

## Holiday Safety

Never leave a lit Christmas tree or other decorative lighting display unattended.  
Inspect lights for exposed or frayed wires, loose connections and broken sockets.  
Do not overload extension cords or outlets and do not run an electrical cord under a rug.

Natural Christmas trees always involve some risk of fire.  
To minimize the risk, get a fresh tree and keep it watered at all times.  
Do not put the tree near a fireplace, space heater, radiator or heat vent.  
LED lights burn cooler than incandescent lights and pose a lower risk of fire.

Decorate with children in mind.  
Do not put ornaments that have small parts or metal hooks, or look like food or candy, on the lower branches where small children can reach them.  
Trim protruding branches at or below a child's eye level, and keep lights out of reach.

Holiday decorations, especially candles and electrical lighting, can be fire hazards.  
Put candles securely in non-tip candle holders.  
Keep candles away from Christmas trees, decorations, curtains or other combustibles and never put candles in windows or near exits.  
Don't leave candles burning unattended or within the reach of small children and extinguish them before you leave the room or go to sleep.

Choose toys suitable to your child's age, abilities and skill level.  
Avoid toys with small removable parts, which could pose a choking hazard to children under age 3.  
Use a small parts tester (available at toy stores and baby specialty stores) or the tube from a roll of toilet paper. Anything that fits completely inside the tube is a choking hazard to children ages 3 and under.

Look for high-quality design and construction.  
Make sure stuffed animals' eyes, noses and other small parts are tightly secured.  
Avoid sharp points or edges on toys for children under 8.

Avoid electrical toys with heating elements (batteries or electrical plugs) for children under 8.  
Toy guns and loud electronic games can permanently impair a child's hearing.  
Avoid toys with strings, straps or cords longer than 7 inches. A child can be strangled in loose straps.

**Be sure to read the labels on all toys.  
Be aware of age and safety recommendations and take them seriously.**

Helpful resources to keep your holiday safe

[www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov)

[www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)

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

**Help us make every penny count.**

If you would like to unsubscribe or receive this newsletter electronically, please email [info@charliessafehaven.org](mailto:info@charliessafehaven.org) or call Annette at (913) 375-7123.

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY AT [WWW.CHARLISSAFEHAVEN.ORG](http://WWW.CHARLISSAFEHAVEN.ORG)**

## A Round of Applause for Katie Schatte

Katie Schatte was a catalyst for creating Charlie's Safe Haven. She heard a concept and directly understood the need in our community. Through her tireless efforts as Chairman of the Board, she has helped move this organization from a plan on paper to a fully operational non-profit agency. The commitment from Safe Kids Johnson County and the Johnson County Health Department has allowed Katie the ability to devote hundreds of hours of service to Charlie's Safe Haven and aren't we so fortunate? Thank you Katie for all that you have done and will continue to do as you step away from your role as Chairman.



**PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY AT [WWW.CHARLISSAFEHAVEN.ORG](http://WWW.CHARLISSAFEHAVEN.ORG)**

## Our Board of Directors

This loyal group of volunteers generously devotes their resources and talents to the success of Charlie's Safe Haven. We are very pleased to welcome our seven newest board members (indicated in green) and are excited about the activities slated for 2010.

**Chairman**  
Bob Finuf

**Chairman-Elect**  
Maggie Collins

**Treasurer**  
Laura Dominik

**Secretary**  
Brett Horn

### Members at Large

Christa Dubill  
Adam Grace  
Harvey Grossman, M.D.  
Gregg Hibbeler  
Maureen Huffer  
Phyllis Larimore  
Brendan McPherson  
Shane Wilson

Milton Fowler, Jr., M.D.  
Taira Green  
Lauren Haake  
Jenny Horn  
Jeff Johnson  
Gina McCord  
Katie Schatte

