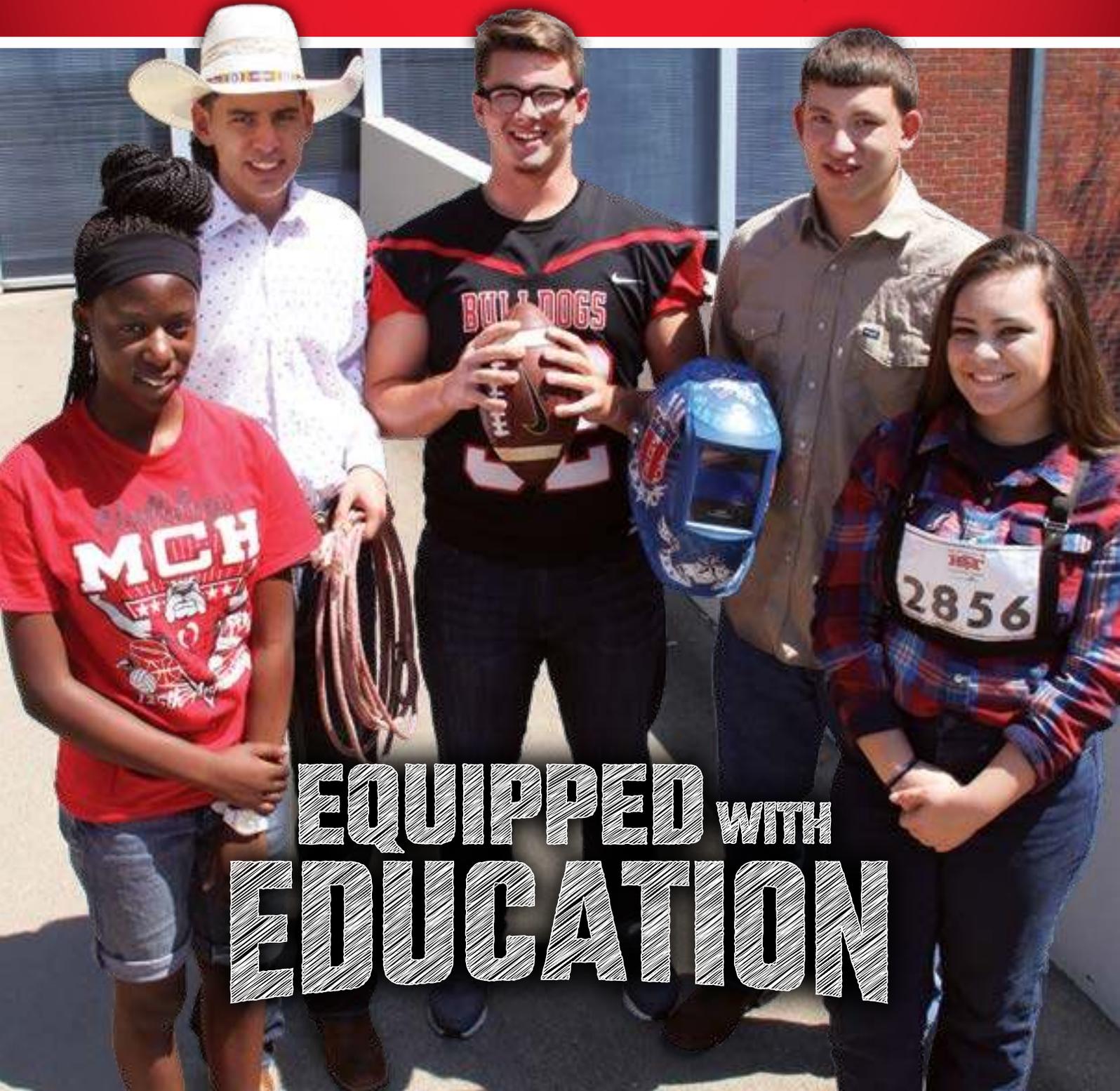


SUNSHINE

THE MAGAZINE OF METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME | FALL 2016



EQUIPPED WITH
EDUCATION



Methodist Children's Home
Offering Hope Since 1890



Thank you for providing

A Season OF Hope

for our children & youth



Methodist Children's Home

Offering Hope Since 1890

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CHRISTMAS DONATIONS | END-OF-YEAR GIFTS

"The generosity of the friends of Methodist Children's Home serves as an example of the way God uses the resources and stewardship of others to help carry out the work of His important ministry."

- Tim Brown

Your support will help MCH provide a lifetime of Christmas memories for our children and youth!
To make a Christmas donation, please visit MCH.org and click on the "Donate" tab.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Tim Brown

Many of the children, youth and families we serve at Methodist Children's Home are heavily impacted by many stress factors such as a lack of safety and security, family conflict, communication issues, lack of parenting skills, schedule conflicts, financial challenges, or misdirected priorities. These issues are all too familiar to the youth in our residential programs, as well as to many families served through our MCH Family Outreach locations across Texas and New Mexico.

When a child or youth comes to MCH, their world is turned upside down. At every turn there is change and newness. They give up familiarity with their homes and neighborhoods, schools, friends, family, and church families. They dwell on unresolved conflicts.

Invariably, the host of issues a youth brings with them to MCH will continue to impact their daily life, whether it be their health, relationships with their peers, academics, or attitude in school. It is for this reason we at MCH strive to establish an environment for children and youth to find trust and healthy conversations that support starting down the road to healing, growth and resolution.

One of the primary areas in which we establish a safe, nurturing environment is in the academic setting, where we offer the attention and support that youth desperately need and might not have ever received. (You can read more about this in our cover story beginning on p. 2 in this issue of Sunshine magazine.)

At the MCH school on our Waco campus, operated in partnership with the University of Texas – University Charter School system, students experience smaller class sizes, quality teaching and education opportunities that allow for diversity and quality suited to students' needs. Outside of MCH, many would not typically have explored or qualified for access to things such as a credit-recovery program, dual-credit enrollment options, one-on-one athletic coaching, academic tutorial assistance, training in transitional living skills, music lessons, experience with vocational/technical projects, or experiential learning opportunities, just to name a few.

For our students, a smaller and less intimidating arena is preferred and necessary until they develop adequate confidence in themselves and their abilities. Our outcome statistics are reflecting that what we are doing works. This academic year we will celebrate the 300th graduate of our U.T. Charter/MCH school. Furthermore, where we used to have only 15 to 20 youth annually that would qualify to attend college, we now have close to 90 on scholarship attending college or working toward a degree or vocational certification. Students now annually complete college and vocational degrees/certificates.

The largest impact is yet to be determined in our children's future and our own. We are grateful for friends and supporters who come alongside us, believe in us and help make this great ministry possible. Thank you for all you do.

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FROM LEFT - Stephen, Diego, Nick, Marisa and Synia find success at MCH through academics and extracurricular opportunities.

EQUIPPED WITH EDUCATION

MCH prepares students for the future through academic and experiential education

It is his senior year and Nick is competing for the coveted spot as valedictorian of his graduating class. He works hard in class and understands the important role his education will play in his future. His decision to do well in school was one he made only a few years ago. With that significant step he chose to change the course of his life.

Before coming to Methodist Children's Home in 2012, school was definitely not Nick's priority. Due to family struggles, Nick wasn't quite motivated to succeed. He frequently skipped school and his future looked bleak. After his first semester at the school at Methodist Children's Home, a charter school operated on the Waco campus in partnership with the University of Texas-University Charter School system, he had a low grade point average of 1.9.

"I thought, 'I can't have that,'" Nick said. "I really turned it around and stuff like that doesn't come easy."

Now two-and-a-half years later, Nick has managed to raise his GPA high enough to lead his class.

"I feel like coming here made me realize the value of education," he said. "I went to truancy court several times and I was getting into trouble [before MCH]. Finally I just realized I've got to get this right. If you don't have an education, you don't know where you'll end up. Before, I didn't want to go to college, but now I do."

Many students at MCH shared similar challenges as Nick before they arrived. Because of their family struggles, trauma from their past or other emotional barriers, school has not

always come easy for them. At MCH, staff and teachers work to educate the child as a whole to achieve physical, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual growth. Education not only encompasses academics, but MCH strives to provide students with experiential educational opportunities as well by giving young people opportunities they may not have had at home.

"I believe every decision that is made by MCH is with this thought in mind to benefit the children and families that come here," said Michelle Arocha, associate principal at the MCH charter school. "I know that in working with MCH as an educator, I and my fellow educators are changing lives and generations of children."

Tim Brown, president and CEO of MCH, explains that providing students at MCH with many choices is essential in order to help them overcome their previous challenges, change their perspective and deal with the loss of familiarity they feel when first coming to MCH.

"If we are going to help students learn, grow and become successful, we have to offer relevant options that fit their needs coupled with as much normalcy as possible, regardless of whether or not they choose to participate," Brown said. "As is the case with most things in life, one size does not fit all and the more choices and options our children and youth have, the better the likelihood and potential for positive outcomes."



Students at MCH can explore their interests through activities for student leadership, job training, athletics, music, theatre arts, agriculture sciences and other extracurricular and recreational activities. Jeff Creel, program administrator for school and transition services, said although some students may not have thought they would participate in some of these activities in the past, they find participation is supported and encouraged in MCH's environment.

"We try to meet the individual needs of each student by finding activities to harness their gifts and help improve self-esteem and self-worth," Creel said. "That's very important. Many of our kids have gone to large schools where they may not have had the opportunity to participate in activities because of attendance or trouble in the classroom. But being here, they have the support they need and are able to navigate and successfully participate in those opportunities."

Creel said MCH also provides a chance to heal some of the strains the family experienced at home from the child's poor performance in school or the helplessness they felt as they tried to navigate the public education system.

"A lot of the students come here without hope because they have struggled in school," he said. "So for these families and students I think we offer them a new opportunity for hope and the opportunity to realize their dreams of achieving an education, being successful and realizing their own strengths."

"A piece of that is because we are very intentional so therefore we focus more on those strengths and seek opportunities for them to be successful in other ways, not just in the classroom," he added.

