



A PUBLICATION OF TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

COMPOSITION

@ TBCH

Summer/Fall 2024



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes has been welcoming children in hard places with the love of Christ for 133 years! Because of the faithfulness of churches, businesses and individuals who have a heart for children and families who are struggling, we have been able to serve over 255 children and their families over the past year. Thank you for your prayers, for your service, and for sharing your financial resources with TBCH. Our ministry operates without the use of government funds. We have chosen to rely on God's provision through His people to supply the resources necessary to meet the needs of the children and families we serve.

TBCH serves children through two programs. Our **Foster Care** program allows us to place children who are in the state's custody into homes where Jesus is loved and served and where children will have this godly influence in their lives for however long they reside in that home. Our foster care team and volunteers span from Memphis to Kingsport. The other program for providing gospel centered care is our **Residential Care** program. Our campuses in Brentwood, Chattanooga and Millington are all in the process of exciting changes related to our **Firm Foundations Project**.

One of the core values that drives our ministry is that we will provide a safe environment for the children we serve. TBCH has made changes throughout the years to fulfill this core value and we are now faced with the need to make the change in our residential care program to individual bedrooms and bathrooms for each resident. Because of what many of our children have experienced or been exposed to, this need becomes more apparent as each year passes.

TBCH is making sacrifices to bring this vision into reality. We are reducing the size of our campuses without reducing the number of children we serve. While liquidated property is helping us put our plans into action we are still in great need of your financial assistance. Thank you to those of you whose churches give faithfully to the Cooperative Program and who also make a direct gift to TBCH through the Mother's Day Offering or through your annual missions offerings, and thank you to all our supporters for praying, serving, and giving!

Defending the Defenseless,



Greg McCoy
President/Treasurer



Residential Care

Providing safe, Christ-centered homes on campuses in Millington, Brentwood and Chattanooga for children aged 5-18, and Independent Living Services for residents transitioning to adulthood.



Foster Care

Providing safe homes across the state through free training and support of Christian foster parents, and placement services through a no-cost contract with the Department of Children's Services.

Welcoming
children in
hard places
with the
love of
Christ!



WWW.TENNESSEECHILDREN.ORG

office@tennesseechildren.org • 1 800 624 8591 • P.O. Box 2206, Brentwood, TN 37024

255* Children Served in the past year



128 KIDS IN CARE**

6 IN INDEPENDENT LIVING

68 FOSTER HOMES STATEWIDE

23 ADOPTIONS & 14 SAID YES TO CHRIST!

(*FISCAL YEAR, **AT THE WRITING OF THIS REPORT)



Residential Care

SUMMER IS IN FULL SWING AT TBCH!



Exploring the Wonders Center and Science Museum



Friends from South Korea praying for our campuses and houseparents



One of the more industrious girls making & selling cotton candy

VISIT US AT TENNESSEECHILDREN.ORG FOR INFO ABOUT OUR CAMPUSES, HOUSEPARENTING, AND GETTING INVOLVED IN OUR RESIDENTIAL CARE PROGRAM.

Independent Living residents learning skills in prep classes



PRAY • SERVE • GIVE



(To give a gift now,
just scan here!)



The Tipton Jeeps Group visited kids at the The Ranch with their decked out rides and a generous gift.



The Awanas at First Baptist Church Woodbury chose TBCH as their mission project this year, collecting their change each week to support the kids in our care.

Students from Grace Christian Academy in Franklin raised money for TBCH by participating in a service project through the Both Hands Foundation in Nashville.



Thanks to our friends at Clearview Baptist Church, one of our campus homes got some much needed landscaping and clean-up.



IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL SEASON!
PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR KIDS,
STAFF + FOSTER PARENTS!



