

Empowering children and families to experience the transforming love of Christ through wholistic care.





Director of Education Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Another school year has passed and, as you can imagine, it was another difficult one. The second school year that included COVID was easier than the first, but we still had times of remote learning along with social distancing and other safety protocols. It wasn't until the end of the school year that things began to approach what we remember as normal school days. Despite these difficulties, the children pressed on and still managed to remain fairly focused on their academics. In fact, we had several children finish the school year on the A/B Honor Roll!

Once again we were able to print a hard-cover yearbook for all of our Legacy Scholar Students. We feel that having school yearbooks is an important part of growing up and a great way for our youth to preserve their fond memories for years to come. And of course there was time set aside during school hours for the youth to get all those messages and signatures from their friends. We wrapped up the school year with a party that included water slides, pool time, and pizza.

But just because it's summer, that doesn't mean that education is out of the picture. Many of our youth come to the Children's Home academically behind. Because of the dysfunctional or abusive home environment that these children come from, school is often not a priority. And in the larger schools, they simply fall between the cracks and get further behind. Summer is the time we focus on credit recovery for these students, giving them the guidance and support they need to catch up to their appropriate grade level. For those who are not in need of credit recovery, there's also a summer reading program to keep their minds engaged.

As we look forward to the next school year that begins in August, we expect to have all our youth back in the classroom. We're also looking forward to restarting our community service days. During these days of service, our youth volunteer to do work projects for local area schools, churches, and others that include yard work, painting, and minor maintenance. They also visit local nursing homes and independent living facilities to bring some cheer to the residents. And while they're technically working during these days of service, the children have a lot of fun and really look forward to them. More importantly, the children learn that no matter what their situation is, they can always take the time to help others.

Trevis Bright

Director of Education Florida United Methodist Children's Home

ON THE COVER:

Youth out for a summer walk on our shaded Enterprise campus.

A CONVERSATION WITH SAM

Sam is a young man who had been living in a foster home for a few years when he turned eighteen and aged out of the system. He had heard about the Independent Living Program and applied since he felt he wasn't quite ready to be on his own. Our Independent Living Program is intended for young adults like Sam, ages eighteen to twenty-six, who feel that they would benefit from additional guidance and support. Over the past two years, Sam has been working at a nearby McDonald's while studying computer technology at Daytona State College. We recently had a chance to sit down with Sam and ask him how it was going.

What did you see as the biggest difference between the foster home you were in and the Independent Living Program at the Children's Home?

The biggest thing was they helped me to get my life organized. Life skills were a big part of that and included keeping my room organized. When I was in foster care, I could clean up my room by simply shoving everything under the bed and out of sight. Not so in Independent Living. My house parents were hard on me, but in a good way.

I had to get used to more structure. I had to get up in the mornings and not just sleep late. I had to go to work and I had to go to school. Bottom line was I had to learn to be more responsible and not be lazy. Now I'm getting things done, and that's really exciting for me.

What else did you learn in Independent Living?

I learned a lot of basics from how to write a good email to keeping my financial records organized. The house parents helped me set up and maintain my savings. When I was younger I might save a little and then just spend the rest on whatever I wanted at the time. But I learned the importance of attaching goals to my savings. After a couple of years I was able to purchase my first car – a 2017 KIA Soul. Now I have reliable transportation and I'm not in debt with it!



I learned how to grocery shop, which I had never done before. And it's not as easy as I thought! First you have to consider your budget, then you have to think about what's healthy, and then you can throw in some treats. My house parents also taught me how to cook, something I hadn't really done before coming to the Children's Home.

They also helped me get registered for classes at Daytona State College. The application process can be complicated, but with their help and me being better organized, it wasn't too difficult. For the past two years I've been working on my Bachelor's Degree in computer technology.

Where do you see yourself down the road?

I would like to still be in the Independent Living Program for the next couple of years, continue to get even more organized and save up money. I also want to start a career in corporate IT after completing my degree. Eventually I want to have a family of my own.

ANNUAL REPOR



SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Inquiries for Residential Care information and referral

Number of children served in residential and shelter care

Number of children served in foster care



188

24,150

1,332

235

Number of foster homes added in 2020

Number served in Independent Living

Number of children served in Early Childhood Education

Number of therapy sessions provided to the community by Circle of Friends Services

Number of volunteers

04,**246** Number of volunteer hours performed

OPERATING REVENUE

Contributions \$7,3	894,846
Fee for service 6,0	27,853
Childcare services 1,0	34,008
Other income 4	22,636
Interest & dividends 8	805,142
Split-interest agreements 2	207,765
Net realized and unrealized	
gains on investments 7,1	.76,913

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$23,069,163
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EXPENSES

Program service Residential Care Independent Living and scholarship Foster care Child care center Outpatient Services	\$9,844,874 706,105 680,057 1,605,727 1,669,738
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSES	\$14,506,501
Other expenses Fundraising General & Administrative	\$906,786 1,340,689
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,902,517

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS \$6,166,646

Endowment Funds at the Children's Home

An endowment fund is a permanent, self-sustaining source of funding. Endowed assets are invested, and each year, a portion of the value of the fund is paid out to support the operations of the Children's Home. Any earnings in excess of this distribution are used to build the fund's market value. In this way, an endowed fund can grow and provide support for its designated purpose in perpetuity. When an endowed fund is established, a permanent legacy of support is created for the Florida United Methodist Children's Home.

