

The Resource

January 2016 Issue No. 3



Letter From Our President

What an incredible Christmas Season we had here at Mom's Closet. Our moms were overwhelmed by the generosity of all that supported their families through MCRC. What a blessing for them, and we pray that it was a blessing for everyone who participated as well. Make sure you read about all of the various things in Gabrielle's article.

We also had a RECORD BREAKING number of volunteers come and assist in the last quarter of 2015. We were amazed by all who came out to help us. Praying for that same support in 2016! God continues to bless us through servants like you.

One special thing that I wanted to share with you was about the 1st Annual Norma Jean Singletary Award that we presented on December 29, 2015. Ron Singletary and his family wanted to honor his mother who passed away several years ago. She was a single mom, and cherished her children. Ron had met Sheila and Pat several years ago while stranded in an airport. He talked in detail with Sheila about her passion, Mom's Closet. Ron owns two auto repair shops in the Louisville area. Ron told us that he remembered someone giving his mom a car when she was young, single, and needed transportation for her job and family. He couldn't think of a better way to honor Norma Jean, than by purchasing a car, making sure it was in good condition for a single mom, and then giving it to her on December 29th, which was his mom's birthdate! Victoria was driving a 1993 Nissan that was "falling apart". She is now the proud owner of a 2002 Ford Taurus that looks brand new! Thank you to Ron and his entire family for blessing our moms here at Mom's Closet. And, not only did he bless her with the car, but also with a bumper to bumper warranty for 12 months! Yea God! Please see the last page for pictures of our mom receiving this generous gift.

Look for other ways to serve, donate, or information on events, in this newsletter. We always want to hear your stories as well. Feel free to send them to us at info@momscloset-center.org. We will share them throughout the year to help encourage others!

Blessings,

Laura Wingfield
President

Important Dates

Orientation/Boot Camp
February 3rd

The Journey Begins Here
February 2nd, March 9th, and
April 12th

Opening Night Event
"Casablanca Nights"
April 30th

Calling all Single Moms

Do you know someone who might qualify for the Life Plan Program? The requirements are as follows: has to be a single mom, working at least 20 hours a week, going to an institute of higher learning/trade school and attending at least half-time as defined by the institute. The Life Plan Program can offer single moms help with food assistance through the pantry, some financial resources (depending on the individuals budget), help with clothing, back to school, Christmas, Thanksgiving, emotional support, help to bring stability and accountability to families and much more. If you know a single mom who might qualify for the Life Plan Program, please have her call the office at 502-245-9899 and we would be happy get her started on the road to becoming a Life Plan mom.



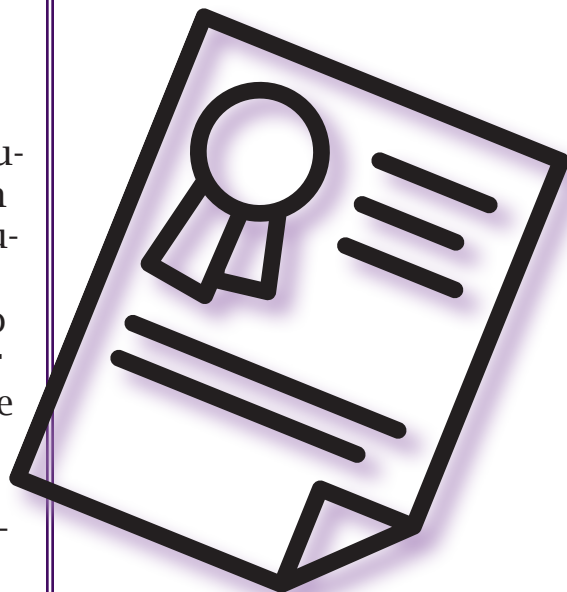
Christmas Blessings Gabrielle Benfield

We are humbled and amazed by the outpouring of love and support for our moms and their families this Christmas season. God truly blessed them. They had such a wonderful Christmas and Thanksgiving. We want to say thank you to everyone at Northeast Christian Church, Southeast Christian Church, Sullivan University, Risk Management Services, Joann Fryrear School of Dance, Christian Academy, Texas Roadhouse, Sign-A-Rama, and the countless individuals and groups who made Christmas and Thanksgiving so special for our moms and their families. Our families were provided Thanksgiving Dinner, Christmas Dinner, spa gift cards, gift bags, spa bags, toys and gifts for their children, stockings, pantry donations, Kroger gift cards, mini massages, crockpots and much more. The staff at Mom's Closet really enjoyed seeing their faces light up when they received all of the gifts. Our moms are so humble and not used to being showered or given such thoughtful gifts, so YOU, our supporters made this happen and for that we are truly blessed and thankful. God Bless everyone and Happy New Year.

Celebrations

Gabrielle Benfield, Program Coordinator

It's another bittersweet moment for us here at Mom's Closet. Recently, we had another mom graduate from our program. Shana finished her degree in Social Work from University of Louisville and graduated from the Life Plan Program 6 months after. Upon graduating from our program she was able to transition into a new job and is now a proud owner of her first home! We are so humbled to have made a positive impact on this young women's life. We wish Shana success in her career and her life beyond Mom's Closet. We ask that you join us in continued prayer for God's hand and blessing on her life.



Kroger Rewards and New Ways to Give

Gwen Seaver, Grant Research Coordinator

Do you find that January is always an exciting month of new beginnings? As the Grant/Research Coordinator here at MCRC, January is the kick off month for starting new partnerships with businesses, staff volunteer programs, foundations, and matching funds programs. Ask yourself if your employer or your spouse's employer possibly has one of these programs. I am here to help with any questions or documentation you may need to get Mom's Closet on board with those types of programs. Give me a call 245-9899 ext. 208.

