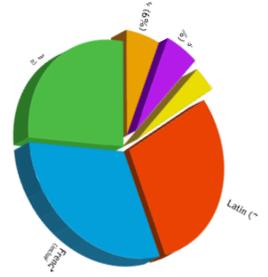




## Who are our children?

We have gathered some interesting demographic data on the current elementary students we have attending Cherry Street. Obviously our children are more than just some percentage of a pie chart but this information can give us and you a snip-it of information about some of the challenges they may face. 81% of our children qualify for free or reduced meals from the school district. That indicates their household is considered to be low or extremely low income. 48% of our children do NOT attend church or have an identified church home. 46% of our children are from non traditional family households. These means nearly half our children are in foster care, being raised by a single parent or divorced parents, or are being raised by a grandparent or extended family member. 19% of our children have moved more than 2 times in the past 12 months. We know stability and structure are critical for healthy social and emotional development in children. 17% of children are receiving a special education service from school. This indicates delays in their learning or development.



### MISSION STATEMENT:

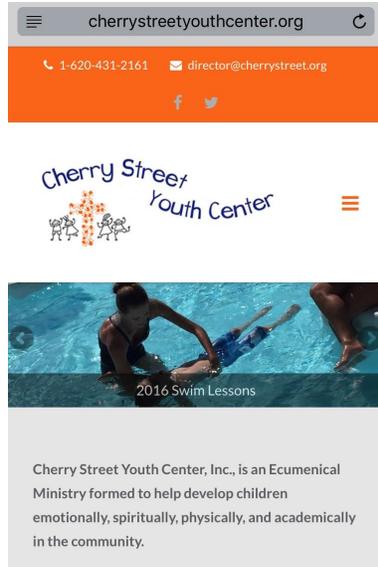
Cherry Street Youth Center, Inc., is an ecumenical ministry formed to help children develop spiritually, emotionally, physically, and academically within their community.

We fulfill our mission statement and share love with the children by being positive influences in their lives and by offering classes in Bible, character, art, computers, physical education, reading, math, social skills, anger management, drug awareness, cooking, music, and more!

We are a non-profit, faith-based youth center. Our focus has been to share the love of God through Jesus Christ with the elementary-aged children in Chanute by providing them with a safe, secure, and fun place to go after school that offers a wide variety of learning experiences and opportunities.

We get new children each year and times change in how services and which classes are offered here at Cherry Street however, it is clear our mission is still needed in Chanute. We are committed to help children develop spiritually, emotionally, physically, and academically with in the community.

Donations for the Christmas Baskets (Only 72 days until the Christmas Program): We are needing toothpaste and household cleaners Items can be brought to 710 N. Forest.



### We Got a Facelift!

Our website has gotten an update. A few pages are still under construction but please take a minute to go the website. You can go to [cherrystreet.org](http://cherrystreet.org) and it will take you to the site.

Kevin Olson is a previous employee of Cherry Street who still has a heart for our mission. He has put in a tremendous amount of work and time into this new website. We would like to send a huge THANK YOU to him!



Cherry Street Youth Center, Inc.  
PO Box 414  
Chanute, KS 66720  
[www.cherrystreetyouthcenter.org](http://www.cherrystreetyouthcenter.org)

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# Challenge time!

October marks the first month of our annual fundraising time. Our goal is to raise the funds we need for another year of running Cherry Street. We currently serve about 130 children each day in our East, West, and Warehouse programs. That's children grades kindergarten—8th grade. Every child starts their day with us with an after school snack. We have the children 176 days after school. That's about 22,880 snacks we will prepare this school year. Our summer program runs for 34 days in June and July and we plan to serve 60 children breakfast and lunch. Our food budget alone is the cost of a new car! God provides for these hungry children through each of you. You are also the reason we are able to have such great facilities, pay our utility bill, and purchase materials for activities and classroom lessons. ***Hebrews 13:16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.***

We have a \$50,000 match challenge! We have a donor willing to match \$1 for \$1 to kick off our fundraising season. Each dollar donated to Cherry Street now through December 25th will go towards meeting the match. When we meet this challenge we will have \$100,000 to go towards next years budget. That will get us about halfway to what we need for an entire year of operation. It is so easy to stop and get caught up in the numbers. It can be very over whelming to consider how on earth can we can raise the additional funds?! If I have learned nothing else with in my first year here at Cherry Street as the Executive Director, it is that **ALL** we do is with God's timing, planning, and guidance. He has hand picked every staff member and placed passion into the heart of every volunteer. Every child will know they are loved and cherished by their creator. They will know they have been saved by grace and the blood of Jesus Christ! You simply can't put a dollar amount on that! ***Luke 11:9 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.***

As you find yourself considering what mission or ministry to support, please put Cherry Street at the top your list. I believe we have a responsibility to share the blessings God gives us. Yes, children all over the world need our support, but our local children also need to know the light of Christ! We have so many young lives that need guidance and tender nurturing. Your financial support makes all good works possible.

Your Sister in Christ,

Jennifer

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