

# KVC Matters

A Newsletter from KVC Health Systems, Inc. | Spring 2012

## Calling All Heroes



Join KVC and KU Basketball Coach Bill Self  
for the KVC Hero Luncheon.  
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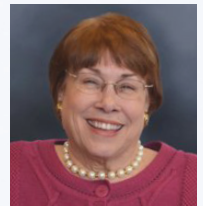


Dear Friends of KVC:

At KVC we talk a lot about heroes. KVC's definition of a hero does not involve a mask or cape. A hero is anyone who will stand strong in the face of adversity and never stop fighting for the best interests of others.

KVC understands heroism, and our commitment to work for the greater good of children and families is showcased through vital training and research, including the **innovative trauma-informed culture currently being implemented throughout our continuum of care.**

KVC is also fortunate enough to be surrounded by individuals and groups who want to step up to help children and families. In February, a Kansas City news station teamed with KVC to throw a **Valentine's Day pizza party** for foster and adoptive families. KVC is also pleased to welcome the new **Secretary of the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Phyllis Gilmore, who was sworn into office by Kansas Governor Sam Brownback on March 21.**



PHYLLIS GILMORE  
KANSAS SECRETARY OF SRS

The month of March was also highlighted by the "madness" that surrounds the annual NCAA basketball tournament. We are proud to say KVC's states were well-represented in the Big Dance, and a healthy competition between our Kansas and Kentucky offices led to a thrilling finish for many of our employees. The excitement does not end there, however, as we are currently working with University of Kansas Head Basketball Coach Bill Self to establish an **annual luncheon for KVC's Everyday Heroes monthly giving program.**

I firmly believe any person who steps up to help children and families is nothing short of a superhero. I take great pride in knowing KVC is surrounded by employees, volunteers, donors and countless others who perform heroic acts each and every day.

I hope as you read about all of the **upcoming events** and other exciting things going on at KVC, you will consider the multitude of ways you can be a hero on behalf of children and families. Thank you for your continued support of KVC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Wayne Sims".

B. WAYNE SIMS  
PRESIDENT/CEO  
KVC HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.

[www.kvc.org](http://www.kvc.org) Follow us on  Facebook and  Twitter.

KVC Matters is published at KVC Health Systems, Inc., 21350 W. 153rd St., Olathe, KS 66061; 913-322-4900. Please send comments, change of address and duplicate copy notices to the attention of the Development Department.

KVC is nondiscriminating in its admission and employment practices. KVC is accredited by The Joint Commission. KVC is a member of the Child Welfare League of America and is a recipient of United Way funds.

#### KVC's Mission

To enrich and enhance the lives of children and families by providing medical and behavioral health care, social services and education.



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## Local News Station Teams with KVC for Special Valentine's Day Celebration



KCTV5 anchors and other staff members showed their support at the Valentine's party. (From left: KCTV5 Account Executive Justin Kennedy, KCTV5/KSOM Marketing Director Tracy Hazen, KSOM Account Executive Jordan Crow, KCTV5 Morning/Noon News Anchor Kelly Jones, KCTV5 Evening and Late News Anchor Karen Fuller, and Chief Meteorologist Chris Suchan)

**While** Valentine's Day is often regarded as a holiday for romantic love, one Kansas City news station decided to use it as an opportunity to express the importance of family love. KCTV Channel 5, the CBS affiliate in Kansas City, teamed up with KVC to throw a Valentine's Day pizza party for local foster and adoptive families on Saturday, Feb. 11.

The event featured a fishing game, cake walk and raffle with toys and prizes to the parents and children in attendance. In addition to providing the food and drinks for the celebration, KCTV5 also donated all of the prizes as part of a company-wide drive to give back to families in the Kansas City community. Sponsors for the event included Russell Stover, Fry-Wagner Moving and Storage, and Pizza Shoppe.

"We just wanted to do something special to share some love," KCTV5 and KSOM Vice President and General Manager Bobby Totsch said. "KCTV5 wanted to help get the word out about all the kids who need a loving family, and to help make the market aware of KVC and its mission."

To promote the event, KCTV5 aired an interview with Khadejah McIntosh-Taylor, who recently adopted three children through KVC. For years Khadejah and her sisters, who came from a large family themselves, had each been opening their homes to children as foster parents, usually for short periods of time. That all changed when Khadejah met three special siblings in the foster care system.

