

@TBCCH



a publication of  
Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes





## *A Note from our President:*

It was May 1891. One hundred thirty-five years ago. The Lord had placed a burden for children in hard places on the heart of a lady who was a member of FBC Nashville. Georgia Eastman rallied the troops and by November of 1891, the first children were placed in the care of the Baptist Orphan's Home. The fruit of that burden exists today in the form of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes.

Mrs. Eastman's burden continues to be shared, or at least should be shared, by every TN Baptist. The Biblical admonition to care for those who cannot care for themselves has not been lifted! Some of us have been called vocationally to serve children in hard places: living on our campuses, working in our offices, meeting the needs of children through foster care and adoption, or providing case management.

While a few are called to make it their life's work, all believers are called to do something! That's why, on Mother's Day 2026, we are asking every TN Baptist to pray for the kids, to plan to come and serve our kids at some point during the year, and/or to give generously to the cause.

The need remains. The burden remains. The need for financial support remains. Thank you for sharing the load,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg".

Greg McCoy  
President/Treasurer





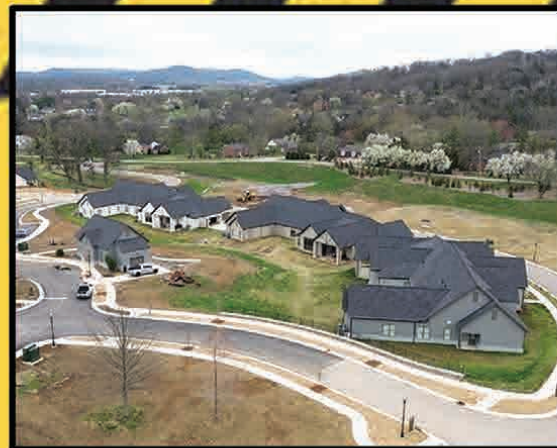


Building homes where children

**FLOURISH**

# UPDATE

The first phase of Firm Foundations is moving along! Kids are now living in three new homes in Brentwood and in two new homes at the Ranch, and foundation work is in progress in Chattanooga. Visit our website for more info or to get involved!



**Welcoming children in hard places with the love of Christ!**



## 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.



**[www.tennesseechildren.org](http://www.tennesseechildren.org)**

office@tennesseechildren.org • 615-376-3140 • PO Box 2206, Brentwood, TN 37024





# Everyone Can Do Something



For the last four years, First Baptist Church of Kingsport has co-hosted Kingdom Weekend, a worship and service event for nine local church youth groups. This year students from FBC Kingsport and Ridgeview Baptist in Church Hill invested their service project time and energy at the TBCH Foster Home in Kingsport.

These students are appreciated not only for their work, but for the reminder that everyone can do something to help care for children in hard places. The Ridgeview group prepped gift bags and entertained the kids, cleaned the playroom and rearranged closets. The Kingsport group cleaned windows and gave some much-needed attention to the yard and property entrance, improving visibility by tackling ivy covering the retaining wall and pillars flanking the driveway.

Their work also revealed a specific example of how *everyone can do something*. To the left of the driveway was a sign identifying the property—weathered, with faded colors and letters peeling off leaving the words almost illegible. This sign needed some tender, loving care, much like the children being served here.

A young artist with the group, Maryann Smith, was excited to step up and help. She had enjoyed drawing and painting her whole life, and saw it as a chance to use her artistic ability to bring a little spark back to the weatherworn sign. With paints and brushes in tow, Maryann faced the task, and like a cold drink of water on a hot day the sign absorbed the paint as each layer was applied. Soon the pores began to fill, and the colors brightened up the surface. Letter by letter the words became more visible, but some of them were too damaged to repaint, so Maryann replaced that portion with a mountain landscape (a specialty of hers), inspired by the surrounding terrain. Successfully refurbished, this work of art will once again greet visitors and residents of the Kingsport Foster Home, pointing them to the new life and hope awaiting those who live and serve here.

“Being part of this experience reminded me that *even small acts of service can have a meaningful impact*,” Maryann said. “Repainting the sign felt like a simple task, but knowing it represents a place of safety, hope, and support for foster families made it deeply meaningful.” The willingness of Maryann and the other students, as well as their sponsors who invested time, talent and energy to serve children in hard places is a clear sign that everyone can do something.



Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor,

*Obtain justice for the orphan,* Plead for the widow's case.

