Children’s Bureau Auxiliary

From 1932 to 2019, Children’s Bureau Auxiliary, Inc. provided voluntary services and sponsored fundraising activities to assist Children’s Bureau, Inc. Today, Auxiliary members operate as the **CBA Committee** under the Children’s Bureau’s Development Department. **CBA Committee** members provide assistance to Children’s Bureau through direct involvement with children, fundraising activities, and clerical work.

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A Look Back:
**Highlights of the Children’s Bureau Auxiliary’s History**
Prior to Transition from Auxiliary to the **CBA Committee**

- On October 26, 1932, twenty-two women banded together and became charter members of the Auxiliary to the Children’s Bureau of the Indianapolis Orphans’ Asylum; its purpose was to provide recreational activities for orphans and to help in any way possible
- The Auxiliary’s first president was Mrs. William Wiggins
- Early fundraisers were flower sales, tennis matches, rummage sales, puppet shows and bridge parties
- Auxiliary activities included speech training, sewing & crafts, ballroom and folk dancing, corrective gymnastics, chorus, helping in the nursery, toy lending library, motor corps to transport children to medical appointments, Christmas party for foster children
- Funds were used for music lessons, orthopedic shoes, Scout uniforms, graduation clothing, college tuition, summer camp, international exchange visit, staff scholarships
- The **Reflector** began publication in 1939 and contained advice and guidance for foster parents; it became the official newsletter of the Children’s Bureau
- In 1941 the orphanage closed and the Children’s Bureau transitioned from a public to a private agency
- The Auxiliary had 75 members in 1944
- Auxiliary activities included hosting annual luncheons for foster families (Dr. Spock was guest speaker at one such event), tutoring, transporting children to medical appointments
- The Auxiliary sponsored 8 charity balls at Riverside Amusement Park to raise funds, including Mardi Gras Ball, One Magic Night Ball, Treasure Island Ball, Thru the Looking Glass Ball, Kiltie Karnival, Centennial Benefit Ball to celebrate CBI’s 100th anniversary
- In 1959 half the proceeds from the Indiana Saddle Horse Show at the Fairgrounds went to Children’s Bureau through the Auxiliary
- Funds went for camp expenses, lessons, tutoring, staff scholarships, health needs, parties, bicycles for young boys
- In 1955, 35 actives, 47 associates and 30 sustaining members helped 150 children
- In 1956 the Auxiliary became an incorporated entity and in 1961 the name was changed to the Auxiliary to the Children’s Bureau of Indianapolis, Inc.
- In 1960, the Auxiliary had 141 members; many of them helped with the opening and furnishing of Garrard House and Mallon House
- Auxiliary activities included foster home studies, attendance at Child Welfare League regional conferences, cleaning/painting/volunteering at group homes, mentoring unwed expectant teens, hosting
foster parent meetings and appreciation dinners, driving children to medical appointments, clerical assistance at the Children’s Bureau offices, tutoring, mentoring group home residents

• The first Sustainers Luncheon was held on October 10, 1966 at Hillcrest Country Club; it became an annual event

• In the ’60s and ’70s, the Auxiliary’s six orientation sessions led by CBI social worker Janet Myers included field trips to Theodora House, Suemma Coleman Home, the English Foundation Building, group homes, Lutherwood, Marion County Juvenile Court & Juvenile Center, and a detailed overview of the Bureau

• Activities in the ’70s included community speaking engagements, foster family events/parties, group home outings, tutoring, parties, clerical assistance at Children’s Bureau

• The fundraiser “Big Top Twirl” brought circus merriment to Indianapolis in 1970

• In 1970, Roberta West Nicholson was elected the first honorary member of the Auxiliary for her advocacy efforts on behalf of children; Marilyn Fletcher Hanson McCormick was elected in 1980; Sally Cornelius Ohleyer was elected in 1985; Janet Myers was elected in 1990 after 29 years of service to Children’s Bureau

• Evans House opened in 1970 as a group home for “pregnant women unable to provide their own living arrangements” – the home was donated by long-time supporter of Children’s Bureau Sally Evans Harrell and her sister – the home changed purposes in 1972

• In the ’70s the Auxiliary continued to provide things such as nursery school expenses, furniture, guitar, vacuum cleaner, Christmas gifts for house parents and residents of Evans, Mallon and Garrard House, punching bag and gloves, foster family events, clothing, ping pong table for Evans House, tricycle, graduation gifts for foster children, YMCA memberships, toys, fence around Mallon House, holiday parties

