



ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEARS 2018 TO 2020



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

First and foremost, I would like to personally thank you for your continued support of Ennis Center for Children and our mission. When you support us—whether through giving, volunteering, or promoting our mission—you are not only supporting us, but also the thousands of children and families we serve each year. In the past two years, we have opened three new locations—in Howell, Monroe, and Saginaw—giving us an even greater capacity to serve Michigan children with our foster care and adoption programs. With over 500 children currently in our foster care program alone, we need you now more than ever, and you have shown up for us. Thank you.

As social workers and helping professionals, we are accustomed to working under tough conditions. Underfunded programs, budget cuts, and the day-to-day stress of the job would be enough to make anyone throw up their hands in frustration. Yet, we press on. The past two years have been challenging for our field, but our dedicated clinical and administrative staff remain committed to our families, both foster and biological. Every day, we strive to provide broken families with the resources they need to become whole again, as well as create and complete families through adoption.

Our mental health programs have also expanded as a result of grants from the State of Michigan and City of Flint. This has given us the capacity to treat both our own clients, as well as individuals from the community. The partnerships that we have forged with some of our local churches through the Ennis Counseling Center program help us serve those who otherwise may not seek therapeutic services. Fostering Creativity, our therapeutic arts program for children in the child welfare system, has also continued to provide children with constructive ways to express themselves and opportunities to develop healthy coping mechanisms. I believe that, paired with our child welfare programs, these innovative programs will help propel Ennis Center into the future.

Fundraising efforts have been stellar in the past two years, with our 40th Anniversary Gala at the end of 2018, our 26th and 27th Annual "Scramble for Kids" Golf Outings, and community-based fund drives bringing in more than they ever have before. The agency's grant writing efforts have also brought in additional funding, both for our children and families, and for much-needed technology upgrades to improve productivity agency-wide.

The past two years have been a journey for all of us. However, more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed all of our lives in ways we never thought were possible. We have been forced to make critical adjustments to our organizational infrastructure and daily activities. From daily temperature checks and health screenings to staggered office schedules, we are doing everything that we can to make sure that our staff and their families are safe and healthy. This time has also proven challenging for the families we serve, and we have worked hard to ensure that we are still able to safely provide them with the services they need during this challenging time.

At its core, Ennis Center is a family; we strive to value, respect, and care for one another, so that we can continue to care for those we serve. In the year to come, we will remain committed to our mission to preserve families when possible and create new families when necessary—both inside and outside of our agency. Again, thank you for your support in this mission. Your kindness and generosity do not go unnoticed by myself, our board, our staff, or our families.

Sincerely,

Bob Ennis

'With the support of the community, we preserve families when possible and create new families when necessary.'

**Ennis Center
for Children
Mission
Statement**

FOSTER CARE

Ennis Center is licensed by the State of Michigan to provide services to children, from birth to age 21, who have experienced abuse and/or neglect. Ennis Center's foster parents participate as full partners with our certified, licensed staff to provide temporary, safe care in a stable family environment, while working to reunify and preserve birth families whenever possible, or seek permanent adoptive families when needed.

TREATMENT FOSTER CARE

A community-based model program for youth that utilizes licensed foster care homes and provides gender-specific and intensive in-home services to youth who may struggle in placements. Youth entering the program may be returning to the community from a residential placement or are being diverted from a residential placement and do not have appropriate homes to return to within their community.

SPECIALIZED GROUP CARE

A community-based model program for adjudicated youth that utilizes licensed foster care homes and provides gender-specific and intensive in-home services to males and females ages 13 to 17 years. Youth entering the program may be returning to the community from a residential placement or are being diverted from a residential placement and do not have appropriate homes to return to within their community.

ADOPTION

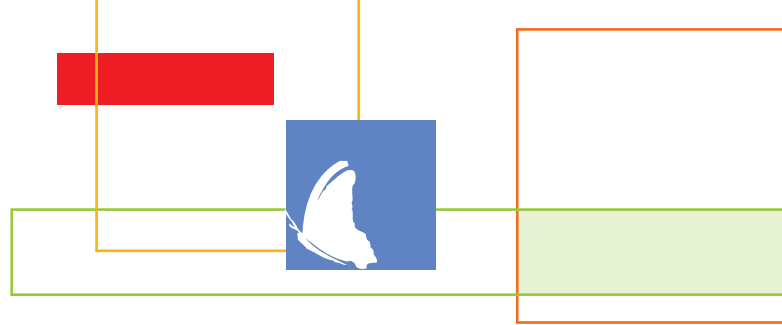
Ennis Center is a member of a specialized recruitment effort to find permanent homes for children and adolescents available for adoption in our foster care programs, as well as those outside of our program, and is currently the third largest specialized adoption agency in the state.