(Isaiah 1:17)

## FOSTER CARE



The most important setting for a child is the home. For a child in foster care, the courtroom might be a close second. At the time of this publication, six children have been adopted this year and seven more are moving toward that goal. These pictures represent the culmination of countless hours of working through the process to unite children with a forever family. We are so grateful for the judges, legal staff, and especially families who devote their lives to obtaining *"justice for the orphan"* in this way. We are also celebrating 16 families across the state who recently attended the required training to become foster parents, stepping up to meet the need. *If you have an interest in foster care visit our website or contact us today!*





# Pray • Serve • Give

Get ready for

May 10!

THE MOTHER'S DAY  
OFFERING



BENEFITTING TENNESSEE BAPTIST  
CHILDREN'S HOMES

...I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.  
*John 15:16*

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes presents the

THE MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING BENEFITTING TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Church Membership \_\_\_\_\_

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS children in hard places from Kingsport find safety and love Baptist Children's Homes!

TBCH does not receive any government funds. We operate debt-free, and we are a 501(c)(3) organization.

Please make a gift to the MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Attention church secretary: Please send this envelope with offering to Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, PO Box 2206, Brentwood, TN 37024

The Mother's Day Offering is the most important fundraising effort of the year for us, and a meaningful way to live out the James 1:27 mandate. We provide free promotional materials to churches and organization (order on our website!) and we will gladly send a representative from TBCH to speak to congregations about the amazing Kingdom work of TBCH.

Thank you to Our  
Neighbors Monthly Supporters!

Our Neighbors have been inviting other Neighbors and now the number of champions enrolled has more than doubled again over last year! While February is our month for emphasizing the Neighbors Program, we welcome new Neighbors all year round. Join today by clicking the Neighbors recurring option when you make your next online gift. Thank you and please keep spreading the word!



Our champions support us in a variety of ways, including employer giving campaigns, donor advised funds, our Neighbors monthly giving program, and estate planning. Contact us for info or help!

TBCH is COA accredited, and a registered 501(c)(3) organization.





# Honor and Memorial Gifts

We are deeply grateful for the gifts given in tribute to those named here, which represent their love and support of the children in our care.

