



## Lucy's Story

*Over 13,000 children currently reside in Pennsylvania's foster care system — The Children's Home is providing services to help them find forever homes.*

Excited to expand their family and give a child in need a loving home, Brooke and Daniel started down the adoption path in 2016. But when they decided to adopt through foster care, they found themselves faced with a difficult journey of complex processes, procedures and requirements. As their guide, The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center would be by their side, working to give Lucy, a 14 month old in foster care, a forever home with their family.

Like many children in the foster care system, Lucy had a troubling start in the world. Taken into state custody, she needed a family to love and protect her. Lucky for her, from first sight, Daniel and Brooke had no doubts:

"From the moment we were connected to Lucy, we knew instantly we were supposed to be her parents. It suddenly made so much sense why we were on this road to become licensed foster parents, and the obstacles of distance and time didn't give us a second thought. We had to bring Lucy home."

Lucy's placement had an added layer of complexity because it was interstate — Brooke and Daniel were in Pennsylvania, but Lucy was under state custody across the country. Working tirelessly between two different state agencies, Brooke and Daniel finally got the call; they would be Lucy's new family.

"Waking up to check on Lucy after that first night together was the most amazing feeling in the world. It was incredible to have her home. We all fit together like we were made for each other, and we truly believe we were. With so many unknowns in foster care and the foster-to-adopt world, the reliability and trustworthiness of The Children's Home is incredible. We are truly grateful."

*Since 2012, the Adoption program at The Children's Home has been a Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) affiliate, with services that have grown to help children in foster care, like Lucy, find loving families.*

## A note from Pam



**“...our mission is not measured in months or years but in what we do each and every day to bring it to life.”**

- Pamela R. Schanwald, CEO

It's been a wonderful winter and spring season at The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center! From NFL legend Jerome Bettis dropping by to visit families to the smashing success of this year's Shake Your Booties, we have been honored and humbled by the outpouring of support for our mission. The many ways — big and small — that our community gives back continues to amaze.

This year, we celebrate the 125th anniversary of The Children's Home, founded in 1893. It was then that the first child to be served, a little baby boy named Walter, came through our doors. As the times changed, so did The Children's Home. The Home for Temporary Care, a program which sheltered and placed children like Walter with families, became our Adoption program in the 1930s. In the 1980s, we opened our hospital, an 8-bed nursery that would grow to be our current 30-bed facility. In 1998, we opened Child's Way, the first day care for medically fragile children in the state of Pennsylvania. And as Lucy's Story on the front page illustrates, we've added yet another page to our book by serving children residing in the foster care system.

As we celebrate these milestones, we remember that the success of our mission is not measured in months or years but in what we do each and every day to bring it to life. The best work is yet to come. As always, thank you for being our partner every step of the way.

## Shake Your Booties 125th Birthday Party



In the most successful event to date for The Children's Home, Shake Your Booties 125th Birthday Party celebrated our 125th anniversary, raising over \$336,000 for children and families. Guests enjoyed a party complete with birthday-themed cuisine, special guests Jerome Bettis and Rick Sebak, auctions, games, and even psychic readings by Psychic Mike.

Hosted by former Steeler Craig Wolfley, this year's Shake Your



Booties honored 4-year-old Jonathan Ritchie and his grandmother, Tina. Speaking before more than 500 guests, Tina shared the heartfelt story of Jonathan's road to recovery in the Pediatric Specialty Hospital at The Children's Home.

The funds raised at Shake Your Booties will be used to help medically fragile children in the Pediatric Specialty Hospital as well as their families. Proceeds will also help the Adoption program and



Child's Way®. The Children's Home would like to thank our presenting sponsors, Rob and Cindy Citrone, and HM3 Partners Independence Fund for their philanthropic leadership in ensuring the event was a success!



## The Bus Stopped Here: Jerome Bettis Visits TCH



Who wouldn't want the chance to meet former Pittsburgh Steeler and NFL legend Jerome Bettis? Visiting on behalf of The Bus Stops Here Foundation, which works to help at-risk youth, Jerome made a special stop at The Children's Home over the holidays to take photos, sign autographs, and meet with families.



“The Children's Home does awesome work with kids and families. Having the opportunity to come here I can see this is an amazing place,” Jerome said.

As part of his visit, Jerome also spent time with each child, sharing the gifts he brought for them. The Children's Home was honored to partner with Jerome and The Bus Stops Here Foundation.

## #ColorfulCommunities: A Child's Way® Makeover

Over 60 volunteers, 40 gallons of paint, professional muralists from BOOM Concepts, and former Pittsburgh Penguins player Tyler Kennedy came together to revitalize Child's Way, a day care for medically fragile children.

The Colorful Communities program provides PPG volunteers and paint products to bring color and vitality to communities where the company operates around

the world, such as in Pittsburgh, PPG's global headquarters.

“It's incredible how color can have a positive impact on a space and a child's experience within that space,” said Sue Sloan, PPG executive director of corporate global social responsibility.

Thank you PPG Paints!





The Children's Home of Pittsburgh  
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## The Children's Home Celebrates 125 Years

### The Early Years

The Pennsylvania Children's Home Society is founded to care and place homeless children with permanent families. The Home for Temporary Care, located in Wilkinsburg, provided a short-term refuge and stay before placement.

**1893**

### Kentucky Ave.

Warm and homelike, the spacious Shadyside site would usher in new possibilities and direction for The Children's Home.

**1968**

### Child's Way®

A unique child care program for medically fragile children, Child's Way becomes the first Pediatric Extended Care Center in PA.

**1998**

### Foster Care

The Children's Home begins serving children within the state foster care system as a Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) affiliate.

**2012**

**1936**

### A New Beginning

With a focus in infant adoption and newly renamed, The Children's Home of Pittsburgh operates out of the home on S. Aiken Ave. A student nursing program helps care for newborns.

**1984**

### Transitional Infant Care

Designed for premature and high-risk infants, the 8-bed nursery was a revolutionary idea to train families in the care of their child before they returned home.

**2007**

### Three Programs, One Roof

After a successful capital campaign, the current facility, housing all three programs, is born.

**Today**

### And Beyond

The Children's Home serves over 900 children and families a year and continues to help more children than ever before.