COMMUNITY-BASED DELINQUENCY

Specially trained staff works intensively with delinquent Wayne County youth and their families on becoming positive, productive members of the community.

YOUTH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

YAP works with youth who have come to the attention of the juvenile justice system and are at risk of continued involvement in the system.



PROGRAMS

SAFENET

Specifically for teenage sexual offenders, SafeNet is a reintegration/ transition, relapse prevention and diversionary treatment program. This program combines the use of tethering, voice monitoring, psychiatric and psychological testing, polygraph testing, Abel Assessment, therapy, and safety contacts to assure community safety and progressive treatment growth.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Designed to provide intensive services to children between the ages of 7 and 17, and their families, who have multiple service needs which require access to various mental health, clinical and community services. The program's primary goals focus on promoting normal developmental milestones, supporting and promoting healthy family functioning along, with preserving and reuniting families while reducing the need for institutional care in psychiatric hospitals and other placements.

FOSTERING CREATIVITY

Fostering Creativity is a free Therapeutic Arts program offered at Ennis Center for youth 5-21 years of age in foster care/out-of-home placement in Genesee, Oakland, and Wayne Counties, made possible with funding provided by the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, the Hagerman Foundation, the Bernard J. and Camille Cebelak Foundation, MCACA, and the Child Welfare Society of Flint.

The program offers a variety of 6-12 week therapeutic art classes in the areas of: painting, music, production and recording, expressive writing, photography, comics as personal narrative, and 3D art. Each two-hour class is facilitated by a Registered Art Therapist and/or a credentialed skilled local artisan experienced in working with children with trauma.

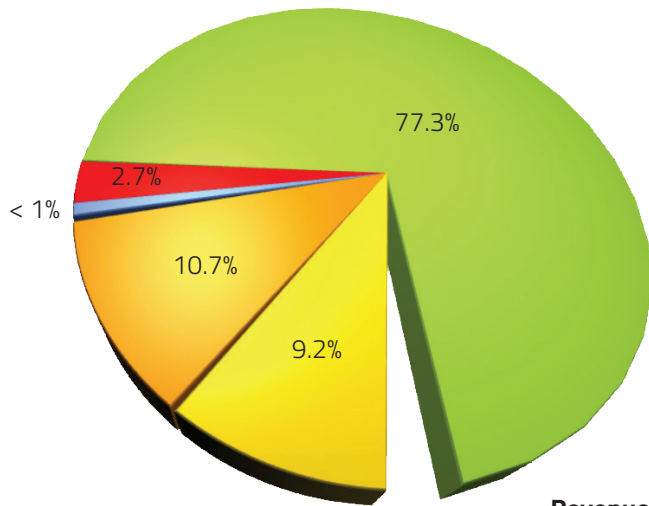
Throughout the year, youth participants develop and strengthen skills in a variety of artistic mediums and learn ways in which art can be used as a tool for deeper self-awareness and positive self-esteem, improving academic performance and encouraging stability in foster/adoptive placement.

OUTPATIENT SERVICES

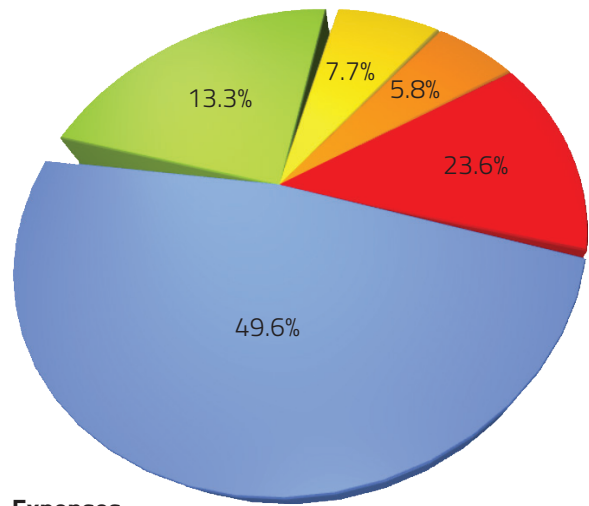
Ennis Center therapists are experienced and have a wide variety of backgrounds. We offer many services and specialize in: individual therapy for children, teens, and adults, family therapy, and marriage counseling. We accept most insurance including: Blue Cross Blue Shield, Blue Care Network, Health Plus/Hap, and Medicare.