|                            |                        |                          |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Addie L. Rigsby            | Elmer & Juanita Barger | John Burrow              | Patrick R. Steiner     |
| Allen Riggs                | Evelyn Todd Coleman    | John Dacus               | Phyllis Sheffield      |
| Allene Isbell              | Women's SS Class       | Jordan Riley             | Presley U. Betsayad    |
| Anna Pate                  | at Friendship BC       | Joyce Faye Kirby         | PVBC Faithriders       |
| Ardath B. Reese            | Faye Porter            | Joyce Jones              | Randy Davis            |
| Armando Foronda            | Fernando Garcia        | Juanita Scarbrough       | Randy Morgan           |
| August Lee                 | Fran Parkinson         | Judy W. Patton           | Ray W. Hester          |
| Avis Miller                | Frances Frady          | Julia Ann 'Judy' Koehler | Raymond Burnett        |
| Barbara K. Stow            | Frances Redd           | Kaye Falcomata           | Rebecca Manning        |
| Becky Bush                 | Frances Sanders        | Keith Cusac              | Reda Smith             |
| Bettie Sue Daniel Coltharp | Gary Smithson          | Kelsey C. Freeman        | Reed Stacy             |
| Betty Kemp                 | Gary W. Turner         | Kenneth L. Purser        | Richard Johnson        |
| Bettye J. Knisley          | Gerald L. Stow         | Kenneth Lewis            | Richard Killebrew      |
| Bill Rundle                | Gloria C. Maxwell      | Kenny Mullinax           | Ricky Stafford         |
| Bob Haley                  | Greg L. McCoy          | Kerry Killebrew          | Robert F. Wimberley    |
| Bob Wheat                  | Greg Watkins           | Larry Brown              | Robert Jones           |
| Bobby Ward                 | Hal Adams              | Larry Renn Hise          | Robert Stone           |
| Bobbie Woodruff            | Harlan Mullins         | Larry Watkins            | Ron and Mardi Lucas    |
| Bonnette Dawson            | Harley & June Campbell | Larry Williams           | Sandy McPherson        |
| Bonnie Meriwether          | Helen Tarpley          | Leann Drinnen            | Scott & Susan McDonald |
| Brent Burrow               | Henry H. Smith         | Linda Ludington          | Shane Wade             |
| Brian & Courtney Roberts   | Hugh A. Hampton        | Lisa Myers               | Sharon Gregory         |
| Brian Oliver               | Hugh Clement           | Louis F. Vossel          | Sharon Thomas          |
| Carl Crisp                 | J. F. White            | Louise B. McMinn         | Sherman N. Anderson    |
| Carolyn Hall               | Jackie Shumpert        | Lowell Fulcher           | Shirley T. Griffin     |
| Casey Covas                | James & Carol Williams | Lynlee Stacy & Family    | Shirley Troutt         |
| Charlene Mullins           | James Burpow           | Lynn Cawthorne           | Stanley Scott          |
| Charles & Eula Hopper      | James Lafuze           | Maggie & Riley Blevins   | Steve Maloan           |
| Charlie Worrell            | James Matheny          | Mamie M. Hill            | Suzanne Croft          |
| Chris Kerley               | James McCracken        | Mary E. Mccaw            | Ted Ingram             |
| Cindy Boucher              | James N. Prewitt       | Mary Kay Adams           | The R. Roberts Family  |
| Clyde "Doug" Tomlin        | James White            | Mary Young               | Tim Hedge              |
| Connie Hay Large           | Jane Alley             | Megan Thomas             | Todd & Emily DeVree    |
| Dan Johnson                | Janet Campbell         | Melissa Jackson          | Tony Matheny           |
| David Boane                | Janet Cook             | Michael Crawford         | Tonya K. Wills         |
| David Fields               | Jarrett B. Millsaps    | Mike Chase               | Travis Slater          |
| David P. Knisley           | Jason Reed             | Mike Maloan              | Van Waddell            |
| Donald 'Brownie' Holt      | Jean Adams             | Mike Walker              | Victoria Dunn          |
| Donald C. Alley            | Jean Johnson           | Mrs. D. Schwenk          | Warren Richard McCoy   |
| Donnie L. Caldwell         | Jeffrey Pate           | Mrs. J. Hicks            | William Howard Woodall |
| Dorothy Graves             | Jimmy G. Cross         | Mrs. Sharon C. Stokes    | William Teeters        |
| Doug Ellis                 | Joan Daniel            | Myron G. Biggs           | Wilton Lewis           |
| Douglas Duncan             | Joan W. Franklin       | Nora and Ella Hicks      | Zach Ward              |
| Ed Sims                    | Joe Carter             | Patricia Presley         |                        |
| Edward & Catherine Lowery  | Joe Williamson         | Patricia Williams        |                        |

*For more information on designating a charitable bequest to TBCH,  
please email [office@tennesseechildren.org](mailto:office@tennesseechildren.org) with "Charitable bequest assistance"  
in the subject line, or visit [tennesseechildren.org/get-involved/#planned-giving](http://tennesseechildren.org/get-involved/#planned-giving)*



# ANNUAL REPORT

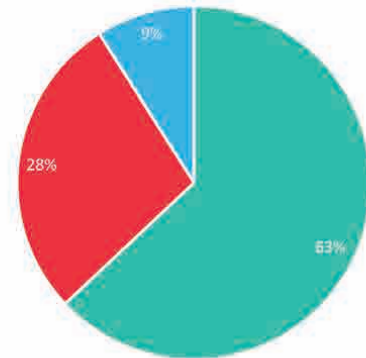
## RESIDENTIAL CARE

The following pages are excerpts from our latest Annual Report related to our Residential Care Program. For the full report, visit [tennesseechildren.org](https://tennesseechildren.org).

TBCH served 76 children on its three campuses in the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This is a modest 4% increase in the number of children served in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

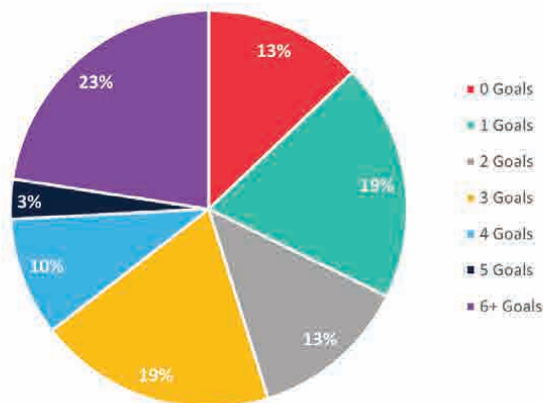
### Permanency Goals for Children in Residential Care

Reunification with parents, guardians or other family members was the goal for 63% of TBCH's residents. TBCH is expected to provide Independent Living services for 29% of its current residents in the future. 9% of TBCH residents have Dual Goals which means they are preparing for more than one possible permanency goal (i.e., Reunification or Independent Living). At present, there are no residents with a goal of Adoption.



Reunification Independent Living Dual Goals Adoption

### IPP Goals for Children in Residential Care



60% of TBCH youth in Residential Care completed at least one of the goals on their Individualized Program Plan (IPP). This is a 10% decrease from the 2022-2023 year. Completion of 6 or more goals dropped significantly from 18% in 22-23 to 4%. The decrease can be attributed to the long tenure of residents (average tenure is 4 years). Goals become increasingly more difficult and more ongoing as residents age. The majority of residents (86%) made progress toward completing goals in the areas monitored by the IPP including: Health/Medical, Education/Vocation, Social Skills and Emotional/Behavioral.

### QCRR for Residential Care

Quarterly Case Records Reviews evaluate the presence, clarity, quality, continuity, and completeness of required documents for children/youth in residential care. The accuracy of the residential files consistently averages 100%.

|             | Q1   | Q2   | Q3   | Q4   |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|
| Brentwood   | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Chattanooga | 100% | 99%  | 100% | 100% |
| Millington  | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

### CFARS for Residential Care

|              | No change | Decrease | Increase |
|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Relationship | 44%       | 30%      | 26%      |
| Safety       | 64%       | 16%      | 20%      |
| Emotionality | 46%       | 28%      | 26%      |
| Disability   | 60%       | 18%      | 22%      |

The Child Functional Assessment Rating Scale rates children in 16 indexes\* organized in 4 domains and scores them accordingly. Decreases in CFARS reflect decline in problem severity, increases show elevations in problem severity and no change shows stability in problem severity. The majority of "No Change" is due to the fact that a large percentage (40%) of the residents are initially rated at the lowest level of 1.

\*Relationship—Hyperactivity, Work/School, Interpersonal Relationships, Cognitive Performance, Behavior in the Home, Danger to Others

Safety—Socio-Legal, Substance Use, Security Management Needs, Danger to Self

Emotionality—Anxiety, Traumatic Stress, Depression

Disability—ADL (Activities of Daily Living) Functioning, Medical/Physical, Thought Process

