



# THE HOPE CENTER KC SKYLINES



## FALL FEST 2023

### PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY for a reduction of gun violence in our community. ZIP codes 64128 and 64130 continue to be on the top of the list in shootings and homicides. *This must stop!*

PRAY for the needed resources of \$2.3M to complete the remodeling project on the church building (The Gathering Place) as construction costs have risen. It will truly be a transformational resource to our community.

PRAY for our impact in the lives of families during this Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

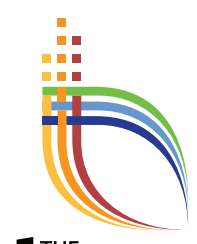
PRAY for Hope Leadership Academy that they would complete this semester with students growing in their reading and math skills.

PRAY for The Hope Center's programs as we encourage men and women in our learning groups; equip youth in the development of their leadership; and provide wellness and care for our children.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dec 1	6:00-9:00	Volunteer Christmas Party
Dec 8	6:00-8:30	College & Alumni Christmas Party
Dec 14	6:00-8:30	Hope Center Christmas Party



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To give to The Hope Center, please visit  
[hopecenterkc.org/donate](#)

### HOPE CENTER FALL FEST 2023

More than 700 people braved the chill on October 31 to join The Hope Center for our Fall Fest. Families, youth and children got to experience an exotic petting zoo, bounce houses, local musical talent and a hopeful message.

The S.A.Y. Yes! program students shared songs, dances and scripture. Everyone enjoyed the upbeat and faith-filled music, photo station and face painter. Hot chocolate and tasty grilled food kept everyone warm as KCFD Assistant Division Chief Reggie McKeithen shared how The Hope Center touched his life as a youth.

Even though it was cold outside, our hearts and spirits were warmed by the fellowship we shared that evening.





# THE HOPE CENTER | KC



**FROM MARVIN**  
Executive Director

Each November, I take the time to count my blessings and reflect on the many reasons I am thankful. Please let me share some of them with you:

- I am thankful for the blessing of good health.
  - I am thankful for The Hope Center staff. They show up "mission ready" every day regardless of personal challenges or weariness. They choose to help the hopeless become hopeful and empower others to become healthy and helpful.
  - I am thankful for friends like you who give of your time and resources to help The Hope Center develop healthy communities—where the vulnerable can have hope and flourish.
- And I am especially thankful that next year **The Hope Center will celebrate 25 years as an established, youth and community development nonprofit organization!** We will kick off a great celebration starting with our year-end campaign.

*I know that The Hope Center could not be who we are without you.*

I hope you know how very thankful I am for your prayers, partnership and investment as a difference maker in this work and journey together. ■

*Marvin*

## YOUTH GOAL SETTING BRINGS ASPIRATIONS TO LIFE

Goal setting is a very important tool for self-confidence, self-motivation and promoting independent learning. Our youth programs team put together an acronym for spiritual, physical, emotional, academic, relational and social goals: S.P.E.A.R.S.

Our 4th through 12th grade students spent October setting goals and taking steps to reach them by creating Goal Setting Books.

Each student completed a book to help hold them accountable and succeed. Our Hope Center staff is committed to walking alongside our youth to ensure their continued diligence in pursuing their goals. ■ ■ ■



## PLAN TO ATTEND: HEART 4 HOPE



Join us on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at the Midland Theater in downtown KC as we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary! We will honor our past as we look ahead towards our future. This will be a time to celebrate and elevate. We have lots of surprises planned, and we don't want you to miss it!

Go to [hopecenterkc.org/heart4hope](https://hopecenterkc.org/heart4hope) for more information.



**HEART  
4 HOPE**



*"The Hope Center supports Kansas City's families ... families just like the one I grew up in. The programs are part of a larger vision to impact the culture of Kansas City. I believe with support of all kinds, we can watch that vision be built up and come to fruition."*

*~ Arica Henderson on Why I Give*

## COOKING WITH CHEFS: A KID AND A KITCHEN

In November, students gathered at The Hope Center to put their cooking abilities to the test! Students were joined by Celebrity Chef Jayaun Smith aka "Chef Jay" as well as Chef Adell Kirkwood III, the owner of Kookin Cousins Kitchen, to help them sharpen their culinary skills. Arriving with ingredients in hand and passion in heart, both chefs were prepared to lead students in a hands-on experience preparing personal pizzas. ■