REVENUE & EXPENSES

For Year Ending September 30, 2020



Revenue
 Development Revenue
 Foster Care Revenue
 Adoption Revenue
 Delinquency Revenue
 Other Revenue



Expenses
 Compensation
 Client Expense
 Occupancy
 Program Expenses
 Other Expenses

LIFE CHANGING WORK

By the Numbers

533

Children
in foster
care



125

Children
adopted



103

Children
adopted
from
foster care



221

Foster
families



45

At-risk
teens
served



Fostering Creativity



In 2019, youth participating in Fostering Creativity proudly held their 6th Annual Art Show and showed off their creative talents for family & friends. Unfortunately, the 2020 Annual Art Show was cancelled due to safety concerns amid the pandemic. However, Fostering Creativity therapeutic art groups were still held virtually and every child that participated had an art kit delivered straight to their home. With these kits, children were able to fully participate in and follow along with virtual group sessions.

YAP/CBD – Daevoun's Story

In 2019, 15-year-old Daevoun was referred to Probation Level 1 in Wayne County and was ordered to complete 30 hours of community service. From the beginning, Daevoun was truly remorseful for his actions. He told the court that he was reckless and deserved to be put on probation for not notifying the police or his parents when he found a gun.

Still feeling remorseful for what happened, Daevoun decided to do more than the court ordered community service hours, completing 40 hours at Creative Culture where his duties included cleaning the shop, helping fold t-shirts, and getting t-shirt orders ready for delivery. Daevoun also took an interest in designing shirts.

As a 10th grade student, Daevoun made the Honor Roll. He had always been a top student and kept it up even under all the stress of probation receiving 3 A's and 3 B's. During the months of January and February, he received the Student of the Month award. School officials had nothing but good things to say about Daevoun and even stated that they wished they had more students like him. This young man was always very respectful, polite, considerate of others, and went the extra mile by tutoring other youth in the Community Based Delinquency (CBD) program.

Daevoun participated in all his court-ordered services and successfully completed the CBD program. His probation was ended within the first six-months, and he vowed never to get into trouble again. We believe that Daevoun is on a good path and we can't wait to hear about all his future accomplishments

SPOTLIGHT



FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION STORIES

Jones Family Story

There are many different reasons as to why families make the decision to adopt. Mr. and Mrs. Jones, like many families, were faced with fertility issues and unable to conceive children on their own. The family went through a period of grieving but made sure during that time that they remained supportive of one another and worked through it together as a team. This required the Joneses to have lots of love and compassion for each other and remain positive about finding an alternative way to start their family. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have always been passionate about helping children in need and knew that fostering to adopt was exactly what they should do.

The Joneses had just completed the process to become a licensed foster home when in September 2017, they got a call for their first placement, a 10-month-old baby boy whose previous foster parent had a medical emergency and could no longer care for him. That same day, Mrs. Jones and her sister drove an hour to Ennis Center in Port Huron and met the baby boy for the first time. When they arrived at the agency, the foster care worker told the family about the baby boy's older sister and asked if they would be interested in placement of both siblings, Mrs. Jones immediately agreed. Six days later, the Joneses had their second placement a 2-year-old girl. Within a matter of days, the Joneses went from a family of two to a family of four. Being new to parenting as well as fostering, they began their journey having no idea what lied ahead but showed how willing and quickly they were able to learn.

The family made tireless efforts throughout the reunification process and found themselves experiencing things they never had before in order to do what was best for the children they were caring for. They would drive over a thousand miles per month for weekly visits. They also found themselves learning to manage behaviors in the home, participating in weekly discussions with therapist and dealing with the ongoing medical issues of the youngest sibling, sometimes going to the doctor or emergency room multiple times throughout the month. During the time the siblings were placed in their home, Mr. and Mrs. Jones grew to love these children beyond measure and knew that if the children were unable to return home, there would be no better place for them than the home they had grown up in for the past year.