A NURTURING COMMUNITY

Most of the residents of the Boys Ranch and Waco campus attend the charter school. Located on the Waco campus, the charter school opened in 2003 and now offers grades six through 12 for its residents as well as several off-campus students as part of the Day Program. Due to the low teacher-to-student ratio of 12 to 1, the school is able to provide students with more one-on-one attention as well as tutoring, a key factor in some students' academic success.

The charter school has had 283 total graduates since it opened; 19 students are slated to receive their high school diplomas in May 2017 to put the school over the 300 mark.

"In general, our graduation rates are higher than those in the general society," Brown said. "The past several years, our students have come to us with several academic deficits resulting from conflicts, lack of supervision, lack of individualized tutoring and assistance, and dominant attitudes about their own lack of abilities rather than their capabilities."

"The biggest potential for success for our children is to reframe education and learning as positive opportunities rather than perceiving them as another frustrating disappointment and confirmation that they are not smart enough or will never be successful," he said. "A typical student may enter our care being as much as a year or more behind academically and they are able to catch up and graduate on time with their graduating class."

The school has also partnered with MCH in training teachers and staff in trauma-informed practices such as the importance of establishing relationships with a student to aid them in correcting behaviors or giving them techniques to help them better handle its special population of students.

Arocha said students are allowed to use standing desks, wiggle seats, or other quiet fidgets to help them to release energy, in addition to bringing snacks and water to class in order to stay hydrated. Arocha said her staff understands MCH students need to be encouraged to self-regulate in order to help them focus better in class.

"Kids need movement," Arocha said. "In the educational environment, kids are expected at a really young age to sit for a three-hour test and that's really hard for some adults. So being able to have some movement or a softer chair or to be able to get up and get a snack helps them to stay focused."

The charter school also offers students leadership opportunities through student council, competitions through Texas Christian Athletic Fellowship, and Safe School Ambassadors program where students learn about peer pressure and bullying and take ownership in making positive change in the school.

Academic success is also rewarded by inclusion into Bulldog Pride, an incentive program for students who pass all their classes and show good citizenship in school. In Bulldog Pride, students are able to wear jeans on special days, eat lunch outside and are treated to a special food buffet from local restaurants every six weeks.

Syniia, an eighth grader and member of Bulldog Pride, was attending a public school when a friend from church told her about MCH's charter school. She was having difficulty concentrating in class; the large classes were not a good fit for her. After starting school at MCH as part of the Day Program as a seventh grader, Syniia has seen improvement in her grades.



Syniia and her family are grateful for the academic improvements they have seen since she joined the Day Program at the MCH charter school.

"FOR THESE FAMILIES AND STUDENTS I THINK WE OFFER A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR HOPE AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO REALIZE THEIR DREAMS OF ACHIEVING AN EDUCATION, BEING SUCCESSFUL AND REALIZING THEIR OWN STRENGTHS."

"The smaller classes help me learn better," Syniia said. Her family has been happy with the change and Syniia's younger brother now attends the school as well. Syniia likes that her new school is able to offer her more privileges and understands that the trauma-informed practices are there to better serve her fellow students.

"I think it's great for the class," she said. "Some kids need it to help them do their work."

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY

Marisa, a 10th grader and resident of MCH since July 2015, is also part of Bulldog Pride and has emerged as a leader in the school. She has achieved success academically and said she cares about doing her best in school.

"I know without good grades, I can't get accepted into a major college," Marisa said. "I've just always wanted to have the best grade possible and know more."

Marisa's goal is to attend Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi to study oceanology and make new discoveries. She isn't afraid of new challenges and is involved in volleyball, golf and FFA, activities she was unfamiliar with before MCH.

"I've learned patience, because you can't always rush good things," she said of the life-lessons she has learned. "You have to wait sometimes for good things to happen. You can never give up on it."



Marisa competed in her first livestock show last year as a freshman.

Through FFA, students like Marisa learn about animals while caring for them on a daily basis. The high school agricultural class was expanded this year to include eighth graders as well. Through the class, Marisa was able to overcome her fear and show a sheep at local livestock shows last year for the first time.

"Marisa loves animals and has a desire to learn about every species," said Steve Kruse, agricultural teacher. "She has been in the program for two years and it has been fun to watch her use her training to exhibit her projects to their highest potential. She is also great about helping other students learn and be successful."



"YOU HAVE TO WAIT SOMETIMES FOR GOOD THINGS TO HAPPEN. YOU CAN NEVER GIVE UP ON IT."

PREPARING FOR A CAREER

Nick also participates in FFA and will care for a steer this year. Through the agricultural class, he also became more familiar with welding, a skill he originally learned from his uncle. He said the craft started to grow on him and he hopes to attend Texas State Technical College to prepare for a career working on oil rigs in his hometown.

"There's a lot of welders needed out there," Nick said. "Welding is something that will always be needed whether it is in the oil fields or in farm work."

The charter school gives students like Nick a chance to discover and prepare for a career through hands-on courses such as agricultural mechanics, local job preparation partnerships, life skills training through the transition services program, and dual credit opportunities.

Transition services staff meet with students during senior meetings to help prepare them for the transition from high school. They work on developing a post-graduation plan, applying for scholarships, career exploration and independent living skills. Each year, more than \$500,000 is awarded to MCH graduates to pursue college or an advanced degree, a certificate at a trade school or job-related training. Transition services staff help students understand their options and make plans for their future.

Students who qualify are able to get a head start and attend dual credit courses at McLennan Community College while still attending high school. Also, the charter school partnered with Waco Independent School District to offer students a chance at job training programs called Greater Waco Advanced Manufacturing Academy (GWAMA) and Greater Waco Advanced Health Care Academy (GWAHCA). Students in these programs go to a different campus for half of the day to learn skills such as welding, robotics or health care and obtain certifications in their chosen areas.

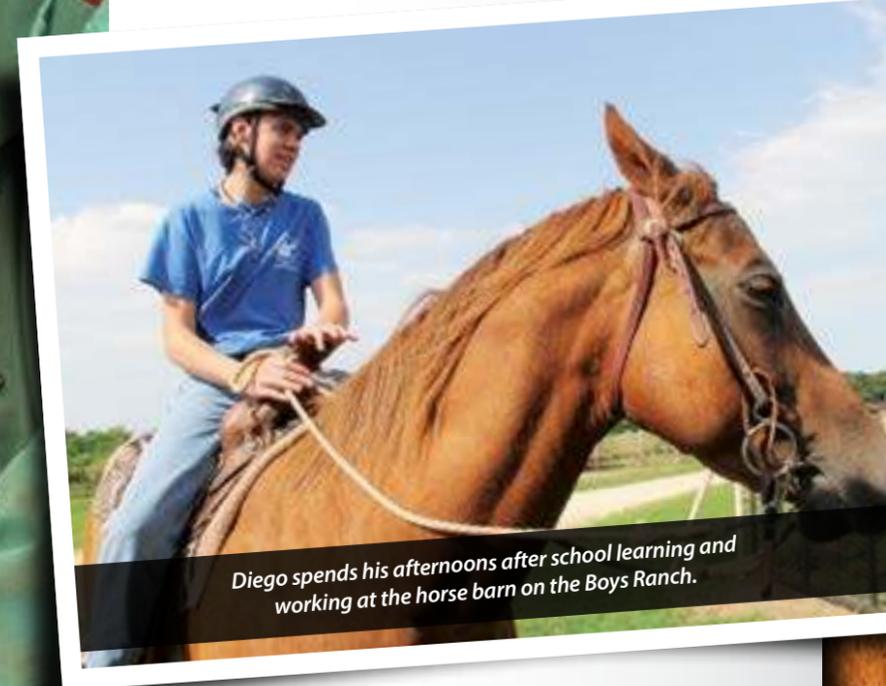


Nick hopes to earn his welding certification this year through the Greater Waco Advanced Manufacturing Academy.

Nick and Diego, who is also a senior, attend GWAMA to study welding. This is Diego's second year as a GWAMA student; previously he studied robotics and electronics. Diego admits he doesn't really like school but knows it is necessary for his future. He wasn't doing well at school when he first came to MCH, but soon began to turn things around.

"MCH's teachers don't give up on you," he said. "If you're trying, they will help you."

Diego hopes to join the military after graduation and eventually become a mechanic, but hopes to earn his welding certification as a backup plan.



Diego spends his afternoons after school learning and working at the horse barn on the Boys Ranch.

BUILDING SKILLS AND CHARACTER

As a resident of the Boys Ranch, Diego developed an interest in horses and currently attends horsemanship as part of MCH's afterschool programs. He is also able to work in the horse barn during non-program days. Through his work, he has become familiar with training and caring for horses as well as learning the benefits of equine therapy.

"It teaches you responsibility and trust because you have to be responsible on a horse because it's 1,500 pounds of muscle," Diego said. "If you're not paying attention, you can get hurt or someone else can get hurt. It teaches you confidence and to not have fear in yourself because when you are scared, the horse can feel it through you. If you're confident in yourself and you have fun, then they are having fun with you, too."

Stephen, also a senior, has been an MCH resident since 2013. He said he has learned life lessons through his involvement in athletics during his time at MCH. This year Stephen is quarterback of the Bulldogs' six-man football team and will also compete in basketball and track.





Stephen said he has learned to overcome adversity in part due to his participation in athletics.

"Stephen has been a part of athletics for three years and this year has taken on a much bigger role," said Matt Rodgers, athletic director at MCH. "He is tasked with playing quarterback, which for us comes with an extreme amount of responsibility and not much praise. I think through his time in athletics, Stephen has grown and learned how to be successful both on the field and in life."

MCH students have the opportunity to compete in six-man football, volleyball, basketball, track, cross country, and golf. By offering team sports, students are able to find outlets for their emotions while also building confidence and learning teamwork, Brown said.

"The team sports and exercises help with social skills, anger management, forming friendships, understanding the benefits of cooperation, resolving conflicts, building healthy relationships, and handling losses and disappointments appropriately," Brown said. "They learn how to communicate appropriately, utilize self-control and achieve goals through cooperation."

