while they sought steady work. Family preservation and reunification remain a Judson Center program to this day.



By the end of 1925, there were 15 children (ages 4 to 10) in the Home. Six additional children were in approved foster homes, 11 others had been helped temporarily and discharged, and 10 were urgently awaiting care.

By 1930, demand for the Home's services grew so great that it became necessary to build a bigger, sturdier structure. The adjacent 4 acres were purchased, and in 1934 a three story brick house was constructed. The Home could accommodate 15 girls on the second floor and 17 boys on the third floor. When the Home's beds were full, children were boarded with carefully chosen foster families from area parishes.



1930 | Residential care provided to 30 children

1935 | Care provided to 53 children

1949 | The Home became a fully licensed child welfare agency

As Dora Ballard, the Home's director from 1924 until 1949, told the children, "There's no place like home, but we'll make this second best and try to make you happy here." The children enjoyed

house pets, visits from local entertainers, sports, dance lessons, and play dates with nearby families. Local parishes took turns stocking the Home with food and supplies, and a Woman's Auxiliary cleaned house, oversaw fundraisers, and organized birthday parties and visits from Santa Claus who handed out presents donated by local congregations to each child.





Judson Center

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

When state welfare agencies started shifting towards a preference for foster home care and adoption in the 1950s and 1960s, the Home regularly recruited and licensed foster parents and loving forever families. For the children who continued to reside in the Home, the staff continued to provide as much of a normal life as possible. The staff even created classrooms with two special education teachers to help children struggling academically get back to grade level so they could enroll in the Royal Oak school system.

In the 1970s, the Home recognized that many of the children who came to its doors were traumatized from their life experiences and required support beyond what foster parents alone could provide. This led to the construction of on-campus residential houses. The design provided a family-like atmosphere, and social workers were available to help the children through their personal issues so they could successfully return to their families or transition to foster/adoptive homes.



**1972 | 64 adoptions completed,
74 children in foster care,
34 in group homes**

In 1984, the Home's Board of Managers decided a name change was in order since the Home was serving children and families of all denominations and backgrounds. They chose the name Judson Center in honor of Adoniram Judson, a Baptist missionary. Though the name changed, the mission to support children and families in-need stayed the same.



Judson Center continues to ensure over 6,000 children – like Sue and Barb Hollis - have safe, nurturing homes each year.

Lynn and Mike Hollis had fostered and then adopted their daughter Sue. In November 2013, the Hollises received an urgent call from their case worker who told them a baby girl named Barb was about to be released from the hospital after being treated for fetal alcohol syndrome and nicotine withdrawal. Barb had nowhere to go. Would the Hollises consider fostering her?

The Hollises prayed and asked themselves “Why would we say no? Why would we not do this?” Though they had little time to prepare, Lynn and Mike agreed to take Barb into their home. One day, when Sue (then almost three years old) awoke from her nap, she found a new baby in the household.

The Hollises’ mantra was “Our job is to keep her safe.” For the next five years, the Hollises cared for Barb and provided stability. “We knew that at any point, that there was a possibility she’d return to her birth parents.”

The goal of foster care is family reunification. But when it was clear that Barb’s birth family would be unable to care for her and that their parental rights would be terminated, the Hollises moved to adopt her. Five years after they first opened their home to her, Barb officially became part of the Hollis family. Today, both girls are thriving. Sue and Barb are more than sisters....they are best friends!

Though it took many years before they could legally call Barb their daughter, the Hollises agree the process was worth it. Lynn advises other prospective foster and adoptive parents to “be resilient, always keep the child’s interest as your primary role, be their advocate, they need you, you are their voice. Take advantage of the many Judson Center resources for training and the valuable support they provide.”



We are proud to congratulate Monique Jackson on her acceptance into the Minority Professional Leadership Development program at AdoptUSKids. Monique was chosen to participate in this year-long nationwide program because of the exceptional leadership she has demonstrated as the Adoption Supervisor for Child Safe Michigan. Child Safe Michigan is the proud recipient of the 2019 Michigan



Department of Health and Human Services Child Welfare Team Excellence Award for Outstanding Commitment to Michigan’s Children and Families.

