



# The Nursery Rhyme

**MISSION STATEMENT:**  
to provide affordable  
quality child care  
for a diverse community



## Putt "Fore" Children

Day Nursery expresses gratitude to each participant, sponsor and volunteer who made our 10th Annual Putt "Fore" Children event so much fun. We are proud to offer this family friendly event and for such a great cause! All proceeds benefit the children and families who receive services provided by Day Nursery of Abilene to address our mission which is to provide affordable quality child care for a diverse community. During the event teams of four golfers completed for cash prizes. There were two shotgun starts. Lunch was served as prizes were awarded for children and adults during for each flight. Special prize money was awarded for making a trick hole in one as well as to the top team costumes.



# A Message from Cynthia Pearson

PRESIDENT / CEO

As we approach the end of 2019 and embark on a new decade and the year 2020, it makes me think of vision, perfect vision. And I'm sure that I'm not the first person that will put those two together when thinking about this next year. Maybe we will all see clearly? Who knows? What does it mean for us to be visionary? Are we thinkers, are we dreamers, are we creative are we creative dreamers and thinkers?



For Day Nursery of Abilene it means that we continue to envision a community where the child care needs of working families are met, where children receive high quality child care programming while their mommies and daddies work to secure their household economic development, where children are adequately prepared for school and beyond and where our staff received high quality training, direction and the support they need to offer these critically important services.

As we turn the page to the next decade, we are pleased to be opening a new center, an expansion project that we have worked on for nearly two years. It's a project unlike any we've done before, a unique collaborative partnership and the result of a vision of two staff and current Day Nursery parents, Mary Burke and Shannon Maynard, from Hardin Simmons- University! Within the month, construction will be complete, and we will be setting up classrooms, getting ready for inspections and other final touches to open the doors January 20, 2020. Seems like a good date for opening a center that works toward a vision. So, reflecting to Day Nursery's vision, we are pleased that we are making progress toward meeting ours.

*Cynthia Pearson*

## Parent Advisory Committee

Day Nursery of Abilene implemented a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to bring parents' perspective and staff together to support the mission of the Day Nursery of Abilene while enhancing the child care program.



Parents from each of the centers is involved. Meeting and PAC activities are planned for the benefit of children and families as well as providing support and guidance for the assurance of healthy, supportive relationships in the delivery of quality child care programming. So far, the PAC committee has helped with the fall festivals. They will also assist with the Christmas parade and with Elf Extravaganza in December. The center parent advisory committee members are as follow:

**Cedar Street Center** – Jennifer Mattas-Schuster, Yukari Garcia and April Morris

**Sherry Lane Center** – Mary Burke, Margaret Gray

**Vine Street Center** – Camille Hallum, Kendra Guy, Cyndi Horton

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE... ONE CHILD AT A TIME!

Generosity of our donors, July - November 2019

Alliance For Women and Children	Dr. and Mrs. Gary Goodnight	James K. Pierce
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in honor of Cynthia Pearson	Wanda and Toney Gutierrez	In honor of Cynthia Pearson
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Janelle and Robert Gooch	Photo Image Center - Stan West	

### GIFTS FROM FUNDS HELD AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF ABILENE

John & Carolyn Beckham Endowed Donor Advised Fund  
Kay Price-Hawkins and Joe Hawkins Donor Advised Fund  
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Robert, Elsie & Roberta Watters Fund at the Community Foundation of Abilene  
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# PUTT "FORE" CHILDREN SPONSORS

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- The Greathouse Foundation
- Steve Arthur Family Foundation at the Community Foundation of Abilene

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## In-Kind & Other Contributors

- Photo Image Center - Stan West
- Sam's Club
- United Supermarkets, LLC

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The construction at the new Orange Street (aka College Heights) center is progressing. Two additional grants this fall will assure that the center is well equip with furnishings, equipment and equipment as well as a van or small bus for transportation! Thank you to AEP and the Community Foundation of Abilene for these two grant opportunities!

