



Northern Kentucky
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky

Advocates, Fidelity Investments and community provide holiday season help to children and families served by Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center

FLORENCE, KY. Jan. 9, 2012. Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center (NKCAC) extends thanks to the **Advocates, Fidelity Investments** and the **Northern Kentucky community** for providing gifts and holiday support for the children and families served by the NKCAC. The NKCAC provides a coordinated response to concerns of child abuse in a child-focused environment, offering prevention, evaluation and treatment to children and families. The Advocates are the volunteer fundraising organization of the NKCAC.

NKCAC provides an opportunity during the Christmas holidays for the community to show support for children that are seen at the Children's Advocacy Center through a "Giving Tree." Children and their siblings are identified throughout the year by staff as families in need. Families are contacted in November to ask if they need assistance with Christmas gifts. Children and their caregivers create a wish list. The lists are compiled, and volunteers select children from the list and shop for the gifts. NKCAC organizes the gifts, and the gifts and wrapping paper are provided to the families. This year, 21 families were helped by the program.

"Many of these children had a year filled with difficulty and trauma," says Vickie Henderson, executive director of the NKCAC, "and the generosity from the community reinforces to the children that they are special and are not forgotten by Santa." The families who received holiday support from the NKCAC were the most appreciative. When picking up gifts, one mother said, "Thank you so much! He won't be able to victimize her again by having no Christmas, thanks to all of you!" The items donated may have been trucks, Legos and Barbie dolls, but the meaning was celebration, affirmation and restoration. The help of so many contributed to the healing of 55 children who would have had nothing or very little to open on

Christmas. To quote a grandmother, "Because of these gifts, we were able to have Christmas when I thought these kids would have nothing."

A special thank you goes to **Fidelity Investments'** Customer Research and Resolution Department in Covington, Kentucky, for stocking the Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center with supplies. They donated water, juice boxes, snacks, toys, games, cleaning supplies, office supplies and meal gift cards for children. They also donated gift cards to local stores so that the NKCAC could purchase toys, movies and art supplies to assist staff in providing critical services to the children seen at the Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center.

Another special thank you goes to **Taylor Heisler**, NKCAC intern and student at Northern Kentucky University (NKU), who organized the Giving Tree project as her Service Learning Project for senior placement at NKU.

To all who donated to the NKCAC this holiday, the Board of Directors and the staff give a heartfelt thank you for your kindness and generosity!

About the Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center

The Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center is a nonprofit organization that provides services to children who have been sexually abused, severely physically abused and children who have witnessed violent crimes. In addition, the NKCAC provides supportive services for non-offending parents, caregivers, siblings, family members and professionals. Our multidisciplinary team includes social workers, law enforcement, prosecutors, therapists, advocates and health care providers. Our child-focused, welcoming environment ensures that children are protected and that children and the non-offending adults who care for them can begin to heal. The Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky provides administrative and operational support to the NKCAC. For more information, visit our website at www.nkycac.org.

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Tabitha DeMoss (Independence) coordinated the efforts of 20 Fidelity Investments staffers who supported Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center with their holiday donations.

Sally Wilson (Silver Grove) is pictured with the bags of gifts that her team of Fidelity Investments employees gathered to help Santa bring Christmas to the children served by Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center.





(left to right) Doug Doty, Melody Ludwig, Curtis Poland, Jennifer Morgan and Donny Stephens of Northern Kentucky were among Santa's helpers who brought gifts for the children served by the Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center.