Stephen was part of the football team that finished as state runner-ups last year. He said each year at MCH brings the challenge of working with new teammates so they must learn to work together as the season progresses and cooperate with each other.

"Sports have helped me grow a lot," he said. "It helps me keep my weight down which is something I was trying to do for a long time and that boosts my self-esteem so I carry myself in a better manner," Stephen said. "It's helped me become a man, too, learning from losses and learning from stuff that has been going on in the team. It helps me learn from my mistakes and to just keep going and get better with everything I do in life."

MAKING AN IMPACT

Stephen is also performing well in academics and is challenging Nick for the role of valedictorian of their class. After graduation he hopes to study kinesiology at Texas A&M University. He would be the first person in his family to attend college.

"College is my main priority," Stephen said. "That would be a real accomplishment for me and my family."

Although Stephen was unable to live with his mother due to a difficult situation, he feels grateful for his time at MCH and the lessons he has learned.

"I used to be angry at the world before I came to MCH because I was so mad at myself and my mom and everything that happened," he said. "I was real upset and just mad because I didn't understand any of it. Now that I'm here I look back on it and I'm thankful. It has helped me come a long way from where I was. I'm not mad anymore. I have my future set for me now. I'm getting along and on the right track."

Youth at MCH are able to take advantage of programs and opportunities that are tailored to fit their needs and help them build brighter futures for themselves. Many times, these opportunities would not have been available to them at home.

"I believe our biggest success in education is having a variety of tools and options available for students to promote and foster success," Brown said. "Most have had few successful ventures in anything school-related prior to admission. Before coming here, school was not rewarding. After coming here and experiencing a different outcome and response from staff and teachers regarding the benefits of an education and receiving the support necessary to be successful, their opinions and investment changes."

Along with Stephen, Diego acknowledges the life lessons he has gained from living at MCH. He came to MCH in 2011 after his mother was incarcerated and he was unable to be placed with family out of state. He was very angry at first and admits he would intentionally get in trouble to try to get kicked out of the program. But with the guidance he received at MCH, he was able to turn his life around.

"Things always happen for a reason," he said. "I've learned that only you can change your future. I decided that I was going to make a new life for myself and be better than I should've been due to my home situation. It taught me that there's always new hope." •



"I HAVE MY FUTURE SET FOR ME NOW. I'M GETTING ALONG AND ON THE RIGHT TRACK."



FROM OUR TEACHERS:

WHAT MAKES OUR SCHOOL UNIQUE?



Zach Byrd
(Social Studies)

"We have diversity, and that makes it a unique and fun place to teach."

Preston Powell
(History/PE)



"Sometimes kids don't come in with self-confidence. To be able to instill that in them, watch them see that they can win at something and see that light in their eyes, that's the most rewarding thing about teaching in this school."



Angie Hammond
(Science)

"This school gives hope to kids that don't have any at all. They may come here and feel like this is their last chance. We've been here for a lot of kids and helped them to see that they have a future. We have the opportunity here to form lasting relationships. Seeing kids come back and having their own families, that's cool. That's why I'm still here."

Megan Vergara
(English)



"We teach more than just the content. We teach how to be a good person, and to be successful, whatever that may mean for each student."

CHRISTAL AND CHRISTINA

SHARING A JOURNEY



Hanging out with Christina and Christal will make everyone wish they had a twin. With an unbreakable bond, the girls know each other so well that they often complete the other's thought.

"Not a day goes by that we don't finish each other's sentences or say it at the same time," Christina said. "We do it all the time!"

This is no surprise, considering the longest the girls – now sophomores at the charter school at Methodist Children's Home – have been separated from each other is less than nine hours, and that was when one attended an out-of-town volleyball game. After moving into the new Daniels Home on the Waco campus this summer, the girls will have their own rooms for the first time in their lives.

Christina and Christal came to MCH a day after their 12th birthday. They had been living with their aunt due to a difficult family situation, and she was no longer able to care for them. When they first arrived at MCH, they were unsure of their new surroundings.

"We weren't very open," Christal said. "We didn't talk to the home parents. We didn't talk to anybody."

"We were shy and we didn't want anyone to feel bad for us," Christina said. "It's so opposite now. We talk to everybody."

Christina and Christal soon warmed up to their new environment and began building close relationships at MCH. They both enjoy staying active through volleyball, basketball and track and learning how to work with others. They have grown up and are now confident in sharing their individual personalities with those around them.

"It's been really great to watch them grow from little girls into young ladies," said Steve Callison, home parent to the girls since they first arrived on campus. "They've come a long way."

Christal and Christina say they are grateful to have had each other to grow up with. Even when they argue as all sisters do, they are quick to make up.

"She can be helpful," Christal said about her sister. "I can tell her stuff and she can tell me stuff and we just help each other out."

"She's a person you can count on," Christina said. "At the end of the day, she's family."

As their journey continues, Christal hopes to carry over her love of sports after high school graduation and plans to attend University of Houston to become an athletic trainer. Christina has dreams of getting into the fashion industry as a model or fashion designer and aspires to create her own clothing line. Both girls love clothes and shoes and their unit manager, Bethany Parrott, jokes that when they go shopping, "it is an event."

Parrott said she is proud of the growth she's seen in Christal and Christina.

"It's been a joy to watch Christal and Christina mature over the years," Parrott said. "They have grown individually into their own unique personalities while maintaining a strong connection with each other. Christal and Christina represent the MCH values well in how they care about others, are respectful to staff and peers and are just fun to be around!" •

Yolanda participated in eight weeks of Circle of Security training through MCH Family Outreach in Albuquerque.



CONFIDENCE IN PARENTING

Circle of Security provides new outlook for parent education

As a single mother of three, Yolanda is used to a hectic house. She has two young girls, ages 5 and 18 months and a teenage son, 16, who lives with her part time. But as she began to struggle to meet the needs of her children, she reached out for help and was referred to MCH Family Outreach in Albuquerque, N.M.

Becky James, case manager at MCH Family Outreach in Albuquerque, first met Yolanda in November 2015 when they began in-home case management through the Family Solutions program. Yolanda needed support and after conflicts with her son, who has unique needs due to developmental delays, lost custody and faces an uphill battle in regaining her parental rights and healing the relationship. James has been there to support Yolanda through the process while also helping her to release some of the guilt she felt from the situation.

During that time, James attended a new training being offered by MCH Family Outreach for a parent education program called Circle of Security (COS). The program helps parents understand and meet the needs of their children while also recognizing how their own feelings can help or hinder their ability to recognize and react to those needs.

"Because I know Yolanda so well and we have these deep conversations about her kids and what she's struggling with, I knew she would love this," James said. "I thought it would be a good fit for her."

Circle of Security was developed by three doctors in Spokane, Wash., who have devoted more than 30 years of their clinical practice to translate complex clinical concepts and research into protocols that can be used with families. COS is based on attachment theory and research that shows "secure children exhibit increased empathy, greater self-esteem, better relationships with parents and peers, enhanced school readiness, and an increased capacity to handle emotions more effectively when compared with children who are not secure."

Through the model, COS shows parents that as children go out and explore the world around them, parents provide them with encouragement and a secure base or safe haven for when they return to them. The program helps parents

understand their child's emotions and be there to support them by providing comfort, protection and helping them organize their feelings. COS also helps parents recognize their own triggers that make them feel unable to deal with a situation and provide them with tools to overcome these triggers in order to handle their child's need. The program says there is no such thing as a perfect parent and "Good enough" is good enough.

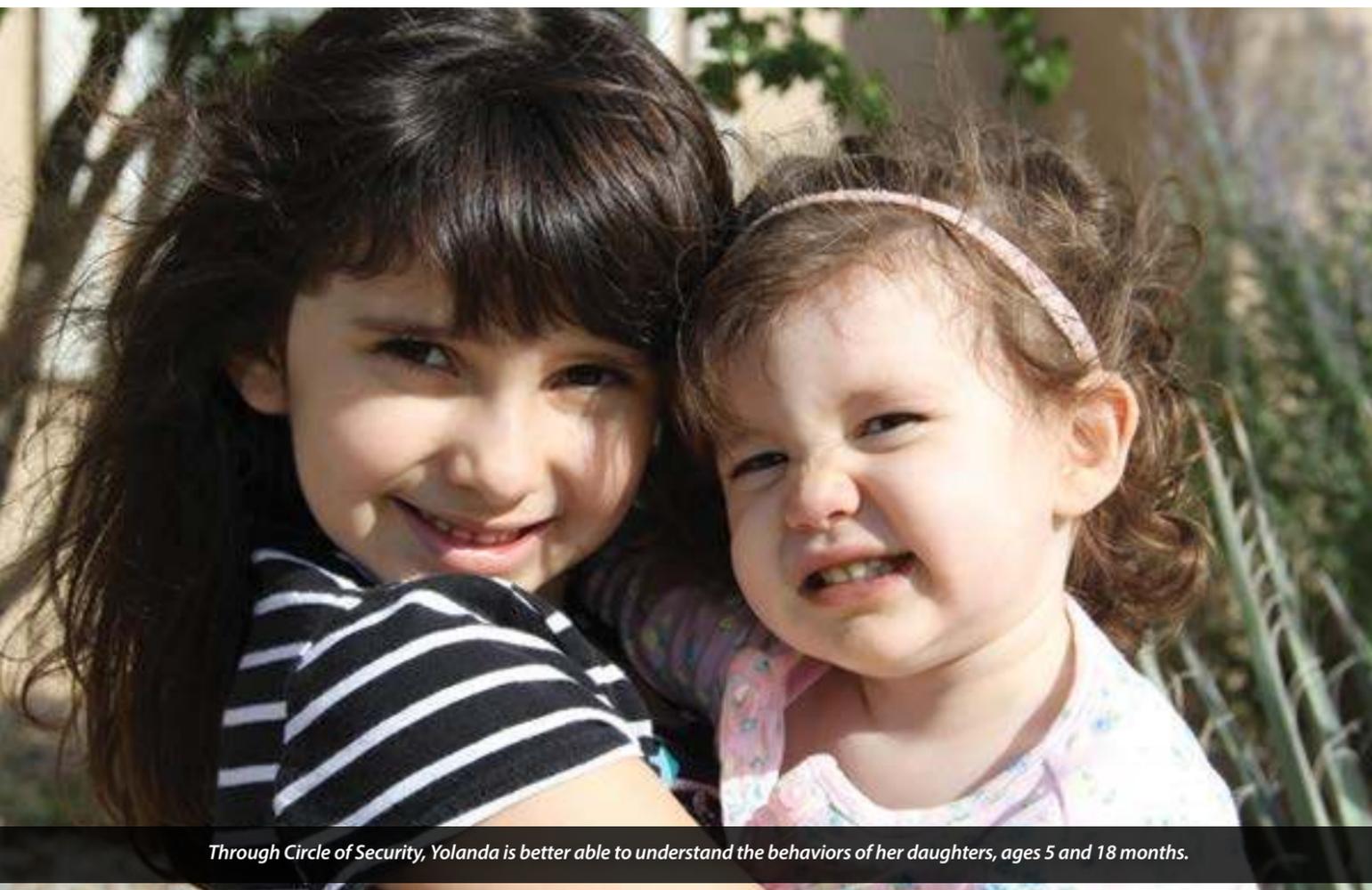
"There are so many quality parent education models available, but what I enjoy about COS is the simplistic message of connection," explained Brooke Davilla, director of MCH Family Outreach in Waco. "It's not about creating perfection 100 percent of the time. It empowers parents to remain connected while navigating their parenting journey."

