

# SUNSHINE

THE MAGAZINE OF METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME | SPRING 2022



EQUIPPED  
FOR THE  
*Future*



Methodist Children's Home  
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# Save the Date!

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**FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022**

# \$500K GIVING DAY

A ONE-DAY MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



*Trey Oakley*  
President and CEO

**T**hank you for the faithful support and friendship you give to Methodist Children's Home (MCH). It is my hope that the stories on the following pages give you new information about our ministries and strengthen your support of our efforts to empower all we serve to experience life to the fullest.

Our ministries across Texas and New Mexico are working hard to meet the needs of children, youth and families with excellence. God also continues to bless MCH with favorable relationships and opportunities for collaboration and growth.

In the gospel of Luke, it is written: "Much will be demanded from everyone who has been given much, and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be asked" (12:48b; CEB). This message resonates with us at MCH in our desire to be good stewards of your gifts and all God has entrusted to us. To that end, I am excited to share with you about an initiative at MCH we call "Together We Flourish." This is a commitment to faithfully steward the resources, staff and knowledge God has blessed us with in a manner that fulfills our mission while also strengthening other like-minded ministries, organizations and individuals. We believe these efforts, along with our existing and expanding services, will enable more families and children to experience healing and find hope in God's promises for a better tomorrow. We are already seeing positive outcomes for children, youth and families from "Together We Flourish" and know that even better things are still to come.

You can read more about "Together We Flourish" on p. 15 of this issue of Sunshine magazine. You will also learn how MCH equips kinship caregivers to flourish in unexpected stages of life, and how our young people are being prepared for success in the classroom and workforce.

On behalf of children and families across Texas and New Mexico, thank you for believing in, supporting and praying for the life-changing work occurring every day through the ministries of Methodist Children's Home.

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*Siblings Terynce and Ta'Nia know their grandmother has made sacrifices to care for them, but both express gratefulness for the love and provision she gives.*



# EQUIPPED FOR THE *Future*

BY RUSSELL RANKIN

**It's** been a long day and Teri Brent is focused on getting dinner put together. Spring storm clouds are rolling across northwest Houston, so her two grandchildren are staying inside and available to help set the table. Ta'Nia, a willowy 10-year-old, smiles as she talks about her gymnastics classes and her 8-year-old brother, Terynce, lines up napkins and looks for an opportunity to show the sequence he is learning in his martial arts class.

Brent could not have imagined she would have custody of two young children at this stage of life. Ideally, her daughter would not have had the issues that led to the children being removed multiple times by Child Protective Services (CPS). As the children's grandmother, Brent felt a duty to be there for them, however ill-prepared she was. Through tenacity, perseverance and the help of the Gap program offered through MCH Family Outreach in Houston, Brent knows she is equipped for the future.

When she first took in her grandchildren in 2018, she thought it was a temporary situation.

"Truthfully, I really wasn't as prepared for them as I thought," she said. "Terynce was a bit much at the time." She turns to her grandson with a smile and mouths "I love you." When Brent thought her daughter was doing better, she sent Terynce back to

his mother while Ta'Nia elected to stay with Brent. But after Terynce was removed from his mother's a second time and sent to a foster home, Brent knew she needed to be more proactive. She pursued licensing as a foster parent so the courts would allow the children into her care.

"My mindset at the time was, 'I'm Grandma; I'm on my way,'" she said. "As hard as that was seeing Terynce in a foster home, it motivated me all the more to do something about it."

Brent received custody of her grandchildren and the three lived in Brent's one-bedroom apartment. She sold her furniture, put her bed in the living room and put the children in the bedroom.

"That place was only 532 square-feet," she said, laughing at the memory. "I remember it exactly!" Thankfully, they were able to move up to a two-bedroom apartment.

Providing a safe space for two children is one thing. Actually providing for them presented a different set of challenges for Brent. Paying for daycare was costing nearly \$1,000 a month. She worked in the business office of a welding school in Houston but was terminated because of needing time to care for the children and not being able to work late hours.





***All MCH Family Outreach locations across Texas and New Mexico offer Caregiver Empowerment Groups within the Gap program to give emotional support and advice for grandparents and caregivers raising children.***

"There was nothing left," she said. "The kids didn't have anything." Shortly after, her car was repossessed and she received an eviction notice. While visiting a food pantry, Brent received a referral for MCH Family Outreach in Houston.

"I instantly meshed with the MCH case worker," she said. "The biggest thing – even though it seems little – is that she listened. Quite honestly, I just needed to vent at the time. I had a lot built up and I felt heard by her."