Congratulations Monique!

DISABILITY SERVICES

SINCE 1986



During the 1970s, the state institutions that once served individuals with intellectual, physical, and/or developmental disabilities (I/P/DD) closed. This prompted Judson Center—then still known as the Detroit Baptist Children’s Home—to step up and offer the care this population rightfully deserved. In 1974 the Home launched its first off-campus group residence for children ages 7-13 with I/P/DD. Over the next few years, seven group homes for children and adults were opened throughout the surrounding communities, including Southfield, Troy and West Bloomfield.

In 1986, Judson Center launched the Supported Employment Program when it realized that many of its I/P/DD residents had valuable capabilities and could become contributing members of the workforce with the proper training and supports. Now known as Disability Services, the program helps over 300 teens and adults prepare for and then compete in the job market today.



We don’t view these individuals as disabled. We view them as *differently-abled* with unique and distinctive skills.

Our Disability Services job coaches assess program participants’ abilities, teach key employment “soft” skills (such as socialization, communications, adapting to change, time management, and task prioritization), develop resumes, practice mock interviews, coordinate employment opportunities aligned with their interests, and provide on-the-job support to ensure they’re successful.



Judson Center

DISABILITY SERVICES

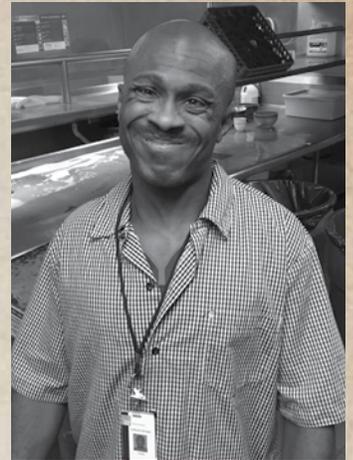
The Henry Ford Museum is one of 40 Metro Detroit businesses that annually welcomes these workers to their teams. Grant, Carnell, Mark, and Chris are proud to be employed there on the Food Services staff.

Grant is currently a kitchen porter at Greenfield Village where he does food prep and clean-up. "I found this job because of Judson. Now I train lots of people and am the 'go-to guy' when it comes to doing things others don't know how to do. I have been here for 23 years and made friends with people I work with."



Grant

Mark previously worked at La Quinta Inn and Lifetime Fitness. Now he works four days a week at the Henry Ford restocking supplies and mopping/sweeping the floors. Most days he takes the bus by himself to get to his shift on time.



Mark



Carnell

Carnell is also a kitchen porter. He likes interacting with his coworkers and seeing the museum's historical items. "I am the extra hands for the chefs and help them with anything they need help with. Judson Center helped me find my love for cooking and now I want to be a cook. I even went to culinary art class."



Chris

Chris joined the Henry Ford/Greenfield Village Food Services team after stints in hotel housekeeping and mobile crews cleaning Speedway gas stations. He currently works as a kitchen porter in the Taste of History café where he enjoys talking to the staff and museum visitors.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

SINCE 1996

**Accepting
New Patients
Call Today!
(866) 5JUDSON
(866-558-3766)**

The 1990s shined a spotlight on mental health issues as society began to understand how many people struggle with anxiety, depression, and trauma every day. One in five people will be affected by mental illness in their lifetime, and half of all conditions emerge by age 14.

In 1996, Judson Center launched Behavioral Health Services, delivering life-changing therapies and treatments to children and adults.

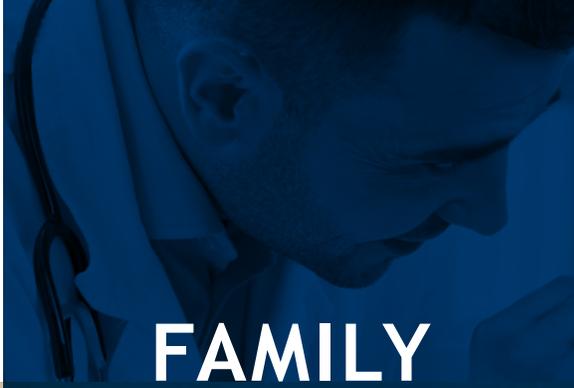
Judson Center's Behavioral Health team of psychiatrists and therapists help patients like Chelsea identify challenges, resolve conflicts, and develop the coping skills they need to reclaim their lives.

