



Children's
Safety Centers®

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We have had a great start to 2010 so far! Great things are happening and we want to continue to share news, events, stories and successes with you. Thank you for taking the time to stay up to date with the latest about the Children's Safety Centers and the profession of supervised visitation.

Students from St. Thomas University Honor the Children's Safety Centers with the 2010 Gibney Award

With the intent of encouraging youth to increase their involvement in philanthropy, Jackie and Chris Gibney, donated \$30,000 in 2009 and again in 2010 to create the Gibney Award. The Gibney Award allows students involved in the Business 200 Program at St. Thomas University to participate in the philanthropic process by creating a request for proposals, assessing the organizations that applied, and determining how to most effectively distribute the \$25,000 in awarded funds to applicant organizations.

Chosen amongst 119 applicants, Children's Safety Centers (CSC) was recently honored to receive a \$5,000 donation from the Gibney Board. This donation will directly benefit the children and families served by CSC. The approved proposal included a onetime purchase of toys and equipment for our sites. We hope that this donation will help to enhance the experience of families at our center by providing a more comfortable and exciting experience for the children.

A portion of the donation will go towards the purchase of foosball and ping-pong tables, two family friendly computer stations, and multiple upgrades and repairs to the existing outdoor playground. CSC is grateful to have received the Gibney Award from University of St. Thomas students. Having been blessed with numerous interns from the Masters of Social Work program through the University of St. Thomas, we feel that this award speaks to the continued relationship between Children's Safety Centers and the St. Thomas student community.

To learn more about the Gibney Award, please [click here](#).

Averting Tragedy Through Best Practices in the Supervised Visitation Profession

Although it is never pleasant to report on tragedies in our community and in the field of visitation overall, we were unfortunately reminded once again of the importance for families in crisis to be directed towards professional visitation services.

Even as close as Shakopee we have recently seen the dangerous situations that arise with inexperienced monitors. As detailed in our most recent newsletter, a child was abducted from a supervised visit when the poorly trained monitor left the room to use the restroom. Not having anyone directly supervising her, the mother who was visiting with her daughter used the opportunity to kidnap the **one** year old girl. Luckily, the child was returned to her family unharmed.

Unfortunately we are not able to report such a peaceful resolve in all incidences where poorly facilitated visits go awry. In late January of this year in Oklahoma a mother kidnapped her young daughter from a supervised visit and was later found murdered in her estranged boyfriend's trailer. Her boyfriend, Lester Hobbs, and her 7 year old daughter whom she kidnapped remain missing.

Supervised visitation and safe exchange is our specialty. We have spent years tailoring our rules to the best practices in the field and ensuring that our staff remains trained. Operating for over 17 years without a single violent incident, CSC has proven to have the policies and practices in place that safeguard against critical incidents on site and makes the potential for parents to kidnap their children all but impossible during both safe exchanges and supervised visitations.

To learn more about this ongoing case follow this link:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/blogs/2010/01/25/crimesider/entry6139698.shtm>
!

CSC Spotlight!

With the many roles and responsibilities that go into making CSC a success, we wanted to use the CSC SPOTLIGHT in each newsletter as a way to highlight members of the CSC family. In this space we will let you get to know a member of our staff, board members, or one of our many volunteers. This newsletter spotlights Molly McQueen, who has been on the staff for almost three years. Here is a bit of information to get to know Molly better:

What role do you play at the Children's Safety Centers?

I play a pretty diverse role here at CSC. Over the years I have supervised visits, been part of the HR function, helped organize the silent and live auction at the golf tournament, assisted with grant writing and



project management and provided support for Teri McLaughlin, the Executive Director. I guess you could say I am a non-profit generalist. :)

Why have you worked with CSC in this capacity?

I was interested in learning more about non-profits and development work (fundraising). I met with Teri and she gave me the opportunity to work at CSC and experience all aspects of non-profit management. This experience has been invaluable to me as I continue to shape where my interests lie in my future career. I have been blessed to have so many opportunities and work with such amazing professionals in every aspect of this job. Because of the unique projects that Teri has allowed me to take on I have learned that I have a deeper interest for work in the field of human resources. Because of this, I have begun pursuing my Masters in HR from the University of Minnesota through the Carlson School of Management.

Where did you grow up?

Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Home of the *Mall Rats* mall (what! what!)

What is your favorite food?

My old favorite food was my mom's pizza bread... but since I gave up pepperoni and ALL meat 2 years ago - my NEW favorite food is anything with Ranch dressing. Classy, I know.

What is your biggest accomplishment?

Not to sound like Elle Woods, but my biggest accomplishment was winning Sigma Chi Derby Days Lip-Synch competition for the Delta Delta Delta sorority when I did an interpretive rendition of the finale dance in Napoleon Dynamite. I got a standing ovation. (Note: I am only 25 so hopefully this accomplishment will be replaced in the next 5-10 years. Fingers crossed.)

What do you do in your free time?

As I mentioned above I am a grad student at the U, so a lot of my time is taken up by studying and group work. Outside of that I enjoy volunteering at my internships, running, drinking wine, playing minesweeper, going to brunch on Sunday mornings, and spending quality time with my tivo staying current on the latest trashy reality shows.

If you could go anywhere in the world where would you go?

I have heard Prague is AMAZING, so I would love to go there... but then after that Teri, PJ and Erin McLaughlin have been tempting me with their pictures from Thailand, that is for SURE added to my "must" list. But to be honest, the only time I have ever left the continental US thus far was a spring break cruise to the Bahamas... so who knows how realistic these world travels are anytime soon.

To find out more about Molly, check her out on Facebook. While you are there, become a friend of CSC.

12th Charity Golf Classic - Register Now!



With the winter almost behind us, it is time to start thinking about golf. Start practicing your swing now so you are ready for the Children's Safety Centers 12th Annual Charity Golf Classic. Planning is well underway for the event of the year. This year's event will be held on Wednesday, June 23rd, 2010 at StoneRidge Golf Club in Stillwater. There are many opportunities for you to participate as a

sponsor, golfer or volunteer and we encourage your participation at any level. You can register online by [clicking here](#), or get more information by calling Justin at 651-774-4990 ext. 3 or emailing golf@childrensafetycenters.org. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Teri Walker McLaughlin
Children's Safety Centers