The center is the result of a collaborative effort between the Day Nursery of Abilene, Hendrick Medical Center and Hardin-Simmons University to offer child care services for their workforce, students and further address the growing child care needs of our community.

In addition, the waiting list for the new center started in early fall. Currently more than ¾ of the spaces are already spoken for with all three infant rooms and at least one other room completely full! Priority for the waiting list was granted first for employees of Hendrick Medical Center and Hardin Simmons University. These two groups had through the first part of December to sign up for enrollment. Day Nursery is now working through its regular waiting list and is hiring for the 30-35 positions including early childhood professionals, food service and center administrative staff. The Director, Youlanda Hunter will start to work in early December. She worked for Day Nursery previously before she left to complete a degree at ACU. We are thrilled to have her back and leading this center! The projected opening date is January 20th.



## STAFF RECOGNITION



**Ms. Olivia Rivera** was celebrated as Day Nursery's first 40-year staff member. Congratulations Ms. Olivia and thank you for your hard work and dedication!

## Employees of the Third Quarter

Anne Wostaek-Holly – Cedar Street

Marisol Arrazola – Sherry Lane

Emalee Smith – Vine Street



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Day Nursery's professional development for all staff on Columbus Day was a success! The personnel and safety policies approved by the board last month were reviewed as was the required annual training for Child Abuse & Neglect and Safe Sleep. Albert Wright, a favored trainer by our staff provided an energetic presentation related to the importance of a good attitude as well as child care professional specific training. St Paul United Methodist hosted us at a nominal cost and Day Nursery provided a barbeque lunch from Sharon's.



## Year End Giving Opportunities

Day Nursery will mail your Christmas cards this year – with art designed by Nevaeh, age 8. When you make a year end contribution in the **Spirit of Christmas** you impact the lives of children just like this sweet girl! Contributions for this campaign are accepted on line [www.daynurseryabilene.org](http://www.daynurseryabilene.org)



Day Nursery is listed through the end of the year in the Holiday Gift Giving Guide through the Community Foundation of Abilene. To support Day Nursery's approved cause, just log onto

[https://cfa.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?grant\\_id=34970](https://cfa.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?grant_id=34970)

## Keeping the Fun in Fundraising in 2020

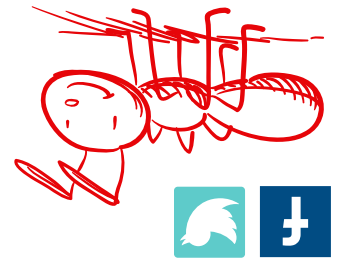
Dueling Pianos is being planned again on Valentine's Day 2020 at the 201 Mesquite Event Center. You won't want to miss this!



Putt "Fore" Children – 2020 will be held on Saturday, October 3rd at the Primetime Family Entertainment Center.

Mark your calendars now and save these dates to participate! No matter how you choose to support the Day Nursery mission, your gift makes a difference...one child at a time!

For more information on supporting the Day Nursery of Abilene program and mission, visit our website at: [www.daynurseryabilene.org](http://www.daynurseryabilene.org).



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If you prefer to get an email version of the Nursery Rhyme, please email [daynursery@daynurseryabilene.org](mailto:daynursery@daynurseryabilene.org).

[daynurseryabilene.org](http://daynurseryabilene.org)

### OUR CHILD CARE CENTERS:

<b>Administration Office</b> 702 Cedar Street Abilene, TX 79601 (325) 673-1110	<b>Sherry Lane Center</b> 3434 Sherry Lane Abilene, TX 79601 (325) 673-1781	<b>Vine Street Center</b> 1442 Vine Street Abilene, TX 79601 (325) 672-7351	<b>Cedar Street Center</b> 650 Cedar Street Abilene, TX 79601 (325) 670-0002
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Community Foundation  
of Abilene



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