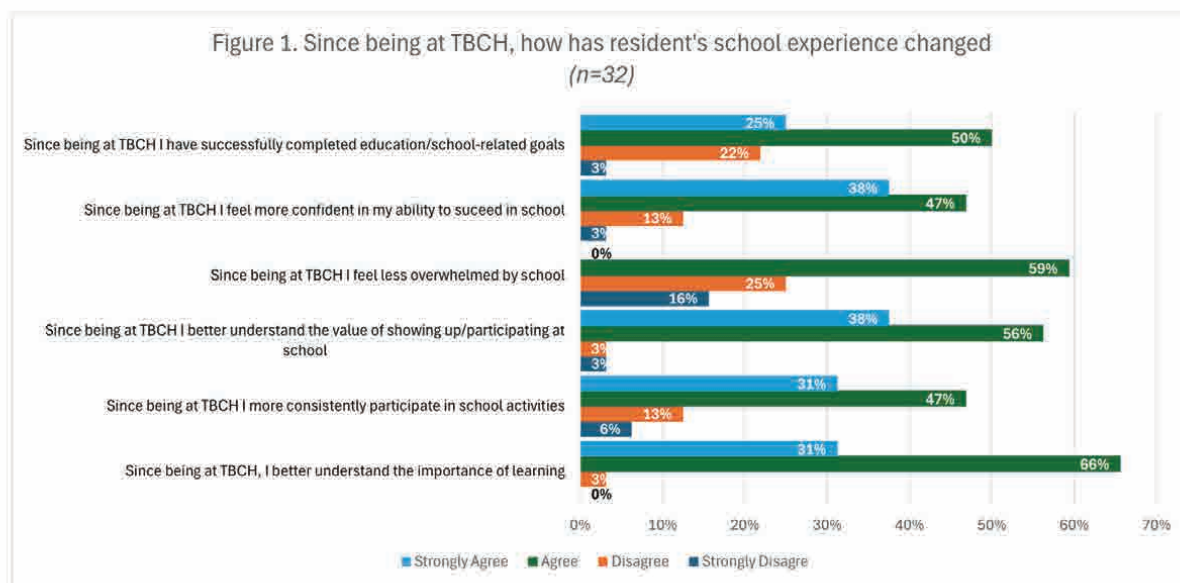


# Residential Care Survey Results

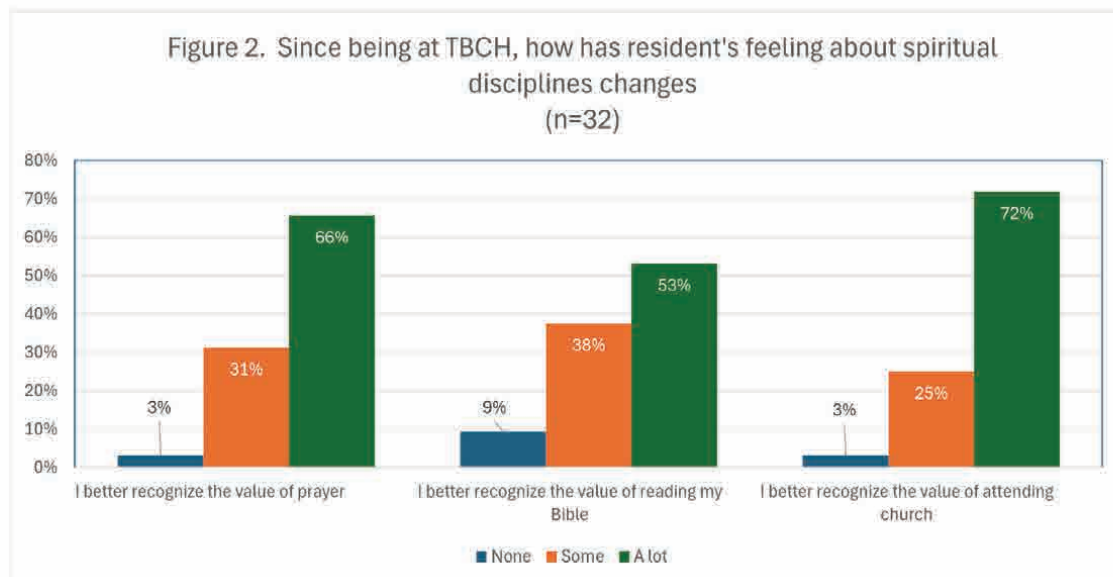
This report presents the quantitative findings from an in-depth study examining the impact of the Residential Care program at Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes (TBCH). As part of this process, trained staff engaged residents through structured surveys covering key domains of development, including physical health, emotional well-being, relationships, education, and spiritual growth.

The following data reflects residents' self-reported experiences and outcomes, offering measurable insight into how the program is influencing their lives. These results provide a clear, data-informed picture of program effectiveness and help identify both strengths and opportunities for continued growth.

**Education Finding:** Residents at TBCH experience growth in academic progress and learn the importance of continuing education.