After working with James for eight more weeks to go through the COS curriculum, Yolanda learned to better recognize her children's needs and understand her reactions to their emotions by looking back into her own childhood.

"I think it helped me understand some of the issues my mother struggled with and maybe I could forgive her more," Yolanda explained. "When she would leave, it was so hurtful for me. But she just couldn't handle it. She didn't know Circle of Security. Hopefully I can do better."



Yolanda (left) gets support from case manager Becky James (right) as she learns better ways to handle her children's needs.



Through Circle of Security, Yolanda is better able to understand the behaviors of her daughters, ages 5 and 18 months.

Throughout the process, Yolanda felt hopeful as her confidence grew as a parent and she felt equipped to handle disagreements with her son who now lives with her and her daughters every other weekend.

"I think I've been able to be calmer when dealing with him," Yolanda said. "With Becky's support, I feel like I am closer to a resolution. We now have a court date and I'm hopeful. At least I started the process. I was afraid before, I think."

"Yolanda was courageous enough to reflect, and that's a big piece of Circle of Security, to look at things that you need to work on and the moments you could've done better and talk about it," James said. "That's huge. You don't get that with all families – there's fear and shame around things and I felt like we were able to work past all that and there's no better way to grow."

"The COS program creates a safe environment, void of shame, where participants can reflect honestly about parenting experiences from their past as a child and their current role as a parent," Davilla said. "The felt safety created within the group promotes self-awareness and hope."

"I THINK SOMETIMES OUR CULTURE TRIES TO STEER US AWAY FROM WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THIS (CIRCLE OF SECURITY) REALLY HELPS GET BACK TO THE BASICS OF CREATING A SPACE WHERE ALL FEELINGS ARE OK."

Davilla and her staff at MCH Family Outreach in Waco have implemented COS into individual case management as well as in group settings for both English and Spanish speaking families. Families have had a positive response to the classes.

"As a mother of three children, I could see that it was difficult to communicate with them, give them support and understand their needs," said Isaura, who recently went through Waco classes with her husband Hilario. "Something was missing and we were practically isolating ourselves as a family. There wasn't anyone to give me advice until I found this program that gave me the foundation we were looking for that helped us understand the different needs of our children and get better at meeting those needs."

MCH Family Outreach in Waco also started a group for adoptive parents who are seeking parent enrichment. In addition to Waco and Albuquerque, MCH Family Outreach offices in Abilene, Lubbock, Killeen, Corpus Christi, and Tyler are currently working with community partners to host COS groups while all offices are utilizing the program in case management.



Isaura and Hilario attend a class for Spanish-speaking families through MCH Family Outreach in Waco.

Alicia Carter, director of MCH Family Outreach in Albuquerque, began a class in September at Saranam, a local housing and education program for homeless caregivers founded by Central United Methodist Church using estate funds from Frances Thaxton Ash in 2001. Every two years, Saranam accepts a group of homeless caregivers who are committed to completing their education and are provided with a furnished apartment, food, and any other needs as they complete their degree or certification and life skills training. Studies show that an increase in education can have a significant impact on earnings. Saranam hopes to provide generational change by giving parents a chance to step out of poverty.



Carter (right) works with Saranam executive director Tracy Sharp (left) in teaching life skills to homeless caregivers.

"It can help families across the board," Carter said. "It's powerful. And it is because we're all hardwired for that connection, no matter what your background, our socioeconomic level, our education or what part of town we live in. We all need that. It's a great way to share that message and share a way to meet that need in all of us."

MCH Family Outreach is continuing to look for ways to bring Circle of Security to more families in the communities. Carter believes COS can have a strong impact on society as a whole by helping to heal families.

"I think sometimes our culture tries to steer us away from what we know about caring for our children and this really helps get back to the basics of creating a space where all feelings are OK," Carter said. "It's just about how we organize them and as a parent our role is to guide and let our children lead us and keep a good balance of that."

"I think there's real power in the parent having their own healing and passing that healing on to the next generation and breaking those generational cycles," she said. "What an amazing opportunity. You want better for your kids and their kids and their kids after, and what a relief to have some training and some tools to do that." •

Carter's group was accepted into Saranam in August and will attend COS classes for eight weeks. Each group member is a mother to children of different ages, but all were able to see how they could benefit from COS and voiced their hopes as a parent during the class.

"I hope my daughter won't end up like I did," said one mother of a 2-year-old. "I felt like no one was listening. I want her to know that this is her life and she's in control. I want her to not feel like an outcast."

"I'm looking to learn how to gain authority and respect," said another mother of teenagers. "When they have been with me in the past, it's been fun and games but that's not real life. Now I need to be an authority figure and establish rules."

Carter said COS is a training that can help any parent feel more confident in their parenting because of its basic foundation.



Women in the group share their own experiences during the group class at Saranam.



Albuquerque outreach director Alicia Carter strives to help members of the group feel equipped by sharing techniques to care for their children.

NOEL PAYING IT FORWARD



It is often a transition for youth when they come to Methodist Children's Home, but for Noel it meant adjusting to a new country, not just to MCH.

Noel is from Ethiopia and lived at the MCH Boys Ranch for two years.

"I remember the day quite well when I left my home and family to come to the United States to live with my aunt," he said. "Eventually it was decided I would have more opportunity at MCH."

Today Noel is a junior at the University of Texas in Arlington. He is an Engineering major and on the Albaugh Scholarship. The Albaugh Scholarship was established in the 1940s by Mr. and Mrs. Roy B. Albaugh in the honor of their son. Noel's dream is to one day return to his home in Ethiopia to give back.

"I am grateful to my home parents for helping me integrate into the culture and reassuring me when I was homesick," said Noel. "I was also taught valuable lessons about being accountable for myself, punctuality and developing a strong work ethic."

The college life has been an opportunity for Noel to make lifelong friends, be in a diverse population along with having his educational needs met.

"I would tell graduating seniors to make a plan, work hard and be involved in activities," he said. "Pick a major you have an interest in. Making money is not everything; I want to be happy and enjoy what I do."

Noel said MCH has been a major part of his educational journey, adding that "MCH has been there every step of the way. Someone is just a phone call away. I feel I have two families, mine in Ethiopia and MCH."

Noel hopes to get an internship in the aerospace industry with a corporation like Lockheed Martin, Boeing or a wind-energy engineering corporation.

"I feel a 'calling' to give back to my community in Ethiopia," he said. "I can see myself returning there and helping others one day. I hope to learn as much as possible in order to do just that." •

OUTREACH NEWS

Q&A with Ted Randall, Director of MCH Family Outreach in Bryan / College Station

Methodist Children's Home has opened its third new MCH Family Outreach office this year with its location in Bryan/College Station. Ted Randall was hired as the director in July 2016. Randall has extensive experience in social work with a background that includes case management for a childcare institution and the Texas Youth Commission, leading a program for sex offenders, program administrator for a mental health program, as well as working with juvenile probation.

Since he was hired, Randall has been spreading the word to the community about MCH's services. He will lead a team of two case managers and one administrative secretary to bring the Grandparents As Parents Program (GAPP), Family Solutions program, and parent education to Bryan/College Station.

Q: What made you interested in this job?

A: I liked the idea of coming back to a Christian organization. I like the idea of working for a private organization again that does not have all the government oversight and red tape because a lot of times that can hinder you from being able to implement the amount of change you really feel you could if your hands weren't so tied. I like the ability we have to get in and really focus on making a difference and allowing the families to become self-sufficient and then moving on to help another family. I appreciate MCH's focus on using evidenced-based programs and focusing the client's perceived needs and client buy-in, all of which leaves to positive and sustainable change.

Q: What are your expectations for the Bryan/College Station office?

A: Our initial goal is to get our name out there and get those referral sources going. When you look at a 45-mile radius of Bryan/College Station, it encompasses so many towns and areas. We really hope we can start in Bryan/College Station and slowly expand and grow as an office so that we can assist and help as many families as possible. We also want to make sure everyone understands what we are there for, what our purpose is for being there, and work hard at filling a gap in services currently offered.

Q: What makes Bryan/College Station a unique community?

A: I think it is unique because of Texas A&M University. There's roughly 50,000 students there and there's always people coming and going. Turnover is high and it is hard to have consistency. Also Bryan is actually below the poverty line while



the income level in College Station is a lot higher, so it has an interesting dynamic. We want to reach the people in the community who are struggling to make it from paycheck to paycheck and may not have a good idea of what resources are available to them. Additionally, Bryan/College Station (Brazos County) is listed as the fastest growing area in Texas and there will be constant challenges to keeping up with the community's growth and changes.

