

# Spring Newsletter



Children's  
FRIEND



## Volunteers and Donors Make It Happen!



*Our BFFs from Panera Bread/Howley Bread Group pose with Children's Friend President and CEO David Caprio and Vice President of External Affairs, Stacy Couto after delivering gifts for families.*

The *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive at Children's Friend is such a special event. For the month of December, our quiet offices turn into a bustling receiving and distribution center. Staff and volunteers both give generously of their time and energy to make it a success.

Thousands of items come through our doors from donors and community partners. Committed workers pick up those items and deliver them to waiting families. The result is a joyful holiday experience for young children who would not be able to have that experience without your help.

A relatively new aspect of the *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive is our partnership with Providence Place. This

was our second year working with them, and thanks to Providence Place, our gift wrapping station near Santa helped us make new friends, collect donations, and spread the word about Children's Friend to more people than ever.

We're happy to report that in 2017, the holiday drive set a new record - 1,590 families received warm clothing, books, and toys!

That is an amazing achievement, one we couldn't hope to accomplish without your help. Thank you for helping us spread hope and joy during the 2017 holiday season.

*(Holiday Drive photos continue on the next page.)*

## Our 2017 Partners

PROVIDENCE PLACE



acollette

MetLife



Journal



449 volunteers and a whopping 876 donors were involved in the 2017 Holiday Drive!



Mike Montecalvo of WPRI and volunteers from Tufts Health Plan take a break for a quick photo with Children's Friend President and CEO David Caprio, and Vice President of External Affairs, Stacy Couto.



Volunteers from Collette were indispensable!



Bank of America volunteers wrapped gifts for kids!



The car enthusiasts from Minis Making a Difference did an amazing job collecting toys, bicycles, and games!



A volunteer from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island helped to organize and stock our shopping room.



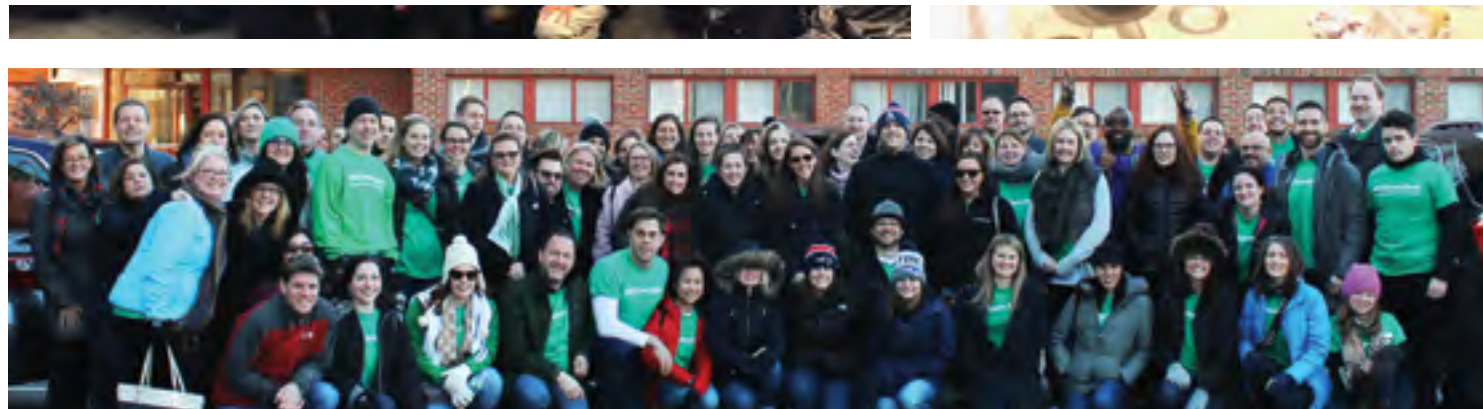
Team Hasbro volunteers helped us spread hope and joy!



St. Francis De Sales poses with Children's Friend staff after delivering toys for our students.



Julie Silva and friends at the Joe Silva Memorial Toy Drive holiday party.



This amazing bunch of Citizens Bank volunteers delivered TONS of toys, warm clothing, and books for the Spirit of Giving Holiday Drive!

Let's Be Friends!

Facebook: ChildrensFriendRI Twitter: @CFRI1834 Instagram: childrensfriend

# Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

Despite the late winter weather, we are preparing for the Children's Friend 5K Walk and Run scheduled for May 5th at the Temple to Music at Roger Williams Park. This annual event is not only a major fundraiser for our programs and services, but also a fantastic way to get involved with our agency.

The day is filled with delicious food from Panera Bread, and a ton to do for families with games, activities, and music scheduled all morning long. The highlight of the day is the Walk and Run, but there's so much to do.

Registration is open online at [childrensfriendwalk.org](http://childrensfriendwalk.org) and it's simpler than ever to register and support the event.