While in elementary school, Chelsea had socialization challenges. She was diagnosed with ADHD, bipolar disorder and Asperger's Syndrome, and an area counseling center referred Chelsea and her mother to Judson Center for help.

Chelsea began with in-home treatment and then progressed to outpatient therapy. Today, she feels much less depressed and takes fewer medications. She now holds a blue belt in karate and enjoys helping children develop their karate skills. She's attending classes at Macomb County Community College on top of working part-time at a rehabilitation facility and hopes to become a teacher someday.



Chelsea advises anyone that is wrestling with a mental or personal challenge to “not give up. Take one step at a time, one goal at a time, and one day at a time and have support. The disease is just one part of you. You are not a label.”



FAMILY HEALTH

SINCE 2019

**Accepting
New Patients
Call Today!
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ELIZABETH HABERKORN
Nurse Practitioner, MSN, FNP-BC

“Being a primary care provider within an integrative care practice has afforded me the ability to collaborate with experienced mental health providers. With this team based approach, I am able to better encompass mental health into primary care and vice versa.”



Judson Center built a Family Health Clinic adjacent to its Behavioral Health facility in February 2019 to literally break down the walls between mental and primary health care. Behavioral health patients tend to avoid seeking primary care treatments as they find many physicians are not sensitive to their difficulties. Living with a mental health condition is hard enough without shame, embarrassment, or stigma attached.

The Judson Center Family Health Clinic offers “one stop” integrated primary and mental health care. The clinic follows a Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model where primary care providers and behavioral health specialists work together to deliver the right care, at the right time, in the right way for patients.

As many as 20% of primary care patients seen to date have received behavioral health treatments they might not have otherwise sought in a timely manner, and our behavioral health patients use the primary care staff to monitor their medications and physical concerns.



Brighter Futures

The **Judson Brighter Futures Fund** supports all our programs throughout the year. It helps the youngest of children to the oldest of adults so they are able to reach their fullest potential to live rewarding and enriching lives - a brighter future.

A gift to the **Judson Brighter Futures Fund** can...

\$ 35

Provide diapers for children in our care

\$ 75

Provide gift cards to promote encouragement and help with necessary needs like new shoes, shirts & pants for youth in our care, and adults going on an interview

\$ 95

Honor our 95 years being trusted by Michigan families by providing games and toys for pre-school age children with autism, so they can learn, grow and connect with their world

\$ 175

Provide pajamas and sheets for children in foster care

\$ 250

Provide art supplies and therapeutic games to enhance behavioral health services

MAKING A GIFT IS SIMPLE TO DO!



Donate now at
www.judsoncenter.org



Mail your donation in
the enclosed envelope



Call Kelly Kinnear
at (248) 837-2030



Text JCGIVE to 50155



LEND A HAND TODAY!

AUTISM CONNECTIONS

SINCE 2005

Accepting
New Families!
Call (866) 5JUDSON
(866-558-3766)

ANN ARBOR
FARMINGTON HILLS
ROYAL OAK
WARREN

Since 2005, Judson Center's Autism Connections services have provided life-changing treatments to thousands of southeastern Michigan residents with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Judson Center was one of the first agencies in the state to recognize the need to offer structured autism therapy.

In 2000, 1 in 150 children was diagnosed with a form of autism. Today, the numbers have risen to 1 in 59 due to better screenings and a better understanding of the disorder.

Board member Henry Mistele, who just marked his 51st year of Board service with Judson Center, was key to the launch of Autism Connections. He saw autism therapy as a natural extension of Judson Center's child welfare work and encouraged then-President/CEO Marn Myers to open Judson Center's arms to these children, too.

"Henry gave me a lot of support and guidance. He was a big proponent of us moving into the area of serving children on the autism spectrum and supporting their families," said Myers.