Q: What are some ways you see MCH making an impact in Bryan/College Station?

A: First, we want to fill that niche between some of the current programs offered in the area and Child Protective Services. I think we're going to fill a void in assisting families and help them understand what options they have in working with their own kids and their own families in order to be successful. We want to meet those struggling family's needs and show them how to make the goals and decisions on their own to obtain the quality of life and family experiences they really want to have. The key is ensuring we are sensitive to each family's needs and leaving them in a better place after services with our programs.

Q: What are you most looking forward to/excited about?

A: I think I'm most excited about starting from scratch. I've had to go into a lot of places and fix them, but I've never had the opportunity to start a new program in a new area, so it's a new challenge for me. Going into a community that may not know much about us will be a good challenge to let our presence be known and how specifically we are set up to help others. I think it will be exciting to see how much we can grow and see how God utilizes Methodist Children's Home in that area.

Q: Why do you think our services are important?

A: I think our society is at a place where the need and responsibility of true parenting has been deemphasized. As a result, there's not as much emphasis on keeping families together. I think that the way that we're going to be successful as communities, as families and as a nation is to make sure we're keeping our families together and putting our focus where it matters. These programs are truly grass roots social work and starting with families and communities to enact a ripple effect of positive change. •

MCH Family Outreach in Waco partners with Advocacy Center

Before heading back to school, children of MCH Family Outreach families learned about bullying and healthy boundaries thanks to a partnership with The Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children in Waco. On July 22 and 28, representatives of the Advocacy Center, Sarah Hopping and Aleigh Ascherl, led an educational and interactive presentation at the Waco office.

"As an outreach office collaborations are important to us and we work diligently to create strategic partnerships that benefit the families we serve," said Brooke Davilla, director of MCH Family Outreach in Waco. "We previously had the Advocacy Center come to one of our Grandparents As Parents Program support groups to provide psychoeducation to our grandparents. In return, the Advocacy Center asked if we would be interested in a group specifically geared towards our children."

Sara Beth Stoltzfus, case manager for MCH Family Outreach in Waco, said many of her families had expressed a lot of interest in the topics of boundaries and bullying. During the presentations, the children participated in activities using props such as balloons, hula hoops and colors to learn about safe touch, empathy, using your voice, encouraging diversity and showing respect and teamwork.

"We heard so many of the children sharing reflective comments about bullying or being bullied and how they should treat their friends and peers," Stoltzfus said. "Our presenters did a great job at creating an environment for all children to participate. Even our shy ones were able to be silly and speak up confidently!" •



MCH FAMILY OUTREACH OFFICES AS OF SEPTEMBER 2016

Abilene
1 Village Drive, Suite 102
Abilene, TX 79606
325-672-9398

Albuquerque
6755 Academy Rd. NE
Suite A
Albuquerque, NM 87109
505-255-8740

Bryan/College Station (Fall 2016)
4001 E. 29th St., Suite 108
Bryan, TX 77802
979-704-6691

Corpus Christi
5350 S. Staples, Suite 150A
Corpus Christi, TX 78411
361-334-2255

Dallas
8330 LBJ Freeway
Suite B-375
Dallas, TX 75243
972-480-8772

El Paso
1514 N. Zaragoza Rd.
Suite B-3
El Paso, TX 79936
915-781-0005

Houston
5005 Mitchelldale, Suite 119
Houston, TX 77092
713-682-8911
877-716-8535 (toll-free)

Killeen
3202 South W.S. Young Dr.
Suite 104
Killeen, TX 76542
254-245-9911

Las Cruces
230 South Alameda St.
Suite 201
Las Cruces, NM 88005
575-222-0177

Lubbock
2028 82nd St., Unit 101
Lubbock, TX 79423
806-792-0099
877-289-0517 (toll-free)

San Antonio
6800 Park Ten Blvd.
Suite 135 East
San Antonio, TX 78213
210-733-3904
866-532-4453 (toll-free)

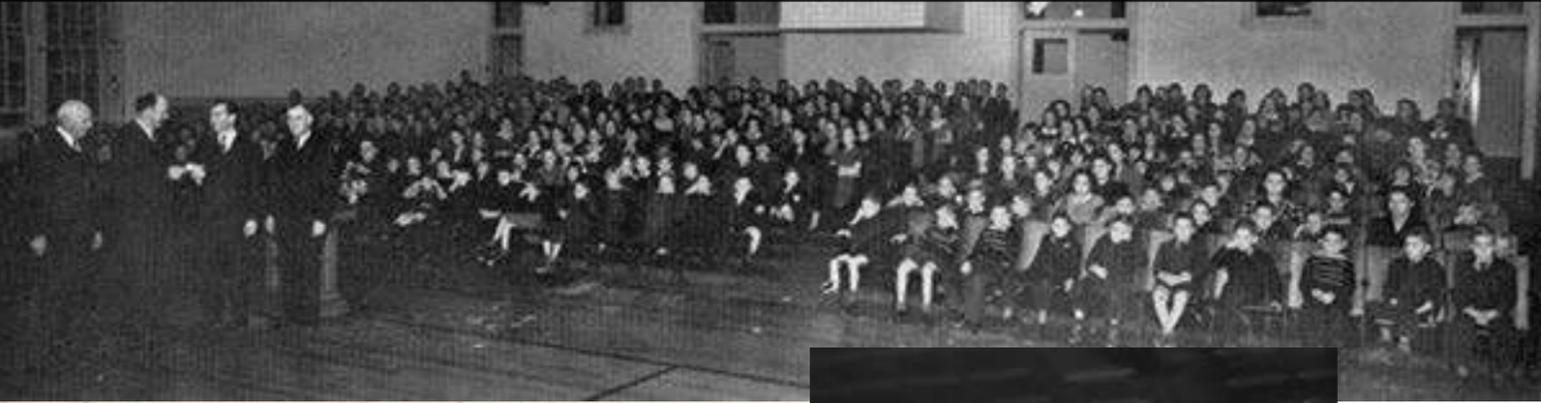
Tyler
921 Shiloh Rd.
Suite B300
Tyler, TX 75703
903-509-1171
866-509-1171 (toll-free)

Waco
1111 Herring Ave.
Waco, TX 76708
254-750-1263



OPEN HOUSE - Our MCH Family Outreach offices in Killeen and Las Cruces welcomed visitors for an open house in September. Killeen celebrated their open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 7 (shown above) while the Las Cruces event occurred on Sept. 28. Both offices are excited to be up and running and offering services to families in their communities.

This picture from Sunshine in 1940 shows MCH Superintendent Hubert Johnson accepting a donation in front of the children.



SEASON of GIVING

The History of the Christmas Offering

The annual Christmas Offering is the longest-standing tradition at Methodist Children's Home, beginning in 1895 as a way to sustain the orphanage and inspire people to give. It was the first significant financial commitment by United Methodist churches, as congregations took up a special collection during the Christmas season to promote the ministry's services. This special tradition of giving remains a vital part of sustaining MCH's mission to serve children, youth and families in Texas and New Mexico.

The idea for the Christmas Offering was introduced by the Texas Conference in its 1895 journal: "We now have a Methodist Orphanage that is actually sheltering, feeding, clothing and training orphan children." The article went on to request that every pastor appoint a committee to raise money and clothing for MCH. Guided by the leadership of the Conference, by 1898 the Sunday nearest Christmas week was "specifically devoted to the interests of the orphanage" in churches all over Texas.



Today youth are still able to enjoy the joys of Christmas thanks to the generosity of our faithful benefactors.



LEFT - Mr. Joe Perkins was a loyal benefactor of MCH, hosting annual Christmas parties beginning in 1935.

RIGHT - Our MCH Family Outreach offices host Christmas parties each year for children and families served through foster care or other family services.

Throughout the early 1900s, MCH faced financial ups and downs relying heavily on the Christmas Offering to support the ministry. Former administrator W.F. Barnett, who led MCH from 1919-1933, worked tirelessly throughout the Great Depression to keep the children clothed and fed. His efforts finally took a toll on his health; he collapsed and later passed away while promoting the orphanage at a church.

During Hubert Johnson's administration (1933-1966), a special benefactor named Joe Perkins was credited with increasing the Christmas Offering support through his service as ambassador for MCH to churches and supporters throughout Texas and New Mexico. He also began the famous Perkins Party tradition where supporters visited the children during Christmas to hand out piles of fruit, nuts, candy and even 50-cent coins. However, during World War II, the Christmas Offering saw yet another decline.

The years passed and the Christmas Offering continued but there were always changing levels of participation. Then on the eve of MCH's 100th anniversary, all 2,334 churches in Texas and New Mexico United Methodist conferences contributed in solidarity to the Christmas Offering. The total gifts added up to more than \$1 million, the largest donation from churches in MCH's history.

Today, MCH still relies heavily on the generosity of its benefactors during Christmas, with 60 percent of donations contributed to the annual fund coming during this season of giving. Trey Oakley, vice president for development at MCH, said out of that amount, only 15 percent of the gifts come directly from churches. About 20 percent of United Methodist churches participate in the annual MCH Christmas Offering.

"However, when you consider all the gifts we receive from individuals, groups or classes connected to these churches, we recognize that we still have a strong bond with United Methodists," Oakley said. "Our Christmas Offering is important certainly for the funds it provides our ministry, and also for the awareness it gives to our programs. We are grateful to the pastors and churches who designate time to highlight the great work God is doing through our ministry."

