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### **Florida United Methodist Children's Home Adopts The Teaching Family Model**

**Enterprise, FL**—The Florida United Methodist Children's Home is committed to providing the highest quality care to the children we serve. Part of that process includes continually re-evaluating the services provided to ensure that the care provided best meets the unique needs of each child. Through that process, the Children's home has identified the Teaching Family Model (TFM) as the model of care that best fits those needs, and began implementing it last month.

The TFM is a cognitive behavioral model of care that is based on the belief that much of the behaviors people display are learned. Behavioral issues often stem from a lack of interpersonal relationships and skills. By providing positive, caring relationships and teaching new skills, behavioral issues can be overcome and new behaviors taught.

Acquiring a broad and comprehensive set of skills increases the likelihood that the children will find success as a student, an employee, and as a positively contributing member of his or her community.

The TFM has shown through multiple evidence-based studies to be a very successful program. The American Psychological Association through its research has reported results showing that children in programs that use the TFM have fewer contacts with law enforcement, have higher graduation rates, as well as improved grades and school attendance compared to non-TFM programs. Full implementation of the TFM will take about three years.

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For more information about the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, please contact Mark Cobia, Manager of Marketing and Communications at 386.668.4774 or [mark.cobia@fumch.org](mailto:mark.cobia@fumch.org).

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was established in 1908 in Enterprise, Florida on the banks of Lake Monroe. The Children's Home provides services to families and children from childhood to adulthood. Our Residential Care Program provides school-aged children who have been victimized by abuse, abandonment, or neglect with a family-style home environment cared for by loving houseparents, education, counseling, recreation, and ministry opportunities. The Children's Home also

provides Foster Care, an Emergency Shelter, an Independent Living Program and early childhood education to the community, and is supported primarily through the generosity of churches with the United Methodist Florida Conference, individuals, and legacy gifts. For more information, visit [www.fumch.org](http://www.fumch.org).