• From 1958-1971, twelve graduate students from the Children’s Bureau received scholarships from the Auxiliary

• Fundraising dances were held at Lafayette Square in 1971 and 1972: “Pole Potpourri” and “La Fete de Lafayette” with music by Al Cobine; tickets were $10/couple

• In 1972 Garrard House was refurbished; Marilyn Hanson provided fabric from her store, Calico Corners, and made the draperies; the entire interior of the house was painted and the floors waxed by Auxiliary members

• In 1973, the Auxiliary hosted a fundraising dance in a hangar at Weir Cook Airport

• In 1973 Beef ‘n’ Boards Dinner Theatre opened with the night’s proceeds going to the Bureau; tickets were $12.50 each

• 10,000 copies of the reprinted Sesqui-Samplings cookbook were sold; it included a collection of Hoosier recipes (the cookbooks were stored in Rosie Lanham’s garage!)

• In 1973 the first of many Monte Carlo Nights was hosted by the Auxiliary for Mallon House residents

• In 1974 and 1975, Calico Country Fair was held at Conner Prairie Pioneer Settlement; Judy Davis and her committee made bean bags for the first 500 children to arrive; over 1,200 service hours were given by Auxiliary members at the Fair

• A new Garrard House was dedicated in 1974; the Auxiliary donated $8,000 to help with furnishings and also donated $3,000 to help furnish the Mayor’s Group Home, which became Morris House but closed a year later and reopened in 1976 as a facility for teen girls

• In 1975, Evans House became a group home for boys

• The Something Special Shop open in 1976 above Annie Laurie Interiors in Broad Ripple; 97 members staffed the shop 5 hours a day year around; Auxiliary members made local delivers and UPS did the rest

• In 1982, Something Special Shop moved across from Glendale Mall and hired a manager; it was open 6 days a week

• The Auxiliary sponsored non-resident Marilyn Hanson’s gourmet cooking school as a fundraiser 1976-1978 and featured Mexican, Northern Italian, and French recipes

• A New Year’s Day fire damaged Morris House in 1977; Auxiliary members briefly housed some of the girls and took them shopping to replace clothing damaged by smoke

• In 1978 Sally Skidmore created the Children’s Bureau Auxiliary logo; her “payment” was free lunches at our spring meetings
In the 1970’s and 1980’s, Auxiliary members donated between 4,000 and 11,000 service hours/year.

In 1981, the Auxiliary donated $15,000 to help furnish the new offices in the English Foundation Building; interior decorator member Elaine Schuette created the design.

In 1981 Ann and Moses Gray hosted the first annual pig roast at their home for members and group home children; the tradition continued for 6 years.

In 1982 the Auxiliary sponsored an art auction at Quincy’s in the Sheraton West Hotel; profit was $6,000.

In 1982 the Auxiliary celebrated its 50th anniversary with a proclamation from Mayor Bill Hudnut and a dinner at Meridian Hills Country Club; 1946 president Betty Wood recapped Auxiliary history and Roberta Nicholson spoke about the Children’s Bureau’s history; Marilyn Pecsok served as president that year.

Following the sudden death of Children’s Bureau’s CEO in 1983, the James J. Mallon Award was created and then awarded annually for outstanding service to children by a staff, board, community or Auxiliary member.

In 1984 110 Auxiliary members were trained as tour guides for the Hoosier Dome Tour Program; during the first two months, tours were given to 13,649 people, averaging 150 people a day, 7 days a week; all-time record was 626 people who toured on one day; in the first 11 months, tours were given to 50,000 people.

Proceeds from the Hoosier Dome Tour Program were $21,000 the first year and in the first 5 years totaled $95,760.67 plus tips (in 1987, tour guide Dawn Moloney received a $100 tip from a Japanese businessman!)

Guests came for Hoosier Dome tours from Germany, Great Britain, Canada, China, Spain, Australia, Israel, Iran, Venezuela, Paraguay, the Netherlands, Poland, Iceland, Brazil, Honduras, Mexico, India, Vietnam, Japan, Latvia, the Soviet Union, New Guinea, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark and many states in the USA.

In 1984 the Something Special Shop closed after 8 years in operation; a final check was presented for $10,240.04; remaining merchandise was donated to Homes for Black Children for a garage sale.

