

**CHILDREN FIRST CENTER
TIMELINE**

- 1971** DeKalb County parents unite and form DeKalb County Parent Group for Handicapped Children
- 1971** Partnership with Auburn Kiwanis begins the Holiday Loaf Sales, selling and marketing this delicacy door to door, out of a little red wagon
- 1972** Preschool opens in the basement of the Auburn United Methodist Church
- 1975** Homebased program for infants and toddlers begins
- 1979** Pat Zakula, hired as Executive Director
- 1981** Move into the new building
- 1985** Transportation program begins – Recognized by State of Indiana as regional provider of Early Intervention Services for DeKalb, Noble and Steuben Counties
- 1986** State funding approved for services at new building
- 1986** Construction begins on building at 1752 Wesley Road
- 1987** New building opens
- 1992** Name change to Children First Center
- 1993** WIC program added to array of services; first Shots for Tots
- 1994** Healthy Families and H.O.M.E. programs begin
- 1995** Early Intervention program begins offsite at Ligonier
- 1999** Center based preschool ends – all programs become home based for “natural environment” serving infants to 3 year olds
- 2001** November: Families First
- 2004** Services in LaGrange, Ind.
- 2005** Children First Center annex, the old Garret Clinic, becomes site of Shots for Tots and WIC clinic
- 2006** Therapy and Family Advocacy program begins
- 2006** Celebrate 35 successful years of Holiday Loaf