Beyond a caring, listening ear, MCH helped Brent find much-needed community resources and assisted her in navigating government services to find additional aid for her family.

"MCH helped me learn how to get paperwork going for custody of my grandkids," she said. "I needed notarized forms for school, forms to take them to doctors' visits. It was so helpful to have those resources and that listening ear."

Brent said MCH and her faith in God sustained her during the hard times. She has a list of things "that gave me encouragement and showed me God was watching over us."

"Someone I didn't even know helped me get my car back," she said. "And then miraculously we were able to move into our current apartment after just a

one-week wait despite being told it could be three months or longer. Sometimes God stirs up the pot, but in each instance, I can only give thanks knowing the kids are here with me, they are loved and they are cared for."

According to the 2021 State of Grandfamilies report, 2.6 million children in the United States are being raised by a relative or close family friend.

Despite their proven crucial role, however, not all families have access to comparable or equitable services and support that helps meet the basic needs of children in their care. MCH is dedicated to providing case management services to kinship caregivers through the Gap program as they care for this vulnerable population.

The fourfold mission of the Gap program is to preserve and strengthen the family's functioning; link families with appropriate community resources and create an ongoing support system; strengthen the family's coping skills and ability to function in its community; and ensure that the family's basic needs are met.

"With much of Texas and New Mexico still dealing with the pandemic, families served through the Gap program have been especially affected," said Traci Wagner, vice president for programs at MCH.

Like Brent, “most Gap clients are referred to MCH Family Outreach by school systems, churches or other community agencies,” Wagner said. “When schools started shutting down in response to the pandemic, a lot of our referrals stopped. All of our outreach offices across Texas and New Mexico are actively working to reestablish relationships with referrals to keep people who need help from falling through the cracks.”

According to Wagner, when families or caregivers are hurting “they have a hard time reaching out and connecting to a program. For some older individuals that could be served through the Gap program, technology can be a barrier.”

“There’s also a lot of pride,” she added. “A call to MCH saying ‘I need help’ can be the hardest call for them to make.”

Dulce Garcia, a case manager with MCH Family Outreach in Lubbock, said a listening ear, a touch of compassion or a small gesture of dignity can make all the difference in the world for a grandparent or other kinship caregiver dealing with the challenges of caring for someone else’s children.

“I work with a 74-year-old woman in our Gap program who takes care of her two young great-nephews and a great-niece, all under the age of 12,” Garcia described. “This family lives in a small town near Lubbock on a fixed income, in low-income housing and on food stamps. The client does not read or write, so I help her a lot.”

“She kept telling me for a while that she thought she needed glasses,” Garcia said. “We drove back and forth together for her eye exams. Finally, it came time to pick out her frames. She tried a pair on, turned to me and said, ‘Oh my gosh, I can see!’ She was so happy because she was seeing a brand-new world. It was a very emotional time for both of us.”

Brent’s brand-new world has come as she has seen her grandchildren’s personalities come alive and flourish since

being in her custody and receiving help through the Gap program.

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**“Sometimes God stirs up the pot, but in each instance, I could only give thanks knowing the kids are here with me, they are loved and they are cared for.”**

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*Brent speaks from firsthand experience at a meeting of the RAP Coalition (Relatives As Parents) in Houston, encouraging others looking for connection and resources.*





"Ta'Nia was very shy; she didn't talk at all," Brent said. "As she grew to feel safe, she began to come out of her shell. She started talking, then singing, then dancing. And Terynce had some medical issues that needed to be addressed. Now he is doing so much better and getting so strong."

As a Gap client, Brent became a cheerleader for all the programs offered by MCH Family Outreach. When the office in Houston needed to hire an administrative secretary, Brent jumped at the opportunity to apply.

"When my time was up as a Gap client, it was so sad," she said. "MCH was a backbone for me. Everything I stood for as a client I learned from MCH."

"Now to work for MCH is such an accomplishment," she said. "I love it because I know and understand the assignment. The Gap program, Family Solutions – I was a single mom with three kids once – I know what these individuals and families are going through."

Brent said finding connection is what families need most.

"In the beginning I felt secluded and alone," she said. "I did not know there were so many others in the same situation. Being involved with MCH shows you aren't alone and that there are a lot of others in the same boat."

According to the 2021 KIDS COUNT data center, 303,000 children are being raised in kinship situations in Texas and 30,000 in New Mexico. Although New Mexico data has been consistent over the past five years, Texas numbers continue to increase by more than 10,000 children a year.

"Grandparents and other relatives raising grandchildren is prevalent in New Mexico," said Tiffany Gonzales, director of MCH Family Outreach in Las Cruces, N.M. "As many as are connected to services, we know there are so many more, especially in rural areas, who aren't. It's a big need."

