

# highlights

## Another Successful Year for Charlie's Boutique

For the second year in a row Charlie's House hosted a unique shopping event in support of the Charlie's House mission. Charlie's Boutique was held on Saturday, April 17th at the Clubhouse on Baltimore. Women (and a few men!) from across the city converged at The Clubhouse on Baltimore to shop, eat, drink and have fun while raising money and awareness for Charlie's House. This year the Boutique nearly doubled the success from last year, raising \$11,000 - all of which is given in support of Charlie's House.

Not only did local vendors and boutiques offer great deals to shoppers, each vendor also donated an item for the evening's raffle. Prizes included an iPod Touch, jewelry, clothing and family entertainment passes. A special thanks to each of the vendors as well as volunteers from Teva NeuroScience for their help with the evening.

This event has become a staple for Charlie's House supporters and plans are underway for next year. We are excited to return to The Clubhouse on Baltimore for the 2011 Charlie's Boutique, which will be held on Thursday, April 28th. Next year will prove to be even bigger and better! Mark your calendars now and save the date for the 2011 Charlie's Boutique - April 28, 2011.

We are looking for sponsors for the 2011 Boutique and opportunities at all levels are still available. If you or your business is interested in sponsoring Charlie's Boutique please contact Maureen Huffer at [maureen@mmhconsult.com](mailto:maureen@mmhconsult.com) or Annette Teson at [ateson@charlieshouse.org](mailto:ateson@charlieshouse.org).

Please consider Charlie's House in your holiday giving. Happy Holidays!



Charlie's House Boutique shoppers.



Bridget Gahagan, Christy Roach and Wendy Woods making a few purchases.



# newsletter

Volume 2: Issue 2

Happy Holidays from Charlie's House

Charlie's House 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 House is to prevent injuries to children in and around the home. Within the next 12 to 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.

## Deck the Halls with These Safety Tips

Each year danger plays havoc to over 12,800 people who find themselves in the hospital emergency room due to falls, cuts and burns involving lights, candles and other holiday decorations. To keep you and your family full of holiday cheer (and out of the emergency room) this season, remember the following:

### Fresh Christmas Trees - Reduce the Fire Hazard

- When purchasing a tree, check that the needles bend instead of break and that the bottom is sticky with resin to ensure a fresh tree. A fresh tree shouldn't lose many needles when tapped on the ground.
- Keep fresh trees well watered.
- Place the tree away from all heating sources.
- Do not block doorways or exits with a tree.
- Use a thin wire to secure it to the wall or ceiling.
- In homes with small children, keep ornaments and tree trimmings out of reach. Avoid decorations that are sharp/breakable.

### Lights On - Only When You are Awake and Home

- Check each set of lights, new and old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using.
- Use no more than 3 standard-size lights per one extension cord.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.
- When using lights outside, check labels to ensure they have been certified for outdoor use.
- Always turn off all holiday lights before you leave the house or go to bed. The lights could short out and start a fire.

### Candles - In Sight and Away from the Tree

- Keep lit candles within sight and away from flammable items.
- Make sure candles are out of reach of small children.
- Keep lighted candles away from trees and other decorations.
- Keep matches, lighters and candles out of the reach of children.

While there is no substitute for common sense, you can help make your holidays full of comfort and joy by planning for safety. Have an emergency plan to use if a fire breaks out anywhere in the home. Make sure each family member knows what to do and practice the plan. Have a safe and happy holiday!



Charlie's House Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

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Kansas City, MO 64151  
[www.charlieshouse.org](http://www.charlieshouse.org)



# partnering with the community

## Honoring Brett and Jenny Horn

The Junior League of Wyandotte and Johnson Counties (JLWJC) in Kansas recently recognized Brett and Jenny Horn as Honorary Co-Chairs of their 60th Annual Community Ball and Cotillion sighting their dedication to keeping the community informed and engaged in regard to preventing injuries to children in and around the home.

The Community Ball is the JLWJC's longest running and most distinctive fundraiser, raising more than \$1.5 million and enabling the JLWJC to continue their community outreach and service efforts. The Cotillion is comprised of dozens of outstanding high school seniors recognized for their dedication to community service and individual merits.



Brett and Jenny Horn

## Charlie's House Partners with KC CAN!

Charlie's House has found a wonderful partnering organization in KC CAN! Kansas City Children's Assistance Network is an organization of professionals committed to undertaking projects which benefit Kansas City's children and improve the quality of their lives.

KC CAN! and Charlie's House first partnered in 2009 and this year Charlie's House was proud to support KC CAN's annual auction in October. Many Charlie's House board members and their guests attended the event and provided several auction items. The 9th annual KC CAN! Auction was held on October 8, 2010 at the Ritz Charles and was a tremendous success. Nearly 400 KC CAN! friends and supporters attended the event and raised over \$50,000 in support of KC CAN! projects. The event included a live and silent auction, gourmet dinner, and an open bar.

Through this partnership with KC CAN!, over \$10,000 has been awarded to support Charlie's House. Thanks KC CAN!