In 1984, the Barbara Wasser Melchert Grade Incentive Program was established in memory of Barbara.

In 1984 the Angel Fund project began; 350 handwritten letters were sent out the first year, generating a $4,545 profit.

The Angel Fund in the 1980’s provided furnishings, medical equipment, playground equipment, tutoring materials, kitchen remodel at Morris House, therapeutic playroom equipment.


In 1987 the Auxiliary formed a committee to help Project Safe Place’s Safe Place Saturday and with annual Safe Place site checks.

In 1988 the Auxiliary received from the Children’s Bureau board of directors a sculpture entitle “Babe in Arms” in recognition of the Auxiliary’s 56 years of service.

In 1989 a High Tea fundraiser was held at the Governor’s Residen; it was hosted by first lady Susan Bayh and catered by Jug’s Catering.

The new Evans House was dedicated in 1989 with an open house hosted by the Auxiliary; the house was designed by architect John Pecsok and built next door to the old Evans House (a former St. Margaret’s Guild Decorator Show House).

As of 1989, residential programs included the Crisis Shelter and Runaway Shelter at the Family Support Center, the Delaware Youth Center, Project Safe Place, Garrard House, Mallon House, Morris House and Evans House.

The first Don Hein’s Classic Fore Children’s Bureau was held at Valle Vista Golf Club in Greenwood in 1989 and made a profit of $4,000.

The Don Hein Classic Fore Children’s Bureau profited $10,693 in 1990 and featured Indy 500 drivers, Colts players, radio/TV personalities, writers from the Star/News, and other guest golfers.

Dinner Dances were held at the Irsay Party Pavilion in 1990 and 1991 and were chaired by “Jingle” Rowe and “Bell” Skidmore (Joanie and Sally).

The Million Penny fundraiser raised $22,294.66 in 1990 and $10,575.93 in 1991; it was sponsored by WIBC and Cub Foods between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hoosier Dome/RCA Dome Tours continued through 1999; the Auxiliary was paid $5.75/hour weekdays and evenings and $8.00/hour on weekends and holidays; from 1984-1990, 250,442 people toured and the Auxiliary earned $121,154.00.
• Colts Tenth Anniversary Celebration was held in conjunction with the NFL Experience in August 1993; co-sponsored by Children’s Bureau Auxiliary and Noble Auxiliary and included the Mane Event dinner
• Mini fundraisers in the '90s included L.S. Ayres Charity Day, High Tea at the Governor’s Residence, Entertainment Books, Zoo Books, Auto Mania, Joe (O’Malia) Cares project, Wildlife artist Robert Bateman signing, Uniglobe Travel donation, Marsh Fresh Idea cards, Chico’s open house
• From 1987-1996, $322,185.78 was raised by the Auxiliary
• In 1998 the Auxiliary provided volunteers for the first Dave Thomas Celebrity Cook-off at Benihana’s; the event was co-chaired by Auxiliary member Becky Gatman
• The first annual Fashion Show and Luncheon was hosted in 1995; Blooming Boutiques was added to the event in 2003
• The Auxiliary’s 60th anniversary celebration was held on October 26, 1992 at Oak Hill Mansion
• The Angel Fund in the 1990’s provided funds for kitchen remodel at Mallon House and activity room & dining room remodel at FSC, enrichment and education, computers, furnishings, child-friendly restrooms at FSC, enhancement of Family Visitation Program at FSC, update of bedrooms at Mallon House
• Activities in the 1990’s and 2000’s included group home picnics at Stonycreek Farm, Thunder Island outings, birthday and graduation celebrations, Christmas parties and gifts, talent show, skating and pizza parties, mini golf, welcome baskets, Monte Carlo Night, Starlight Musicals production of The Wizard of Oz, Murat Shrine Circus, Union Station’s Haunted House Train, Yuletide Celebration, Headless Horseman at Conner Prairie, tours of Hoosier Dome for group homes, IMAX Theatre, Spaghetti Factory, Milano Inn, Steak n Shake, Olive Garden, end-of-year HOPES parties, Greatimes Family Fun Park, roller skating, rock climbing at Cave Climb Time, ice hockey games, laser tag, video games & squirt gun maze at Fun City, etiquette lessons, nursing home visits by group home residents, library tour, apple orchard, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Avon Recreation Center, corn maze, cook-outs, make-up lessons, Haunted House at Children’s Museum, Halloween bingo, duck pin bowling, Thanksgiving dinners, Indians baseball games and tailgate
• Barbara Grayson Award was established in 2000 and given to Auxiliary member with most direct service hours
• 13th annual golf outing in 2001 became Tom Zupancic’s Golf Outing Fore Children’s Bureau
• The Bureau celebrated its Sesquicentennial in 2001 with help from the Auxiliary: Founder’s Day Celebration in Artsgarden, For the Children Gala at Union Station, Birthday Cake on the Circle and Reunion at the Zoo
• In 2003 the Bureau changed its name to Children’s Bureau, Inc. and the Auxiliary became Children’s Bureau Auxiliary, Inc.
• Auxiliary added a webpage to the CBI website in 2006
• Mini fundraisers in the 2000’s included a sidewalk sale at Styles Boutique, Extravaganza Garage Sale, Art Festival, RecycleFirst, Bureaus for the Bureau, Marsh Supermarket shopper program
• Donations: clothing (including prom dresses), toys, birthday and Christmas gifts for group homes, parties, arts & crafts supplies, staff scholarships
• The Angel Fund in the 2000’s provided funds for Evans House, Garrard House and Mallon House improvements, bedroom furniture for CBI’s Terre Haute Youth Intervention Center, activities at 5 group homes, shower renovation at Courage Center
• In 2006 the Rosie Lanham “Something Special” Memorial Fund was established in memory of Rosie
• The 2006 Angel Fund raised $12,922.72
• In April 2007, 22 past presidents gathered with CEO Ron Carpenter to celebrate the Auxiliary’s 75th anniversary; a gala celebration was held at the Indiana History Center with 175 in attendance