Gonzales said recognition of the needs by the community helps service providers gain traction. Ever since the City of Las Cruces established a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program, Gonzales said the utilization of the MCH Gap program has been 100 percent.

Similarly, in Houston, MCH Family Outreach is a part of the RAP Coalition, which stands for Relatives As Parents. The coalition is a group of organizations that supports families with services ranging from physical and mental health, legal resources, parent education, financial literacy and kinship placement.

Once a participant looking for help, Brent is now one with the answers.

"I remember attending a conference and asking questions as a client and others would chime in that they had the same question," she recalled. "Sometimes caregivers don't know the questions to ask until they hear someone else speak up."

"Earlier this year I spoke at a RAP Coalition conference, telling them I was once just like them – a client, confused and crying," Brent said. "Now I'm speaking and encouraging them, teaching them to use every resource available and urging them to learn to ask questions. I love being a resource for Gap and encouraging grandparents by telling them how to do things. It cuts out a lot of stress for them to hear firsthand stories."

Looking at her grandchildren, Brent acknowledges "it's hard for grandparents to keep at it when they don't have help and don't know the questions to ask. But things can get better. All the favor and accomplishment in our lives is because of God and the help of MCH. It makes me feel so good to know we are making it." •

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**"In the beginning I felt secluded and alone...I did not know there were so many others in the same situation. Being involved with MCH shows you aren't alone. There are a lot of others in the same boat."**

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# TAYLOR

## *RUNNING TOWARD OPPORTUNITY*

BY JEAN WRIGHT

**T**aylor's smile and spunk bring energy to the room as she talks about her journey to Methodist Children's Home. She has a confidence in her voice and a hopefulness in her heart – the type of personality that leads one to believe she was always a vibrant young lady with bold ideas for a bright future. But Taylor admits she did not always have such an optimistic outlook.

After losing her loving father, Taylor moved from home to home, finding it difficult adjusting to new environments and expectations. The grief of her father's passing and uncertainty of where she belonged caused Taylor to express her feelings and manage her behaviors inappropriately. After a series of attempts to run away, Taylor and her grandmother agreed in 2020 that it would be best for her to come to MCH.

"When I arrived at MCH, I was pretty hot-headed and angry," Taylor said. "I frequently got into arguments with staff and other students. At the time, I wondered why my family didn't want me, but I soon realized they sent me to MCH for my own safety and to help me discover who I really was. If it wasn't for MCH, I would still be running."

Taylor initially made progress at MCH, but decided to leave after several close friends graduated from the residential program. While coping with the loss of her support system and lacking self-worth, Taylor was unsure of what to do on her own.

"I remember thinking, 'What am I doing to myself?' and having the realization I had the choice to either learn from MCH or run from it," Taylor said.

Taylor eventually made the decision to return to MCH and take hold of the life and opportunities she had ahead of her.

Now 18 years old, Taylor participates in choir, and she is captain of the Bulldog cheer team and a member of the volleyball team. As cheer captain, Taylor quickly learned the importance of being a team player.

"I now know if we are going to reach our goals, it can't be about me, it has to be about the team," she said. "These experiences matured me in ways I didn't see at the time, but now I understand we can only achieve our dreams when we work together."

Taylor credits a number of MCH staff and good friends for supporting her while she found her true value and voice.

"One of my staff told me I was a smart, beautiful, intelligent woman of God, and capable of doing anything in this world," she said. "It was her encouragement that helped me understand I really could make something of my life."

Stephanie Cummings, residential supervisor on the Waco campus, said she is proud of the progress and changes Taylor has made the past two years.

"I have seen a lot of growth since she first came to MCH," Cummings said. "Today, Taylor meets program expectations, completes her schoolwork, holds a job, and takes care of home responsibilities. She has turned into the strong young woman we knew she was capable of becoming when she arrived."

Over time, Taylor has also developed trust with staff who have accepted, taught and come around her in moments of doubt and frustration.

"I believe there are people here who I can go to no matter the situation," Taylor said. "If I'm hurting, there is someone to talk to or, if I'm happy, there is someone to celebrate with me. The people here are doing what they do out of love for me."

Taylor is on track to graduate from the University of Texas–University Charter School in December 2022. After graduation, she plans to utilize the scholarship resources available through Transition Services to attend a community college before transferring to a four-year university to complete her undergraduate degree.

Taylor acknowledges she still has moments when she struggles with feelings of anger and resentment, but can see evidence of the improvements she has made at MCH.

