



Making Children a Priority

# MEDIA RELEASE

#12 NORTH NEWSTEAD AVENUE – SAINT LOUIS MO  
63108 – (314) 531-1412 [United4Children.org](http://United4Children.org)

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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February 5, 2016

## “LIGHTING THE WAY” Gala Set For April 7<sup>th</sup> St. Louis – Marriott’s St. Louis Grand Hotel

(St. Louis, MO) United 4 Children announces their Annual gala event, “Lighting The Way”. This important event raises over \$100,000 to help children who are at-risk develop and thrive regardless of their fragile environments. The event will be held at Marriott’s St. Louis Grand Hotel, Crystal Ballroom, on Thursday, April 7, 2016 beginning at 5:30 pm with a seated dinner, awards, auction, and cocktail reception.

With the support of the St. Louis Region, United 4 Children will continue to impact over 20,000 children in the Missouri and Illinois regions each year. United 4 Children invests early in children through their caregivers, teachers, and families to: reduce youth violence; prevent child neglect and abuse; reduce educational inequities; and address nutritional inadequacies.

This year’s Ray of Light Award Honorees will be Mr. Richard Patton from Vision for Children at Risk, and PNC Bank, accepted by Mr. Michael Scully, for leadership in advocating for the well-being of all children in our region. Sponsors of the event include Slay Industries, American Commercial Barge Line, AT&T, Express Scripts, Emerson Charitable Trust, and First Bank. Individual tickets for the event are \$125 and may be purchased at [United4Children.org](http://United4Children.org).

***About United 4 Children:*** United 4 Children improves the social, emotional, physical, and educational well-being of our children by enriching the knowledge of families, teachers, and caregivers. United 4 Children envisions a future where all children achieve educational and life success.

[United4Children.org](http://United4Children.org)



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January 28, 2016

## **NEW EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER OPENS IN WELLSTON – PROVIDES FREE PROGRAMS. OPEN HOUSE PLANNED**

(St. Louis, MO) United 4 Children is pleased to announce the opening of the **24:1 Early Childhood Learning Center** in Wellston at 6633 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive. The 24:1 Early Childhood Learning Center provides children with the necessary skills in order to meet the Missouri Early Learning Standards. The objective of the program is to ensure all children are ready for kindergarten through focused literacy and math experiences, strong family partnerships, and connections to needed direct special services within an inclusive enriching environment. Daily sessions are for children 2 ½ to 5 years old free of charge to family residents of the Normandy Schools Collaborative.

Program sessions include four half-days each week Mondays through Thursdays 8:30am to 12 Noon and 1pm to 4:30pm. The program runs year-round and is operated in partnership with Beyond Housing. The Center is enrolling now. Interested families may contact the Center directly at (314) 383-3252 or seek more information online at [United4Children.org](http://United4Children.org).

The community and media are invited to a grand opening open house Tuesday evening, March 22 from 3pm to 7pm. Families, care givers and community leaders will join together in officially opening The Center.

United 4 Children educates and advocates for children who are at-risk. We invest early in children through their caregivers, teachers, and families to: reduce youth violence; prevent child neglect and abuse; reduce educational inequities; and address nutritional inadequacies. United 4 Children sets and maintains quality standards in early childhood and afterschool programs through career development, training, mentoring and consultation sessions.

*About United 4 Children:* United 4 Children improves the social, emotional, physical, and educational well being of our children by enriching the knowledge of families, teachers, and caregivers.

*About Beyond Housing:* Beyond Housing's mission is to help entire communities become better places to live. Beyond Housing is a community development organization that works in defined geographies like the Normandy School District in order to focus our resources where we can have the greatest impact.