## A Message from the Chairman

As the incoming Chairman for the CSH Board of Directors, I am first and foremost humbled by the opportunity to work with such a dedicated and enthusiastic board led by our outgoing Chairman, Katie Schatte, and our talented Executive Director, Annette Teson. We are blessed with the opportunity to play a role in bringing the mission of Charlie's Safe Haven to reality. I look forward to working with our board to continue the good work that has been done to bring us to this point. Our main priority in the next 12-24 months, and that to which we are absolutely and enthusiastically committed, is the creation of a physical site for a safety demonstration home for Charlie's Safe Haven. I am convinced of the importance of our mission, and confident in the commitment of our board, Executive Director, donors, volunteers, child health and safety advocates, and other supporters in the community. We are all part of building an important resource for the Kansas City area and I look forward to the journey. ~ Bob Finuf

## Our Partners

CSH is proud to announce a new alliance with the Junior League of Wyandotte & Johnson Counties. This group of women is passionate about safety and we look forward to being their Community Partner for 2010. JLWJC is a new addition to our already outstanding list of partners that includes: Children's Mercy Family Health Partners, Children's Mercy Hospitals & Clinics, Johnson County Med-Act and Safe Kids, Johnson County.

## 2009 Highlights

Our hard-working volunteers have impacted thousands of lives in the Kansas City community through outreach opportunities. We have shared home safety information and distributed approximately 20,000 furniture straps through health fairs, parent classes, baby showers and more.

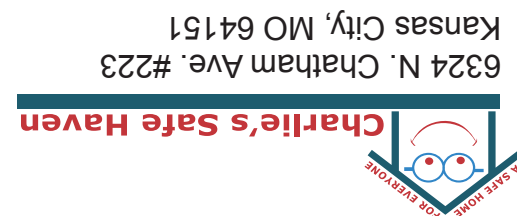


A significant highlight for the year included our Father's Day event with the Kansas City Royals. Between the Royals and our local media partners, CSH received remarkable exposure creating added awareness for our programs and fundraising efforts.



Our first fundraising event, the Boutique Crawl, was a smashing success. The event provided an opportunity for participants to shop throughout the day while being transported via motor coach throughout the city. Watch for the 2010 date on our website. You won't want to miss it!!

We at Charlie's Safe Haven wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!



**Charlie's Safe Haven**

**NEWSLETTER**  
holiday edition

Charlie's Safe Haven was named in honor of Charlie Horn, a 2 year old boy, who was killed in 2007 when a small dresser in his bedroom fell on him.

The mission of Charlie's Safe Haven is to prevent unintentional injuries to children in and around the home. Within the next 12-24 months, we plan to open a safety demonstration house in Greater Kansas City where caregivers can experience firsthand how to safety-proof their homes. In the meantime, we will continue with our education and awareness initiatives to keep children safe.

## Introducing Annette Teson - Our Executive Director

This summer, Annette Teson was hired as the first staff member for Charlie's Safe Haven. Her background includes 20+ years of fundraising, management and event experience. She has worked previously for the American Red Cross, the Arthritis Foundation and most recently for the Kansas City Chiefs where she completed a 10-year tenure. Annette and her husband, Mike, live in Parkville, Missouri with their three children, Peter, Tommy and Rose. She actively volunteers for her children's school, their church and Girl Scouts.

"I am honored to join forces with this remarkable core of committed leadership volunteers to achieve the vision of Charlie's Safe Haven. CSH is poised for growth and we have established our goals to move quickly toward achieving our mission – to prevent unintentional injuries to children in and around the home." ~ Annette Teson

## Ways to Support Us

We are supported entirely through donations made from generous people like you. As you plan your year-end giving, we hope you will consider including CSH on your list.

CSH is a 501(c)(3) organization for tax purposes.

**Online at:**  
[www.charliessafehaven.org](http://www.charliessafehaven.org)

**Check or Money Order to:**  
Charlie's Safe Haven  
6324 N. Chatham Ave. #223  
Kansas City, MO 64151

## You Can Get Involved Too

If you are interested in volunteering, please call Annette at (913) 375-7123 or email [info@charliessafehaven.org](mailto:info@charliessafehaven.org).