

Amity is a partnership of volunteers, professional staff and families working together to ensure that quality early childhood education school age programs and parent support services are available to all families on an equitable basis.



AMITY ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2021

From the Executive Director:

I am extremely proud of Amity and our team. Amity Society has looked after Freeport's youngest citizens for 142 years. We have supported our community through challenging economic times, an ever-changing educational climate, and most recently, a pandemic.

Amity Day Care and Learning Center is currently caring for 92 children daily, serving over 5000 nutritious meals per month. Amity is one of the ExceleRate Pilot programs working with the Governor's office of Early Childhood Education to help drive quality in our state. We focus on Kindergarten Readiness along with members of the Early Childhood Consortium with funding from United Way. All Amity staff began Pyramid Model training to support strong social emotional development.

Amity is thankful to have many community partnerships with programs such as the All Our Kids Network, The Boys and Girls Club, Early Childhood Consortium, Highland Community College, NICAA-Head Start, Regional Office of Education 8, and many more.

I would like to express my sincere and utmost gratitude to all Amity Society volunteers for their tremendous efforts and hard work on behalf of our community's neediest children. Their determination makes an enormous positive impact in the lives of our children and their families.

Thank you

Ashley Harms



Board of Directors

- ◆ Jeff Cowman– President
- ◆ Travis Howell– Treasurer
- ◆ Beth Bowen– Secretary
- ◆ Kathy Eden
- ◆ Mark Gridley
- ◆ Julie Asche
- ◆ Jessica Larson



Amity is located in the King Community Campus

King Community Campus (KCC)

Our Dream:

All children in our community will grow up in a strong, healthy family, and community environment, meeting their potential, and believing in themselves.

The King Community Campus serves over 900 children per day!

Infants

This year brought two new staff members to the infant classroom: Sarina and Arianna. We celebrate holidays with fun activities, we go on daily walks or spend time on the playground. The infants love music as part of their day with songs such as Wheels on the Bus, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, and Pat a Cake. We love all the “firsts” and focus on individual milestones. We had 8 children daily in 2021 and plan to open our second classroom in 2022.



Candi Heitkam– A.A ECE
Heidi Flynn– A.A. ECE
Mary O’Connell– Enrolled in A.A.
Sarina Goldie– Enrolled in A.A.
Arianna McCorkle– Enrolled in A.A.

Preschool

Amity provides two different preschool options. One that partners with ROE 8 and Early Learning Academy and the other that partners with Head Start.



Preschool I

We started out the year with COVID and it was a bit of a struggle. As we moved on pushing through the year we kept getting our numbers back up. We have still learned many things. We have worked on a new letter each week along with colors, shapes and numbers. We focus on social/emotional development, cognitive development and turn taking. We do daily gross motor skills such as rock climbing, jump roping, scooters and racing. The children really enjoy racing because we switch it up and choose to be different animals and transportation vehicles. We work in small groups daily, use skills such as fine motor and communication. We read daily. The children pick a book from the library we ask them questions or they help read along. We do a daily or weekly art project that interacts with painting, collage materials, cutting and gluing. The children enjoy coming every day.

Karrie Smith, Lead Teacher– Completing B.A.
Sarina Goldie-Co Teacher



Preschool 2

Our classroom focuses on weekly themes such as hearts, dental health, frogs, lifecycle of flowers... We also have a focus letter each week. In June we took our annual field trip to Santa’s Village, many parents participated in the trip and fun was had by all! Our class also walked to the Lindo Theater on four different Wednesdays and watched a movie. In fall, the children started to go to Head Start in the morning and return to our classroom in the afternoon and all day on Fridays. In addition to all the fun activities throughout the year, the children also participated in small and large group activities. At small group we practiced, counting, writing, sorting, patterning, etc. At large group we sing songs, dance, read stories and have discussions.

April Reed- Lead Teacher B.A.
Valerie Hale- Co Teacher A.A.S

Toddlers

Another fun filled year for the Toddler class. A favorite activity was decorating a large box with crayons and playing in it. They love to sing the song Old McDonald Had a Farm and make different animal sounds. We went to Santa's Village, everyone enjoyed the water park. The children love when the visitor comes from the library to read books. We work on different skills such as: scooping, dumping, cutting, tearing, using utensils, open cups, potty training, being kind to our friends, taking turns, and using manners.

Melissa Spaulding-Lead Teacher- A.A.S
Debra Lampe Co- Teacher- Teacher Qualified
Kathi Gemmell - Teacher – CDA
Michelle Brinkmeier-Co-Teacher



Twos

Throughout the year we do an activity with the children every day whether it’s an art project or a learning activity. We read several books and go over what they are about, we have a letter of the week and count our friends each day. We also go outside or to the gym depending on the weather. Some of the projects we did include, making a paper plate suns, snowflakes, pumpkins, egg carton bats, snowman, cookie cutter painting, sponge candy corns and many more art projects. We have also been working on several things such as numbers, colors, shapes, increasing the kid’s fine motor skills, as well as social emotional and life skills.



Marshall Davis- Lead Teacher A.A.S
Amy Checa- Co Teacher enrolled in A.A.S
Anajai Jones- Co Teacher enrolled in A.A.S

School Age

Amity has two school age classrooms ages 5-7 and 8-12. We provide care in the morning, afterschool, and on no school days. Along with meals.

School Age I



This year has been a better year, not too many days of E learning. We did a lot of different fun and crazy art projects for our school bulletin board throughout the year, as well as holiday dress up and celebrations. We

did some fun science experiments and grew some plants for the kids to watch grow. The summer time was a lot of fun. COVID was a factor but we were able to have Mrs. Barb come back and teach the kids about how the human body works, attend movies at the Lindo Theater, go to parks and have picnics and go to the splash pad..