Taylor said she hopes to either become a neurosurgeon or return to MCH to become a home parent. She wants to use her personal experience to connect with those in need because of the lasting impact MCH has had on her life.

"It's always hard to adjust to a new place, but the growth you are able to experience at MCH makes it so worth it," Taylor said. •



# D'NAYJAH

## CREATING HER LEGACY

BY SARAH BELLAFIORE



A quiet young woman with a big personality and a heart to match, D'Nayjah is ready for her next chapter in life.

"I want to give my parents a nice, custom home after I become a successful real estate agent," the May 2022 graduate said with a smile. Rooted in her faith, the youngest sibling of six always puts her family first.

"Then I want to give my nieces and nephews whatever they want," she added. "My family is a big part of my life, both literally and figuratively. They mean a lot to me."

Life for D'Nayjah began abruptly. She was born six weeks premature, weighing just four pounds and 13 ounces. Her mother, Stephanie, remembers the long weeks she spent watching her daughter grow in intensive care as she herself recovered from the delivery that left her paralyzed.

"I told the staff I wasn't going to leave without my baby," said Stephanie, who serves as a home services specialist at the MCH Boys Ranch. "She was so tiny that I used baby doll clothes to dress her. She kept growing and I learned how to walk again."

Growth comes through hardship and D'Nayjah encountered both academic and social struggles early in life. Her parents decided to enroll her in the Day Student program at the charter school on the MCH Waco campus.

MCH launched the Day Student program in 2012 for students in Waco and surrounding communities needing a smaller academic setting. D'Nayjah was one of the first sixth-grade students in the program.

"I am proud D'Nayjah stuck with us," said Amy Grisham, director of school support. "We have been through every high and every low together throughout the last six years. It has been exciting to watch D'Nayjah grow into a young woman."

D'Nayjah is involved in theater, the ag program and the student advisory board, where she can share her ideas freely in a safe space with her peers and school staff.

"It is nice to feel like I have a say in things like event planning and other topics, especially since I have been here for six years," D'Nayjah shared.

D'Nayjah's older brother graduated from the charter school in 2016. He participated in the ag

program and encouraged her to get involved. D'Nayjah has raised goats and sheep since she was in the eighth grade.

In February 2021, D'Nayjah and her sheep went on to the sale of champions at the McLennan County Junior Livestock Show, in honor of her superb care of her animal. She also received an award for excellence in showmanship at the seventh annual showmanship contest at the Boys Ranch in November 2021.

Kevin Gibbs, one of the ag teachers at the charter school, has witnessed D'Nayjah's growth over the last five years and recalls fond memories from the moments they have shared.

"Every time D'Nayjah learns something new, a light bulb goes off inside her – that brings me so much joy," Gibbs said. "I'd verbally praise her and D'Nayjah would give me a quiet smile. She has learned to nurture and care for animals and can apply those lessons to other areas of her life, whether it be her career or possibly her own future family."

After graduation, D'Nayjah will transition into the Independent Living program at MCH, where staff will help guide her as she begins her collegiate career at McLennan Community College.

"I have witnessed D'Nayjah's hard work to make it to where she is now," said Allyson Welch, Day Student case manager. "She sets a good example for her peers and she is utilizing all of the resources available to her. She and the other students know we will always be here to support her."

"The MCH staff is really like a second family to me," D'Nayjah said. "They see our worth and I'm happy to be part of a place like this. MCH is my home away from home." •

*Day Students are eligible to participate in all MCH extracurricular activities such as athletics, summer camp, field trips, homecoming, and prom. Day Student graduates also have access to Transition Service and Independent Living resources, including scholarships for college or vocational school. The program maintains a 100 percent graduation rate.*

*For more information about the Day Student program, call the school office at (254) 750-2600 to speak with Clarence Degrate, Day Student program coordinator, or Allyson Welch, Day Student case manager.*



# Paving — the Way

BY SARAH BELLAFFIORE

“What are your plans after you graduate high school? Are you ready for the future?” High school upperclassmen face these questions every year. The idea of planning for a future full of unknowns can be daunting and anxiety-inducing for many teens and young adults. At Methodist Children's Home, staff and community partners equip youth with the skills and tools they need so they can prepare for their next steps with confidence.

One such opportunity for MCH students came in the form of an event called “Reality Check.” Students and day students at the University of Texas–University Charter School (UT-UCS) on the MCH Waco campus learned how to properly budget their monthly income based on the career they selected. Expenses such as doctors' visits or car accidents were also thrown into the mix.

