

CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP



John Kehoe, SLC Capital Campaign Co-Chair



John and his wife Patty hail from St. Louis but relocated to Jefferson City in 1988. Patty served as a dedicated RN at St. Mary's Hospital while John found employment at Osage Industries, known for van conversions at the time, situated in Linn. They raised three children, all of whom attended Helias High School, and now revel in the joy of nine grandchildren, with five currently enrolled at St. Joseph Cathedral School and Helias, while the eldest four pursue their higher education endeavors. In 1992, John and his four partners assumed ownership of Osage Industries, a venture that has since evolved into the manufacturing of ambulances distributed nationwide. Engaged in various community enrichment initiatives such as United Way, Osage County Anti-Drug Community Action Team, Salvation Army, Vitae, and Boy Scouts, John and his team at Osage Ambulances remain deeply involved in philanthropic efforts. Collaborating with Stephanie, Missy, and Steve at SLC on the Small Steps Mighty Strides campaign has proven to be an enriching experience, one that John considers himself fortunate to have been a part of.

Missy McFerron, SLC Capital Campaign Co-Chair



Missy McFerron is a female entrepreneur passionate about sharing the good in others' stories, giving back, traveling, and real estate. Missy has been recognized in Jefferson City Magazine's 2018 Ones to Watch class, News Tribune's 2018 Voices of Influence class as well as the Missouri Women's Business Center's Entrepreneur of the Year for Cole County in 2022. She is the publisher of Jefferson City Magazine, founder of Dogwood Social, a digital marketing and consulting company serving the state of Missouri, and short-term rental investor in Jefferson City and the Lake of the Ozarks. She thrives when she's creating opportunities, making decisions, and solving problems. When she's not working, you'll find her walking her dogs or tending to her plants with her best friend and husband, Joe McFerron of Joe McFerron Plumbing. She lives by the quote is "Everything is figureoutable," by Marie Forleo, and is honored to be a Small Steps, Might Strides campaign co-chair.

Steve Houser, SLC Board President



Steve Houser, alongside his wife Janice, leads the family enterprise, U.S. Rents-It. Steve's commitment to community service is evident as he serves as President of the Operating Board for the Special Learning Center, acts as an Advisor for the Special Learning Center Foundation, and holds a position on the National Board of Directors for the American Rental Association. His contributions have been recognized with the Jefferson City Magazine's Impact Award and the American Rental Association Impact Award in 2023. Steve's passion lies in ensuring the children of the Special Learning Center receive the best resources available, a cause to which he is unwaveringly dedicated. In his leisure time, Steve cherishes moments with his wife and their two children, Steven and Emily, often found cruising the waters of the Lake of the Ozarks aboard their boat.

Stephanie Johnson, SLC Executive Director



Prior to becoming Executive Director of Special Learning Center in 2020, she served as CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City for nine years where she transformed the organization and led a large capital improvement project. Stephanie has dedicated her career to improving the lives of others through her work with non-profit organizations over the past thirty years including United Way of Central Missouri, March of Dimes and Samaritan Center. Stephanie is a past elected member of the Jefferson City School District Board of Education, a volunteer of the United Way and member of Jefferson City West Rotary Club. In addition to her work in the community, Stephanie enjoys spending time with her three young grandchildren.



Special Learning Center
11115 Fairgrounds Road
Jefferson City, MO 65109
(573) 634-3070
(573) 636-3247f
www.speciallearningcenter.com