

PRAYER REQUESTS

FOR PROGRAM IMPACT

Pray that each program this season will meet real needs, build strong relationships and open doors for transformation in the lives of children, youth and families.

FOR LEADERSHIP WISDOM

Pray for clarity, unity and God's wisdom for our leadership team as they make decisions and plan for the months ahead.

FOR STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

Pray for strengthened relationships with schools, churches and local organizations so we can serve our community more effectively together.

FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

Pray that those who feel weary or discouraged will find renewed strength, encouragement and hope through our programs and community support.

FOR NEEDED RESOURCES

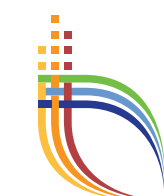
Pray for continued provision of financial support, volunteers and supplies so we can carry out our mission with excellence.

Amen!

UPCOMING EVENTS • Frosty Festivities

This winter, The Hope Center invites you to come together in gratitude and growth. Join us for meaningful celebrations that honor faith, family and community – from festive Christmas gatherings to soul-filled evenings of connection.

DECEMBER 6		Church Partners Breakfast
DECEMBER 13		College Alumni & Volunteer Christmas Party
DECEMBER 19 6:00 - 8:00 PM		Annual Christmas Party <i>The Gathering KC</i>
JANUARY 19		Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
FEBRUARY 10 6:30 - 8:30 PM		Valentine's Day Dinner Dance <i>for 5th-12th Grade Students and Families</i> <i>The Gathering KC</i>
FEBRUARY 24 6:30 - 8:30 PM		Taste of Soul Food <i>for Youth Program Students and Families</i> <i>The Gathering KC</i>



THE hope CENTER | KC

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FALL 2025



THE HOPE CENTER KC

SKYLINES

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT: KAY & GABBY BURNS

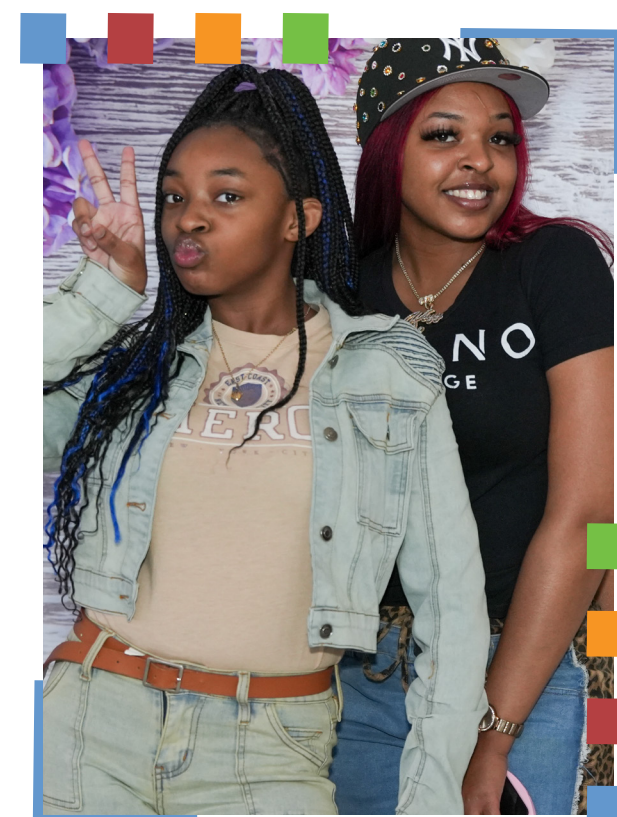
Meet the Burns family – one of the newest to join The Hope Center community.

Their journey began when Kay and her daughter, Gabby, attended our Mother's Day Brunch through the Delta Academy program and instantly felt at home. Soon after, Gabby joined the Junior Leaders in Training (J.R. L.I.T.) program, deepening their connection to The Hope Center.

For Kay, the difference was immediate. She found a welcoming community and a strong support system, with guidance counselors who provide children a safe space to share what they might not at home. She's already seen a transformation in Gabby – smiling more, building healthy friendships and flourishing under leadership she trusts.

"You'll love it," Kay said to other parents considering The Hope Center. "You'll hear all about the fun at pickup, and you'll be amazed at how much of God's Word your child retains."

For Kay, The Hope Center can be summed up in three words: **loving, fun and prayer.**



THE HOPE CENTER | KC



As fall shows its beauty – with leaves changing colors, cooler weather, sports in full swing and families preparing for holidays – The Hope Center is embracing a season of growth and renewal:

- Our Operations Director, **Titus Brooks**, recently became a father for the first time.
- Our **Youth Team** is leading programs at Central High and Central Middle School, reaching more than 100 students each week.
- **The Gathering KC** continues to host events and programs that welcome hundreds from our community to enjoy a beautiful Eastside facility while creating lasting memories.
- Hundreds have joined us at our **Community Outreach events** for inspiration and celebration.
- **Families** in our programs and **men** in Men’s Fraternity are being encouraged, equipped and empowered to live more faithful and fruitful lives.

FROM MARVIN
Executive Director

As Thanksgiving approaches, I’m deeply grateful for your prayers, financial support, encouragement and engagement. Please continue making a difference in the lives of children, youth and families – *it truly matters!* ■

Marvin

THREE YEARS STRONG: BUILDING BELONGING AT CENTRAL SCHOOLS

We’re celebrating our third year partnering with Central High and Central Middle School, continuing our commitment to support students through consistent, in-school programming that builds connection, movement and confidence.

For an hour each week, more than 100 students practice physical fitness and friendly competition through trivia and games led by trusted adults. These experiences nurture social-emotional growth, positive peer interaction and a lasting sense of belonging.

Vice Principal Kymbr Logan of Central High School shared:

The Hope Center is culturally responsive ... our kids can see somebody in our community doing great things. They’re able to be a part of them, not just in school, but beyond it.”

We look forward to continuing this work throughout the year – deepening our role in students’ lives both inside and beyond the classroom. ■



MINDFUL MOVEMENT FOR STUDENT WELL-BEING

Now in its second year, our partnership with **Social Emotional Yoga with Mrs. V** empowers students to develop emotional awareness, self-regulation and healthy coping skills through movement and mindfulness.

Certified instructors Cierra Yvonne and Monique McDaniel lead free sessions every Monday and Thursday through our S.A.Y. YES! program, offering consistent, trauma-informed support that promotes holistic well-being.

Each class helps students identify emotions, manage responses and practice calm, focused movement – equipping them to navigate challenges and grow in confidence. ■



DONOR SPOTLIGHT – Jeremy Davis



“I connected with The Hope Center through Rocky Hodge about two years ago and was drawn to its faith-based mission to develop youth holistically. The staff and programs create a welcoming, family-like atmosphere.

I’ve seen The Hope Center host food giveaways, Juneteenth festivals and other events – all delivered with love. I always leave inspired after volunteering and encourage others to share their time, talents and treasure in support of this meaningful work.”

THE GATHERING KC FEATURED IN WED KC MAGAZINE

We’re proud to share that The Gathering KC is featured on the cover of *Wed KC Magazine’s* Fall/Winter 2025 edition.

Inside is a six-page spread highlighting the beauty, versatility and intentional design of our venue.

Every booking at The Gathering KC supports the work of The Hope Center – so think of us next time you’re planning an event and want to make a meaningful impact.

Want to learn more about The Gathering KC? Contact our director, Chris Chandler, at chris@thegatheringkc.org. ■

