



DePelchin
CHILDREN'S CENTER

Holiday 2022
Newsletter



Brighter
Tomorrow

Stories of hope YOU bring to children & families



Jenifer Jarriel
President & CEO



Dear Friend,

As I reflect on all that this year has given us and look ahead to all the possibilities of a new year, one word comes to the forefront of my mind: *community*.

Since 1892, the people of this community have come together to make sure that vulnerable children are cared for, no matter what it takes. For our founder, Kezia DePelchin, that meant providing the best care possible out of a single room in a home.

In recent years, it has meant providing more parents with training and support to create loving homes in which children can heal and grow.

We don't know what the next year will bring, but I remain so hopeful, knowing that this community will continue to rally to make sure every child is safe and healthy.

In this holiday edition of *Brighter Tomorrow*, I hope you'll enjoy reading just a few stories about the children and families right here in our community who you've impacted through your generosity.

And until **December 31**, please don't miss an amazing opportunity to **DOUBLE your impact** for children and families, thanks to a \$200,000 matching gift challenge from Russell & Glenda Gordy.

Thank you for continuing to make this community the very best place to call home — especially for the children we serve. Wishing you and yours the happiest of holidays.

Gratefully,

Jenifer Jarriel
President & CEO

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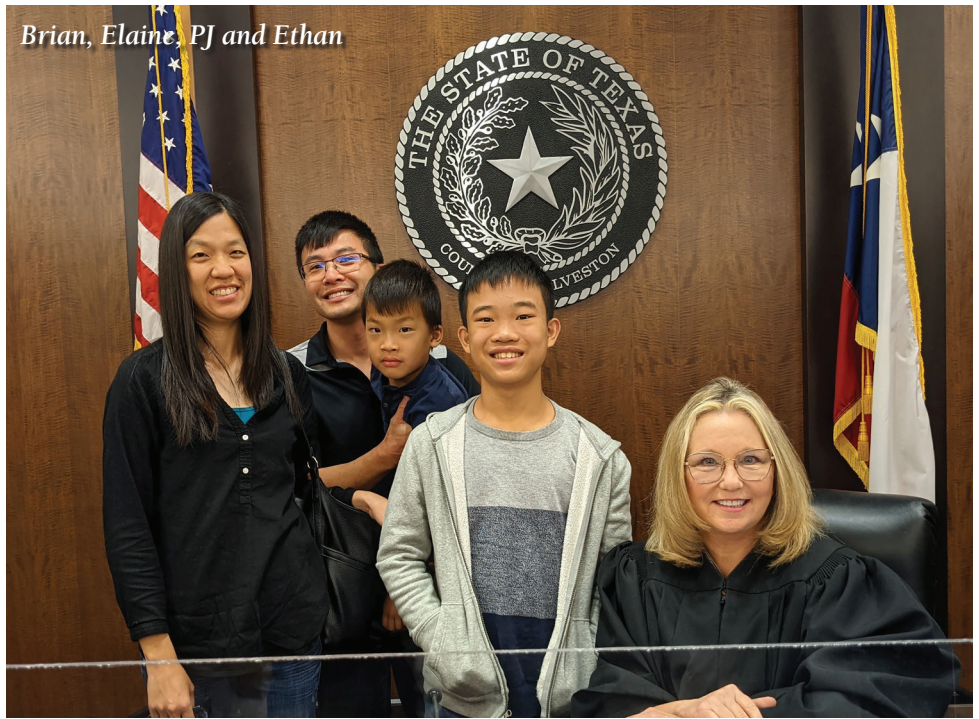


DePelchin
CHILDREN'S CENTER

4950 Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77007
(713) 802-6268
www.depelchin.org



Home for the Holidays, At Last



PJ was raised in an orphanage in China until age 6 before being adopted by a family in Galveston. Sadly, his adoptive family terminated their parental rights, and PJ went on to live in foster and group homes until age 13. Thankfully, this holiday season, after years of waiting, PJ is finally home.

“My prayer for him has been just for him to feel safe and secure,” says Elaine, who along with her husband, Brian, recently adopted PJ through DePelchin.

The couple first saw PJ on the local Fox network’s *Finding Families* segment posted on a friend’s Facebook page. Elaine and Brian are both of Chinese heritage and said they had heard that there were few Asian children in foster care. The couple hoped they could uniquely offer an Asian child

in foster care a home with Asian parents.

