



For Immediate Release

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Moeller High School students named winner of 2012 'Champions for Children: the Next Generation' Award

(Cincinnati—Dec. 11, 2012) Corryville Little Buddies/Mentoring--a Moeller High School service project--is the winner of 4C for Children's second annual [Champions for Children: the Next Generation Award](#). This project, in its 20th year, matches 108 Moeller high school seniors and additional underclassmen with students from preschool through third grade at Corryville Catholic, a consolidated school serving at-risk children from a number of Cincinnati inner-city neighborhoods.

Through bi-weekly visits Moeller students engage Corryville students in creative play, provide alternative learning experiences and tutor. Moeller service coordinator Brian Gilronan and a team of six senior student leaders plan activities with the Corryville staff. The current team of student leaders includes: Kevin Carroll, Corey Carroll, Kaleb Nypaver, Jack Sherman, Grant Garbacik and William Thompson.

"Over the years this project has had a great many impacts on our students," says Notre Dame Sister Marie Smith, principal of Corryville Catholic. She emphasizes the importance of the consistent relationships that develop between Moeller and Corryville students. Many Corryville students lack consistent relationships with someone older, she explains, and so the regular, consistent visits from Moeller students are very important. Corryville students look forward to someone they can count on to sit down with them one-on-one to read a book, play a game or work on homework.

And in some cases, Sister Marie says, these relationships last long after the school year is over. Sister Marie cites several cases of Moeller students who continue to keep in contact with their Little Buddy through their own college years and beyond.

How does Sister Marie feel about the Moeller students winning these year's "Champions for Children: The Next Generation Award"? "They deserve it," she says.

The goal of the Champions for Children: The Next Generation award, is to honor high school students in grades 9-12 who are taking action on behalf of the children of our community--or of our world. "We want to reinforce in the leaders of tomorrow the importance of investing in the children of today--especially those from birth to age 8," says 4C President/CEO Sallie Westheimer.

4C for Children has long recognized adult community leaders who champion children--and will do so again this year at a [Jan. 26 Champions for Children Gala](#) at the Westin Cincinnati, honoring 2012 Champions for Children Bill Burwinkel, Willie Carden and Penny Pensak. The

presentation of the 2012 Champions for Children: The Next Generation Award will also be made at this Jan. 26 event to a representative from the winning Moeller High School service project.

To be eligible for consideration, youth projects had to be nominated by Oct. 1, demonstrate the involvement of high school students and do one or more of the following:

- empower and educate young children through direct service
- provide leadership or raise awareness on an issue that impacts young children
- improve the quality of life of young children.

[4C for Children](http://www.4cforchildren.org), the pioneering leader, advocate and resource for early childhood education and care, serves 23 counties from offices in Cincinnati, Dayton (Ohio) and Newport (Kentucky). Each year this not-for-profit assists over 8,000 families of all income levels in finding and choosing quality child care; educates over 10,000 child care providers in its workshops and trainings; works to increase the supply of high-quality early education and care; and advocates for children and families at the local, state and federal levels. For more information, www.4cforchildren.org.

