

# **Board Update**

A monthly update for the Boards of Chaddock's Family of Organizations April 2019

## **Upcoming Meetings**

Program Committee Meeting
April 16 — 11:30 - 1:00
Conference Room
Chaddock Education Center

CATS Resource Committee Meeting
May 9 — 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room
Chaddock Education Center

Chaddock Behavioral Health
June 6 — 9:00 - 11:00 CST
Video Conference

CATS Board Meeting
June 11 — 11:30 - 1:30
Conference Room
Chaddock Education Center

The Knowledge Center at Chaddock
June 13 — 1:00 - 3:00 CST
Video Conference

Chaddock Children's Foundation
June 18 — 12:00 - 1:30
Conference Room
Chaddock Education Center

Chaddock Board Meeting
June 21 — 11:30 - 1:30
OASIS Conference Room
Chaddock Education Center

## Mark Your Calendar

For our Quincy board members, please mark your calendars for two important Chaddock events:

Chaddock's High School Graduation will be Thursday, May 30 at 1:00 in the Chaddock Gym

The Rose Tea will be Sunday, June 9 from 2:00 - 3:30 on the front parade grounds.

## **Storytelling Grant Supports Organizations**

Chaddock was awarded a \$4,500 capacity building grant from the Tracy Family Foundation for video storytelling and computer/video equipment upgrades used by the Marketing Team. The team is working to increase its capacity to better meet the growing needs of the Chaddock family of organizations, including Chaddock Attachment & Trauma Services, Chaddock Children's Foundation, The Knowledge Center at Chaddock and Chaddock Behavioral Health.

We plan to use the majority of the grant to produce a new video high-lighting the Chaddock staff and their passion for providing specialized developmental trauma and attachment based services to children and families. We will use this video to aid in recruitment of new staff, specifically for hard to fill positions like therapists, special education teachers and direct care roles. In addition, the video will support our retention efforts as we work to reduce turnover across the agency. The video will be showcased on our website and various social media platforms. We will use it in new employee orientation and have it available on the IPads we use at career/recruitment fairs across the region. The video will increase our exposure not only to local employees, but will allow us to reach professionals across the country with interest in careers at Chaddock.

## **Donors Fund Butterfly Garden**

Thanks to the generous donation from the Eunice Funk family, construction will begin soon on a large butterfly garden on Chaddock's campus. Mary Funk Zehner, who is a certified Naturalist, worked with Bergman Nurseries to des ign the garden which will be located north of the Osborne Administration building. In addition to a number of unique plants that attract numerous species of butterflies, the garden will also feature walking paths and benches to allow our students, their families and our staff the chance to walk through and spend time in this beautiful space. Construction is expected to start in the coming weeks, with the goal of having the garden completed prior to the Rose Tea.

Another component of the gift is a nature trail that will be constructed in the three-acre wooded area at the back of our campus. Members of the Funk Family, along with volunteers from the Boy Scout troop Chaddock sponsors, recently spent a Saturday removing undergrowth and invasive/non-native plants from the area where the path will be located in preparation for that project. While this project won't be completed for quiet some time, removing the plants and vines was much easier before they came into full bloom. Both of these projects will give our young people the chance for hands-on learning, as well as gaining an appreciation for the beauty that nature holds.

## Kids Enjoy Phantom

Two of our staff members — Josh Carlson Associate Director of The Knowledge Center and Michelle Bickhaus, English teacher in our school — had leading roles in the Quincy Community Theatre's production of the musical Phantom. A number of our students had the chance to cheer them on by attending the dress rehearsal. While we regularly provide the opportunity for our young people to attend cultural events in the community, this one was extra special because our kids knew two of the "stars" of the show, and had the chance to see them in a whole new light.

# "New" Playground to be Installed

When we built our new school, one of the items on our wish list was a playground for our grade school aged students. Although new commercial grade playground sets are quite expensive, with Quincy Public Schools' construction of new grade schools, we had the opportunity to purchase a playground set from one of schools that was being sold. The high-quality playground is in great shape and we were able to purchase it at a fraction of the cost of a new set.

We plan to create a pad for the playground between the school and Simon Cottage, which houses our youngest clients, ages 6 - 12. This will be a convenient location for students to access from either the school or their cottage. The play ground will be one additional way for our kids to get large motor movement, which can be very calming for them. It is also a fun interactive way for our kids to "just be kids."

## **Quick Updates**

### Contributing to New Theraplay Book

Members of the Chaddock family are contributing two chapters to an upcoming book on Theraplay. Karen Buckwalter, Director of Program Strategy, is writing a chapter on the importance of considering parents' attachment history when working with their child. Michelle Robison, TKC Board Member, and Marcia Ryan, Associate Director of Client Services, are writing a chapter on using Theraplay in a residential setting.

#### New Customer for FlexAMS

Since acquiring the FlexAMS electronic health record, we have been updating a number of aspects of the system and developing new modules. We are pleased to share that we have signed our first customer with the new and improved system. Catholic Charities of Joliet will begin their install and training on the FlexAMS system in the coming weeks. For more information on the FlexAMS system, go to <a href="https://www.goflex-ams.com">https://www.goflex-ams.com</a>.

#### Numbers Served Continues to Grow

All of our direct service programs are exceeding budgeted populations as we continue to add to the number of children and families served. We have more than 100 students in our school, with more community students attending than residential students. Speaking of residential, our beds are full and have a waiting list, and our foster care numbers continue to hover around 250. In addition, we have a waiting list for outpatient therapy and the number of families we are serving in our in-home intensive program continues to grow as well.

### Help Us Get The Word Out!

We encourage you to "like" both the Chaddock and The Knowledge Center at Chaddock Facebook pages. Our Facebook engagement has jumped this fiscal year as reported on the quarterly dashboard. For those of you really into social media, Chaddock has a presence on Instagram and Twitter as well. You can find us on both platforms using @chaddockforkids and @tkcchaddock. When you share our posts with your social media network, you are helping extend our message to new audiences!

#### Join Us In The Dogwood Parade

You are invited to join us in Quincy's Dogwood Parade on Saturday, May 4. The parade begins at 9:30. The theme of the 50th anniversary parade is "Party like it's 1969" and Chaddock staff and families will be walking with a 1960s inspired float. If you would like to join us, gather along the Maine Street side of Madison Park and jump in as the float rolls by. Board members are welcome to purchase a Chaddock t-shirt to wear. If you would like a shirt, stop by the Marketing Department in the lower level of Osborne to purchase a long or short-sleeved version.

#### Did You Know Chaddock Offers Internships?

For a number of years, Chaddock has offered an internship program for both Bachelor's and Master's level students. Our Master's level internship programs is a great opportunity for those completing social work and counseling degrees because of the number of a clinical environments we offer — school, residential, foster care and outpatient. Even better, we hire about 40% of our clinical interns after they graduate!