“*DePelchin connected us with a lot of resources and were very responsive.*”

The couple has a biological child, 7-year-old Ethan, and they initially planned to adopt a younger child, but PJ was already a teenager when the segment aired. He also had some medical concerns, so Brian and Elaine wanted to ensure they could provide him with the care he needed.

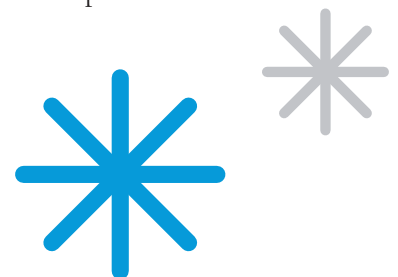
“Throughout the whole process, we felt a lot of peace about it,” Elaine says.

After an initial meeting, PJ and the family met over several weekends to get to know each other. The family finally welcomed PJ home over the summer. Brian and Elaine share that DePelchin walked alongside them through it all.

“DePelchin connected us with a lot of resources and were very responsive,” Elaine says.

Today, PJ enjoys playing video games and cooking — his current plan is to pursue a career as a chef one day.

This season, your generosity is making holidays brighter for the children and families in our care. Thank you for your vital partnership.



Thank You for
Sharing Hope
This Holiday Season!

DOUBLE Your Impact this Holiday Season!

From now until the end of the year, your gift will go TWICE as far! DePelchin supporters Russell and Glenda Gordy will generously match your gifts up to \$200,000 when received by December 31. We treasure your support each and every day and don't want you to miss this opportunity.



2022 Holiday Project

Each year, generous supporters help fill the holiday wish lists of more than 1,000 children in our care. We rely on companies, community and faith groups, and individuals to host collection drives for some of our most needed items like gift cards, sensory items, bicycles and much more. To learn how to get involved, please visit www.depelchin.org/holiday-project.

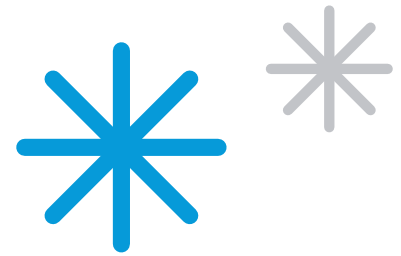


DePelchin Sun Society Monthly Giving Group



DePelchin Sun Society is a great way to change lives for the better every day. Members provide monthly, critical funding to ensure we can fulfill our mission to strengthen the lives of children by enhancing their mental health and physical well-being. To find out how you can easily join the DePelchin Sun Society, please call our Office of Advancement at 713-802-7645, or visit www.depelchin.org/monthly.

Sharing Unconditional Love



Delicious treats. Beautiful, braided hair. A loving embrace. It's all in a day's 'work' for dogs Lexi and Windsor — and Arlene and Peggy are grateful to be there to witness the magic they bring.

Arlene and Peggy serve as volunteers with Faithful Paws, which sends out certified pet therapy teams to facilities across the Houston area, including DePelchin's residential treatment center.

Both ladies have been faithfully visiting the center with their dogs for several years now. Each

This is incredibly special because what dogs are best at is unconditional love.

visit is different, depending on the children's needs at the time. Some days, the dogs perform for the kids while other times the children brush the dogs' fur or simply lay their head on top of the dog.

"Our role is really to just back away and let the children enjoy the dogs and have their

own relationship with them," Peggy says.

Arlene and Peggy agree that the dogs give children love, self-confidence and joy with every visit.

"This is incredibly special because what dogs are best at is unconditional love," Arlene says.

Thank you, Arlene, Peggy, Lexi, Windsor, and all of our Faithful Paws volunteers for sharing your time so generously to brighten children's days.





Shone with Sir Princeton and Arkiko.



A Heartfelt Thanks from Shone

Shone is enjoying every stage of parenting his two children, and he's thanking you for helping make it all possible.

"I'm just grateful that the chance was given to me," he says of the opportunity to be a father to Sir Princeton, 5, and Arkiko, 4.

Shone recalls searching for the right agency to work with on his adoption journey. He called DePelchin and was told, "you have love in your heart for kids. This is where you need to be."