In October 2019, two years and 14 days after entering foster care, the Joneses officially became a family of four. The family is very thankful for all the help and support given to them during their journey over the last two years by their amazing foster care case manager who they were pleased to also have as their adoption specialist. They are also very grateful to all the other staff and their support at Ennis Center for Children Port Huron. Adoption has forever changed their lives giving them the gift of Ellie and Atlas.

Jeffrey Jr., Ashley, Ellie & Atlas.

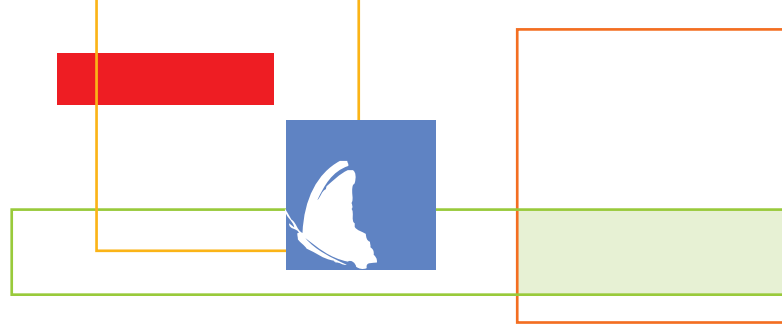


Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

FOSTER.

ADOPT.

LOVE.



Adoption Story

After growing increasingly concerned about the wellbeing of her granddaughter, the grandmother of a 15-year-old foster child began to do everything in her power to bring her home. After multiple attempts to intervene, she hired her own attorney and began to petition the courts. After a year-long journey, the child was removed from the home and became eligible for adoption.

When the time came for the adoption to be finalized, the grandmother requested that the ceremony occur on the anniversary of her termination trial in order to create a more positive memories of the date, and the Ennis adoption department immediately set out to make this happen. With the cooperation of the various consent offices, the adoption petition was able to be processed in record time. The agency received consent to conduct the adoption only two hours after formally requesting it, which is unheard of. The local courts were also willing to rearrange the judge's docket in order to accommodate the family's wishes.

Our foster care case workers went above and beyond to make sure that the youth's referral documentation was in order. They processed an additional funding request to help her start driver's education classes and enroll her in the Tuition Incentive Program. The agency also helped to ensure that she could participate in the Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative program.

The adoption finalization ceremony was simply beautiful and occurred on the exact calendar date that they had requested. The youth and her newly adoptive parent exchanged vows by gifting to each other 'promise rings' to remind them of their commitments. They played a song that had encouraged them throughout the foster care process, and then sincerely thanked each worker who had helped them along the way.

There wasn't a single dry eye in the courtroom.



**All I've Ever
Wanted is a Family
to Love me...**

Can you make room in your heart to
become a Foster/Adoptive parent?



*Adopting one child
won't change the world...
but for that child,
the world will change.*

Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

**FOSTER.
ADOPT.
LOVE.**

www.enniscenter.org

Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

FOSTER.

ADOPT.

LOVE.



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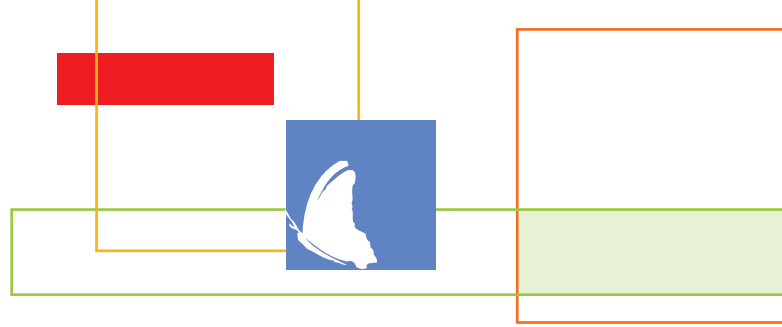
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October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2020



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POWER OF THE PEN

2020 was an unprecedented year for the Ennis Center Development team. Normally, our fundraising activities calendar is full of interactive and publicly attended events & initiatives. Sadly, however, the COVID-19 crisis limitations made that near to impossible to accomplish.

