Since 1832, Pressley Ridge has done whatever it takes to create success for children and families.

From therapy and treatment to foster care services and education for children with special needs, including autism and deafness, Pressley Ridge empowers kids and families with the ability and confidence to succeed.

Pressley Ridge strengthens communities in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.

To get involved or learn more, visit PressleyRidge.org.

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**Camp Pressley**

This summer, Camp Pressley, our camp for kids ages 6-12 in the Cincinnati area, hosted 45 campers and 16 teen leaders. The therapeutic week-long camp included physical activities that engaged brains and bodies for a complete learning experience. Learn more about Camp Pressley at PressleyRidge.org/SummerCamp.

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**Pressley Ridge Featured at York Revolution Game**

Pressley Ridge was in the spotlight when the York Revolution took on the Long Island Ducks on Friday, July 13th. Foster parents Dan and Willeas McMillan stood by as their foster child threw out the first pitch of the game. The Revs came out on top with a 16-1 win!

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**24th Annual Ice Cream Fundae**

2,300 attendees experienced the sights and sounds of the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium while enjoying 13 flavors of Graeter’s Ice Cream, face painting, live music, princesses and super heroes and much more. Ice Cream Fundae was a sweet success, raising more than $103,000! Check out photos from the event at PressleyRidge.org/icecream.

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**Has your family found strength in Pressley Ridge?**

Help another family just like yours at PressleyRidge.org/Donate.

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Follow Along With Us!
Letter from the President

Dear families,

As we head into this season of giving thanks, I want to express my gratitude to you for entrusting Pressley Ridge to strengthen your family. Whether you are a foster parent, your family receives mental, behavioral or emotional support or your child is a student at one of our schools, you are an important part of the Pressley Ridge family.

There are so many impactful and exciting things happening across all of our programs, each and every day that we couldn’t possibly cover them all. This edition of our newsletter provides just a few of the highlights from the past few months at Pressley Ridge. I hope that you enjoy learning more about our organization.

Sincerely,

Susanne Cole, President & CEO

P.S. If it’s been awhile since you received Pressley Ridge services, we want to hear from you. How are you and your family doing? Send us an update at info@pressleyridge.org!

Expanding Services for Youth Transitioning out of Foster Care

Pressley Ridge recently acquired New Pathways, Inc. in Baltimore, MD to expand our organization’s impact on youth transitioning out of foster care. This acquisition further strengthens Pressley Ridge’s impact in the region, allowing us to positively affect the lives of 450 youth in foster care and juvenile services each year. In addition to the already established treatment foster care, parent-child foster care and community based mental and behavioral health services, Pressley Ridge now provides independent living, career and workforce development and community outreach services for transition-age youth in Maryland. For more information on the services offered by the New Pathways program of Pressley Ridge, visit PressleyRidge.org/NewPathways.

Keeping the Family Together

Linda Ebron has dedicated much of her life to serving youth in challenging situations. A career in social work eventually led her to foster care. “Aunt Cookie,” as the kids call her, and her husband Donnell (Uncle Don) have been providing therapeutic foster care for teenagers for 20 years. They enjoyed the opportunity to provide a loving, supportive home to teens and to help them succeed.

When Linda and Donnell got a call from Pressley Ridge asking them to consider taking in a young set of twins, they knew it would be different than parenting teens, but they never hesitated. Then a year later, another call came. The twins’ younger siblings, also twins, needed a home and wanted to come live with the Ebrons, as well. They had a chance to reunite this family, and they couldn’t turn them away knowing that these children’s lives could be changed forever.

Linda is an avid recruiter for fostering with Pressley Ridge. “I have been with other agencies before when I first started out. I can say the education, support and understanding you get [from Pressley Ridge] is remarkable. They know that everything is not just written in a book all the time. This is real life. The children come into your home and everything changes.”

Having fostered countless teenagers, Linda and Donnell have plenty of advice to share and wish more people would consider the benefits of helping teens. Raising teens, especially those in treatment foster care, takes a lot of understanding, but Donnell believes it’s all worth it. “Some of these kids come from a real troubled past, and they don’t know what to expect. They’ve been let down a lot, so you have to be there for them. That’s the most important thing. Once you see the difference you make in a child’s life, you can’t help but to continue.”

Their kids have gone on to graduate from high school and college and are now raising families of their own. Even so, they still come back to Aunt Cookie and Uncle Don, who will always be their family.

Linda and Donnell, who have two grown children of their own, as well as two grandchildren, are now in the process of adopting the siblings. After two years, they are used to the busyness of raising four kids who are only eleven months apart. The twins couldn’t be happier to officially become part of the Ebron family, saying “It’s a great experience to have another chance to have a great family.”

To watch a video of the Ebron’s story, visit PressleyRidge.org/Ebron.

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