“I want to become a chef, so it was good to learn how MCH can help me in my career after I graduate high school,” said Chanel\*, a freshman living on the MCH Waco campus. “There are a lot of

things that can affect my budget that I didn't think about. I really appreciate the staff and others who put on this event.”

MCH staff from the Accounting and Human Resources departments, Transition Services (TS) and Independent Living (ILP), as well as partners from McLennan Community College (MCC), Equipment Depot, Douglass Nissan, and H-E-B guided students through the event.

Tim Price, director of Outdoor Education and Recreation, was a lead staff member of the Reality Check event. Price hopes the fair-like event will become an annual opportunity for students to learn what is in store for them after graduation.

“Our students are going to remember what they learned here for years to come,” Price said. “They were really blown away. It was also a chance for them to realize even after they graduate – whatever path they choose – MCH will still be able to help them in the future.”

\*The name of the youth has been changed for this story.

*Above: Robert, a May 2022 graduate, explores the inside of a jet that is part of the Texas State Technical College Aviation program. Left: MCH students learn about housing options and utilities from career professionals during the “Reality Check” event.*



After graduation, students can enroll in the TS and ILP programs, where housing, food and other necessities are offered, including scholarship funds for college or vocational school. During the spring semester, MCH and school staff organized a tour of Texas State Technical College (TSTC) in Waco. The group explored the workspaces in Auto Collision and Management Technology, Welding Technology and the Aviation programs.

Nathan, a May 2022 MCH graduate, was among the group thrilled to explore inside helicopters and jets at TSTC.

"I really want to pursue the culinary program at TSTC," Nathan said. "But, after seeing what the aviation program has to offer, I think I want to pursue both fields. Why not? The sky is the limit."

"Experiences like this expose our high school students to what else is out there," said Kenneth Alexander, TS case manager. "Opportunities like this pave the way for our students' future success. They are learning about various avenues where they can get hands-on experience for a career in the future."

This trip also gave us another opportunity to interact with the youth before they graduate high school. We, as a staff, always let them know we are ready to help them if they need us."

High school students at the charter school can also enroll in the OnRamps dual-credit program offered through the University of Texas in Austin which enables them to earn college credit while still in high school.

"It is important our students know they can get ahead in their college coursework before ever stepping foot on a college campus," said Amy Grisham, director of school support. "The program allows them to grasp the level that collegiate coursework is at and it also helps them save money in the long run."

MCH and school staff also work closely to provide events and spaces where students can ask important

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***MCH staff help students with "Reality Check" forms and guide them as they make decisions.***

▼







questions and investigate possible paths after high school. Another group of students and staff toured MCC during the spring semester. Devion, a May 2022 graduate, was inspired to learn about the college's tutoring resources.

"It's encouraging for me to know there is help for me there if I begin to feel like I'm struggling," he said. "I think college tours are important because they help you figure out what you're interested in. I am finding out what my strengths and weaknesses are through experiences like this. So when it actually comes time for me to go to college, I'll be ready."

On campus, MCH and charter school staff arranged a College Week where guests spoke with students about life after high school. Jennifer Amador, an MCH accounting associate and MCH alumna, spoke with a group of juniors and seniors

about her own experience. Amador shared she took a break from college for a while and, with help from Transition Services, later enrolled at Tarleton State

*Above: MCH residents and day students gather for a group photo after touring McLennan Community College. Below: Ki'Yona learns more about MCC's nursing program. Right: Nathan, a May 2022 graduate, is all smiles inside a helicopter on TSTC's Aviation program grounds.*

**"I am finding out what my strengths and weaknesses are through experiences like this. So when it actually comes time for me to go to college, I'll be ready."**





A young man with short dark hair, wearing a blue t-shirt with a red and white American flag design and blue jeans, is sitting in the pilot's seat of an aircraft. He is smiling broadly at the camera. The cockpit is visible, with various instruments and controls. The background shows a bright, sunny day outside the cockpit window.

**“It was encouraging to know that even after I took a break from school, MCH still had my back years after I graduated.”**

University through MCC’s University Center. She is set to graduate with her bachelor’s degree in accounting in 2023.

“It was encouraging to know that even after I took a break from school, MCH still had my back years after I graduated,” Amador said. “It really is a full circle situation for me because not too long ago, I was in the same spot as these students and now I work for MCH. I know how they’re feeling and what they’re thinking. It’s important for them to know they are not alone in this journey.”

“I am still friends with a lot of you guys and that is why I’m going to be real with you,” Zaniya, an MCH alumna, told the same group of students. Zaniya studies at MCC and is in the MCH Independent Living program.

“Having more independence is nice, but then the reality of being an adult sets in,” she continued.

