



## NMAC Monthly Newsletter - August 2019



### Dairy Phil hosts 2nd Annual Teddy Bear Picnic raising funds for NMAC

The word community means a lot to many of us. The word community means everything to NMAC. Thank you to Dairy Phil for hosting the 2nd annual Teddy Bear Picnic in support of NMAC services and programs. We are blessed to have you in our community.

The music was loud, the laughter was louder, as children and families gathered around the picnic tables. Pure Marquette District Library joined the fun and read children's stories to a gathered up crowd of young ones while they enjoyed their frozen snack. Teddy bears were scattered around, decorating the area as the place was a scene to see. It was a fun filled way to spend a Wednesday.

Thank you, Dairy Phil, for putting on this wonderful event and for supporting our mission. You are a valued part of our community and we appreciate you assisting us as we work to create a world where child abuse is no longer tolerated.

### Our Vision

*We envision a community that does not tolerate abuse where every child has a voice and is happy healthy and safe.*

### Our Mission

*Partnering with communities to bring healing, hope, and justice to abused children in rural Michigan.*

### Trigger turns 3, what does canine advocacy mean at NMAC?



Meet our Canine Advocate, Trigger! Trigger turned 3 this year on July 12th. Trigger is our friendly furry friend who works with us during advocacy. Who is Trigger and what does canine advocacy mean?

Trigger came to us in 2017 after training to be a Leader Dog for the Blind. After training Trigger signed up to be a canine advocate with the Canine Advocacy Program and was assigned to NMAC. Trigger makes children feel comfortable in hopes of making a scary situation better. His job is to be a calming presence for children and their families in potentially difficult times.

The Canine Advocacy Program was developed by its director, Daniel Cojanu as result of an idea by a co-worker while employed at the Oakland County Prosecutors Office as the Supervisor of Victim Services. After researching various programs around the country, it was felt that there was a desperate need for such a program to assist child victims who were going to be required to testify.

Trigger is a friendly personality in our office and we very much appreciate having him on our team as we work to combat child abuse in our communities.

Children Served  
YTD 2019

190

Children Served  
Since 2014

962

Our Community. Our Impact.

Prevention Education  
Children Reached 2018-19 950

Canine Advocacy  
Children Trigger Assisted 112

## Upcoming Events

*Circle of Parents*; Every Monday 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Free dinner and childcare

Clare/Gladwin RESD Area School

*Clare, Gladwin, Harrison, Beaverton, and Farwell*

Public Schools 1st Day - Monday, August 26th.

## The Vault of Hope

One of the aspects of our center that families see get to experience when they visit, is our Vault of Hope. The Vault of Hope is a collection of children's items donated to us by various community members and agencies. Items in Vault include deodorant, soap, lotion, barbie dolls, teddy bears, quilts, blankets, clothes, and shoes. The Vault is a place where we can ensure families and children have the items they need.

The Vault of Hope is in need of reorganizing. If you are interested in helping email [jharris@mikids.org](mailto:jharris@mikids.org)

## ☆☆ Team Member Spotlight ☆☆



Rosalyn Kindell

Hi! I am Roz, Prevention Education Coordinator. In summer of 2016, I was blessed with the opportunity to join the team as NMACK's first Intern. I was welcomed with open arms by the people who quickly became my work family and haven't looked back since!

Following graduation in December 2016 from CMU with a Bachelors of Applied Arts in Child Development, Family Studies, and Psychology, my role at the center transitioned from Intern to Intake Coordinator. I quickly recognized that I wanted to offer services to the children in our community which would protect them and prevent physical and sexual abuse from occurring at its current rate.

With the amazing support from my funders, director, administration, and fellow staff, I began development of a Prevention Education Program to be implemented across Clare and Gladwin counties. Through development, my passion continued to grow and I found comfort in being on the right path of what I was meant to do in this stage of my life.

By spreading awareness and building relationships across the community and our local schools, I am excited to be beginning the third school year of offering the Safer, Smarter Kids Prevention Education Program to all first and third grade students within Clare and Gladwin County Schools. I am driven to provide all of our children the safety tools they need to protect themselves and others, make safe choices in our community, and use their voice if an unsafe situation arises. I absolutely love my job, admire my students, and wish the best for them as they grow into happy, successful, safe, and flourishing members of our society!

Find us on social media: [@NMACKids](https://www.instagram.com/NMACKids)

For more information visit: [mikids.org](http://mikids.org)