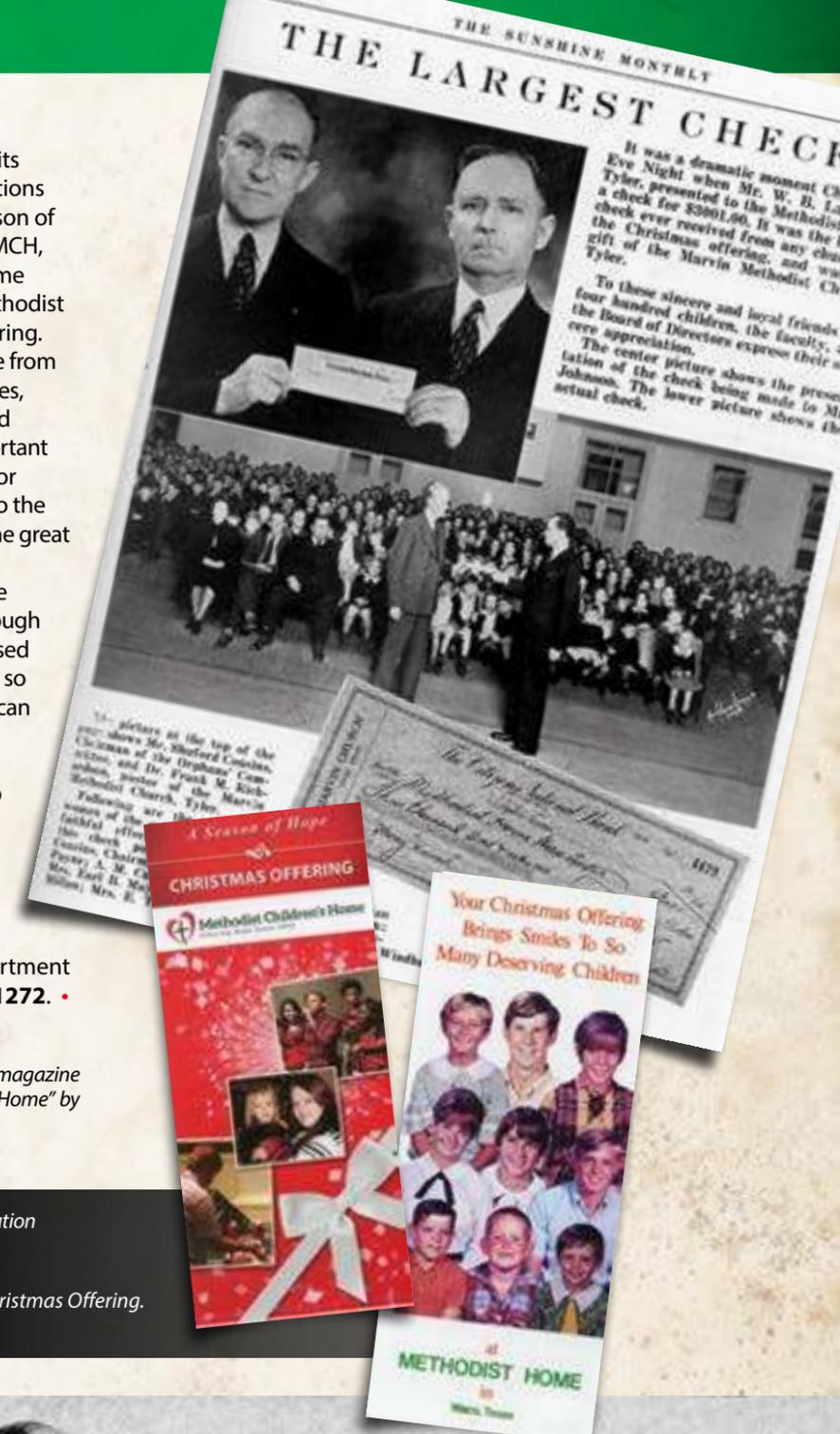
As the Christmas season approaches, Oakley and the development staff work to share the ministry's story through church visits and distributing brochures. "Every dollar raised during the Christmas Offering goes directly to child care, so these gifts provide staff, programs and experiences that can save and change lives," Oakley said. "They truly bless our children, youth and families."

MCH is grateful for our long-standing relationship with the United Methodist conferences and churches in Texas and New Mexico. Please consider promoting our ministry through the Christmas Offering or by learning about other ways we can equip your church in sharing the story of Methodist Children's Home. For more information, contact the Development department at development@mch.org or toll free at 1-800-853-1272.

*Historical information in this article was provided by Sunshine magazine archives and "Centennial: An Illustrated History of the Methodist Home" by Patricia Ward Wallace.

ABOVE - A page from the January 1938 Sunshine highlights a donation of \$3,001 from Marvin Methodist Church in Tyler.

RIGHT - Each year MCH distributes brochures to promote the Christmas Offering. Pictured are brochures used today (left) and from 1968 (right).



Superintendent Johnson accepts a donation in 1940 from First UMC, Wichita Falls. Pictured from left to right are Mr. Joe Perkins, Mr. J.S. Bridwell, Mr. Johnson and Dr. Paul Martin.

MORE NEW HOMES COMING TO WACO CAMPUS

The leadership of Methodist Children’s Home is pleased to announce the funds have been secured to complete two additional homes on the Waco campus.

“We are excited that the campaign has been well received by so many of our supporters, staff, alumni and friends,” said Tim Brown, President/CEO. “The short amount of time it has taken to raise this \$5.2 million is evidence that this plan for the 21st century home for our children is resonating with donors and our supporters. I am pleased to visit with the young ladies and staff living in the Daniels Home and hear how much they enjoy the new home.”

In addition to building the Daniels Home which was dedicated in June of this year, the capital campaign involves the closure and demolition of the West Home and Scharbauer-Thomas Home

The West Home was a gift from Mrs. J.M. West of Houston, in memory of her husband, Jim West. The Scharbauer-Thomas Home was a gift from lifelong friends, Mrs. Phil Scharbauer of Midland and Mrs. Alma Thomas of Austin, and was given in memory of their husbands. These homes have blessed countless children, staff and supporters over the years and we are grateful for the generosity of these families.

“This is truly an exciting time at MCH,” Brown said. “Throughout the history of this organization there have been times when changes have been made for the betterment of the ministry and to ensure MCH was ready to meet the ever-changing needs of children, youth and families. We know God is blessing this ministry.”



WHY BUILD NEW HOMES?

The decision to undertake a campaign to build new state-of-the-art homes on the Waco campus is the culmination of a strategic plan initiative set in 2011. This initiative challenged MCH to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of an aging facility infrastructure. MCH leadership was also challenged to develop a design for the ideal residential campus to meet the current and projected needs of those we serve.

Planning has been a detailed process involving MCH leadership, our Board of Directors, alumni, childcare experts, best practices influenced by our understanding of outcome-based research, and most importantly, how we as a ministry could further improve our care for those in our care.

Each new home built on our Waco campus will:

- ***Locate staff and residents on the same floor to meet supervision requirements and create an atmosphere where children feel even more secure and loved;***
- ***Minimize the potential risks from having residents sharing bathroom facilities, allowing for more privacy and to help establish self-confidence;***
- ***Reduce and improve maintenance costs for operation and occupancy of the existing homes;***
- ***Provide sensory/safe rooms and LED lighting to help the youth self-regulate, which our trauma-informed care has shown to be beneficial for young people during times of crisis;***
- ***Furnish adequate off-duty living quarters for houseparent staff to help with retention and recruitment of house parents;***
- ***Achieve a more residential neighborhood appearance on the Waco campus.***

Most importantly, these homes will allow Methodist Children’s Home to further our ability to provide an atmosphere where children feel safe and loved and have the opportunity to foster healthy and nurturing relationships.

If you have questions about this building campaign for our children, contact Trey Oakley, vice president for development, at **800-853-1272** or **TOakley@MCH.org**.



CELEBRATING A LEGACY OF CARE

In the early 1950s, the landscape of Methodist Children's Home changed significantly with the construction of 10 new residential homes. The Scharbauer-Thomas Home and the West Home were two of seven homes all dedicated on Oct. 2, 1952.

For the last 64 years, the Scharbauer-Thomas Home (called "S-T" for short) and West Home have served as havens of shelter and environments to foster growth and renewal for hundreds of young people. As MCH grows to better meet the needs of children and youth today and in the future through the construction of new, state-of-the-art homes, staff and alumni gathered in October to fondly remember the legacy of care of the S-T and West Homes. The two homes will be removed by the end of the year to make room for new construction.



SCHARBAUER-THOMAS HOME



The S-T Home was a gift from longtime friends Mrs. Phil Scharbauer (pictured left) of Midland, and Mrs. Alma Thomas (pictured right) of Austin, given in memory of their husbands. The home was designed with a New Orleans-type architecture and was built to be a girls unit.

Mrs. Scharbauer and Mrs. Thomas were frequent visitors to MCH, and Mrs. Thomas annually invited girls to her home in Austin for a picnic.



Mrs. Alma Thomas, Austin.



Mrs. Phil Scharbauer, Midland.



Mrs. W. W. Fandron, Houston.



Bishop William C. Martin, Dallas.



WEST HOME

The West Home was a gift from Mrs. J.M. West (Jessie Dudley West) of Houston in memory of her husband Jim West. The home was built to house 22 girls.

At the dedication in 1952, the West's family pastor, Dr. Dawson Bryan, said: "All Texas knows of the pioneer West family and their contribution to the progress of Texas industries. This building is a beautiful monument to the wife and mother of this famous family."

Mrs. West has an "unassuming nature" and after much persuasion agreed to have her portrait done - it was placed in the West home the day before her death; she never saw the physical campus due to ill health but MCH Administrator Hubert Johnson and his wife would bring some of the children to see her.



NEWS AND NOTES

DANIELS HOME WELCOMES VISITORS



The construction is complete, the furniture is in place and the students and staff are now settled into their new home. On Aug. 15, the residents and staff of the Dr. Jack Kyle and Evelyn Daniels Home held an open house to introduce their new house to other MCH staff and students. Visitors toured the rooms and enjoyed refreshments as they experienced the new layout design.

The Daniels Home is the first component of a broader capital campaign in which state-of-the-art homes will be built to better meet the needs of the youth served by MCH. The new home incorporates design elements to encourage more interaction while also providing added feelings of safety for residents as well as apartments for home parents. Bethany Parrott, unit manager for the Daniels Home, said her staff and residents are enjoying the new design.