“Balancing a schedule with school, work and a personal life can be overwhelming. I am grateful I have the people in ILP to turn to. It is important for me to share my experiences with my friends who are still in high school so they can better prepare for what is coming next.”



# KADEN

## A FAITH-FILLED FUTURE

BY RUSSELL RANKIN

**K**aden almost glows when he begins talking about his studies and aspirations for the future. It is with good reason; he has a great deal to be excited about. Discussing his path to becoming a college student supported by the Independent Living program (ILP) at Methodist Children's Home, the 22-year-old takes on another look – one of deep thankfulness.

Kaden is on course to graduate in December 2023 from McLennan Community College (MCC) in Waco with an associate's degree in network administration and cybersecurity. This summer he is working as an intern with a tech firm in Waco, which he hopes to parlay into a fulltime job after graduation.

He enjoys learning about technology because "there's so much in Information Technology (I.T.)," he said. "It's like you are always finding another layer." He smiles, realizing the correlation to his own journey.

Kaden's family moved to Texas from Washington State in 2017. In 2019, a period of conflict in the family culminated in Kaden being admitted to the hospital. After two weeks in the hospital respite center, Kaden lived in a hotel room for a month, courtesy of a nonprofit organization supporting the homeless. In January 2020, Central Texas Youth Services referred him to the MCH Independent Living program.

"Even though I was classified as homeless and had to stay with a friend (before MCH), I look back at my story and see the hand of God," Kaden said. "A scripture God gave me when I was in the hospital is Psalm 121:8, which says 'The Lord will guard your going out and your coming in from this time and forever.' I know this to be true because I never spent a night on the street or went without food. God has been faithful."

Ernestine Sample, home parent at MCH, worked with Kaden at the Doss Home when he was admitted to the ILP program.

"When I met Kaden, he was thin, pale and looked very young for his age," she recalled. "He was scared and fragile but had a heart for the Lord. Since then he has grown into a healthy young man. He has goals and dreams and loves the Lord even more."

Kaden said he was introduced to MCH at the perfect time. If he had become homeless earlier, he likely would not have received the same referrals. If it had been a year later, the COVID-19 pandemic would likely have extended his homelessness.

"Moving to MCH opened so many doors for me," he said. "Just the basic thing of now having an address – without one I couldn't get a job. And now food is not a maybe. When you're homeless, you're in survival mode. It took a lot of pressure away to not have to wonder where I would get my next meal."

While living in an ILP home on the Waco campus, Kaden grew in self-confidence and found restoration from his past trauma through the constant encouragement of Sample and Debra Knox, residential supervisor with ILP.

"They encouraged me to keep talking and keep communication open with my family," Kaden said. "I'm constantly growing and learning more about myself. God allowed things to happen to me to ultimately build my character and faith. What He allows me to go through could be for someone else down the road who I am supposed to help."

Today Kaden lives at Clay Commons, an ILP apartment complex in Waco. He juggles school, a job and also serves as a student ambassador at MCC. Earlier this year he was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Even with a crowded schedule and pace, Kaden remains focused on his long-term goal.

"I want to work in the I.T. field for a few years to gain experience before starting my own company," he said. "Ultimately, I.T. will be my day job providing support for me to be a pastor."

"My reason for existence is to serve God – that is my true calling," he added, beaming.

Sample stays in regular contact with Kaden, speaking on the phone and sending him encouraging text messages.

"Kaden is a faith-filled young man," she said. "I see God using Kaden to tell many people of God's goodness and love."

"MCH has been such a blessing," Kaden said. "God's hand navigated everything and for that I am so grateful." •



## ■ 'TOGETHER WE FLOURISH' INITIATIVE AND CAMPAIGN



In recent months, staff from MCH Family Outreach offices throughout Texas and New Mexico, program leadership and the MCH Development team have been raising awareness and funds in support of an agency-wide "Together We Flourish" initiative and campaign. "Together We Flourish" is purposed to maximize and steward MCH resources for ministry through collective impact, generosity and support.

According to Lyle Mason, vice president for development, "Together We Flourish" empowers MCH to make the greatest ministry impact by investing in collaborative programs, projects and services.

"God has enriched this ministry in every way," Mason said. "Investing our God-given resources into strategic community projects and partnerships gives all, including MCH, the greatest chance to flourish."