With the prospect to directly involve would-be-supporters sharply curtailed, we quickly turned to the power of the pen to meet the needs of our children and families during the pandemic.

After making an assessment of the changing philanthropic landscape occurring throughout the varied communities we serve, the Development team decided to embark upon a course of action to aggressively engage localized foundations for financial support of our mission.

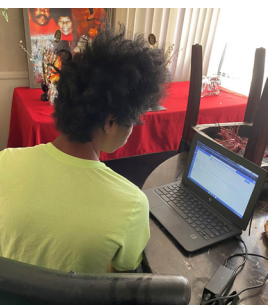
We could not be more gratified by the compassionate responses we received. Thanks to the United Way of Southeastern Michigan, the Children's Foundation, the Oakland Together Community Response and Recovery Fund, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, the Holden Foundation, the United Way of Livingston County, Flint Recast, and several private foundations, we were able to acquire desperately needed grant funding to assist families in our care.

Looking forward, we will continue to develop compelling-case written arguments to seek out even more grant funding opportunities as the pandemic continues to linger.



GRANTS | Facilitating Distance Learning

Thanks to Community Foundation of Greater Flint and the Clara Lionel Foundation, children in Genesee County were able to turn their homes into classrooms. Each child in care that needed a Chromebook received one. Because many homes are not set up to accommodate their new role as classrooms, each child also received a desk, a chair, a stylus pen, a wireless mouse, a set of Bluetooth headphones, and the older children received printers from the At-Home Classroom Project.



GIVING COMMUNITY | Small Miracles Campaign

This past holiday season Ennis Center boldly embarked upon a series of fund development initiatives to seek out and secure public donations to help underwrite the costs associated with of our various COVID-19 emergency services. The heartfelt response from our longstanding sponsors of years gone by, as well as from a whole new generation of donors and contributors eager to help, was extremely gratifying.

Over 1,000 carefully crafted appeal letters utilizing the theme: 'Your Kindness ... Their Miracles' were sent along to potential supporters and former advocates of our organizational mission. We timed the mailout to coincided with the nationwide 'Giving Tuesday' promotion that is becoming a staple charitable tradition as part of modern-day Christmas festivities. The response from this simple action yielded over \$12,000 in unrestricted funds for us that will be applied toward alleviating the plight of our foster children and their families.

The effective mailer campaign was then supplemented by a series of 'end-of-year' email appeal reminders throughout the month of December, as well as an enhanced donation landing-page that was prominently featured on our Ennis Center website.

We are ever so grateful for the compassionate support received from the communities we serve.

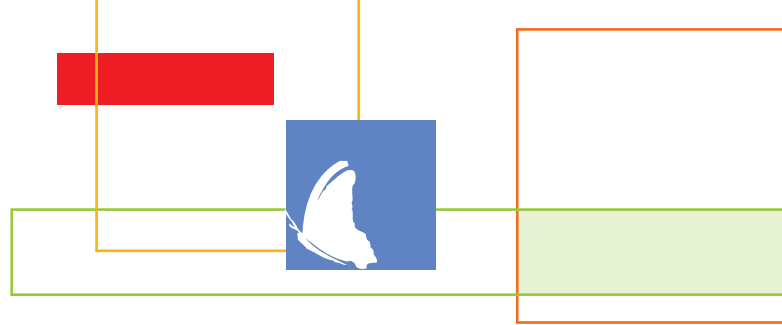


Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

FOSTER.

ADOPT.

LOVE.



Ticket to Dream

Ennis Center is part of the Mattress Firm Foster Kids program and is a recipient of Ticket to Dream grant funds. Through these programs, we receive funds and in-kind donations to support our kids in foster care. We have received grants to support our kids' participation in extracurricular activities, funds for emergency placements, school supplies, and toys for the holidays. Ticket to Dream had also donated hundreds of pairs of Bearpaw winter boots, summer shoes and sandals, swimsuits, clothing, and other essential items. Olympic gold-medalist and former foster child Simone Biles is a spokesperson for the organization and her promotional advertisements run regularly.

