The couple who brought Project Children to Cleveland in 1981 were John P. and Mary F. Coyne. They have continued to coordinate and recruit host families and to find support for this visionary program. To date Project Children has brought over 300 children from Northern Ireland to Cleveland for a six week summer stay. Mary has served as president and John as legal counsel of the Catherine Horstmann Home for Retarded Working Girls.

John, whose parents emigrated here from Co. Galway in the 1920’s, was co-founder of Coyne-Kangesser, the largest parking operator in Ohio. He is now vice president of Ampco System Parking. Mary Coyne (nee O'Rourke) forged a successful career in real estate. She is the daughter of Irish immigrants also from Co. Galway and Co. Down. Both have been honored for their many volunteer activities.

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