Another great way to support Mom's Closet is through our Kroger Community Rewards Program.

1. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com
2. Have your Kroger Plus Card number handy, if you use your phone number simply call 800-576-4377 choose option 4 and they will give you your Kroger Plus Card number.
3. Once you are at the website click on Sign Up Today
4. You will have to give your email address and create a password. An email will be sent to you.
5. Click on My Account, use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
6. Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input YOUR Kroger Plus Card number
7. You will be asked for your organizations NPO number that is 33337

It is that easy! Every time you swipe your Kroger Plus card Mom's Closet receives a percentage from your purchase. You have nothing to lose and it helps us tremendously.

A big Thank You goes out to The Kentucky Colonels for the grant we received in 2015 for our Career Center. Looking forward to 2016, and all the possibilities it holds.

Blessings,
Gwen Seaver



Thank You Volunteers **Cassie Wingfield, Office Coordinator**

Volunteers are an essential resource for most nonprofits. Here at Mom's Closet Resource Center we would not make it without them. We really want to show our appreciation to those who helped us throughout the holiday season.

On Saturday, November 21st, Troop 323 and Troop 212 of Boy Scouts of America met at Mom's Closet at 8AM. These boys and their leaders went door to door in our community to ask for donations at their annual food drive for Mom's Closet. Not only did we have these amazing young men going out to get donations for us, but The American Heritage Girls spent all day counting and sorting the donated items. The two Troops brought in a combined total of 4,123 items. As amazing as this was it raised a large need for volunteers in our busiest season. Luckily our community has always been there to help us when we need it. In The month of December alone we had 42 people volunteer a total of 109.5 hours. Together we organized and shelved all of the incoming donations. Our volunteers put a lot of time and effort into our food pantry to make it look nice for the single mothers in our program.

The start of the New Year brings more projects! If you would like to volunteer as an individual or in a group please contact me at Cassie@momsclosetcenter.org. We are Open Monday-Thursday from 9-5 and Friday from 9-3 and we can always use helping hands. If you would like to volunteer but don't have any extra time please follow us on Facebook. We post a pantry needs list every Friday. Thank you again for supporting our cause.



A Note From our Founder

Over the years I have had the pleasure of organizing many fundraising events to benefit Mom's Closet and other organizations. My favorite, by far, has been the Winning Purse Luncheon, which celebrated its tenth year in 2015. The blessings this event has brought to Mom's Closet has been almost immeasurable, but the time has come to say goodbye. This year, due to the popularity of our annual opening night event, we will not be having the luncheon.

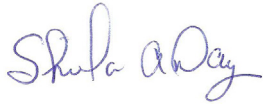
Last year's opening night event, A Gatsby Affair, was an amazing success! We want to focus all of our energy and passion into it in 2016. The theme this year will be "Casablanca Nights". I encourage all regular attendees of the Winning Purse Luncheon to attend. Guests so enjoyed dressing in the 30's attire last year, and this year we will encourage guests to dress in 40's glam.

Single ticket prices will be the same as the luncheon, \$150.00, but if you buy a table of eight you will only pay \$1,000. So get a group together to enjoy dinner, drinks, live & silent auctions, and best of all, exciting night racing at Downs After Dark under the Twin Spires.

Limited tickets are available and are on sale now. To reserve your seat please send a check to Mom's Closet, or go online to www.momscloset-center.org/events. Tables & seats will only be reserved with payments.

I hope to see all of you this year at "Casablanca Nights". *Here's looking at you, kid.*

Blessings,



Sheila Day
Founder & CEO



Continue to check our Facebook and website for exciting event updates like our derby hat event. More information will be coming soon!

Bootcamp and Orientation

Cassie Wingfield, Office Coordinator



Do you know any single Moms who would like to better themselves through education? Do you know a single Mom who could use some encouragement and support? At Mom's Closet Resource Center we strive to love and inspire the women in our program. We help motivate them so they can continue on with their hard work and succeed for themselves and their children. On February 3rd from 11-1 Mom's Closet will be hosting an orientation for anyone interested in joining our program. The next 4 weeks following the orientation will be our boot camp. We will focus on education and employment. The goal being to give enough tools that by the end of the boot camp they are capable of enrolling in school, becoming employed, and be eligible to become a client of Mom's Closet. If you know anyone who could benefit from our services please have them visit our webpage at www.momsclosetcenter.org/orientation.

Their Journey Begins Here

This year Mom's Closet will begin our new effort to reach out to potential supporters. Last year we significantly improved our outreach to new donors. This year we want to push that effort even further by starting our monthly "The Journey Begins Here" events. We believe that as soon as a mom steps into our Center they begin a journey to a new and better life for herself and her children. These monthly events will provide possible supporters with a tour of the Center and an explanation of what our goals and dreams are for the single mothers of Kentucky. Our first event will be held on February 2. If you have any questions about the event, or if you know of someone who may believe in Mom's Closet's mission, please contact us here at the Center. We also are interested in cultivating Mom's Closet ambassadors that can help run future "The Journey Begins Here" events. If you would be interested in becoming a Mom's Closet Ambassador, please contact Sheila or Irene Day. We thank you for continued support and belief in what we do at MCRC, changing the future of Kentucky's kids one mom at a time.

Norma Jean Singletary Award

