

Summer Newsletter



Remembering and Honoring Renee Holmes



The Orchards family has been rocked with the sudden loss of our dearly loved Annual Giving Manager, Renee Holmes. Renee, along with two of her loved ones, passed away in a tragic automobile accident on Friday, June 26, 2020.

As we grapple with trying to understand why, we come together to share our wonderful memories of Renee's enthusiasm and love for Orchards children. Renee was very driven and mission focused in all she endeavored at Orchards. She knew her work mattered and made a difference in the lives of countless children. She established the Orchards Women's Leadership Committee (OWL) and put her heart and soul into bringing together our community's top women executives, young professionals and committed volunteers. Her vision and hard work with OWL impacted many. She established the "Network and Glamp to Send a Kid to Camp" event which resulted in hundreds of Orchards children having the opportunity to go to summer camp. She worked tirelessly on campaigns, appeals and galas to ensure our most vulnerable children had opportunities to feel like kids.

We would like to make sure that Renee's memory, her hard work and her vision are marked on this earth and that her legacy continues. **Please join me by giving to establish the Renee Holmes Memorial Scholarship.** The funds raised for the scholarship will be awarded to promising students to pursue their aspirations in continuing their education, beginning with high school graduates in 2020. Now, more than ever, we feel that we are apart, but it is tragedies like the loss of our dear Renee that remind us that we are all in this together.

Renee Holmes was a beacon and a shining example of joy, strength and perseverance. She will be deeply missed.

Our Do NOT Attend Event Was A Success!

Our traditional Gerald L. Levin Champions for Children Signature Event looked a little different this year due to COVID-19, but the support for our children and families didn't skip a beat. We honored our 2020 Champions for Children, heard from our senior Youth Board members and continued to bring awareness to the needs of our children all virtually on our social media pages.

If you missed out on the evening, please click [HERE](#) to see our Champions for Children winners and our sponsors. If you are still interested in donating to our event, please click [HERE](#)! Thank you to all of those who tuned in and donated, we couldn't do it without your support. Can't wait to see you all in person next year! Continue to stay safe and healthy.



Hassan Fayad

411 Therapy

Commitment to Community
Award Winner



Rachael Secord

Michigan Foster Care Closet

Individual/Advocate Award Winner





Jennifer Frescura-Skulley
Parenting Award Winner

Lea & William Narens
Narens Associates, Inc.
Corporate Award Winner

👊👊👊👊
**ORCHARDS
STANDS
AGAINST
RACISM**



Standing Against Racism

It is important that, as an agency, we take a stand against racism, every day, all of the time, that we all do our part in helping to put an end to systemic racism. We are a diverse agency that helps better the lives of children and families who come from all walks of life and, at no time, do we allow for racism within our walls or out in the field. Orchards stands with Black Lives Matter and promises to do our part in making a better



COVID-19 Update

It has been four long months since the first case of COVID-19 hit Michigan. We are continuing to follow the guidelines put in place by the CDC and do our job navigating through these changes. Please continue to be patient with us as we find our footing in this unknown territory. We are continuing to keep our staff, children and families safe as they are our number one priority. As always, stay safe and stay healthy!

tomorrow.



Love Is Love

While June was PRIDE month, we feel it is important that we acknowledge we stand with the LGBTQ community every day. Orchards does not discriminate against same sex couples adopting or fostering a child.

Love is love!



Summer Fun From Home

Summer looks a little different this year. While we continue to stay home more than a normal summer, check out the links below for ways to get creative with your kids this summer.

- [Summertime Recipes](#)
- [Summer Crafts](#)
- [Ways to Keep Busy](#)

Click [HERE](#) for a PDF copy of our Annual Report!

BECAUSE OF



CHANGE HAPPENS!

2019 Annual Report 

Help Support Back 2 School

While the State plans for what the school year will look like for our kids, it goes without saying they are going to **NEED** your support. Please consider hosting a drive with your friends and family or shopping directly on our Amazon Smile page. Click **HERE** to purchase items for our kids. These items can be sent directly to Orchards. And the best part, with each purchase, a part of your order will go directly to helping our kids as a donation through AmazonSmile.

If you have questions on how you can help, contact Vicki Orleans at **vorleans@orchards.org**. Help make sure a child is well equipped to head back to school this Fall. After a tough few months, they depend on you!



Congratulations to our 2020 Youth Board

Their senior year may have been cut short, but it does not take away the accomplishments of our 2020 Youth Board Seniors. These amazing group of young adults are the future leaders of tomorrow. Congratulations to all of you, you will achieve amazing things in this life!

Congratulation to the Class of 2020!





Markieta Jackson

Future Career
Financial Analyst

Major
Finance




DETROIT MERCY



Neesha Thomas
Wayne State University
Nursing




UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Julia Spilkin
University of Michigan
Data Science



Business- accounting
or marketing



Malisha Jackson

Major
Biology

Minor
Psychology

Future Career
Pediatrician
Or
Nurse Practitioner




Wayne State University





Allison
McConnell

Valparaiso
Univeristy

Biology



WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY



MAJOR: Nursing 🩺





#futureaggie 🌟



Stay Safe & Stay Healthy

Connect With Us:

