

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

*100 Year of Ministering
to the needs of children*

Mike Galloway
President & CEO

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reflect on one hundred years of ministry and the awesome challenges for the future. During the first years of the 20th century, the Florida Annual Conference took action to establish an orphanage. Arrangements were made to purchase "valuable property", consisting of a large building and eight town lots of fine rich land, and also a tract of forty acres of land adjacent to Enterprise. The owner, Miss Emma Tucker, had a great heart for children and a desire to see the orphanage funded. She offered the property to the Florida Annual Conference for the grand price of \$1,250. The first two children were brought to the new Orphanage in 1908, located on the banks of Lake Monroe in Enterprise, on the St. Johns River.

Today, the Florida United Methodist Children's Home sits on a lovely campus of one hundred acres, ministering to the needs of children, most of whom are unable to live with their natural families for a variety of reasons. One of the hallmarks of the Children's Home has been its capacity to adapt the nature of its ministry as the needs of children evolved. In the early 1900's, the average life

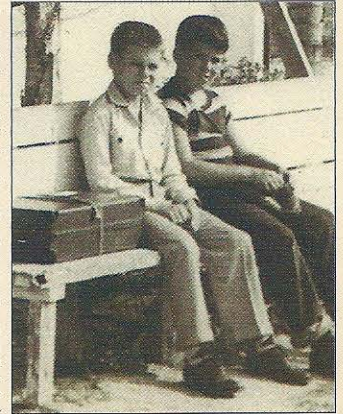
span of adults was only half of what it is today. Due to death, incapacity and other personal problems, some children were left without families to nurture, protect and love them. Primarily through the work of the local United Methodist pastor, children were brought to the Children's Home, where they were provided a safe haven and an opportunity to reach their God-given potential.



During the hundred years that have passed since those first children were placed, the Florida United Methodist Children's Home has accepted literally thousands of children into its sanctuary. Its alumni have spread throughout the world, protecting us in the military and in local law enforcement, teaching and healing others, rearing families of their own, contributing to the healthy development of their families, churches, communities, our nation and world. We continue to support the development of our children in mind, in body and in spirit.

In 1908, the Board of Trustees asked for the "hearty cooperation of the pastors, laity and churches to help underwrite and grow the new Orphanage." Pastors were told to "bring this matter before their people and use such means and methods as in their godly judgment may best effect results, interesting their people in this great undertaking." The Board also requested that the fourth Sunday be set aside and called "Orphanage Day." Each pastor was requested to preach on the subject of children and the Orphanage and take an offering for its support and to help

cultivate the funds to develop its new property. Children in the Sunday Schools were also taught to be "interested, instructed and encouraged in this good work". At this time, Fifth Sundays were officially designated as Orphanage Sundays and contributions taken on those days to support the Home. One hundred years later, Fifth Sundays continue to serve as the foundation for gathering from churches in the Florida Annual Conference the financial support for the Children's Home. During its first year, the Orphanage collected \$1,116 to cover partial payment on the property, to pay Miss Emma Tucker, the single staff member, and to cover the operational expenses for caring for its children.



The Florida United Methodist Children's Home has evolved into a multi-faceted ministry to children and families, serving children from throughout the Conference. Out-of-home care for children from birth into adulthood is provided in traditional and therapeutic residential care on our Enterprise campus, where we are also serving children in crisis in a new Crisis Intervention Home. Both short and long term care is available in the homes of foster families licensed, trained and supervised by the Children's Home. Limited adoption services are also available. An early childhood education center is available to assist with care of very young children in foster care and other children in the community. Our professional staff are providing a variety of services to families, including placement planning, counseling, referral to local counselors and pastors, parenting education and reunification of family members.

During the celebration of one hundred years of ministry, it is appropriate that we plan for the future. The Board and staff have initiated an intensive strategic planning process to prayerfully discern the role and nature of this ministry for the future. With consultation from the United Methodist Association, the Board has adopted a set of principles that will guide further development of a strategic plan designed to provide a framework for the next stages of the planning process. Efforts will be made to engage the leadership of the Florida Annual Conference, local churches, and clergy and lay membership, as well as state advocates and experts on the needs of children, as we explore the further development of this ministry.

We thank all of you for your support in this life-changing ministry and invite you to join with us in Celebrating 100 Years of Serving Children!

Mike Galloway, President & CEO



2007 Annual Report



Your Children's Home has been active throughout 2007 reaching children from almost every district within the conference. Children from single parent families, two parent families, foster children and preschool children have all been served here in the name of Jesus Christ.

Ministry to children includes evaluation, counseling, recreation therapy, medical care, social integration, education, housing, spiritual growth and enrichment as well as a safe environment in which to grow socially and to mature as children of God.

The Children's Home is proud of its two accreditations – E.A.G.L.E. which is awarded by the United Methodist Association, and C.O.A. which is awarded by the Council of Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc., a national agency. It is also recognized by the Florida Department of Children and Families. It is known as one of the premier children and family services ministry within the United Methodist Church.

It is a joy and a pleasure to serve as the chair of the Board of Trustees. To be a part of this Centennial year at the Children's Home is truly an honor.

Dr. Mont Duncan
Chair, Board of Trustees

2007 Services Summary

Information and Referral for private inquiries	332
Number of Children Served in Residential Care.....	113
Number of Children Served in Shelter Care	60
Number of Children Exiting Care According to Plan.....	52
Number of Children Served in Child Care Program	185
Number of Children Served in Independent Living/Higher Education	16
Number of Parents/Caregivers Enrolled in Parenting Classes	55
Average Length of Stay for Children Exiting Residential Care	8-12 months
Average Length Residential Waiting List	60 days
Number of Children Served in Foster Care	156
Number of Children Adopted	18

Affiliations

- A ministry related to the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.
- A member of the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.
- A member of the Florida Coalition for Children.
- A member of the Florida Association of Licensed Adoption Agencies.
- A member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.
- Licensed by the State of Florida as a Child Placing/Child Caring Agency by the Department of Children and Families.
- A member of the Alliance for Children and Families.
- A member of the South Eastern Childcare Association.



Today the demand for out-of-home care is to provide services to an older, more emotionally disturbed, less socially and academically skilled and spiritually undeveloped youth, than we have seen in the past. Children traditionally referred to our residential program by Child Welfare authorities, are now more likely to be served in one of our foster homes where lengths of stay are shorter because permanency (reunification or adoption) is achieved sooner.

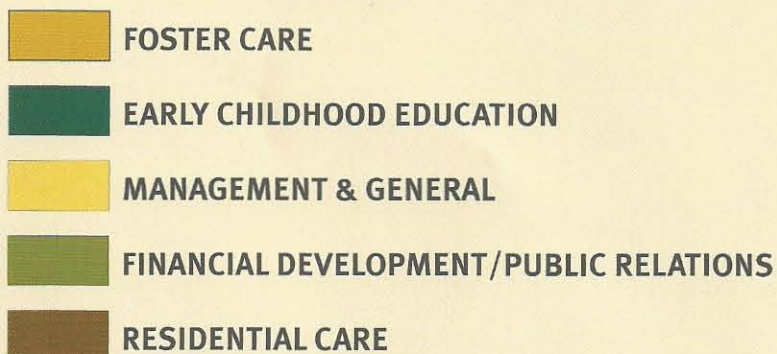
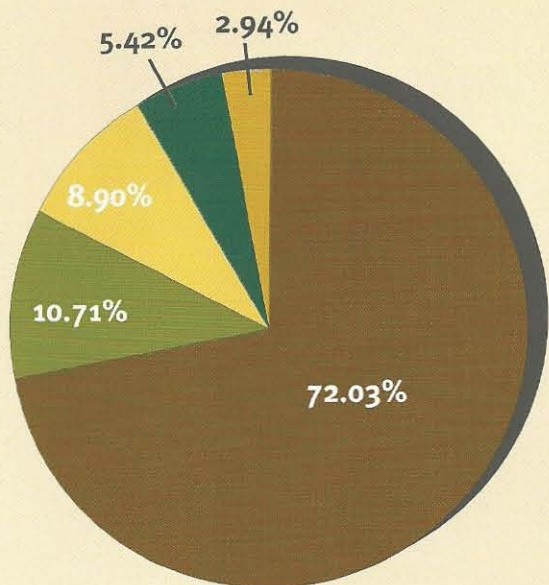
There is much more emphasis today to keep children, who need out of home placement, in their own communities and schools. Children who do remain in close contact with the social systems with which they are most familiar seem to suffer less from the inevitable stress that accompanies even a temporary separation from their family.

We are seeing an increasing number of older youth, 18 and above, who are in need of health care, mental health counseling, shelter, vocational training, employment and spiritual support. Rarely does a day go by that we do not hear about a young adult who is struggling and on the verge of being homeless.

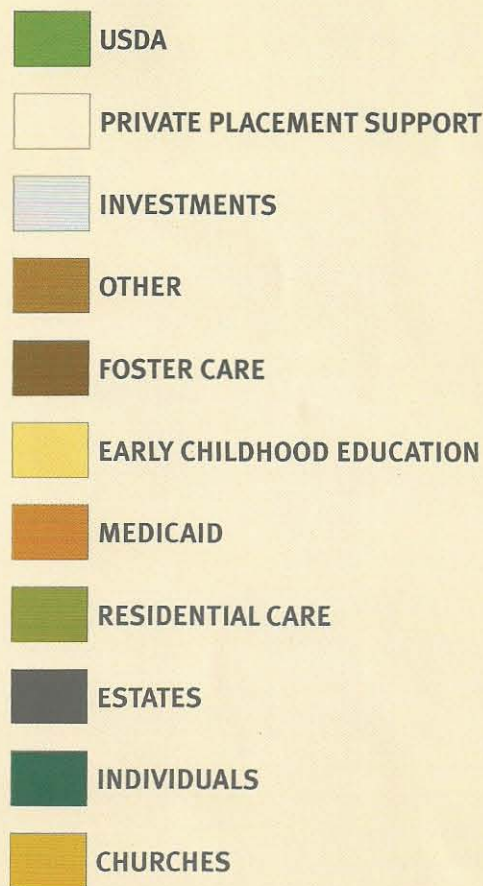
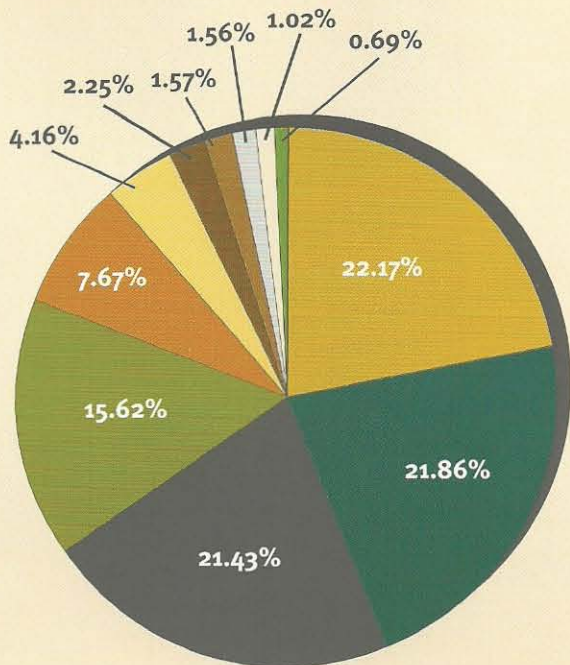
As we celebrate our centennial year we continue to be challenged by the highly specialized needs of children and youth referred to our programs. In response to these trends we have seen a growth in 2007 to our continuum of care that now includes Early Child Care, Emergency Shelter Care, Foster Care, Traditional Residential Care, Specialized Therapeutic Group Care and Transitional Living Care.

Wayne Strickland
Sr. Director of Residential Care

FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES \$10,152,886



TOTAL INCOME \$10,044,116



Equal Rights Statement

The services of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home are available to all children regardless of sex, age, race, creed, or national origin that can be addressed and cared for within the scope of program services with the financial resources of the agency.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

FINANCIAL AUDITOR

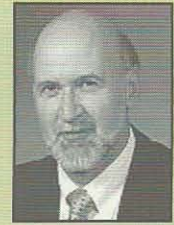
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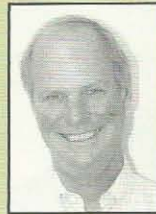
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