



**Wednesday's Child**  
B E N E F I T C O R P O R A T I O N

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Programs Fact Sheet**

Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation is the only organization that provides funds to fulfill the specific needs of North Texas foster children when no one else can or will so they are able to have as normal a childhood as possible.

Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation has a variety of programs that achieve this goal:

**Adoption Expenses and Assistance:** Travel expenses for pre-placement or placement visits with potential adoptive parents sometimes can make the difference as to whether or not an adoption takes place. While the state pays for the child's travel expenses, it provides no travel assistance to adoptive families. Adoption filing fees are also provided, and occasionally pro-bono legal assistance is coordinated as needed.

**Birthday Project:** This is a year-round project where Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation provides \$20 gift cards to foster kids who otherwise would not have a special birthday present. We want to make sure that they know their birthday is one to be remembered and celebrated. In 2005 more than 750 children received birthday gift cards.

**Clothing and Personal Needs:** A limited clothing allowance is provided for emergency foster care placements and any other miscellaneous needs.

**Education and Scholarships:** Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation funds tutoring expenses for children who are behind in school - a common occurrence among foster children who on average move three to four times per year until a permanent placement is found.

Experiences like band, gymnastics or ballet lessons can be invaluable in the enrichment of an abused child's self-image, but they are not funded by the state.

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Scholarships are also awarded to young adults who are released from the state's care at the age of 18, and continue their education at state colleges, universities or vocational training facilities.

**Focused Therapy Program:**

**The goal of this program is to help young foster children, up to six years old, with considerable unmet therapeutic needs attain the care they need and deserve to make the outcome of a successful adoption more likely. The program strives to enhance each child's ability to attach and provides a stable platform for continued successful growth and development. Our dream for each of them is a successful and lasting adoption.**

**"Kids to Kamp"  
Summer Camp Project:**

Each summer Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation funds a "Kids to Kamp" program that allows approximately 350 foster children to attend the camp of their choice. Some choose to stay at an overnight camp while others choose football, basketball or cheerleading camp to hone their skills. Summer camp allows foster children to experience something every normal child would and leads to increased feelings of self confidence.

**"Life Book" Project:**

**"Life Books" are a special project to promote the development of a healthy self-image and a greater understanding of their life's circumstances. Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation provides all children coming into Texas Department of Family and Protective Services with photo album-workbooks, called "Life Books," which provide continuity and safe opportunities for exploring the range of feelings associated with abuse and displacement as well as issues of family and personal identity.**

**Mental and Physical Healthcare:**

Distributions are made to foster children on a case by case basis for any medical equipment or expense not covered by state Medicaid or insurance including special wheelchairs, breathing apparatus, physical therapy equipment, special medication, medical exams or treatment, eyeglasses and orthodontics

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**Miscellaneous Activities,  
Travel and Special Projects:**

These miscellaneous requests are granted on the basis of individual consideration. Special travel expenses are occasionally funded that may have a long-term positive impact on a child; for example, Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation has paid for separately placed siblings to see one another. There are also special projects to provide such things as summer outings to Six Flags and holiday entertainment.

**Teen Back to School Project:**

This new project provides teens with clothing gift cards so they cannot only purchase clothes they need for school, but they can also have the opportunity to buy something new they picked out themselves.

**“Winter Hugs” Coat Project:**

Each winter, Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation provides foster children with much needed new winter coats. More than 1,600 children were served in 2005. The unique part of our program is that each child receives a coat voucher and can shop for a coat of their choosing

**About Wednesday's Child  
Benefit Corporation:**

Founded in 1984, Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation is the only organization that provides funds to fulfill the specific needs of North Texas' foster children when no one else can or will so they are able to have as normal a childhood as possible. The organization serves the North Texas region, home to more than 7,600 foster children in who are in protective care as a result of abuse or neglect. Wednesday's Child Benefit Corporation strives to bring hope and healing to foster children by meeting needs that would otherwise be unmet, striving to give them a chance at a happy, productive future. For more information, visit [www.wedchild.org](http://www.wedchild.org) or call 972.231.1433.