### Examples of strategic investments include:

- ▶ **Strategic service communities** – Existing MCH Family Outreach communities and areas with service gaps.
- ▶ **Strategic expertise** – Community engagement and training specialist offering TBRI expertise and other trainings for targeted collaborations.
- ▶ **Strategic dollars** – Budgeted for targeted collaborations.
- ▶ **Strategic programming or projects** – Connecting existing collaborations with new, targeted communities.
- ▶ **"Together We Flourish: Permian Basin"** – MCH is actively soliciting support for the launch of a 14<sup>th</sup> MCH Family Outreach office, to be located in the Permian Basin area of West Texas. "Together We Flourish: Permian Basin" raises funds for office space, staffing and ministry programming for the first three years of operation. Additionally, an endowment will be established to support annual collaborative investments with other Permian Basin ministries and organizations, Mason said.

"The heart of our plans is to serve alongside churches and organizations in the Permian Basin and share our resources for ministry to ensure children, youth and families are flourishing," said Jeremy Webb, director of major giving at MCH. "We are excited to join others in this region in answer to God's call to Kingdom work in this community." •

**For more information about Together We Flourish, contact the Development department at (800) 853-1272, or [Development@MCH.org](mailto:Development@MCH.org).**



▲ **MCH is raising funds to open its 14<sup>th</sup> MCH Family Outreach office, to be located in the Permian Basin.**

# NEWS & NOTES

## MCH COMPETES IN MCLENNAN COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW

Methodist Children's Home charter school students participated in the annual McLennan County Junior Livestock Show at the Extraco Events Center in Waco. Under the instruction of agricultural science teachers Steve Kruse and Kevin Gibbs, 14 youth worked hard learning to care for their animals and training for the show. Six students advanced to the Sale of Champions.

"Our students don't get to spend every day and night with their animals like other FFA students do," Gibbs said. "It is amazing to see our kids, who come from hard places and struggles, work hard and come out on top. Thank you to all of the staff, supporters and donors who helped our youth flourish in this event."

Dalton proudly showcases his ag skills with his pig.



Zimiya and ag teacher Steve Kruse work in the pens ahead of the show.



Elizabeth gives her sheep water before the show.



### SHEEP DIVISION

- David – Participated (Med. Wool)
- D'Nayjah – Participated (Med. Wool)
- Elizabeth – Participated (Med. Wool)
- Grace – 4<sup>th</sup> (Med. Wool) (Sale)

### GOAT DIVISION

- David S. – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Boer goat) (Sale)

### SWINE DIVISION

- Abigail – Participated (WOPB\*)
- Alyssa – 7<sup>th</sup> (HAMP\*) (Sale)
- Bryce – 4<sup>th</sup> (BOPB\*) (Sale)
- Dalton – 8<sup>th</sup> (YORK\*)
- Nathan – 10<sup>th</sup> (DUROC)
- Roman – Participated (WOPB\*)
- Thomas – 8<sup>th</sup> (DUROC) (Sale)
- Tryston – Participated (WOPB\*)
- Zimiya – 5<sup>th</sup> (BOPB\*) (Sale)

#### \*SHOW SWINE BREEDS

- BOPB: Black Other Pure Breed
- HAMP: Hampshire
- WOPB: White Other Pure Breed
- YORK: American Yorkshire



## ■ MCH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 101<sup>ST</sup> HOMECOMING

The Methodist Children's Home Alumni Association (MCHAA) gathered in Waco during Easter weekend to celebrate its annual homecoming reunion. The homecoming tradition began in 1921 as a way to help former MCH residents remain connected to their friends and the ministry, making this the 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the first alumni gathering.

Alumni and their families held their annual craft sale, auction and other gatherings. Attendees' children and grandchildren participated in an annual Easter egg hunt on the MCH Waco campus and alumni toured the Waco campus and Boys Ranch, received a ministry



▲ **MCH alumni gather in front of the Administration building on the Waco campus Easter morning.**

report from MCH President and CEO Trey Oakley and shared stories and pictures of their time at MCH.

The Association recognized Debbie Daughtery, the daughter of an MCH alumna, for her honorary service to the group and presented the Distinguished MCH Staff Award to Ken Simons, who served as an

athletics coach in the 1960s and 70s. Alumni and their families worshipped in the Harrell Memorial Chapel and enjoyed their traditional Easter Sunday luncheon before returning home. •

## ■ MCH PRESENTS AT UMA CONFERENCE

Leadership from Methodist Children's Home attended the 2022 United Methodist Association (UMA) Conference in Savannah, Georgia, in April. The annual meeting provides education, thought-provoking speakers, innovations, best practices, and trends to UMA members from diverse human-services ministries from around the nation.

President and CEO Trey Oakley, Vice President for Programs Traci Wagner, and Community Engagement and Training Specialist John Warren, presented at the conference. Their workshop covered topics related to community engagement and partnerships, implementation of trauma-informed care and culture building.