Rhonda Coleman– Lead Teacher- Teacher Qualified

Amanda Patterson– Co-Teacher-Teacher Qualified

School Age 2



2021 School Age 2 was a little adventure dealing with the pandemic and trying to keep everyone safe.

We were able to go swimming, the park,

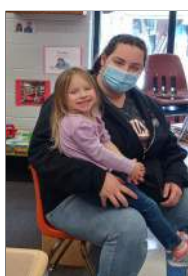
to Lake Ladonna, summer movies at the Lindo, and the trampoline park. The School Age children also enjoyed snow play, sledding and making snowmen . We made sure the children continued learning; doing math and reading to keep up while out of school. This year was challenging, but the School Agers had fun, they learned and we were safe.

Alan Powe-Lead Teacher –Teacher Qualified
Debra Lampe- Co- Teacher- Teacher Qualified

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Years of service</u>
Anna Runkle- Retired 2021	Sub Teacher	31
Michelle Brinkmeier	Co-Teacher	26
Melissa Spaulding	Lead Teacher	25
Rhonda Mashaw	Kitchen Supervisor	25
Priscilla McLin	Program Director	24
Louise Russell	Client Case/ Finance Manager	23
April Reed	Lead Teacher/Curriculum Coordinator	18
Ashley Harms	Executive Director	15
Karrie Smith	Lead Teacher	15
Alan Powe	Lead Teacher	13
Debra Lampe	Co-Teacher	11
Candi Hetikam	Lead Teacher	11
Heather Riley	Kitchen Assistant	11
Kathi Gemmell	Co-Teacher	10
Jordan Lampe	Office Assistant	4
Sarah Callahan	Kitchen Assistant	3
Rhonda Coleman	Lead Teacher	3
Marshell Davis	Lead Teacher	2
Mary Oconnell	Co-Teacher	2
Valerie Hale	Co-Teacher	2
Amy Checa	Co-Teacher	2
Luke Shouse	Maintenance	2
Anajai Jones	Co-Teacher	1
Sarina Goldie	Co-Teacher	1
Heidi Flynn	Lead Teacher	1
Support Staff/ Contractors		
Heather Marcum	Contract Accountant	14
Osha Kidd	Contract Nurse	1

Mentorship

In 2021 we began a mentorship program with the help of the Knobel family. High school basketball players spent time with Amity students doing homework, activities, going to get lunch, haircuts...



Parent Group

Amity has a parent group that plans fundraisers and events each year. 2021 was a difficult year, but we were able to have some virtual bingo and have nominated classroom parents.

Amity's Attic

Coordinators: Julie Asche, Marianne Drogosz, Martha Hoefler, Carol Johnson, Sharon Mockridge, Carol Morriesett, Sue Perry, Beth Slade, Linda Vick, April Young.

We have completed our 25th year at Amity's Attic and we have about 50 volunteers who work 192 hours a month selling, sorting, pricing, and serving Freeport. The generous donations from the community are welcome any time during our business hours of Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.

A receipt for tax purposes is given on request.

Thank you to all who have supported us so generously this past year.

Total net income since 1996: \$968,052

Society dues/donations since 2008: \$84,994

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Cash revenue	54,646	40,227
Contributed clothes and goods	54,646	40,227
Total revenue	109,292	80,454
Cost of contributed clothes and goods	54,646	40,227
Operating expenses	10,492	8,795
Total expenses	65,138	49,022
Net income	44,154	31,432

Finance

Louise Russell

Heather Marcum, Contract Accountant

Amity continues to be fiscally sound and financially responsible in adherence to budget, expenditures and investment decisions.

The King Community Campus owner agencies retain Union Savings Bank to manage shared agencies expenditures. This agreement has been very positive for Amity in terms of financial and time management.

Endowment Fund market value of **\$650,938**

Audited Finances Fiscal Year 2020-2021 2019-2020

Total Assets	2,247,579	1,864,140
Total Liabilities	141,306	144,028
Total Net Assets	2,106,273	1,720,112
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	2,247,579	1,864,140
Total Revenue	1,523,631	1,248,137
Total Expenses	1,137,470	1,055,891
Net asset, end of year	2,086,273	1,720,112

Amity Donors and Supporter

Amity is very grateful and most appreciative for your donations and support.

Albert's Family	Judith Barney
Amity's Attic and Society	Kathi Garret
Amity Staff	Kathryn Martinez
Amanda Myers	Kiwanis
Barb Curry	Knobel Family
Barry Anderson	Kurt Koester
Trust	Lena Brewing
Beichel Family	Mark/Liz Gridley
Benchwarmers	Mary Kelly
Beltline	Melinda Hartman
B&G Club	-SCHD
Braun	Melissa Johnson
ThyssenKrup	Morse Electric
Brenda Heilmeier	NICAA
CCR&R	Northern Illinois
Claudia McCallister	Food Bank
Dakota Community Church	Pretzel City
Diane Neal	Strummers
Eagles Club 679	Quota Club-
Enterprise Holdings	Prince of Peace
Family Dollar	Roy Sellers
First Lutheran Church	Security First
Freeport Community Foundation	St. John United
Freeport Housing Authority	Church of Christ
Garden Club	St. Thomas Aquinas Church
Gemorifics	State Bank Foundation
Gehlsen Family	Society members
Glorya Kaiser	birthday donations
Memorial	Susan Perry
Head Start	Tonya Thayer
Heather Marcum	Ted Odendahl
Heinrich Family	United Methodist
Highland ECE Program	Women
Jean Koberstein	United Way
Johnnie Lewis	Voices
	YWCA Child
	Care Solutions