

At Last

THE WAIT IS OVER



THE CAMPAIGN
ForkKids

Ground Breaking



Four years ago,

we launched *The Campaign ForKids* in the midst of increasing need and aging, obsolete facilities. We knew it would be tough to raise the funds and even tougher to get the rezoning necessary for a new shelter. Our Board of Directors committed \$2 million to the Campaign and Frank Batten, Jr, George Birdsong, Helen Dragas and Paul Hirschbiel joined our team as Campaign Champions. It started to look like ForKids might just be able to pull this off.

Three and a half busy years later, we dedicated the Suffolk Regional Headquarters on November 8, 2018 in the beautiful *Birdsong Center for Families*. Located in a perfect site for families and volunteers, it has already had a profound impact on services in Western Tidewater.

And at last, on September 5th we will break ground on the *Center for Children and Families*, a regional hub that will forever change ForKids and our work. Over the next 16 months, we will consolidate over 100 staff members from five sites and 50% more shelter families into a remarkable facility in the regionally central, historic community of South Norfolk.

Picture this: December 2020, our new kitchen manager is practicing with a small army of volunteers in a sparkling commercial kitchen designed for cooking

classes. Our holiday toy distribution is happening in a welcoming, accessible facility where staff, volunteers and families don't have to wear coats! Education staff is moving into offices next to a high-tech education center and preparing to welcome 120 students in afterschool programs. Hotline staff move to a 24-seat call center across from a new advocacy and research center. Our expanded services team settles into offices accessible to all parts of our region. Everyone prepares to welcome families relocating from Haven House emergency shelter, many of whom have been sleeping on the floor. As a bonus, new restaurants and shops are opening on historic Poindexter Street.

Yes, we can really see all of this happening thanks to you and the many people who have made this Campaign possible. We aren't done yet. With \$3 million more to raise we will be working hard through the next 16 months. But right now, we are celebrating.

We hope you will join us September 5th!

Thaler McCormick,
ForKids CEO

Building Specs:

- 60,000 S.F (+ 4,000 s.f. roof garden)
- NEW RESEARCH & ADVOCACY CENTER
- 100% INCREASE IN HOUSING CRISIS HOTLINE CAPACITY
(24 seats – doubling current capacity)
- TRANSFORMED EDUCATION CENTER
(capacity for 120 children in 5 classrooms
- including art and STEM classrooms,
and 4 tutoring rooms)
- 20-FAMILY EMERGENCY SHELTER
95 beds – doubling current capacity
- FORKIDS CORPORATE AND SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
Staff capacity for 150
- COMMUNITY EVENT AND MEETING SPACE

Estimated Construction Timeline:

- LATE SUMMER 2019
Hourigan Construction mobilizes to the site
- SEPTEMBER 2019
Groundbreaking
- WINTER 2019
Foundation poured
- SPRING 2020
Erect structural steel elements/
Beam Signing Ceremony
- LATE SPRING 2020
Install windows and door systems
- SUMMER-FALL 2020
Frame interior walls and building systems
- LATE FALL 2020
Systems start-up and Hourigan closeout activities



Building Facts:

- **CAPACITY** the CCF will serve 79,000 individuals annually
- **STATE OF THE ART EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY** Chromebooks and Portable Charging Carts, STEM lab, 3D Printers, Robot & Coding curriculum and class kit
- **MAXIMUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY** including, LED lighting that utilizes daylight harvesting and occupancy sensors to provide light where and when needed.
- **ROOFTOP GARDEN** a joyful space full of greenery and light for children and families in shelter to gather and play.
- **CITY PARK ACCESS** a newly renovated playground and park at our back door
- **COMMERCIAL KITCHEN** 150 meals served nightly
- **FORKIDS ART** 248 pieces of art lining the walls
- **TRAUMA-INFORMED DESIGN** light and welcoming interior with appropriate confidential spaces and counseling rooms
- **OVER 150 WINDOWS**
- **8 EXTERIOR MURALS AND BANNERS**
- **SHELTER CAPACITY** connecting doors (3 doors allowing for 3 opportunities to connect rooms), trundle beds and crib capacity – efficient design to accommodate families of all sizes at anytime.