## Become a Charlie's Angel

As you make your preparations for the holidays, don't forget to include Charlie's House on your list. Charlie's House is a 501(c)(3) organization and fully operates on the generous donations from others to fulfill our mission. Please consider making an end of year contribution to Charlie's House. Any donations made on or before December 31, 2010 are considered charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

A great way to help Charlie's House is by becoming a Charlie's Angel. Charlie's Angels is the unique annual giving club dedicated to supporting Charlie's House. Members of Charlie's Angels show their commitment to the Charlie's House mission through their annual contribution. See the box to the right for special giving levels and their benefits.

You can contribute online by visiting [charlieshouse.org](http://charlieshouse.org) and clicking on the "Donate Now" button. You can also mail a contribution.

Charlie's House, 6324 N. Chatham Ave. #223  
Kansas City, MO 64151  
Please make checks payable to Charlie's House.

<p><b>Earn Your Harp \$ 100</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance notice of upcoming Charlie's House events</li> <li>• Subscription to the Charlie's House newsletter</li> </ul>	<p><b>Receive Your Halo \$ 250</b></p> <p>All of the above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitation to the Charlie's House Annual Meeting and celebration</li> <li>• Name listed on the Roll of Donors on the Charlie's House website</li> </ul>
<p><b>Obtain Your Wings \$ 500</b></p> <p>All of the above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name included in the Charlie's House Year-in-Review</li> </ul>	<p><b>Get Your Glasses \$1,000</b></p> <p>All of the above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discounted ticket prices at select events throughout the year</li> </ul>
<p><b>Take Flight \$2,500</b></p> <p>All of the above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unique recognition in the demonstration home</li> </ul>	<p><b>Charlie's Angel \$5,000</b></p> <p>All of the above plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free entry to Charlie's House select events throughout the year</li> <li>• Receive an official Charlie's House Lapel Pin</li> </ul>

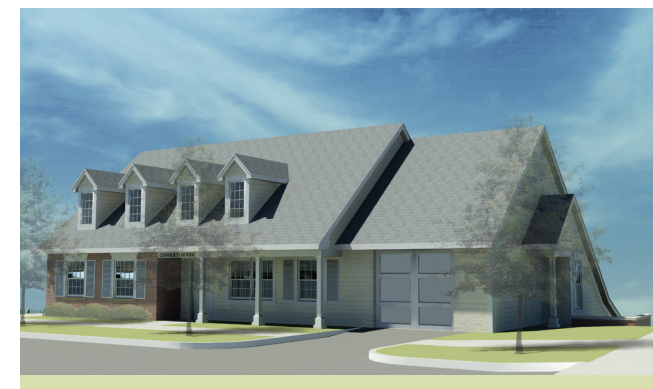
# from the chairman

We are pleased to announce that we are making great progress on our plans to build a safety demonstration house! A location for the demonstration house has been secured on the campus of the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department at 2401 Campbell Street adjacent to "Safety Street," a scale model city block complete with mock storefronts and vehicles. We are in the final stages of completing the necessary planning and steps with the City of Kansas City, Missouri and hope to have final City Council approval before the end of the year.

Safety Street features hands-on learning activities for bicycle, automobile, bus, and pedestrian safety. When combined with the simulated street scene and the existing programs at Safety Street, Charlie's House will provide a protected, fun environment for teaching children - and now parents - how to avoid preventable accidents.

Charlie's House will provide real-life demonstrations, examples and resources on in-home safety. We will provide educational safety classes and programs for the community, and serve as a resource for families to learn about and acquire home safety products.

The progress we made this year is thanks in large part to the support we received from Kansas City, Missouri Health Department Director Dr. Rex Archer and his staff, and Kansas City, Missouri Councilwoman Cathy Jolly. Their leadership and support of Charlie's House has helped ensure this project gained the needed approvals with the City. Additionally, we have been fortunate to have been supported by HMN Architects in developing the plans for Charlie's House. And finally, we are pleased that Polsinelli Shughart has agreed to provide pro bono legal services to Charlie's House in this process.



rendering of Charlie's House

# board of directors

<b>Chairman</b> Bob Finuf	<b>Chairman-Elect</b> Maggie Collins
<b>Treasurer</b> Laura Dominik	<b>Secretary</b> Brett Horn

## Members at large

Christa Dubill	Milton Fowler, Jr., M.D.
Harvey Grossman, M.D.	Lauren Haake
Jenny Horn	Maureen Huffer
Gina McCord	Phyllis Larimore
Katie Schatte	Brendan McPherson
	Shane Wilson

**Executive Director**  
Annette Teson

Our hope is to begin raising the necessary funds for the construction of the house early in 2011 and break ground on the construction project in the Fall of 2011. We look forward to providing updates on this exciting project as it moves forward.

On behalf of the Board I want to thank all of these individuals and organizations for their support in making Charlie's House a reality. Thanks to them we are closer than ever.

  
Bob Finuf, Chair

## our new look

In case you haven't noticed, we have a new look. Not only have we changed our name and logo but with a financial gift from The Junior League of Wyandotte and Johnson Counties, KS, Charlie's House has recently launched a new website, [www.charlieshouse.org](http://www.charlieshouse.org). The new website offers product alerts, articles written by child safety experts and home childproofing tips, including a downloadable version. Visitors can also register for the Charlie's House newsletter, volunteer, donate or check on upcoming events. In addition to our new website, Charlie's House has a growing following on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/charlieshouse>) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/charlieshousekc>). Charlie's House volunteers frequently share child related safety articles and information through all three online resources. Log on and be sure to track our progress in the New Year.