On Wednesday, Aug. 17, the home's namesake, Dr. Jack Kyle and Evelyn Daniels, visited the Waco campus bringing along their daughter Lyn, her husband Mike and son Cole. After touring the Visitors Center at the Perkins Heritage Home, the family went to see the Daniels Home. It was the first time their daughter had seen the home and the first time Dr. and Mrs. Daniels had seen the home fully furnished.

"We are still overwhelmed with the honor of having the building named for us and welcomed a glimpse of the benefits that will come to the present and future residents of the Daniels Home," he added. "We pray daily for MCH and have hearts full of gratitude for our lifetime relationship with so great a ministry." •

U.M. ARMY 2016

Several youth from Methodist Children's Home spent a week serving others in Bryan, Texas. Each summer, MCH partners with Kingwood UMC and United Methodist Action Reach-Out Mission by Youth (U.M. ARMY) for hands-on mission projects.

U.M. ARMY holds work camps with youth and adult volunteers. Work camps provide much-needed home repair assistance for people in need. FUMC Bryan hosted the youth for the camp, which was themed "True Identity."

"The focus was helping all of us to take a look at how our identity in Jesus impacts the actions in our lives, and in the lives that we touch," said Ron Britton, MCH discipleship minister. "I think our youth saw what a difference they can make in the lives of others and in the world."

MCH youth pushed through long, hot days at three different locations to build a wheelchair ramp, an awning and a deck for their clients. Noah, who lives at the Boys Ranch had this to share: "I enjoyed the prayer walks and having an opportunity to help others in need. I felt I grew spiritually because there was no judgment from others on how you worshipped and everyone accepted others as they were." •



MCH STAFF AND YOUTH WORK TOGETHER TO VOLUNTEER IN WACO

Methodist Children's Home youth volunteered alongside our MCH Family Outreach in Waco and transitional services staff on Sept. 11 at the "Just Between Friends" consignment sale at the Extraco Events Center in Waco, Texas.



"Just Between Friends" provides quality goods at a great price to the community. They utilize their platform to promote local charities such as MCH Family Outreach. At the end of the sale any items not sold are identified as donations and given to local charities. In return MCH Family Outreach provides volunteers to assist with post breakdown, sorting and donation gathering.



"This volunteer experience allows our youth and staff to come together as an MCH family to work on a greater project that gives back to our community," said Brook Davilla, director of MCH Family Outreach in Waco.

The donations are brought back to the MCH Family Outreach building and placed in the family resource closet. The resource closet allows families participating in MCH services to select items such as clothing, toys and bedding.

"The family resource closet was lovingly decorated a few years ago by a local girl scout," added Davilla. "We hope we can provide a way to meet our families' needs in a way that is filled with dignity and respect."

Any items not utilized through current participants in case management or parent education are also shared with local agency partners such as Care Net, Acts Church, Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and children in local after-school programs.

"One day a local church asked us if we had any little girls clothing for two sisters who were in need," said Cathy Lawless, administrative secretary for MCH Family Outreach in Waco. "We welcomed the church to bring the girls so that they could select their own clothing and have a 'shopping spree.' It was a joy to witness the excitement of the girls as they shopped. To be able to meet tangible needs of families in a way that is honoring and fun for them is a daily blessing." •

BOYS RANCH RENOVATIONS

The Boys Ranch is getting some updates! The horse barn now has a new metal roof, rebuilt south-end wall and has been extended to add two stall areas for horses needing medical treatment. Also, the Administration building and Fern Cone have been updated with new paint, windows and siding to help withstand the elements of the weather. The Dining Hall has also been painted and updated. •



MEMORIAL GIFTS AND GIFTS OF HONOR

GIFTS MADE FROM JUNE 2016 THROUGH AUGUST 2016

Honorariums

Quintan Allen's 16th Birthday

Grandma Hardie

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Amerson

Melvin Amerson

L.B. Atterbury for Fathers' Day

Milton and Brenda Evitt

Abigail Boldin Ayers

2016 Whitney High School

Valedictorian

King Memorial UMC -
Whitney, TX

Kallie Barley

Terelyn and Steven Garlington

Frances Biggs

John and Donna Edwards

Will Blackwell

George and Reba Lunsford

Reverend Charles Dennis Camp

Amanda and Brad Slaten

Jimmy Caswell

Bobby and Debbie Caswell

Randy and Charlise Cunningham's

Wedding Anniversary

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

Jack and Evelyn Daniels

Mary Ellen Bryan

Trey and Karen Oakley

Mamie Lee Dodds' 97th Birthday

Jane Jones

Philathea Sunday School Class

First UMC - Big Spring, TX

Betty and Ladd Smith

Lucinda Elise

Reverend David E. Milam

Father's Day

First UMC - Carthage, TX

Bill and Sherri Files

Ed and Susan Wilson

Allan Fink's Birthday

Jo Ann and Don Leifeste

Terri Garza's Retirement

Hewitt Elementary - Hewitt, TX

Grammy and Papa Golden

Lauren and Austin Luchak

John and Cheryl Greenwood's

25th Wedding Anniversary

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

Charlotte Gump

Richard Gump

Lilly, Laadan and Thomas

Reverend and Mrs. D. Gene Gurley

Arnold and Carol Hall

John and Olivia Harris

Betty Price

Nelda Hazlewood's 85th Birthday

Kallie Barley

Shelby and Amy Barley

Lowrance and Marilyn Hodge's

60th Wedding Anniversary

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

Stefanie Hodges

Pat Santini

Howard Home Legacy

Thomas and Ann Howard Cantrell

Jack and Karen Faubion

The Inclusives Sunday School

Class:

Martin and Karen Cude

Lowrance and Marilyn Hodge

Art and Kathy Krueger

Jerry and Diane Williamson

University Park UMC - Dallas, TX

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

Boyce Jones

Sheila Castellano

George and Judy Patrick

Charlotte and Rudy Reem

Mr. Dick Kenyon

Baumgardner Family

Myrna Kepford

Jaunita Honeyman

Eisley and Jubilee Lawson

Kelly and Billy Lawson

John Daniel Lee -

Class of 2016

Pappa and Susan Luce

Lillian Linton

James and Kathy Franco

Long Family

Dale and Pam Rouze

Janny Madden

Jay, Kim, Ashley, Emily and

Kelsey Madden

Laura and Craig May

Kim Robinson

Bessie McBee

Kathy and James Franco

Mesilla Valley CASA

Las Cruces, NM

Carolyn and Dave O'Brien

Reverend Sue Milam's Retirement

Doug and Marilyn Lyon

Betty P. Miller

Andrea and Lonnie Hazlitt

Ron Petersen's Birthday

Loretta Hardie

Bruce D. Pruett

Mr. Jeff Buie

Wylina Putnam

Amy and Shelby Barley

Reverend Steve Ramsdell

James and Laura Milam

Dr. and Mrs. John Robbins

Mr. Frank M. Busch

Reverend Dr. and Mrs. Chuck

Simmons

Mr. Frank M. Busch

Ellen Smith

Herbert Shelton

Glenn Smith

Robin Smith

Garry and Le'Ann Solmonson

Jeff and Lenee McDonald

Reverend T. B. Sowers

John and Monica Burks

Homer C. Spear

Brian and Belinda Makins

John and Judi Thomas' Wedding

Anniversary

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

The Fathers of Tobin - Park UMC

United Methodist Women

Tobin Park UMC - El Paso, TX

United Methodist Men

St. Mark's UMC - Marshall, TX

Rick Long

Ava Grace and Parker Wallach

Alice Sappington

R. Jane Watson

Lloyd and Martine Curley

Suzanne Wheeler's Birthday

Nancy Owen

Miss Jessica Wilson

Grammie and Burkey

Burkhardt

Memorials

Dan Gilbert Adams

Tim and Susan Brown

Moe and Janet Dozier

Trey and Karen Oakley

C.J. Adkins

Marion Adkins

Mrs. Carolyn Armistead

Betty Jo Spencer

Annie June Baker

Brad and Sherry McDowell

Craig and Erin McDowell

Lois Millard

Orval Bakken

Beth and Chris Robben

Mrs. Anne Bandy

Tom and Marianne Davis

Carole Eck

Pat and Karen Karn

Lois H. Martin

Rich and Shirley Sears

Jeanne and Steve Thompson

Archie (Bo) Barbee, Jr.

Ben and Bette Samford

Dr. Roy T. Bassett

Mary E. Bassett

Harold Batiste

Gertrude B. Batiste

Randall Bentley

Mrs. Ruth F. Irvine

Miriam and James Billings

Karen Billings

Mary Ann Boyd

Kim Autry Collier

Ruth Boyle

Sue Shell

Allean Brown

Ed Brown

Bill Brown

Betty Wilson

Father John Brown

Charles and Carol Brown

Joseph G. Brown

Charles and Peggy Cable

Roy Brown

Kaleidoscope Sunday School Class

St. Mark's UMC - Mesquite, TX

Marty Brownlie

Dan and Vikki Pier

Gary Bunt

Ralph and Beverly Hornick

J.A. Bush

James and Doris Long

Juel and Thelma Byrd

Reverend and Mrs. Kenneth R. Byrd

Jasper and Catherine Cain

Jerry and Marilyn Cain

Mrs. Louise (Cleo) Campbell

Lovell Family:

Lynda Lovell Arban

Charlotte Lovell Gibson

Richard T. Lovell

Betty Lovell McCollum

Marilyn Seemann

Dorothy Wayne Carroll

Beverly and Joey Carroll

Clifford (Pete) G. Chambers

Georgia Mae Chambers

Hamilton

Ruth Closs

W.C. (Bunkin) and Candy Bennett

Boyd Cole

Jane Cole

Dr. and Mrs. C.H. Cole, Sr.

Derrell and Peggy Helm

Mr. and Mrs. Chas Cole, Jr.