"I realized I couldn't let them leave," Khadejah said. "They didn't have anywhere to go, and I couldn't imagine seeing them go anywhere else."



KCTV5 Anchor Carolyn Long interviews Khadejah McIntosh-Taylor, who adopted siblings through KVC.

Khadejah adopted the three siblings last year, immediately doubling the size of her family. She says despite knowing it would be tough, she would not have it any other way.

"I think everyone has this big of a heart. We just need help to recognize it sometimes."

"Everybody has room to love," Khadejah said. "I think everybody has this big of a heart. We just need help to recognize it sometimes."

In a special twist of fate, the interview aired on Valentine's Day, which also happens to be Khadejah's birthday. Both the interview and Valentine's celebration helped KVC raise awareness about the need for foster and adoptive families.

"Our children are the future, and we wanted to help shed some light on these kids and the special foster parents who are giving them their love and also let them know that KCTV5 and KSOM care," Bobby said. "We felt like KVC made this a special event for us at KCTV5/KSOM, and it was well-organized and well-attended. The best part for me was all the smiles."

KVC is honored to partner with an organization that so highly values the needs of children and families, and we look forward to continuing this relationship for many years to come.

# Making Spirits

Throughout the holiday season KVC helped deck the halls for thousands of foster and adoptive families.



## Holiday Giving

KVC's holiday celebrations included Kansas City firefighters volunteering to serve a holiday dinner for children and their parents at KVC's Prairie Ridge Hospital, and KVC Nebraska hosted a party offering gifts to local families. From the 9th Annual Tree Gala, which raised a record \$145,000, to the successful Adopt an Angel campaign that provided toys and gifts to hundreds of families who could not afford them, the spirit of giving was certainly in the air.



Thanks to all the employees, volunteers, donors and countless others who help bring joy to KVC families every year!



# Bright



## 14th Annual Resource Family Conference

Santa wasn't the only special guest at the 14th Annual Resource Family Conference. We were also honored to welcome Derek Clark, author of the *I Will Never Give Up* book series, to speak to KVC families. His compelling story of his experiences in the foster care system and his foster parents' faith in him pulled at the heart strings of the hundreds of foster parents in attendance. Derek's presentation was broadcast simultaneously to the conferences in Nebraska, Kentucky and West Virginia.



## National Adoption Day

Nearly 4,800 children in foster care found their forever families during the 12th annual National Adoption Day celebration in 400 cities across the United States. KVC was among those celebrating adoption finalizations on Nov. 19.

National Adoption Day is an effort to raise awareness of the 107,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent, loving families in the U.S. Since 2005, KVC has helped more than 1,600 of those children find safe and loving homes.



Consider adopting a child. Visit [www.kvc.org](http://www.kvc.org) or call 1-888-655-5500 for more info.



## KVC Presents Hero Award to Nebraska's Scott Brothers

KVC recently presented its 41st Hero Award to brothers Robert and Will Scott of the Kinder Porter Scott Foundation at our annual meeting. The Scott brothers were recognized for their dedication to KVC and its mission of enriching and enhancing the lives of Nebraska children and families.

In 2010, as KVC celebrated its 40th anniversary, we recognized 40 heroes who, with their unwavering support, have made a profound impact on the organization throughout the past four decades. The annual meeting is a chance to gather KVC staff members, stakeholders and those special heroes to celebrate the successes that they have inspired in the past year.

Among those heroes were Robert and Will Scott, who made the nearly five-hour drive to our corporate offices to receive the award. The Kinder Porter Scott Foundation has been a leader in supporting KVC Nebraska's efforts with the Families Matter initiative and has become a valued community partner.

"The Scott brothers helped pave the way for KVC in Nebraska," KVC Nebraska President Sandra Gasca-Gonzalez said. "Will and Robert were very accommodating and served as our ambassadors, introducing us to many community professionals and legislators in the area. KVC's 41st Hero Award was our way to show our gratitude for the Scott brothers' selfless efforts to keep KVC ingrained in Nebraska communities and to thank them for their ongoing support of KVC and its mission."



President and CEO of KVC Health Systems B. Wayne Sims (right) presents Robert Scott (left) and Will Scott (middle) with the 41st Hero Award at KVC's annual meeting last fall.