![Children's Bureau Auxiliary 1912-2007 75th Anniversary](image)

• During the gala celebration, Bureau CEO Ron Carpenter presented the Auxiliary with the Roberta Nicholson Award and a CHILD Award (Citizens Helping and Investing in Lifelong Dreams)
• An autographed Colts football from the XLI Superbowl team was raffled off by the Auxiliary in 2007 and won by Jane Hackman’s grandson; profit from the raffle was $5,789.96
The Auxiliary became a member of the Indianapolis Council of Women in 2007
In tribute to our 75th anniversary, an Auxiliary meeting attended by 45 was held in the Hoosier Dome where we were treated to lunch and a tour as well as a close up look at Tom Zupancic’s Superbowl ring
In 2008 the Auxiliary donated $15,000 toward the construction of the new Gene Glick Family Support Center
In October 2010 CEO Ron Carpenter gave a tour of the new Gene Glick Family Support Center to Sustainers
A pair of pearl and diamond earrings donated by G. Thrapp Jewelers was raffled off in 2009 and won by Jenny Schalliol; profit from the raffle was $6,915
A hand-made queen size Amish quilt donated by Andra Sudler was raffled off in 2010 and won by Amy Frick Longoria; profit from the raffle was $6,514.04
Pink slips in the 2000’s provided funds for client utilities, bus passes, graduation pictures, prom expenses, gas cards, camp fees, baby bed, rent assistance, GED expenses, car impoundment fee, swim lessons, medical co-pay for heart procedure, mother-daughter outing before mother’s 30-day jail sentence, taekwondo lessons, school uniforms, prescription medication, vacuum cleaner, night classes, car payment, storage fee, yearbook, tutoring, staff continuing education
In the 2000’s Auxiliary members continued to provide arts & crafts and other activities to children in the Crisis Shelter and at Courage Center, assist with clerical tasks at CBI, and host the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon
The Auxiliary sponsored its 35th Angel Fund in the fall of 2018
The 25th Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon was held in May of 2019
May 29, 2019: Children’s Bureau Auxiliary members voted to transition to the CBA Committee within the Development Department of Children’s Bureau, Inc. with a CBA Committee chair serving as liaison to the Board of Directors; the first chair of the CBA Committee was Veronica Fritz