Fostering Creativity

Ennis Center has received grants from Community Foundation of Greater Flint, Flint ReCAST, the Child Welfare Society of Flint, and the Hagerman Foundation to fund Fostering Creativity at our Flint location. Central Care Management Organization (CCMO) has funded Fostering Creativity in Detroit, and Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) has funded Fostering Creativity at our Pontiac location.

Rite Aid Foundation & KidCents

Ennis Center has received generous funding from the Rite Aid Foundation and the KidCents program. Rite Aid wellness+ rewards members can round up their purchases to the nearest dollar and donate their change to KidCents. Select "Ennis Center for Children" as the charity you would like your change to support, and our children and families will benefit. Signing up is quick and easy! Visit: <https://foundation.riteaid.com/kidcents> to learn more.

Legacy Gifts

Gifts from our generous donors have been made In Memory Of Neil Douglas Graham, Rebecca Mercurio, Lisa Fikany, Pat Kimmel, and Sharon Browne. Gifts have also been received In Honor Of Lauren Holaly-Zembo, CEO of Crim Fitness Foundation. These gifts mean so much to us at Ennis Center, and we strive to do our best to honor these gifts by providing the best services possible to the children and families that we serve in Southeast Michigan.



EVENTS | *Holiday Wish Lists*

The holiday season can prove a tough time for kids in foster care. Each year, Ennis Center strives to bring our kids a little joy by providing them with gifts. When entering foster care, children write out their own "wish lists," and each list is sponsored by a generous organization, business, partner or individual donor. Their willingness to give makes it possible for each child in our care to have a holiday season.

27th Annual Scramble for Kids Golf Outing

Despite the global pandemic, Ennis Center's 27th Annual Scramble for Kids Golf Outing was a success. Over 140 people attended the event, which featured golf games, door prizes, and a silent auction sponsored by a wide array of local businesses.



Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

FOSTER.

ADOPT.

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20100 Greenfield Road
Detroit, MI 48235

OFFICE LOCATIONS:

GENESEE COUNTY

129 E. Third St.
Flint, MI 48502
(810) 233-4031

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

207 N. Michigan Ave.
Howell, MI 48843
(517) 881-0723

MONROE COUNTY

25 S. Monroe St., Ste. 206
Monroe, MI 48161
(734) 349-6546

OAKLAND COUNTY

91 S. Telegraph Rd.
Pontiac, MI 48341
(248) 334-2715

SAGINAW COUNTY

3095 Carabet Trail
Saginaw, MI 48603
(989) 558-0020

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

222 Huron Ave.
Port Huron, MI 48060
(810) 990-1424

WAYNE COUNTY

20100 Greenfield Rd.
Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 342-2699



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EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT ENNIS CENTER FOR CHILDREN



Wellness+ Rewards program participants can round up their purchases to the nearest dollar and donate their change to Ennis Center through the KidCents program.

Log in to your wellness+ rewards account, enroll in KidCents, and select Ennis Center for Children as your local charity of choice to immediately begin rounding up.

Use your KidCents dashboard to see how much you've given to KidCents, then encourage family and friends to join the KidCents program and round up their change to support Ennis Center as well!



If you shop at Kroger and use a Kroger Plus Card, you can link your card to Ennis Center.

Every time you shop, just swipe your card or enter your phone number and we automatically start earning donations.

Sign up at:
www.krogercommunityrewards.com

Be sure to have your Kroger Plus Card ready.



Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Ennis Center every time you shop, at no cost to you.

When you shop at www.smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Ennis Center. Make sure to designate Ennis Center as your charity of choice to begin donating.

How Can You Help? Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

Ennis Center provides its foster parents with training, ongoing support and financial reimbursement. Please call 888-200-8915 to learn more about how you can make a difference in the life of a child.

If foster parenting or adopting isn't for you, consider a donation to one of the following:

• Operational Fund

Supports our overall agency and its programs for children and families. This contribution allows our leadership to apply your gift to the area of greatest need

• Youth Special Needs Fund

Ensures that our children get what they

need (tutoring, drivers training, special medical devices, etc.) and are afforded the same opportunities as their peers

• Holiday Fund

Helps provide holiday gifts and holiday parties for our kids, many of whom come from poverty and may not know the warmth of the season

• Endowment Fund

Will help ensure Ennis Center is a lasting resource for children and families in need

• Scholarship Fund

Awards scholarships to former Ennis Center foster children pursuing a college or technical school degree