

VOLUNTEER STORIES

"It was an honor to be able to help at the Children's Home and see all the wonderful thing that is happening there for the children. Seeing the smiles on the faces of the children during our puppet show was priceless. It didn't matter the age of the child or adult everyone was laughing and having a wonderful time. Words cannot express how I felt being able to help in some small way with the thrift store. We (youth group and leaders) went to the children's home to help them and went home feeling very blessed to have been able to be there. The Children's Home is a blessing to the children, but also for those who come to help in some small way. Thank you for the privilege of doing my small part in helping a child to have a better future. "

Carroll



My church mission team, consisting of youth and adults, has volunteered at the Florida United Methodist Children's Home three times now. We had no idea what to expect when we first arrived. What we found was an extraordinarily beautiful campus. We also found a wonderful home where children in need have a loving family setting.

Our group has done everything from digging ditches, yard work, helping prepare the new resale store, cleaning the bunkhouse, and doing a puppet presentation. The quilting team at our church has made many quilts that are lovingly prayed over. A beautiful quilt is given to every new child upon arrival to the home.

We are always touched by the love and compassion that we see from all the adults who work at this exceptional place. Every team member, whether youth or adult feels so blessed, and can hardly wait to return again. We feel like every little job that we are assigned is worthy, if we are helping even one child.

Last year we were accepted to participate in the annual Santa's workshop. The joy that we experience at the Santa's workshop was the best Christmas present anyone could receive. It was wonderful to work one-on-one with the children helping them to make a lovely gift to share or keep. How uplifting to see Christ's love all around in the children and the dedicated volunteers that make this event happens. We are excited to be returning again.

Our team is scheduled to return next summer to volunteer again. Even my youth that have graduated and gone away to college have indicated that they want to be a part of this trip. We are honored to be allowed to volunteer at such an outstanding place.

Robin Deegan

Director of Youth and Children's Ministries Venice-Nokomis United Methodist Church

"It warms my heart to see my team take time from their busy lives to help these children that have been dealt a bad hand. I feel so fortunate to have had my grandparents to take care of me. I love volunteering at the Children's Home. I can't wait to go again"

Shelby

"Spending time at the Florida United Methodist children's home is always spiritually uplifting! I truly appreciate the struggles that the children face. I pray that in some small way my presence is a blessing to them and all of the adults that pour their time and energy into running such a home! Such dedication and love. I am in awe of such young over comers! I am blessed to be a part of such a grand outpouring of Christ's love and encouragement."

Ellen