## Trauma-Informed Care

KVC Health Systems is teaming with Child Trends, a national research group that specializes in child welfare, to conduct research about the utilization of Trauma Systems Therapy (TST) as an intervention to reduce length of time in out-of-home care, increase placement stability and improve child and family well-being for children in the child welfare system. The efforts to integrate TST into our service delivery continuum is an exciting agency-wide project that includes KVC Behavioral HealthCare and KVC Hospitals.

"The significance of this research initiative with Child Trends is that it positions KVC to make a major contribution to the fields of child welfare and children's mental health," Director of Evidenced-Based Initiatives Kelly McCauley said.



President of KVC Hospitals Jason Hooper, Director of Evidenced-Based Initiatives Kelly McCauley, Dr. Adam Brown, President of KVC Behavioral HealthCare Erin Stucky and Zakia Redd and Karin Malm of Child Trends (Not Pictured: Karen Walker and Kelly Bell of Child Trends)

## Congratulations!



Nebraska's Midlands Business Journal recently honored KVC Vice President of Support Services Jodie Austin as one of the top 40 professionals under the age of 40 in Omaha. Jodie has been integral to KVC's mission in Nebraska. Join us in congratulating Jodie!



### Want to Help?

Make a tax deductible donation at [kvc.org](http://kvc.org), or you can mail a check directly to KVC at:

KVC Health Systems, Inc.  
21350 W. 153rd Street  
Olathe, KS 66061

You can also sign up to be a volunteer at [kvc.org/volunteer](http://kvc.org/volunteer)

## Honoring Our Hero



On October 28, 2011, KVC – and the Kansas City community at large – lost one of its heroes. Fred Ball, a pioneer and leader in the grocery industry, continually contributed his leadership and support to KVC for more than 30 years, and we are deeply saddened by his passing.

Fred has been integral to KVC's mission to enrich and enhance the lives of children and families. He served many years on the Executive Board of Directors, provided financial support and leadership to multiple capital campaigns, and founded KVC's largest annual fundraiser – the Ball's Charity Golf Classic. Fred and his wife, JoAnn, were honored in 2010 as one of the 40 Heroes for KVC's 40th Anniversary, and the impact of his dedicated service and generosity will continue to improve the lives of children and families for years to come.

Fred's son, David Ball, is Chairman of the KVC Executive Board of Directors, his daughter, Diane Wilkerson, serves on the KVC General Board and helped initiate the KVC Holiday Tree Gala, and his daughter, Debbie Simpson, has also been an active supporter of KVC events throughout the years. We are heartened that they, along with his grandchildren, continue Fred's legacy of care and commitment.

Fred Ball has left an indelible mark on KVC, the community and the thousands of children and families we serve. He will be dearly missed but certainly never forgotten.

In their unyielding kindness and generosity, the Ball family requested contributions be sent to KVC in remembrance of Fred and his dedication to children and families. Overall, donations to KVC in Fred's memory totalled more than \$17,000. These gifts truly speak to the lasting impact he and his family have had on our community. We are honored and humbled to have received these amazing tributes on behalf of Fred and his family.

## Walk Me Home 5k - May 12

**Registration: 7:30 a.m.**

**Start time: 9 a.m.**

**Shawnee Mission Park**

**7900 Renner Road**

**Lenexa, KS 66219**



**Step up** to raise awareness for foster care in KVC's first-ever Walk Me Home 5k on May 12 in Kansas City. "Walk Me Home....to the place I belong" is KVC's newest fundraising and awareness event for foster care in Kansas.

We know not everyone can be a foster parent, but Walk Me Home is a great way to support the more than 1,200 children in foster care in the Kansas City metro area. This year hundreds of people will participate in Walk Me Home, raising funds to benefit children in foster care in the Kansas City area. Check [kvc.org](http://kvc.org) for information about registration and sponsorships, and join us as we walk hand in hand with our incredible foster families who are making a difference in our communities!