Abe Mauk, Aline Hannah, Aline Wesley, Anne Brown, Devan Whitten, Armando Foronda, Avery Margaret Shannon, Barbara K. Stow, Barbara Zanzig and Mary Wilkinson, Barry Felts, Becca Warren, Becky Bush, Benjamin Kneisley, Betty Cathcart, Betty Lou and Peggy Ruth, Betty Sanders, Betty Sue Angel McKay, Billy C. Brooks, Blanche Parrish, Bob Hensley, Bonnie Graves, Brad Hinshaw, Carl W. Willis, Carolyn Ogden, Charlie Randolph, Clara Nixon, Claude M. and Ann Prince, Colonel W. Harris, Cynthia Simons, Daryl Eaton, Donna Roberson, Elaine Hines Corlew, Emily Belitz, Eston Dale Shipp, Flo Burcham, Flo Burcham, Flora T. Nelson,

Honor and Memorial Gifts

have been given in tribute to those named here. We are deeply grateful for their love and support of the children at TBCH.

Frances Bryant, Fred Perdue, Gene E. Gafford, Gerald L. Stow, Gladys Jackson, Gloria Dickson, Greg L. McCoy, James H. Ragsdale, Jane Brown, Jarrett B. Millsaps, Jason White, Jerry Sullivan, Jesse Wallace, Jessica Patton, Joann Bledsoe, JoAnn Williamson, Joe Fergusson, John Henry Smith, Joy Hartsell, Julia Weeks, Kathy Warren, Kenny Sanders, Leann Drinnen, Lela Denney, Lela Frances Pinson, Linda Greene, Louise Bales and Letha Fletcher, Louise Garrison, Louise Parrish, Lucille Cook Hines, Lynn Walker, Marilyn Sorrells, Mark Camp, Marvin Crowder, Mary J. McGinnis, Mary Young, Melvin Sloan, Michael A. Roberts, Michael Kohari, Mike Bryant, Mike Huddleston, Mike Yarbrough, Mitzi Wilhite, Nancy Wilson, Nellie Brooks, Norma Mobbs, Odell Frye, Pat Hines, Patsy Warren, Paul L. Patterson, Pauline Serrett and Mildred Oonk, Rachael Jent, Reba Maness, Richard Martin, Robbie Barron, Robert Odom, Ron and Mardi Lucas, Ruby Brown, Sandra McKee, Sandy McPherson, Shannon Cooksey, Sharon Johnson, Shelia Ann Bevel, Shirley Reese, Stan Austin, Stanley Scott, Sue M. Ellis, Susie Walden, The Women of Northside Church, Theora Turner, Tommy Gentry, Tony Short, Tracy Watson, Vera Curry, Wanda G. Gardner, Wilton Lewis



GIVE HAPPY

The annual Combined Federal Campaign offers federal, postal, and military personnel the opportunity to support their favorite charitable organization with gifts through payroll deduction, raising millions of dollars nationwide. Last year, TBCH received more than \$4,400 from CFC friends seeking to make a true difference in the lives of Tennessee's children. This year, the CFC runs from September 1 to January 15. Thank you to all our federal, postal and military friends, for what you do every day and for faithfully supporting TBCH. (TBCH CFC#66838)



Foster Care



After their adoption the home was crowded. Then Melissa and George got the call for a newborn baby boy, and they said they had room for one more. A year and a half later, Johnathon is now theirs forever, too.

Through this time, they knew they needed more room, and prayed for God to open doors. He did just that. A new addition to their home was completed the day before the adoption! I jokingly suggested we could add more kids, but with four they have decided to close their home. The Corbett's were the first home I took as a case manager, they were my first adoption, and Johnathon was my 10th adoption. I have seen this family through a lot over the past couple of years. I am sad to see them close but have loved watching them grow."

The following update from Foster Care Case Manager Tracie McCormack, is shared with permission. It is a glimpse into

THE HEART OF A FOSTER FAMILY, THE DEDICATION OF OUR STAFF, AND THE PROVIDENCE OF THE LORD:

"The Corbett family has been with TBCH for four years and have adopted all their children through us. When we license our families, we encourage them to not only be a family to these children but be the hands and feet of Jesus. This family did exactly that! They have been absolutely precious. Their first adoption was little miss Adeline. They felt that they had more love to give and took on a sibling set of two brothers. They have seen these boys through some tough times, but love prevailed and salvation in the Lord followed! Praise the Lord!