Presidents of Children’s Bureau Auxiliary, Inc.
1932-2019

Mrs. William Wiggins 1932
Mrs. Frederick Cline 1933
Mrs. Constance Buschmann 1934
Mrs. Norma Cline 1935
Mrs. William Garstang 1936
Mrs. Robert L. Mason 1937
Mrs. John Mason Moore 1938
Mrs. William H. Krieg 1939
Mrs. C. Severin Buschmann 1940
Mrs. David Bon 1941
Mrs. Charles Brignall 1942
Mrs. Reginald Garstang 1943
Mrs. Silas B. Reagan 1944
Mrs. Frederick Ahrbecker 1945
Mrs. Frank Fairchild 1946
Mrs. Robert McMurray 1947
Mrs. John W. Shirley 1948
Mrs. T. Conlin Alexander 1949
Mrs. Lawrence J. Shappert 1950
Mrs. Miriam W. Gregory 1951
Mrs. Charles A. Gallup 1952
Mrs. Walter Huehl 1953
Mrs. Robert J. Covert 1954
Mrs. James Gilson 1955
Mrs. Thomas C. Dorste 1956
Mrs. Neal P. Benson, Jr. 1957
Mrs. Virginia Hill 1958
Mrs. Robert M. Raber 1959
Mrs. Norman E. Titus 1960
Mrs. William L. Dunn 1961
Mrs. Carl B. Burnside 1962
Mrs. Marsh Blackburn 1963
Mrs. Alexander T. Lange 1964
Mrs. Edwin H. Hughes III 1965
Mrs. Henry C. Ryder 1966
Mrs. Alvin E. Meyer 1967
Mrs. Marjorie W. Hanley 1968
Mrs. Richard O. Creedon 1969
Mrs. Edward J. Ohleyer 1970
Mrs. Charles E. Lanham 1971
Mrs. James E. Davis, Jr. 1972
Mrs. Joseph B. Carney 1973
Mrs. George M. Maley 1974
Mrs. Peter B. Krieg 1975
Mrs. James M. Rogers 1976
Mrs. Leland B. Cross 1977
Mrs. Wallace K. Aiken 1978
Mrs. Bruce B. Melchert 1979
Mrs. Gene E. Wilkins 1980
Mrs. Byron K. Westfall 1981
Mrs. John G. Pecsok 1982
Mrs. David R. Frick 1983
Mrs. Robert Bruce 1984
Mrs. Michael L. Langdon 1985
Mrs. Marvin L. Hackman 1986
Mrs. James McGrath 1987
Mrs. Thomas Skidmore 1988
Mrs. Haskell J. Ross 1989
Mrs. Fritz R. Gordner 1990
Mrs. Larry Metzing 1991
Mrs. James Gatman 1992
Mrs. Thomas McClure 1993
Mrs. Claudia Robertson 1994
Mrs. Walter Bruen 1995
Mrs. Judy Bowen 1996
Mrs. Richard Webster 1997
Mrs. John Kupke 1998
Mrs. Pam Neargardner 1999
Mrs. Dean Odekirk 2000
Mrs. Steve Snider 2001
Mrs. Stephen Sudler 2002
Mrs. Guy Pahud 2003
Mrs. Joel Myers 2004
Mrs. Stephen Sudler 2005
Ms. Lisa Weedman 2006
Mrs. David R. Frick 2007
Mrs. David R. Frick 2008
Ms. Jane Quinn 2009
Ms. Jane Quinn 2010
Mrs. Gus Miller 2011
Mrs. Richard Hanna 2012
Mrs. Brett McKamey 2013
Mrs. Mark Grant 2014
Mrs. Mark Grant 2015
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Mrs. Mark Grant</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Mrs. Keith Phillips</td>
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<td>Mrs. René Longoria</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Ms. Andrea Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recipients of the James J. Mallon Award</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Presented by Children’s Bureau Auxiliary, Inc.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1984-2019</strong></td>
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<td>Irene Doney</td>
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<td>Clara Anderson</td>
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<td>Barbara Grayson</td>
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<td>Mary Kate Myers</td>
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<td>Janice Klein</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Andra Sudler</td>
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<td>Ann Frick</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Rick Ashby</td>
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<td>Sally Harrell</td>
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<td>Sue McClure</td>
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<td>Ann &amp; Moses Gray</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Patty McKinniss</td>
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<td>Kathleen McGrath</td>
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<td>Saundra Kurker</td>
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<td>Marilyn Pecskok</td>
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<td>Jane Quinn</td>
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<td>Nadine Barnett</td>
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<td>Jon Bennett</td>
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<td>Debbie Kirk</td>
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<td>Stephen D. Browne</td>
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<td>Tina Cloer</td>
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<td>Anna Marie &amp; Walter Bruen</td>
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