**For more information about getting involved, contact Jessica Doll at [jdoll@kvc.org](mailto:jdoll@kvc.org) or (913) 499-8100 ext. 8316.**

## MacKenzie-Childs Contest - May 31

**6 - 8 p.m.**

**MacKenzie-Childs Store**

**14 W. 57th St.**

**New York, NY 10019**



**Longtime** friend of KVC, DyAnn Stille, will represent KVC in a design contest this spring. DyAnn will compete with two other designers to set up tablescape in the MacKenzie-Childs New York City store. Starting May 1, the public will have the opportunity to vote on its favorite designer. You can vote three ways: in store (by filling out a ballot), by emailing [facebooknyc@mackenzie-childs.com](mailto:facebooknyc@mackenzie-childs.com) and on the MacKenzie-Childs Facebook page.

MacKenzie-Childs will host an event on May 31 to announce the designer who received the most votes. The winning designer's charity will receive 10 percent of the proceeds from the event. Join us in supporting DyAnn in this exciting opportunity to share KVC's mission in New York!



**Help DyAnn win the contest! Vote for her design online at [facebook.com/MacKenzieChilds](http://facebook.com/MacKenzieChilds) or email [facebooknyc@mackenzie-childs.com](mailto:facebooknyc@mackenzie-childs.com).**

## Hero Luncheon - June 11

**11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Sheraton Overland Park**

**6100 College Boulevard**

**Overland Park, KS**

**66211**



Keynote Speaker  
**Bill Self**

**Start your week off like a superhero** by attending the **KVC Hero Luncheon** featuring **KU Head Basketball Coach Bill Self** on **Monday, June 11 at Sheraton Overland Park.**

No capes or super powers are necessary for this special luncheon that will celebrate our Everyday Heroes, showcase KVC's work in your community and demonstrate how you can make a heroic impact in the life of a child. Find your inner superhero and sign up for KVC's monthly giving program!

For sponsorship information, contact Heidi Wooten at [hwooten@kvc.org](mailto:hwooten@kvc.org) or call (913) 322-4941.



**Seats are filling up! Reserve your spot online at [everydayhero.org](http://everydayhero.org) or call (913) 322-4941 to reserve your spot.**

## Kids Classic Golf Tournament - August 6

**All-Day Event**

**The National Golf Course**

**6700 North National Drive**

**Parkville, MO 64152**

**Registration: 7 a.m.**

**Lunch: 12 - 1 p.m.**



**Hit the links** with your friends on Aug. 6 for the 2012 KVC Kid's Classic Golf Tournament at the National Golf Course! This year the tournament, which has become a summer staple for KVC, will be doubling in size, accommodating 40 teams in two flights. We hope you will join us this August as we have a great time and raise funds to support KVC children and families. Visit [kvc.org](http://kvc.org) to register today!



**Various sponsorship and ticketing opportunities are available. Contact Emily Gairns at [egairns@kvc.org](mailto:egairns@kvc.org) or call (913) 322-4994 for more information.**

## Get Updates about KVC Online!

**Become a KVC Facebook fan and follow us on Twitter.** You will receive updates when KVC posts a new child on its KVC Adoption website and information about KVC fundraisers. You will have first-hand access to all of the new and exciting initiatives KVC is undertaking on behalf of children and families. **Join us on Facebook and Twitter today!**



**Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!**



[www.kvc.org](http://www.kvc.org)

# KVC Matters

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21350 West 153rd Street  
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KVC's Everyday Heroes  
program has grown by  
more than

# 1,600%

since 2010. Become a  
child's hero today at  
[everydayhero.org](http://everydayhero.org)!



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[www.kvc.org](http://www.kvc.org)

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**Meet KVC Kids at [www.kvc.org](http://www.kvc.org)**

**These brothers need a Forever Family who is committed to keeping them together.**

## Duncan – Age 14

Duncan is a charming young man who likes playing video games and sports. Duncan is talkative and relates well with peers and adults.

## Theodore – Age 12

Theodore enjoys drawing, computers and board games. He is an affectionate and sincere young man.



## Marcus – Age 11

Marcus keeps busy by playing sports, riding his bike and skating. He gets along with others and enjoys rewards when his behaviors are appropriate.

## Joseph – Age 8

Joseph is very well-mannered and gets along easily with others. His hobbies include riding bikes, hanging out with friends and playing sports.

Duncan, Joseph, Theodore and Marcus would do well in a nurturing home that can provide them with consistent expectations and support.



Children need forever families... KVC has matched adoptive Forever Families with more than **1,600** children since **2005**.