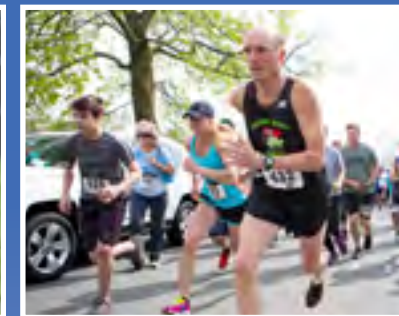
**New this year is a text to give option – simply text ChildrensFriend to 71777 and know that every dollar raised goes directly to serve our youngest and most vulnerable children.**

Register today and encourage your family, colleagues, and friends to join you. We need your support to make the Walk and Run a great success for our children. And from the stories and coverage in this issue of our newsletter, your participation in all we do is essential to our mission.

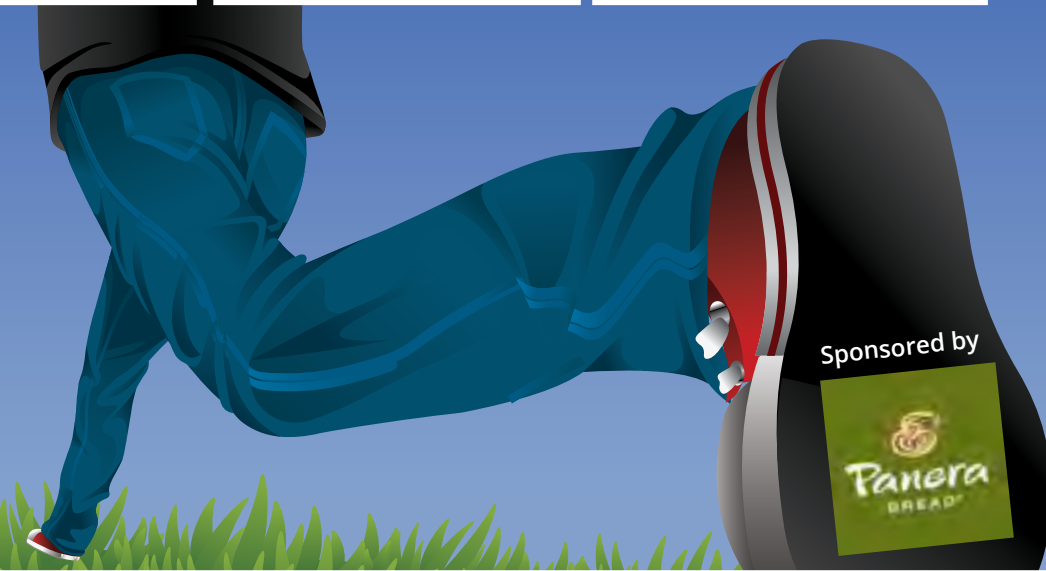
Grab your family and friends and join us for a great day at the park. There's nothing better than doing some good, feeling good, and having fun with your loved ones! Thank you for being an important part of the Children's Friend community. I hope to see you on May 5th!

David Caprio

President and Chief Executive Officer



CHILDREN'S FRIEND  
**5K WALK  
& RUN**  
Roger Williams Park

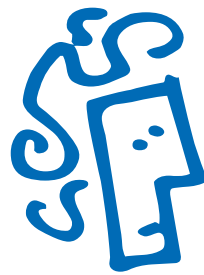


Sponsored by  
**Panera BREAD**

Save the Date ~ Saturday, May 5, 2018

Register Online at [childrensfriendwalk.org](http://childrensfriendwalk.org) • Text ChildrensFriend to 71777 to Donate from Your Phone

# CarMax and Children's Friend



In the fall of 2016, Eric L. Phillips, Sales Manager at CarMax, first came in for a tour of our Friendship Street building to learn about Children's Friend. It was the beginning of a beautiful friendship! Since that day, the support provided by him, other CarMax employees, and the CarMax Foundation has been extraordinary.

CarMax employees have helped out at our 2017 5K Walk & Run, built and painted garden boxes and installed a water play maze at our Carter Street building. They have volunteered at our 2017 *Spirit of Giving* Holiday Drive, attended our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual *Investing in Our Children* Luncheon and our 2017 Holiday Drive Kick-off party.

As a result of Mr. Phillips' support of Children's Friend, he was awarded a CarMax Care Community Service Award in recognition of his philanthropic work. It was well deserved!

In honor of this achievement, he was able to give a donation to an agency of his choice and he choose us! We were also invited to apply for a competitive CarMax Regional grant, and were awarded a grant to support our Carter Street building!

This incredible funding will help us purchase materials to improve the quality of our classroom environments. If the project is a success, we will be able to continue to apply for this funding for an additional two years.

In total, CarMax has donated \$27,000. Simply amazing!



**WE'RE HIRING!**

**Come join our team. Apply at [www.childrensfriendri.org](http://www.childrensfriendri.org).**

## Did You Know?

Many planned giving options provide income tax and capital gains tax deductions for donors.

You can make a meaningful donation to Rhode Island's most vulnerable children and actually *save* money. It's a win-win!

For more information about planned giving, contact Stacy Couto, Vice President of External Affairs, at 401.276.4306 or [scouto@cfsri.org](mailto:scouto@cfsri.org).

