Our Mission

To prevent injuries to children in and around the house

At Charlie’s House...

We believe home safety is attainable for anyone. No matter who you are, where you live, or how much money you have, there are always steps you can take to increase safety.

We believe that keeping children safe is a continuous process. It’s more than just putting locks on the medicine cabinets and calling it good. Home safety requires frequent evaluation to look for new hazards and new ways to improve.

Where we began

In November 2007, Charlie Horn, a 2-year-old Kansas City boy, lost his life when he attempted to climb a 30” dresser in his home. Through this tragedy, Charlie’s House was born. Since the beginning, volunteers have provided countless hours promoting the organization’s mission and increasing awareness for families in the Kansas City community.

Our Work

Throughout the community, Charlie’s House representatives present annually to more than forty organizations and participate in over sixty events and workshops. Through grassroots efforts, the critical work of increasing awareness and safeguarding homes is delivered by volunteers who have a passion for the mission of Charlie’s House and helping families have a child safe home.

The Need

In 2019, the Consumer Product Safety Commission reported that nearly 14,000 kids under the age of 18 required emergency room services due to furniture tip-over accident. Sadly, between 2015 - 2018, 450 children in the United States died as a result of furniture or appliance falling over on top of them. Through education and increased awareness, Charlie’s House is working to reduce the number of injuries and death related accidents significantly.

Our Partners

We are proud to continue our valuable partnerships with local agencies such as Safe Kids Johnson County, the Brian Anselmo Memorial Foundation, Honeywell, Children’s Mercy Hospital and Farmers Insurance. Their support, along with many generous individuals, enable Charlie’s House to deliver on its mission, reaching more households, increasing public awareness and more importantly, saving lives.

Our Future

Building a Safety Demonstration Home has been a goal from the beginning. After successfully raising $1.1M through a capital campaign, the board of directors broke ground in fall 2018 on Charlie’s House, located near Hospital Hill and Children’s Mercy Hospital campus. The facility is designed to look like a home but will have interactive features to communicate the importance of childproofing a home. Additionally, the conference room will be a primary center of activity and education, where Charlie’s House will offer parenting classes, infant CPR instruction, babysitting courses, safety fairs and more.

*According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Charlie’s House fulfills its mission when households are safe. This happens when parents and children are made aware of issues around their home that are considered unsafe and provided ways to resolve these dangers. We estimate that in 2019, Charlie’s House reached over 15,000 households, through public events, requests for information and safety devices through our website and through our Physician Alliance Program.

### Represented in the Community

**Partial list of the 60 events Charlie’s House participated in 2019**

- Johnson Co. Home & Garden Show
- Hickman Mills Family Summit Resource Fair
- The Big Bunny Bash, Liberty, MO
- Corporate Challenge Kick-Off
- Raytown School District Resource Fair
- Parent & Provider University
- Black & Veatch Safety Presentation
- Nebraska Furniture Mart Health & Safety Fair
- Honeywell’s Be A Better You Festival
- Deanna Rose Farmstead Safety Day
- Johnson County Safety Fair
- Crowley Furniture Safety Days
- KCPD—South Patrol Safety Days

### From the families we reach

**Tom, father of twin girls**

“Received my child safety kit today! Thank you so much. Going to install them in my home now and anything left over, I will use in the church nursery. There are televisions in there!”

**Monica, mother of three children**

“I’m am a healthcare worker, and I should know better. However, one of my four-year-old twins pulled a small dresser over on himself. I contacted Charlie’s House, and they had so many great resources for making our home safer for our young kids (including help installing furniture straps).”

### Accidents Bring Tears Safety Brings Cheers

### Beyond Growing Our Mission—reaching more families

Charlie’s House is positioned to strategically grow its operations to reach more households, expand into more geographical areas and most importantly, to protect more children from accidents in and around the home.

**Opening of Charlie’s House, a Safety Demonstration House in 2020.** After several years of planning, raising capital, negotiations with the City of Kansas City, Missouri, Charlie’s House will open a model home that will serve as a community resource for various groups in our community. This new resource provides Charlie’s House the opportunity to expand its educational operations by offering individuals and groups the opportunity to tour, present workshops, and grow our network of community partners.

**Reaching more households.** Increasing awareness and reducing injury to children as a result of accidents in and around the home happens through increased awareness of the issue and education. Charlie’s House is focusing its program efforts to reach 60,000 families in the next 36 months utilizing a network of healthcare professionals, educators, public safety personnel, and community groups. These households, located in Johnson & Wyandotte counties in Kansas and Jackson, Clay, & Platte counties in Missouri, currently have children and youth under the age of 18 residing in the home.