Endowment Investment Summary For the month ending December 31, 2020

General Endowment	\$20,226,430
Education Endowment	3,285,138
Charitable Gift Annuity	940,055
Total Donor Restricted Funds	24,451,623
Board Designated Endowment	\$15,449,153
Education Scholarship	1,236,698
TOTAL ENDOWED FUNDS	\$41,137,474



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PLANNED GIVING WHAT TO DO WITH UNSPENT RETIREMENT SAVINGS

We all want security for the future, which is why we are told to plan for retirement. Most of us hold retirement savings in assets such as IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s and pensions. If you are like many people, you've held these assets for a long time and have seen them grow.

Because of the way these funds are distributed, you likely will not use all of your retirement money during your lifetime. So, the question for many individuals is, "What will I do with my unspent retirement savings?"

While most people would like to care for family members after they are gone, the problem with giving your unspent retirement savings to your family (other than your surviving spouse) is that the majority of your savings will be taxed. When your family members (other than a spouse) receive retirement accounts such as a 401(k) or IRA, your family members will pay tax at their ordinary income rate resulting in less of your remaining money actually going to your family.

The better solution is to give your family the assets that step-up in basis at death such as stock and real estate or life insurance. Unlike your retirement assets, these assets may be received and sold by your family with little or no tax due. Your retirement assets actually make a better gift to charity. This is because a charitable organization like the Children's Home can receive the entire asset tax free and make use of the entire amount to care for the children. You can also make a gift to the Children's Home after your passing and care for your loved ones by creating a testamentary charitable remainder unitrust funded with you retirement assets. You can actually put this plan into motion now by creating the trust and making the trustee the beneficiary of your retirement funds. At your death, the trust will be funded and begin paying income to your loved ones. You will rest easy knowing that your family and chosen charities are well cared for.

Perhaps the easiest way to make a gift of your retirement assets through your estate is with a beneficiary designation. You will need to complete a beneficiary designation form provided by your retirement account custodian. The benefit is twofold. If you designate the Children's Home, we will benefit from the full value of your gift because your retirement assets will not be taxes at your death and you will be happy knowing your gift will enable us to continue caring for children into the future.

For information about estate planning contact,

ELISABETH GADD Chief Development Officer 386.753.2066

plannedgiving@fumch.org www.fumchlegacy.org

WHY BE A LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBER?

The Legacy Circle is an exclusive program established to recognize and memorialize those prestigious friends of the ministry whose testamentary gifts have become their "legacy" in support of future generations of children. Individuals who make their intentions known to us are enrolled in the Legacy Circle.

Anyone can become a member by making a future gift intention in their will or trust, through a beneficiary designation, or through a charitable gift annuity. While Legacy Circle members have various reasons for wanting to support the Children's Home, we had a conversation with a member recently who told us why she was so passionate about our ministry.

"Many, many years ago, my husband and I attended a Methodist Church in Melbourne and learned – through a spokesperson from the Children's Home – just what all you do there to help children in need. Later we made the trip to Enterprise and toured it, seeing the cottages and school. We were greatly impressed! We had always made our Fifth Sunday offering to support the Children's Home. But we started making additional gifts and finally became Legacy Circle members. You do such wonderful work!"

What really inspired us to get involved was hearing about some of the amazing stories of transformation in the newsletter. We discovered that the children not only learned in school, but through after school activities like music and youth groups. Although my husband died twelve years ago, I am very pleased that our money is being well spent. I am helping innocent children to move on and have a good life!

I think the biggest impact the Children's Home is having on these young people is that they are learning about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. They learn that they are loved and there is a plan for their lives. I believe they learn that we all live in an imperfect world and we all need to love and forgive. I'm grateful to the Children's Home for their work and thankful to be a part of it."

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES RECEIVED BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND MARCH 31, 2021



Youth from the Oviedo United Methodist Church volunteer at our Heart & Home Resale Shop

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One of our youth with his Run 4 Life trophy



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Fun at the end of school year party

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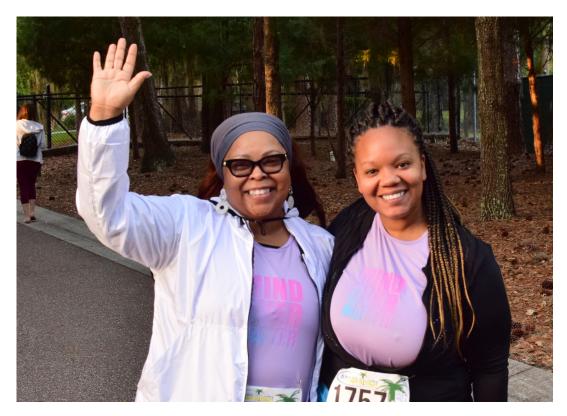
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Madeline (foster parent) with stepdaughter at Run 4 Life



Our teenage girls learning to make tortillas

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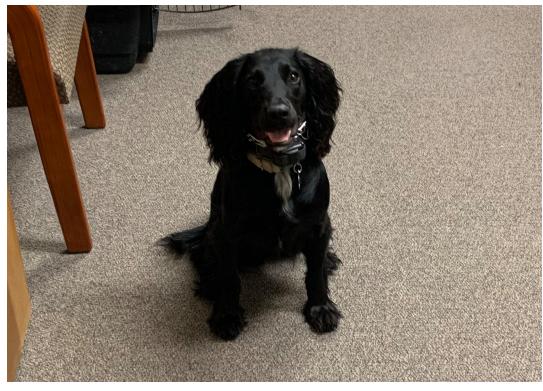
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