Today, Judson Center's Autism Connections helps over 250 children ages 18 months to 21 years old each year. In addition to our centers in Royal Oak and Ann Arbor, Judson Center opened a therapy facility in Warren in winter 2019 and will soon open the doors of a new Autism Connections center in Farmington Hills at the new Headquarters Building on Northwestern and Inkster.

As one boy with ASD has described it, having autism is like being trapped inside a faulty robot: it's difficult to manage one's body, mouth, and words. Through intensive interventions like Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Judson Center's team of Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and Behavior Technicians help children like Iyaan, James, and Dorian "reprogram" how they act and control their bodies:

- **IYAAN** was a non-verbal three year-old when he first arrived at Judson Center six months ago. Today, his mother describes him as a "non-stop talker." He also enjoys listening to music and singing.
- **JAMES** initially could not control his emotions. People would stare at his public outbursts. Judson Center has helped James learn to "keep his hands, feet, and unkind words" to himself.
- Within six months of starting therapy at Judson Center, 10 year-old **DORIAN** became more social. He is no longer shy and now interacts with other kids. He's also reading at a third grade level and able to do both addition and subtraction.



In 2018, Judson Center introduced the Bridges to Success program to help adolescents with ASD develop skills needed to be independent at home, in school, and in the community. Through 1:1 coaching, teens learn personal care (such as how to brush one's teeth and shave), basic housework (how to make a bed, do laundry, operate kitchen appliances, and make simple meals), and daily living skills like handling money and following instructions. Programming is delivered in a house on our Royal Oak campus so clients can practice their skills in a real world setting.



COMMUNITY OF CARING



JAVA WITH JUDSON

On August 22nd, Judson Center's inaugural Java with Judson took place with over 100 people in attendance. Our speakers, U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, spoke about issues impacting the health and wellbeing of Michigan children and families. Judson Center Board member former State Senator Vincent Gregory served as our host and Nancy Kaffer from the Detroit Free Press served as our moderator.

PHOTO 1 Heather Mingle and guests at Java for Judson

PHOTO 2 U.S. Senator Gary Peters, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, President & CEO Lenora Hardy Foster and former State Senator Vincent Gregory

PHOTO 3 Child Safe Michigan Board Member Mary Albertson, former State Senator Vincent Gregory & Derone Buffington

PHOTO 4 Behavioral Health Director Melissa Peters, Chief Operating Officer Sue Salhaney, President & CEO Lenora Hardy-Foster, with U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow & Board Advisor Kyle O'Malley.



BACK TO SCHOOL Drive

We are grateful to all of our donors who donated to our Back to School Drive, sending the children in our care back to school prepared. Thank you to our volunteers who helped keep us organized in the Wish Room!



PHOTO 1 The FCA Motor Citizens team came to help organize the Wish Room for the Back to School Drive. From left to right: Bhargavi Krishnaprasad, Manpreet Kaur, Herbert Williams, Parivash Ramin, Sneha Kulkarni, Venkataramana Mudganti, Renee Jones and Ruben Velasquez.

PHOTO 2 Ron Razalan, Hollie Wall and Michelle McCulloch donated back to school supplies on behalf of the team at Ruby + Associates.

PHOTO 3 Renee Read and Ryan Read from National Anesthesia Services dropped off school supplies that were collected for kids in foster care.

PHOTO 4 Scott and Linda Wilson make it a yearly tradition to hold a back pack party with their friends and donate their collection to Judson Center.

PHOTO 5 A child in our foster care program receives a manicure by The Studio For Hair nail tech, Amber Shampine.



A NIGHT TO EMBRACE *Gala* Our Amazing Flight

Presented by



FIFTH THIRD BANK

CELEBRATING JUDSON'S 95 YEARS

Over 620 guests celebrated Judson Center's 95th anniversary at the Night to Embrace: Our Amazing Flight Gala on November 2. The evening honored the donors, Board members, staff, and volunteers who have helped Judson Center and the children and families we serve soar to great heights since 1924. The event raised more than \$570,000 for Judson Center programs.

RIGHT The Circle of Compassion Award was posthumously presented to Board member David F. Lau for his 33-year commitment to Judson Center's mission and his work to help those in-need across the region.

BELOW Judson Center and Child Safe Michigan's Board members took to the stage to celebrate Judson Center's 95th Anniversary!





