



## children's home & aid

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### **Northwestern University Dance Marathon Announces Children's Home & Aid as its 2020 Primary Beneficiary**

EVANSTON, IL. — May 22, 2019: Children's Home and Aid, a leading child and family service agency in Illinois serving more than 40,000 children, youth and families across the state each year, will be the primary beneficiary for Northwestern University Dance Marathon (NUDM) in 2020. NUDM will support the agency's Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center located in Evanston, Illinois. The Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center provides intensive therapeutic treatment to youth ages six to 15 who are in foster care and suffer from severe emotional, behavioral or mental health issues resulting from trauma.

Each year, many deserving charities submit remarkable applications to be NUDM's primary beneficiary. The NUDM Executive Co-Chairs narrow this list down and present it to the executive board. The board conducts several rounds of interviews, keeping the needs of both Northwestern and the beneficiary in mind. Through lengthy deliberation and additional interviews, the primary beneficiary is chosen. As a result of these efforts, Children's Home & Aid was selected unanimously by the entire Executive Board. For the 23rd consecutive year, the Evanston Community Foundation will serve as NUDM's secondary beneficiary, funding a variety of local grants to deserving individuals, families and organizations with the goal of helping Evanston thrive.

Children's Home & Aid was founded in 1883 and partners with children, youth, and families whose potential is at risk to create hope, opportunity, and bright futures. The agency is one of the largest providers of child welfare services in Illinois, currently working with 1,000 children and youth in foster care. Children's Home & Aid has been recognized for establishing best practices and achieving outstanding results among child welfare providers. The agency manages its Illinois presence alongside its national presence as well, given its role as one of the founding members of the Children's Home Society of America.

NUDM's financial donations will help fund Children's Home & Aid's therapeutic residential treatment center located in Evanston, the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child + Family Center. Through the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center, Children's Home & Aid's highly-trained staff implements expressive therapy, counseling, and mentoring programs for over 60 children and youth each year so they can heal from their trauma and return to a nurturing and stable permanent home.

“This year, we wanted to take NUDM in a new direction,” said Rachel Cantor, one of the NUDM 2020 Executive Co-Chairs. “NUDM has never selected a primary beneficiary that provides support and resources to children in foster care who have experienced abuse and neglect. Every child deserves a home, and I’m excited to both help fund the therapy, counseling, and mentoring programs Children’s Home & Aid provides as well as discuss a topic that NUDM has never really touched upon before.”

In addition to funding the Center’s initiatives, NUDM is excited for the service opportunities Children’s Home & Aid has to offer. Northwestern students will have the opportunity to participate in on-campus service events, such as hosting trick-or-treating during Halloween at Norris, as well as off-campus events located at the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center, such as mural painting to decorate the foster center.

“I’m so excited for NUDM’s partnership with Children’s Home & Aid,” said Eliana Scobey, the other NUDM 2020 Executive Co-Chair. “With the Rice Center being in Evanston, we can’t wait to see how Northwestern students will be able to build an especially close relationship with the beneficiary and grow their love for our surrounding community. We are looking forward to working with Rice’s passionate staff as well as the Northwestern and NUDM communities to help this incredible organization foster change!”

NUDM 2020 will be held March 6-8, 2020 on the Norris University Center East Lawn at 1999 Campus Drive at Northwestern’s Evanston campus. NUDM is one of the largest independent student-run philanthropies in the country, raising more than \$1 million for its beneficiaries in each of the past eight years.

**About Children’s Home & Aid:**

Children’s Home & Aid is a leading child and family service agency in Illinois, serving nearly 40,000 children and families each year in over 60 counties. The agency partners with children, youth and families whose potential is at risk to create hope, opportunities and bright futures. NUDM 2020 will specifically partner with the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center, Children’s Home & Aid’s therapeutic residential treatment center located in Evanston. Through the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Child & Family Center, Children’s Home & Aid’s highly-trained staff implements expressive therapy, counseling, and mentoring programs for over 60 children each year with severe emotional and mental health needs in order to restore their health, hope and faith in the people around them. To learn more, visit [www.childrenshomeandaid.org](http://www.childrenshomeandaid.org).

**About Northwestern University Dance Marathon:**

Now in its 46th year, NUDM is one of the largest entirely student-run philanthropies in the nation. Since 1975, NUDM has raised more than \$20 million for more than 30 different charities. Last year, NUDM raised over \$1 million dollars for its eighth consecutive year in support of Communities in Schools of Chicago —the Chicago base of a national network of educational support centers, which connects students to the mentors and resources they need to graduate and succeed. To learn more, visit [www.nudm.org](http://www.nudm.org).

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