



Week of the Young Child™

Children's Friend celebrated the Week of the Young Child™ April 6 - 12 in all Children's Friend classrooms.

From color parades, to a special reading day, each classroom celebrated with fun activities and games.

The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of the Week of the Young Child™ is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families. It also recognizes the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.



Board member John Cregan's visit was a big hit!



For great ideas for summer fun, visit us on facebook.
[facebook.com/ChildrensFriendRI](https://www.facebook.com/ChildrensFriendRI)



David Caprio, President and Chief Executive Officer

LETTER from the PRESIDENT

As we enjoy the summer season and prepare for family outings, summer camp for our children, and long afternoons at the beach, I ask that you think of our families in need as well. Sadly, the start of summer often means an end to services our families rely on throughout the school year. Summer is such an important time of growth for children, yet so many of our families do not have access to high quality summer programs.

Thanks to your generous support last summer. Summer learning became a reality for 200 of our most vulnerable children. Your investment provided access to healthy meals, a safe and engaging learning environment, and highly qualified teachers all summer long. Our children explored their communities, took trips to the beach and learned all about the state they live in.

As you enjoy all the wonder of the summer season, please consider investing in the life of a young, vulnerable child. Your gift of any amount truly has great impact.

David

P.S. To learn more about the outcomes of our Summer Learning & Enrichment program please go to: www.childrensfriendri.org.



Children's FRIEND

THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND

5K Walk & Run

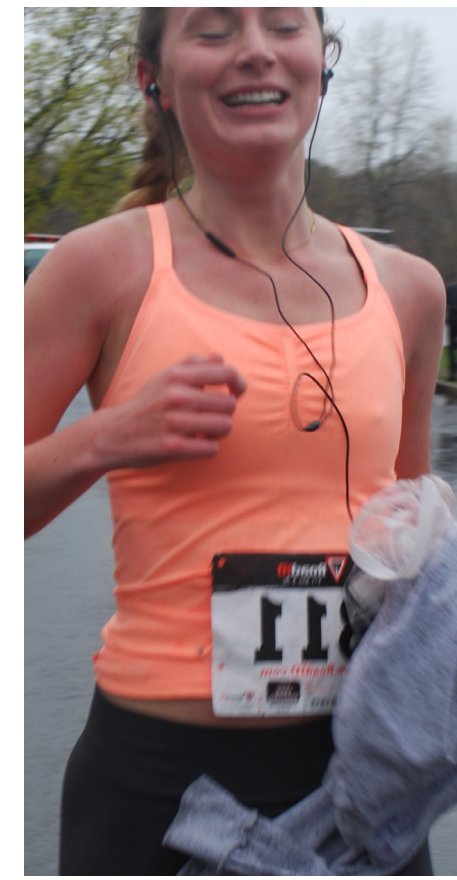
Sponsored by Panera Bread



12th Annual 5K Walk & Run

On April 26th, over 200 participants braved the wet weather to participate in the Children's Friend 5K Walk and run. The weather certainly didn't dampen the spirits of our friends at Panera Bread who provided complimentary breakfast and lunch with a smile!

Over \$85,000 was raised at the event to help improve the well-being and healthy development of the state's most vulnerable young children and their families. Special thanks to our many sponsors and especially to Panera Bread whose commitment and support of Children's Friend and the most vulnerable children in the state is truly inspiring.



Celebrating 180 Years of Service



Kim Kane accepting the award on behalf of the parishioners of St. Francis de Sales

On June 5th, Children's Friend held its 180th Annual Meeting at the Rhode Island College Donovan Dining Center. Over 350 staff, Board, Policy Council, and friends gathered to celebrate the agency's rich history of supporting Rhode Island's most vulnerable children and their families.

One hundred and forty longtime employees of Children's Friend were honored for their service to the agency. Each of these employees received a small gift of appreciation from President and Chief Executive Officer David Caprio and Board Chairman Martha Newcomb.

The 2014 Michelle Norris Memorial Award was given to the parishioners of St. Francis de Sales, Kingstown, Rhode Island, for their generous participation in the agency's **Spirit of Giving Holiday Drive** each year.

By including poor, vulnerable kids in their Christmas season celebration, the parishioners of St. Francis de Sales truly understand the meaning of the **Spirit of Giving Holiday Drive**. They have provided a gift for every child in Children's Friend classrooms for the past five years. Previous to that, they were consistent in supporting Head Start for many years.

We are grateful to the parishioners of St. Francis de Sales for their generous support of children in need during the holiday season. We appreciate their dedication to our children and families.

The Michelle Norris Award, the agency's highest honor, is awarded to an individual or organization that has provided extraordinary support toward the agency's mission of improving the futures of Rhode Island's most vulnerable children. The award is presented in memory of Michelle Norris, a Central Falls first grader who was abducted from her neighborhood and murdered in 1988. The presentation of this award memorializes not only Michelle, but also all children whose lives are lost to violent crime and poverty. By continuing to present this award, Children's Friend acknowledges the worth and the preciousness of all children.



Pictured here are the 140 employees who received service awards. In this shot are veterans of five years, ten years, and fifteen years.

Save The Date

12th Annual *Investing in Our Children* Luncheon
Friday, October 17, 2014 ~ 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Omni Providence Hotel
1 West Exchange Street
Providence, RI 02903

Come celebrate 180 years of serving our community.

