



HAVENSENT

KEEPING FAMILIES OUT OF CRISIS

Pregnancy is an exciting time for expecting mothers. But it can also be a time of worries and anxieties, especially if the mom-to-be is already a single parent and has limited financial resources or very little support.

When Hannah Rice got pregnant, the stress was overwhelming. Not only was she a single mother with no family support, but she also was living with lupus.

"As excited as I was to have a baby girl, I also knew the risks and worried all the time about what would happen to my son, Dante, if there was an emergency," Hannah said. "And even if I made it to my due date, who would he stay with?"

To escape an abusive relationship, Hannah had moved to Seattle shortly after her son, Dante, was born. The emotional stress caused her lupus to flare, and left her temporarily unable to care for her son. Child Protective Services (CPS) got involved and after a short stay in foster care, Dante was enrolled in Childhaven's Broadway branch.

Dante was two years old when Hannah became pregnant, and he was thriving in Childhaven's care. She did not want to disrupt his progress.

"Dante was finally experiencing the good, safe childhood I wanted for him. I didn't want a health emergency for me to mean a crisis or more trauma for him," said Hannah.

Fortunately for Hannah and Dante, a trusted Childhaven child and family therapist was there to help alleviate anxieties and plan ahead. With the aid of their therapist, Hannah got in touch with an organization that connects parents in need with families that will take care of children for short periods of time. The family visited with Hannah, Dante, and their case manager at Childhaven, getting to know each other better.

"Before Childhaven, I was so afraid of everyone I couldn't think straight and it caused me to put Dante in less than ideal situations," said Hannah. "But with Childhaven, I learned to plan, consider my options, and choose what was best for my son."

By the time she entered her third trimester, Hannah had a family in place to care for Dante. She credits Childhaven's guidance with lowering her stress levels so much she was able to give birth to a healthy baby girl at 37 weeks. Dante's emergency care family brought him to the hospital to see his mom and meet his baby sister. Even now, the



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— HANNAH



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THANK YOU FOR GivingBIG!

We are honored by every one of the amazing donors who participated in our GiveBIG campaign on May 3-4, 2016. Your generosity is already hard at work saving children's lives.

We'd like to give a special shout out to **Mike Pierson**, one of our top GiveBIG contributors and a longtime volunteer at Childhaven!

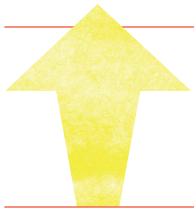
"I'm involved because a small investment in Childhaven is magnified many times," said Mike. It means higher educational attainment, less teen pregnancy, less welfare dependency, fewer violent offenders, and major savings in court and prison costs."



Mike Pierson, Childhaven donor and volunteer

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— MIKE PIERSON



THE 5-YEAR SECOND CENTURY CAMPAIGN SURPASSED ITS \$20 MILLION GOAL, RAISING **\$21 MILLION.**



SECOND CENTURY SUCCESS

Thanks to thousands of philanthropic contributors, Childhaven has successfully completed the Second Century Campaign! The five-year campaign surpassed its \$20 million goal, raising \$21 million.

Campaign co-chairs Clark Kokich (left) and George Hubman (right) with former Childhaven President and CEO Maria Chavez Wilcox at the Second Century Campaign Celebration, which was held at the Broadway Branch on June 9, 2016.

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

Childhaven welcomed **Carl Lovsted III** as the new Chair of the Board of Trustees in May 2016. He has been a board member since 2013.

Maria Chavez Wilcox resigned as Childhaven President and CEO in July. The Board of Trustees appointed **Beth Larsen**, Childhaven's chief program officer, and **Melissa Williams**, chief financial officer, as interim co-presidents as it conducts a national search to name a permanent replacement.



families remain close and when Hannah is experiencing health problems, she's calls on them for care.

"Childhaven taught me how to be a good mom, but it also taught me how to trust the goodness of people in my community," said Hannah.

According to Todd George, Childhaven's senior program director, Hannah and Dante's story is consistent with many families at Childhaven.

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Caitlen Daniels, director of the new Family Crisis Resource Program

"So many of the families who come to us are struggling to stay out of crisis mode on a daily basis," said Todd. "Whether it is housing instability, a shortage of food, or mental or physical health issues, we are prepared to help. Good case management is avoiding crisis."

Yet for many families in King County, the sad truth is there isn't someone there to help. But Childhaven is determined to change this.

Childhaven is in the process of creating a Family Crisis Resource Program. The project is currently in the research and planning phase, with a new program director Caitlen Daniels at the helm.

CHILDAHVEN IS IN THE PROCESS OF CREATING A FAMILY CRISIS RESOURCE PROGRAM, EXPECTED TO LAUNCH IN THE COMING YEAR.

"We are doing our research to understand how crisis programs around the country partner successfully alongside families," said Caitlen. "We need to understand how to be the place parents can turn in crisis and position Childhaven to be part of their extended family ... a safe haven of care and support."

The strategic planning committee expects a pilot program to launch in the coming year, with a plan for scaling up to serve more children and families. Potential community services being discussed are a 24 hour crisis line, 72 hours of care for young children, and help accessing ongoing support from social service partners.

According to Caitlen, Childhaven is also watching issues in the Seattle area closely as it develops a plan. With housing instability, homelessness, and drug use being reported at alarming rates, and no other crisis resources for families with young children available, Childhaven's program will have complex needs to address and a big role to play.



SAVE THE DATE!

Save the Date for the 15th annual Childhaven Auction, on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19** at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue!

TO BECOME A TABLE CAPTAIN

Jennifer Bradley
jenniferb@childhaven.org

FOR SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES

Leslie Jennings
lesliej@childhaven.org



"BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD."

— MAHATMA GANDHI

MEET TYSON

"What happens when he leaves Childhaven?"

That was the question Sheila asked when her son, Tyson, turned five. Born drug affected, Tyson had made amazing progress in his small Childhaven classroom. An individualized treatment plan and attentive teachers had helped him blossom into a smart, goofy little boy.

But his mother worried how he'd fare in a class of 20 Kindergarten students. Stability and personal attention are a critical part of the healing care at Childhaven, but the realities of school life can be very different after children graduate.

Thanks to you, Tyson is prepared. Your donations have supported Childhaven's pre-K program which focuses on building school readiness skills and ensures Childhaven graduates succeed in Kindergarten.

In January, Tyson's teachers began combining classes during playtime, gently teaching him to cope with more noise and variety. His developmental tester worked to help him reach important milestones. He could tie his own shoes! He could spell his name out loud!

Tyson's mother, Sheila, found comfort in the pre-K parenting group. Child and family therapists taught her how to set routines, and gave her confidence to navigate the new school system and advocate for her child.

Tyson will graduate with his Childhaven class in August and Sheila plans to attend the Childhaven parent check-in meeting offered in October for continued support.

"In some ways it feels like we are both graduating!" Sheila says with a laugh. "But we're ready."



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WHICH FOCUSES ON BUILDING
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ENSURES CHILDHAVEN GRADUATES
SUCCEED IN KINDERGARTEN.

MISSION STATEMENT Childhaven
heals children and families to stop
the cycle of abuse and neglect.

OUR VISION is a community
where child abuse and neglect
no longer exist.



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