Why I am Excited:

“I am excited it will allow ForKids to serve many more families and do so in friendly, cheerful spaces. The building will also provide a great workspace for the outstanding ForKids staff.”

— FRANK BATTEN, JR., Honorary Campaign Chair

“I am excited because we can turn on the AC and the children’s computers at the same time!”

— ANGELA GRACIANI,
Director of Education, ForKids

“I am excited because this project is really unique and the biggest South Norfolk has ever seen. You usually get one or the other – we got both!”

— RICK WEST, Mayor, City of Chesapeake

“ForKids is a great community partner helping those families who are less advantaged. Their new facility promises to offer much needed resources for the families they serve.” — JOAN BROCK

“We are excited about the opportunities the new Center for Children and Families will bring families from throughout our region. We also look forward to the positive impact the new center will have on Chesapeake’s South Norfolk neighborhood.”

— DEBORAH M. DICROCE, President and CEO
of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation.



“The new Center for Children and Families will do more than assist families in crisis. It will help ForKids increase educational programming, job training and support for children and their families. The need is extreme and ForKids is there to break the cycle for good.” — KELLY SOKOL, ForKids Board Chair

“I love ForKids! The building is cool. I can’t wait for them to be my neighbor.”

— SUSAN PENICK, South Norfolk Resident

“I am excited for the life ForKids and its staff will bring to downtown South Norfolk on weekdays. We can hardly wait!”

— SUZY LOONAM, South Norfolk Resident



“I am excited that with this project, ForKids will be shaping the next generation of community leaders like it shaped me.” — WILL WHITE, former ForKids kid and current ForKids Housing Crisis Hotline staff member

“I am excited about the synergies and efficiencies ForKids will gain by having all their resources in the same place and by replacing outdated, remote buildings. I truly believe that ForKids in the new Center for Children and Families will be a model for non-profits across the nation.”

— RICK CLARKE, former ForKids Board Chair

Campaign Update:

The Campaign ForKids is a \$22.5MM campaign.
Raised to date: \$19.2MM

THE CAMPAIGN BUDGET:

Center For Children and Families in Chesapeake	\$16.75MM
Suffolk Regional Services Center	\$2.25MM
GROW Campaign	\$3.5MM
\$1MM Services Seed Fund	
\$2MM Endowment Fund	
\$.5MM Infrastructure for Technology and Transportation	
Total Campaign Budget	\$22.5MM

Suffolk Regional Headquarters:

On November 8, 2018, we celebrated the Grand Opening of the \$2.25 million *Birdsong Center for Families*. The Center serves clients across the 1,400 square mile service area of Suffolk, Franklin, Southampton and Isle of Wight Counties.

The 7,000 square-foot trauma-informed building provides distinct classrooms, a donation distribution room, volunteer space, a room for community partners to offer services to families, and offices for educators, mental health professionals, case managers, job placement and housing specialists.



“ForKids has grown very organically, but is quite sophisticated and filled with heart.” — ALISON N. YU, Program Officer, William Randolph Hearst Foundation, New York, ForKids’ first national grant award sponsor

“I am excited that we won’t have to place families on the floor.”

— SHIRLEY BRACKETT,
Crisis Response Director, ForKids



Save The Date



“It is heartwarming to me to know ForKids will soon be breaking ground for the new Center for Children and Families. These are exciting times for the dedicated staff of ForKids and for those they serve!”

— FRANK M. “PETE” CRAIG, ForKids Founder

What: The Center for Children and Families
Groundbreaking Celebration

When: September 5, 2019 @ 4:00 p.m.

Where: 1001 Poindexter Street, Chesapeake

Stay tuned for an invitation with all of the details!

ForKids.org