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J came into his foster home as an almost 1-month old, and now he is their forever baby boy! He has grown tremendously, and he is notoriously attached to his mom and dad. Everyone was so thrilled today to make this permanent and official...now he is in a family that will love him greatly and give him the truth of the Gospel. Praise the Lord!



After 4 years in foster care, D & J were adopted in June! J was over the moon to receive a beginner Bible as an adoption gift. She squeezed it to her chest & kept telling everyone "I can't believe I finally have my very own Bible!" The road has been long and challenging, but the girls finally have the permanency they deserve and a family who will point them toward Christ in all things.



J has been in foster care since 2021, was placed with TBCH in 2023 and immediately fit right into the family! It is so beautiful to think that the Lord had this perfectly lined up and grew that family by one special little boy. They were excited to make official and permanent what they knew in their heart when they first met him.



FOR INFO ABOUT
OUR FOSTER CARE
PROGRAM VISIT:
TENNESSEECHILDREN.ORG



K was adopted after 1445 days in foster care. It has been a blessing to watch him grow into his own, going from communicating by only grunts to chattering endlessly to all his loved ones. He is now a happy, loving boy who adores hiking, digging in the dirt with his brothers & swimming at the YMCA. It is beautiful to see God answering prayers!



Building homes where children

FLOURISH

F FIRM
FOUNDATIONS
PROJECT



Tennessee Baptist
Children's Homes

ABOUT THE FIRM FOUNDATIONS PROJECT

Every child deserves to feel safe.

The children at TBCH are more often coming into our care from increasingly traumatic circumstances, and many of them have experienced abuse. Studies indicate that as many as 39% of abused children are revictimized, and a home designed to provide the safety of individual bedrooms and bathrooms is a simple and practical way to minimize that risk. Our goal is to provide the safest and healthiest environment we can as a firm foundation on which these children can flourish.

And we need your help.

With your support, the Firm Foundations Project will replace our aging facilities with brand new campus homes, including a private bedroom and bathroom for each child.

SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE



New Homes Will Make a Difference

39% of all abused children
are revictimized

3 IN 4 children in our care
report past abuse

100% of children in our care are
safer with private bedrooms
and bathrooms!



“I tell anyone who asks that the Children’s Homes saved my life...”

They provided shelter at a time when shelter and care were thin on the ground in my life. It was the first time that I recall getting three meals a day, every day. I was a malnourished 8-year-old abuse victim. You don't forget the people who saved your life.”

— Former TBCH resident



Remembering Bert Sutton, First Director of The Ranch at Millington

February 8, 1938 — July 22, 2024

Albert Clinton Sutton Jr.'s career was marked by a profound commitment to helping others and serving the Lord. He spent 13 years with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service before answering a higher calling as an Agricultural Missionary with the International Mission Board. He later became the first director of what was then known as The Boys' Ranch, a campus of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in Millington, TN, where he served for 11 years. He was the widower of Eleanor Virginia Sutton, and is survived by his daughters, Anita Caradine (and husband Johnny) of Millington and Sharon Cibulka (and husband Jeff) of Covington; a brother, Joe Sutton (and wife Sharon) of Wilmington, NC, five grandchildren and a great-grandson. TBCH is deeply grateful for Mr. Sutton's service to our ministry, and for the foundation of care he helped to establish for the children past, present and future at The Ranch.

HELLO NEW STAFF!



**Bart
Bishop**

Maintenance Coordinator Chattanooga

Bart is from Harrison, TN, and formerly worked at Sequoyah Nuclear Plant. The opportunity to work in a Christian environment brought him to TBCH, where he hopes to make a difference in people's lives and work with a like-minded team.



**Emily
Keffer**

Foster Care Case Manager, Memphis area

Emily is from Nashville, graduated from Liberty University, and served with the high school ministry at Bellevue Baptist Church. She's looking forward to "seeing kids get placed in homes where they will be loved and cared for, and most importantly taught how very much Jesus loves them."



**Carlie
Love**

Foster Care Case Manager, Knoxville area

Carlie is originally from Campbell County, and graduated from King University in Bristol, TN. "I have always enjoyed working with children... God answered my prayers by providing a job in the field I hoped for that also aligns with my beliefs."

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Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes

Welcoming children in hard places with the love of Christ

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