



2nd Annual Wags for Wellness Fundraising Event

About The Chris Center

The Chris Center (TCC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening youth mental wellness. Through research-informed programming with nature and the power of human-animal interactions, teens and pre-teens in central Indiana learn coping strategies and mental wellness skills that help reduce stress, improve mood, strengthen social connection and build self-esteem.

Our programs – provided at no or low cost to our partner schools and youth serving organizations – help youth build resiliency and become able and empowered to manage their mental health long after the program ends.

Founded just four years ago in memory of our founder's brother, Chris Elbert, TCC has expanded its *PAWS Wellness Support Program* into seven Hamilton and Marion County public and private schools. Our flagship program teaches and models skills for stress-reduction, joy and social connection through dogs, and encourages students to use the power of the human-animal connection in their own lives.

Our *Alpaca-Assisted Wellness Program*, possible through a partnership with Hamilton County's Stone Farm, teaches lessons about mindfulness, stress-reduction, empathy, and social connection, all of which are important skills that can be transferred to other settings.

TCC's newest program, *Mindful Arts*, nurtures mental wellness by combining therapeutic experiences in nature with creative arts, which are universal skills that can be transferred outside of the classroom and build resiliency.

Lastly, our *Parent Education Series*, presented in collaboration with the Carmel Clay Public Library, features behavioral health experts who provide information on important adolescent wellness topics such as anxiety, mindfulness, parent-teen communication, social media and neurodiversity.

The Need

Adolescents (and their families) are fighting a mental health crisis: teen mental health issues are increasing while, simultaneously, the availability of and access to mental health resources is declining. In 2024, nearly a third of Hoosier high schoolers reported feeling sad or hopeless almost every day in a two-week period. The state has the 13th worst rate nationally for children at risk of depression. Most alarming, 1 in 7 Indiana high school students has seriously considered suicide.

2025 Wags for Wellness Sponsorship Packages

September 19th ♦ Bash in Carmel

Our inaugural Wags for Wellness fundraising event was so successful, we are doing it again this year!

Last year's event sold out even before invitations were mailed, so this year's venue will host 200 friends. Folks from throughout central Indiana who support youth mental wellness will join us to learn about The Chris Center's work and - most importantly - our impact.

We hope you will join us!

Big Dog Title Sponsor - \$5,000 (~~1~~ available) *Community First Bank of Indiana*

- Name included in event title. This will appear prominently on:
 - ✓ Print invitations
 - ✓ Email invitations
 - ✓ All email reminders up to the day of the event
 - ✓ All event signage
 - ✓ Event program
 - ✓ Newsletter announcement and event stories (pre- and post-event)
 - ✓ Website event page
 - ✓ News release(s)
 - ✓ Social media announcement and event posts
 - ✓ Thank you email after the event
- Complimentary table for (10) with name on placard
- VIP parking for table guests

Su-Paw-Star Event Sponsors - \$2,500 (~~4~~ 2 available)

Katz, Sapper & Miller; CareSource;

- Included on email reminders up to the day of the event
- Prominent listing in the event program
- Included in newsletter stories on the event (pre- and post-event)
- Listed on website event page
- Social media announcement and event posts
- Included in the thank you email after the event
- Complimentary table for (10) with name on placard

Table Sponsors - \$750 (~~15~~ 13 available)

- Table for (10) with name on placard
- Listing in the event program

**To support The Chris Center's work through an event sponsorship,
please email Toby Stark tobyst25@gmail.com.**

Thank you for your support of The Chris Center!