



The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

What an inspiring time the holidays are! We are privileged to see the giving spirit of our community all year long, but during the holiday season individuals, families and groups really go all out to make the holidays a time of hope and joy.

The Azodi family is a great example. This amazing family and many of their friends have been spending their Christmas morning at our Domestic Violence Center for the past 12 years. They collect donations for the shelter and come to the DVC to prepare and serve a special Christmas breakfast for the families in shelter. Their kindness is such an inspiration!



Here are just a few more of the many examples of generosity that transformed a season of uncertainty into one of hope and joy for hundreds of children, teens, adults and families in our care.



Being away from home during the holidays can be extra hard for the children in Synergy's children's shelter. Volunteers from Project Change shared some holiday wonder through "Mission Snowflake" hanging thousands of paper snowflakes to transform the shelter and kids' spirits.



Mid-America Contractors made an amazing contribution when they paid for students from the Heritage Middle School band to shop for gifts for the homeless and at-risk teens at Synergy's Youth Resilience Center. [Check out the article about in the Courier-Tribune>>](#)



Members of the Philippine Nurses Association of Greater KC gave the women at our Domestic Violence Center the gift of looking and feeling their best when they shared a meal, discussed health questions, provided free haircuts, brought gifts and hosted a music party!



Citi's volunteers never disappoint as they bring a Polar Express pajama party to the families at our Domestic Violence Center and the kids at our Children's Center each year.



Employees from eShipping made the holidays brighter by sorting and wrapping hundreds of gifts for clients throughout the agency.



Volunteers from Ford made it possible to provide holiday gifts for so many of our shelter clients and those who have moved on from shelter, but still need a helping hand.

Thanks to all of you for the hope and joy you shared this holiday season--it provides the foundation for resilience and new beginnings as we start the new year. We are excited for 2019 as we move forward together to continue this important work of making families safer and communities stronger.

Join Us...



The Healing Power of Art

Art Soup is your chance to sample soup from restaurants around the community and enjoy a glass of wine, music and mingling in the vibrant art studio at Synergy Services' Youth Resiliency Center. Proceeds benefit Synergy's art therapy program. Everyone takes home a souvenir bowl created by a teen participating in the art therapy program. **Art therapy** can help people of all ages move forward after trauma, providing a way to express themselves when words fail to describe difficult experiences.

[Art Soup details & registration here>>](#)



Inspiration Awaits

Want to join us for what many volunteers tell us is the most meaningful volunteer experience they've ever had? Sign up now to attend our Kindest Kansas Citian Read-a-Thon on February 8th! This special day is spent reading essays written by students from throughout the community as they describe the kindest person they know and share why they should be selected for a Kindest Kansas Citian award.

[Spread the word and sign up here >>](#)