ABOVE Board Chair Tricia Ruby and President & CEO Lenora Hardy-Foster presented the Circle of Support Award to Elizabeth Stieg and The Carls Foundation for generously supporting Judson Center.



ABOVE Kodi Lee, America's Got Talent's 2019 winner and his mother, Tina, shared a personal message and encouraged guests to "raise their paddles" during the Take-A-Stand and Live Auction.



LEFT President & CEO Lenora Hardy-Foster and Board Chair Tricia Ruby presented the Circle of Service Award to Henry Mistele, who has served on the Judson Center Board for 51 years and was instrumental in launching Autism Connections.



EVENT WRAP UP

The 2019 Corporate Golf Challenge co-presented by Aisin Group and Ruby + Associates was held on Monday, July 29 and was a complete sell-out! 144 golfers hit the links. During the post-round dinner and auction, the golfers heard Erin and Justin Munson tell the heartwarming story of how they've expanded their family through foster care and adoption.

Thanks to Ryan Krause (Rehmann) and John Giarmarco (Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C.) for co-chairing our successful event and to Mike Savoie Chevrolet for providing the Hole-in-One Corvette prize (all the golfers tried, but there were no lucky aces).



PULL! for Kids



PULL! for Kids Clay Shooting Tournament celebrated its 10th Anniversary on Thursday, September 19 at the Detroit Gun Club. The event, chaired by Joe Yamin, welcomed more than 100 participants raising more than \$93,000 to benefit foster care, adoption and mentoring programs at Child Safe Michigan, an affiliate of Judson Center.

SAVE THE DATES



**Child Safe Michigan
Legends of Tomorrow Gala**
Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Friday, May 15, 2020

**Judson Center's
Corporate Golf
Challenge**
Franklin Hills
Country Club
Franklin, Michigan
Monday, July 27, 2020



**North American
International Auto Show
Charity Preview**
TCF Center, Detroit
Friday, June 12, 2020



**Child Safe Michigan
Pull! for Kids**
Detroit Gun Club
Walled Lake
Thursday
September 24, 2020

VOLUNTEER VOICES



PHOTO 1 Board of Trustee member Henry Mistele, Autism Connections Jared Coffin, and Event Director Nick Papadas stand with Connor Reyntjes, who recently graduated from our Autism Connections program and participated in the Set Sail for Autism event at Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit.

PHOTO 2 Dave Brown (back) and John Faulkner (front) from Beaumont's IT team volunteered to help get our Judson Center archives organized.

PHOTO 3 Marcia Hannah, Kim Latuszek and Sarah Blakeman from Beaumont's IT team make posters for our Judson Center Marathon participants.

PHOTO 4 The Discovery Motor Trend team donated to the food pantry during their Impact Day program.

PHOTO 5 Remi Johnson and Kathryn Foster from Discovery Advertising help organize the Wish Room.

PHOTO 6 Peggy Birkett and Lauren Neeley from Discovery Advertising helped to spruce up the campus.

PHOTO 7 Judson Center's new Farmington location held a grand opening ribbon cutting celebration with Greater Farmington Hills Area Chamber, The City of Farmington Hills, and community supporters.



PHOTO 1 & 2 Barton Malow served Judson Center during their annual Community Week and poured cement to create safer entrances to our building among many other labor intensive tasks that day.

PHOTO 3 AAA Michigan audit team members Donna Owens, Joe Genevich and Karen Ilisar made our windows sparkly clean!

PHOTO 4 Leon & Lulu Shopping Night to benefit Judson Center supporters Kristen Raley Landman, Mrs. Claus (Nancy Youngerman) and Erika Goleniak.

PHOTO 5 Wayne State NECA students Asim Lodhi and Douglas Haynie along with JMC Electrical Contractor Richard Shaffer, Wayne State NECA student Curtis Barrett, and Jerry and Mary Eden and Jim Chase from SMCNECA donated and installed a new lighting program at Autism Connections.

For more information or to join in any of our volunteer efforts, please contact Peggy Kerr at (248) 837-2019 or peggy_kerr@judsoncenter.org.



Judson Center

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