Derrell and Peggy Helm

Mrs. Lou Jean Combs

Brenda Wilson

Jeff Cooke

Ms. Debbie L. Pankhurst

Jim Crain

United Methodist Women

First UMC - Hemphill, TX

Lera Crow

Linda S. Phillips

C.E. (Bud) Crozier

Ms. Florence R. Baughman

Brenda and Jimmy Bintz

Carol and William Boyd

Ms. Nadine N. Burgoon

Nancy F. Caldwell

Alice Coker

Ida H. DeRan

Gail Dillard

Steven and Marcia Ensz

Friends at E. Kentwick Place -
Conroe, TX

Aubrey and Donna Haines

Robert L. Lauer

Judy Loos

Carol Mayer

Mrs. Beverly J. McCoy

Twyla Conover Metz

Jacob and Rae Peterson

Karen Pinkstaff

Dorothy M. Robert

Robin Pinkstaff Rose

Dan and Marianne Weger

Jim and Judy White

Mr. Lamont Cunningham

Mary Carolyn Dye

Dottie Culberson Davis

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

Mamie Day

Sandra Day-Morgan

Hal Dixon

Howard Weitzel

Claudine Dodd

Lola Rixon

My Brothers and Sisters

Mamie Lee Dodds

Elizabeth Herro Dowdy

Memorial Scholarship Fund

Robert and Tonette Bork

LaNell Downing

Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Scarbrough

Laverne Duke

Rebecca and Dub Narramore

Robert Hall Duke

James and Suzzie Hubble

Bradley M. Dunmead

Bill Dunmead

Travis Durham

Pam Goergen

Loyd Dutton

Charles and Carol Brown

Fran Duncan

Billy Ray Elliot

Peter and Flossie Gibson

E. Jean English

Anonymous

Ruth Downes Evans

Mr. Alfred V. Evans, Jr.

Lucy Flores

Mr. and Mrs. James P. Flores

Elizabeth Fluet

Candy Mallonee

Nina Brown Hughes Flynn

Doyal and LaVerne Duncan

Christian Shane Fonville

Mary and Burl Fonville

George and Theo Fory

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Fory

Dennis Fowler, Jr.

Charlene and Dennis Fowler

Kittra Scarlett Freeman

Mrs. Ross Freeman

Ross Freeman

Mrs. Ross Freeman

Mr. Richard Gardell

Gregory and Ellen Kubala

Roland (Buddy) Garidel

W.C. (Bunkin) and Candy Bennett

Melinda Gaskill

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ruhman

Darin M. Gautier

Daniel and Antonia Ruiz

Marilyn and Chuck King

Betty Safford

Ms. Virginia Avery

Lula Mae Sale

Amy and Shelby Barley

Mr. Clayton Salter

Ms. Virginia Avery

Earl Scarborough

Marc and Lexi Flach

Henry Schneider

Betty Roberts and Family

Richard Karl Scholz

Marc and Rebecca Clark

Louise Schriener

Susan and Rick Cade

Hollis Scoggin

Chevron Texaco Retirement

Association

Crandall, TX

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Jane Tustin

Bessie Scoggins

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Anna C. Seaman

Don Seaman

Ethan Severson

Mary Ellen Bryan

Betty Young Sharp

James C. Sharp

Eris Shelton

Herbert Shelton

Tribble Shepherd

M.H. and Jeanette Shepherd

Agnes L. Smith

Earlene S. Loden

Bennie and Wilma Smith

Berry James

Brenda K. Smith

James C. Smith

Sondra Lord Smith

Todd Smith

W.C. (Bunkin) and

Candy Bennett

William C. Smothermon

Fannie Smothermon

Emily Somerville

Ms. Kathleen Somerville

Raymond Spears

David and Debbie Wise

William Stender

Arthur and Ellen Shelton

Morris I. Stevens, Sr.

Patricia and Mike Head

Betty Stewart

Jim and Vivian Fritz

Jo Sullivan

Gloria Palmer

Jan Summers

Barbara Cole

Wanda Thane

Glenna Kinnibrugh

Betty Thomas

Vicki and Curtis Lackey

Lois Watts Thomas

Hunter and Totsy Cunningham

Brent Thompson -

Dallas Police Officer

Jami Lovelady

Elva Thompson

James and Billie Merriman

Norma Sue Thraikill

Steve, Judy and Wes Carantza

Bobbi Cummings

Linda Cummings

Ron and Jacqueline Harman

and Family

Class of 1949 - Monahans High

School

Monahans, TX

Jimmy and Elsa Ponder

Mary Ponder

Ronnie and Becky Ponder

Edgar and Carolyn Reeves

David and Marilyn (Ponder)

Schneider

Nancy Trimble

Spirit ChristCare

Christ UMC - Farmers Branch, TX

William Frank (Bill) Turnage

Betty and Doug Dickinson

Dwain Turner

Eddie and Wanda Hilliard

Gail Perley

David Upchurch

Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Scarbrough

Mrs. John Van Bevers

Evelyn Gregory

A.L. Van Devender

United Methodist Women

First UMC - Hemphill, TX

Martha (Billie) and Fred Vinson

M'Liss and Larry Lenamon

and Family

Dianne Walsh

Larry and Betsy Pennington

Miriam K. Ward

Richard and Kay Davis and Family

Mr. Numa (Buddy) Ward

W.C. (Bunkin) and Candy Bennett

Dale and Sharon Warner

Pat and Sharon Wise

Buck Watson

Glenn and Kay Furman

Margie and W.J. Webb

Douglas Webb

Bob and Mildred White

Dr. and Mrs. Sameer Jejurikar

Mildred Jeanette White

The Ford Family

Tom, Allene and Elizabeth Herod

Mira and Subhash Jejurikar

Pat Lowther

Frances Wiese

Peter and Flossie Gibson

Cleo and Herbert Wiley

Gary and Cheryl Rodgers

Erica Wilkerson

Dad Wilkerson

Mrs. Betty Pearl Williams

Reverend Brenda Bryant Beaver

Mary L. Bryant Jackson

M.J. and Helen Williams

Juanette Gentry

Joyce Williamson

Evelyn Gregory

Elaine Wilson

Bill Wilson

Dale and Sheron Wise

David and Debbie Wise

\$1,000 - \$3,499 GIFTS

In honor of **The Diem Family Scholarship by Julie and John Diem**

In honor of **Allan Fink's 85th Birthday by his wife and children, Betty, George, Laura, Carolyn and Ellen**

In honor of my grandson, **Ronnie Haynes and Family, by Mamie Lee Dodds**, Big Spring, TX

In memory of **Arthur Capps by Anonymous Donor**

In memory of **David L. Brown by Howard Nycum**, Houston, TX

In memory of **Wilburn Curnutt by Travis and Nancy Stone**, Dallas, TX

In memory of **Willie Ware Dickey by Mr. and Mrs. Philip Beech**, Waverly, TN

In memory of **Sarah L. Greene by Ms. Jane Fieldcamp**, Houston, TX

In memory of **Grace Loughmiller by Shirley Loughmiller**, San Antonio, TX

In memory of **Lauren Emily Price by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Price**, Arlington, TX

In memory of **W. Tom Thweatt, III by Tom and Lou Thweatt**, Katy, TX

In memory of **Rick Wolfe by Wes and Wendy Green**, Amarillo, TX

\$3,500 - \$4,499 GIFTS

In honor of **Joseph James Seamans by Bubba and Nancy Smith**, Austin, TX

\$4,500 - \$5,499 GIFTS

In honor of **Our Lord Jesus by Anonymous Donor**

In memory of my parents, **Lawson and Jean Clark by Anonymous Donor**

In memory of my parents, **Paul and Roberta Dettman by Jim and Mary Milner**, Meadows Place, TX

In memory of **Molly Huffman by Charles Huffman**, Lockney, TX

\$10,000 - \$25,499 GIFTS

In honor of **Lyle Mason by Mom and Dad**, San Antonio, TX

In honor of **J.W. Head Family** and in memory of **Vonnie Mae Price by The Estate of Frances Osborne**, Lampasas, TX

MEMORIAL GIFTS AND GIFTS OF HONOR ARE
RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR LEVEL OF SUPPORT

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In honor of **Brandon Dean Brown by Charles and Carol Brown**, Whitesboro, TX

In honor of **Lacy Lee Brown by Charles and Carol Brown**, Whitesboro, TX

In honor of **Robert and Sandra Houghton by Daryl and Annette Lostak**, Katy, TX

In honor of **Lee and Lit Moore by Debe' Piatak**, New Home, TX

In honor of **Mr. and Mrs. David Seim's 50th Wedding Anniversary by Mr. and Mrs. Glen Pendergrass**, Brenham, TX

In honor of **Mr. and Mrs. Steve Tinkle by Wendi and Tyler Summers**, Dallas, TX

In memory of **Clyde Briley by John and Carolyn Campbell**, Granite Shoals, TX

In memory of **J. Troy Brown by Charles and Carol Brown**, Whitesboro, TX

In memory of **Maude Inez Brown by Charles and Carol Brown**, Whitesboro, TX

In memory of **Reverend Michael Efrid by Elm Ridge UMC**, Aubrey, TX

In memory of **Kent Gentry by Juanette Gentry**, Bronte, TX

In memory of **Bobby Gilliam by Linda Gilliam**, Waco, TX

In memory of **our parents, John Boston and Ida Irene Hankla & Joe and Eva Hurt by William Hankla-Hurt**, Austin, TX

In memory of **Dorothy Dean Hatcher by Charles and Carol Brown**, Whitesboro, TX

In memory of **Ormonde Dale Hatcher by Charles and Carol Brown**, Whitesboro, TX

In memory of my husband, **Marv Leedom by Marjorie Leedom**, College Station, TX

In memory of **Leslie and Myrtle Rhodes by Carolyn and Jodie Ray**, Dallas, TX

In memory of **Irene Stelter by Mr. David Stelter**, Whitesboro, TX

In memory of **Richard O. Whitaker by Wanda and Leroy Whitaker**, Dallas, TX



The last three months of the year are a critical time for fundraising and our benefactors. Please contact our Development office to discuss the most effective ways you can make your gift as the end of the year approaches.

Contact Allison Crawford, director of benefactor relations at 254-750-1316 or ACrawford@MCH.org to find out more about how your generosity can make a profound and lasting impact on the children, youth and families we serve.

