



WAVES 4 K.I.D.S.

Helping KIDS in Difficult Situations in
Brunswick County, North Carolina

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Summer2022 Newsletter

Update on what's happening with WAVES 4 K.I.D.S.

Thanks To Our Supporters WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. Makes a Difference

Kids In Difficult Situations need more help than the Department of Social Services, their foster parents or families can provide. This is why WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. exists.

We could not provide this support without your generosity. From the \$20,000 raised at Summertime Fun through sponsorships and ticket sales, to individual donations, grants, corporate gifts, churches and organizations, our community comes together to support these children and their families.

"Please know your support is invaluable to Brunswick County Department of Social Services and the families we serve. WAVES rocks and it makes our difficult job less stressful, knowing WAVES will come through for us without having to beg and plead for funds to help our families."

--Tracie Burke, Brunswick County Department of Social Services

As you read our summer newsletter, you'll see how we are helping to make a difference one child at a time.

Department of Social Services Working With Over 200 Children

As of June the Brunswick County Department of Social Services was working with:

- 146 Children in foster care
- 59 Children and families receiving in-home services to try to prevent the children from going into foster care



North Carolina
GUARDIAN AD LITEM
A CHILD'S ADVOCATE IN COURT

WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. Supports Guardian ad Litem Program

A Guardian ad Litem (GAL) advocate is a trained community volunteer who is appointed, along with a Guardian ad Litem attorney, by a district court judge to investigate and determine the needs of abused and neglected children petitioned into the court system by the Department of Social Services.

Judy Malone, Brunswick County GAL Program Supervisor, "expressed her gratitude that WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. recently supported the GAL program by providing gas cards which will be used by volunteers when traveling to visit children who have been assigned to them. "In addition," explains Malone, "WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. acts of goodwill have supplied many children with educational materials, recreational activities, camps, and tutors that may not have been a possibility which in turn gives a deeper meaning in a child's life in a time of uncertainties."

The GAL Program is currently a voice in court for 135 children and has 69 active volunteers. Their role is mandated by North Carolina General Statute 7B-601. The program exists in every county throughout the state, and serves more than 15,000 children a year.

Book Bags Distributed to Brunswick County Foster Children

Foster children in Brunswick County will start school with Lands' End book bags filled with school supplies. Just as important as the supplies are the smiles and pride that come from having their own brand new book bag to begin the school year.

Volunteers from WAVES 4 K.I.D.S., the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Guardians Ad Litem filled 168 book bags and anticipate receiving even more requests before school starts. DSS social workers distribute the book bags to their assigned children and teens.

"We want to thank Focus Broadband (formerly ATMC) who donated \$2500, and Brunswick Electric which donated \$1000, for making this program possible," said Noel Nadol, who coordinates the project. "This is the third year WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. received support from these companies through their Community Grants program," he continued.

The book bags are filled with supplies for the entire year that are identified by each teacher so contents are appropriate for each child's grade level. In 2021 there were 185 bags delivered with 165 in 2019. Due to COVID only 113 were delivered in 2020.



College Scholarships Awarded

College scholarships were awarded to four Brunswick County students thanks to the generosity of donors to our Scholarship Fund. Two South Brunswick High School students will receive \$3,000 per year for four years.

The Phillip A. Cook Memorial Fund was awarded to Bishop Brown who will attend UNC-Greensboro. The H & C Family Charitable Trust was awarded to Mason Howlett who will attend East Carolina University.



North Brunswick High School students Thomas Bost and Rachel Kemp received the St. James Service Club Scholarship of \$3000 per year for their freshman and sophomore years at UNC-Charlotte. Since 2012, nearly \$169,000 in scholarships has been awarded. These awards are renewable for one to four years if students continue to meet scholarship requirements

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WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. meets many different requests for foster children and children and families receiving in-home care to help keep the children out of foster care. Unrestricted donations such as the \$2500 from the Knights of Columbus are used for these requests. They also provide additional financial support needed for large projects such as the 168 book bags recently filled.

Brunswick County social workers and Guardians ad Litem request support from WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. after identifying this help is needed and there are no available public funds. Support can include gift cards for clothing and food, pest control so a home is safe for the children to live in, and gas cards. Unrestricted funds also help keep supplies in our Kids Kloset such as Pack N Plays, car seats and diapers, and support our annual Holiday Party for foster families.



**USED Sneaker Fundraiser
sponsored by St., James Pickleball Association
to benefit WAVES 4 K.I.D.S.**

St. James Pickleball Association (SJPA) (stjamespickleball.com) is holding an athletic shoe drive fundraiser from August 1st through August 31st to raise money for WAVES 4 K.I.D.S.. SJPA will earn funds based on the total quantity of gently worn, used, and new sneakers collected. GotSneakers, a social enterprise, will issue funds in compensation for the collected sneakers. Those funds will benefit WAVES 4 K.I.D.S..

GotSneakers has developed a unique fundraising program that asks communities to **reach into their closets, not their pockets!** The sneaker recycling program helps keeps sneakers out of landfills, which has harmful effects on our environment, and helps organizations like ours raise much needed funds. The program is truly a win-win! Learn more about GotSneakers by visiting their website at www.gotsneakers.com.

"Our pickleball association is very excited to undertake a sneaker drive fundraiser," said Sharen Hausmann, President, SJPA. "We know that pickleball players, runners, tennis players and others go through sneakers pretty quickly. Now they can donate those used sneakers rather than throwing them away. By doing so, we raise money for WAVES 4 K.I.D.S., and help the environment. It's a win-win for everyone!"

John Waters, the President of WAVES 4 K.I.D.S., quoted Ronald Reagan saying, "There is no limit to the amount of good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit". You won't know who they are but the children in Brunswick County living in difficult situations will be grateful for your help.

About St. James Pickleball Association

The programs and facilities at The Clubs at St. James Plantation provide Pickleball players of all ages and abilities the opportunity to participate in a competitive and/or recreational sports activity.

The SJPA encourages play, good sportsmanship, friendly competition, and enjoyment of the game of pickleball.

WAVES4K.I.D.S. is a Federally Sanctioned 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization,
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