From there, Shone attended orientation and confirmed his desire to adopt children. He began taking classes and went through the background check and home study process to become a foster parent through DePelchin.

"DePelchin runs a very inclusive program," he says. "They made

class entertaining and fun, and of course, informative."

Initially, Shone was told to expect to foster several children before a child in his care would qualify for adoption. His first placement was Sir Princeton, and his second was Arkiko, Sir Princeton's biological sister.

"What happened for me was rare," he says, grateful both children have now been adopted into his family.

“ I’m just grateful that the chance was given to me. ”

Shone has since taken himself out of the foster parenting pool so he can put his whole focus on his adopted children.

"I just want them to be so happy that when people see them, they say, 'Oh, they have to be the happiest kids ever,'" Shone says, a smile spreading broadly across his own face.

Thank you for the love, security and joy you bring to the children and families we serve through your support of our mission.





You Build Stronger Family Bonds

Eloisa is a mother of two boys, Jhony, 5, and David, 2. Soon after learning that Jhony was diagnosed with Autism, Eloisa made a call to DePelchin and was enrolled in our ParentingHelp program. Thanks to your support, she now has more tools to provide the care both of her sons need.

“I learned that my circumstances were affecting my parenting, which was affecting my son,” Eloisa says.

Eloisa explains that she, her husband and their two children are living with Eloisa’s mom, who recently had a stroke. On

top of everything, Eloisa just underwent a major surgery.

“We are so thankful you were able to help us.”

“It hasn’t been easy,” she says. “With our circumstances, we couldn’t really do Christmas for the boys [last year] - but DePelchin made it happen. And DePelchin was a big support for me to be able to assist my child and overcome some difficulties.”

She says she never felt uncomfortable in the program,

and the family’s caseworker was considerate, honest and helpful throughout.

“She gave us goals to meet,” Eloisa says of the caseworker. “It helped me and made my life a little bit easier when were going through a lot.”

Eloisa describes Jhony as shy, but also happy and outgoing once you get to know him. She says her son continues to receive speech therapy and has slowly built the confidence to better express his feelings. At the same time, Eloisa has gained confidence through DePelchin’s program to communicate better with both of her children.

“I just want to thank all of you,” Eloisa says to generous donors like you. “It takes a village. We are so grateful you were able to help us.”



David & Jhony



For more information about DePelchin Children’s Center or how to get involved, visit us at www.depelchin.org



My Gift for TWICE the Impact!



Yes, Jenifer! I want my gift to be DOUBLED to help make sure children in foster care can experience the safety and comfort of a loving home this holiday season.
Enclosed is my gift of:

[Ask 1] [Ask 2] [Ask 3] [Ask 4]

Mr. John Q. Sample
Brad Cecil & Associates
2115 Arlington Downs Rd.
Arlington, Texas 76011

PO Box 130707
Houston, Texas 77219-0707
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If you'd like to make your gift
by credit card, please see
reverse side.

To give online, please visit
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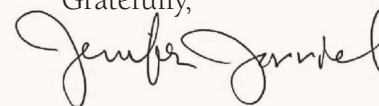
Holiday 2022

[Salutation],

In this special season of sharing, it's so important to remember the children who are spending the holidays without a permanent home. It's only through your valuable support that we can strive for a world in which every child is safe and healthy.

Which is why I'm happy to share that Russell & Glenda Gordy have offered to match every gift to DePelchin, up to \$200,000. Your gift will DOUBLE — dollar for dollar — as long as it's received by December 31. Will you make a special holiday gift today?

Thank you for giving generously and making twice the difference for the children and families served by DePelchin this holiday season.

Gratefully,


For your convenience!

Checks can be payable to DePelchin Children's Center. To give using your credit card, please provide the following information (kept strictly confidential):

Gift amount \$ _____ Phone _____

Credit card # _____ Exp. date ____ / ____

Name on Card _____

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Signature _____

Include billing address if different than mailing address

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- I would like to donate automatically each month by:
 - Credit Card
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This gift is

- In Memory of
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Please notify the following person(s) of my honorarium/memorial gift:

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Let your employer double your donation! Visit www.depelchin.org/double-your-donation

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Holiday Newsletter
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**My holiday gift
to help children
in need!**

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