**Spiritual Growth Finding:** Many children experience spiritual growth after living on a TBCH campus.

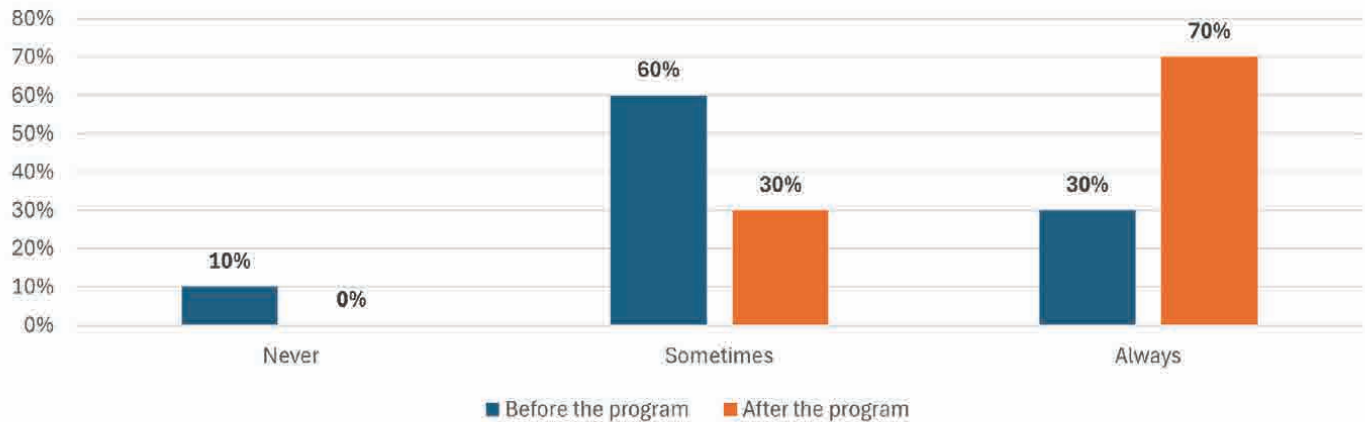




# Residential Care Survey Results

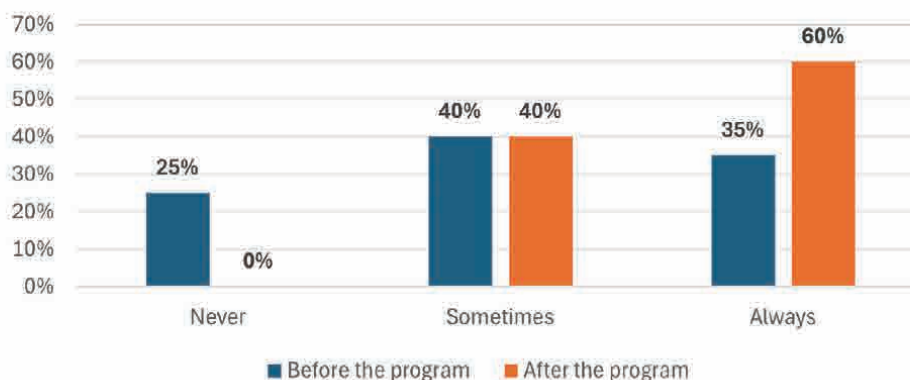
**Trust Finding:** Residents at TBCH experience an increased ability to trust safe adults and peers.

Figure 3. Residents in the Independent Living Program felt/feel consistently connected to a community of support. (n=20)



**Self-Confidence Finding:** Residents at TBCH are becoming more confident in their abilities to succeed academically, socially, and professionally.

Figure 4. Residents in the Independent Living Program had/have a hopeful vision for my future. (n=20)







## Honoring a TBCH Trustee:

### Patsy "Pat" Simmons,

who was currently serving on our board, passed away March 11 at the age of 80. She was a member of Victory Baptist Church in Mt. Juliet. President Greg McCoy had this to share about her time serving at TBCH, "Mrs. Pat Simmons was a joy to get to know over the past five years. She was a committed board member who loved the ministry of TBCH, encouraged our senior leadership, wasn't afraid of this faith venture we are in the midst of, and prayed faithfully for our team and our kids. Mrs. Pat told me when she was considering serving on our board of trustees that she had no interest in being a "token" board member. I told her I didn't have room for one of those! Mrs. Pat was loved and will be missed by our team and her fellow board members."

TBCH Chief Program Officer Laurie Gardner recently spoke with Women on Mission at First Baptist Church Hendersonville. We are always honored to have the opportunity to share about our programs serving children, and the different ways churches can get involved. To have a TBCH representative come speak at your church, just give us a call!



The Franklin Noon Rotary Foundation, which has been a longtime supporting organization, recently blessed us with a generous grant, delivered in person to the kids at our Brentwood campus. The gift included the following encouragement, "Thank you for your service to our community and for the improvement of quality of life for many who need your help."



**Jessica Pfingsten**  
Residential Case Manager  
Brentwood Campus

Jessica received her bachelor's degree from Cumberland University and has previously done field case management and social work in the mental health field. "Having served in children and youth ministries for the past 20 years, I have a passion for helping bring out the best in the lives of young people, meeting them where they are, and helping them seek and meet what may come next."

## Joining Our Team



**Michelle Kiyimba**  
Foster Care Case Manager  
Knox Region

Michelle is from Knoxville, and earned her bachelor's degree from Johnson University. "We have been a foster and adoptive family since 2018. After closing our home in 2025, I've felt a pull to remain involved in the lives of Tennessee's vulnerable families, especially as a supportive role for new foster families. I hope to bring my unique experience and passion for community to help create space for foster families and their children to thrive."



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Children's Homes**

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