Oakley, who serves on the Board of Directors of UMA, said the team was able to share information about the intersection between Trust-



▲ **Traci Wagner presents information on trauma-informed care during a workshop at UMA.**

Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) and organizational culture.

"I was reminded of all we are capable of at MCH," he said. "We are blessed with abundant resources, a talented staff community and a culture of care rooted in effective and mindful service delivery." •

From Left: John Warren, Traci Wagner and Trey Oakley





## ■ *METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME ELECTS ALUMNUS AS BOARD CHAIR*

Les Leskoven of Corsicana, Texas, was elected Chairperson of the Board of Methodist Children's Home. His term as Chairperson begins in June. Leskoven has been a member of the MCH Board of Directors since 2018.

Leskoven follows Barbara Bauernfeind of Lubbock, Texas, upon completion of her successful term as Board Chair. Bauernfeind served on the MCH Board from 2013-2022, the last two as Chairperson.

As a child, Leskoven lived at MCH from 1963-74 with his older brother, Jim, and sister, Carolyn. He attended Waco public schools while at MCH and graduated from Waco High School in 1974. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics from Baylor University and is a Trust graduate of the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University.

Leskoven recently retired after a 40-year career in the banking industry. He spent the last 23 years with Community National Bank and Trust of Texas (CNBT) in Corsicana, where he served as executive vice president and chief investment/trust officer. In 2019 Leskoven was elected to the CNBT Board of Directors.

An active member of the MCH Alumni Association, Leskoven has served on the Association Board and shared his expertise and insights as the Association built its endowed fund. Leskoven was active in the Association's participation in the \$27 million Building

Hope capital campaign at MCH, designed to update the infrastructure of the MCH Waco campus to better serve the needs of today's children and youth. Leskoven was honored by the MCHAA as Alumnus of the Year in 2016.

"Les is a great advocate for MCH," said Trey Oakley, president and CEO of MCH. "His service on the Board and his lifelong association with this ministry have positively influenced MCH in countless ways and raised awareness about our work to empower all we serve to experience life to the fullest."

In addition to his service on the Board of MCH, Leskoven is active in the Corsicana area. He serves on the Board of First United Methodist Church of Corsicana and the Boys and Girls Club of Navarro County and is a frequent volunteer and supporter of other community efforts. •



## *THREE QUESTIONS WITH LES LESKOVEN*

### **What has MCH meant to you?**

I thank God every day for what Methodist Children's Home has meant to my family. MCH extended my brother, sister and me a lifeline to a world and life we never would have known otherwise. Any success I've had has been built on the foundation MCH gave me – the values of love, generosity, honesty, and hard work. I have many fond memories of growing up there, in what most ways was a typical childhood. In my later years, MCH gave me a path to success through a Baylor education, which enabled me to give back to MCH and the communities where I lived. My personal life and that of my children are still grounded in the Methodist faith from my youth at MCH.

### **How would you define your commitment and affinity to MCH?**

My firm commitment is to help Methodist Children's Home continue its ministry for another 132 years. The dedication, professionalism and love the leadership and staff exhibit for the mission of MCH is amazing. After each Board meeting on campus, I return home excited and inspired to advocate for MCH in any way I can. My wife, Karen, will tell you I can't wait to share my experiences with her after Board meetings. I have often said I'm working on a debt I can never repay. I am especially committed to spreading the word about all facets of MCH's work and to cultivate like-minded donors who will enable it to continue.

### **What does it mean to be elected Chairperson of the Board?**

After arriving on campus as a 6-year-old in 1963, I never could have dreamed that 59 years later I would be in this position. I am honored, humbled and excited. I have learned a great deal from previous Chairs and fellow Board members, as well as MCH leadership. MCH is on a sound path, with a thorough strategic plan and outstanding leadership and staff implementing it. Our job as a Board is to support them, ask thoughtful questions and provide advice so we may all stay on track. I am very confident of a bright and fruitful future for MCH and the children and families we serve.



# GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

GIFTS MADE FROM JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 2022

## HONORARIUMS

**Judy Adams Pittman**  
Kathy Pellegrino

**Judy Barker's Birthday**  
Sallie Helm

**Amy Barley**  
Trey and Karen Oakley

**Barbara Ann Bauernfeind**  
Trey and Karen Oakley

**Beverly and Marc Bennett's  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Sharon and Al Wertz

**Dee Bowen**  
First UMC, Junction, TX

**Brittany Fitz Chapman**  
Judge and Mrs. Robert A. Fitz

**Dr. Jeff Clark**  
Mark Ward

**Hank Coleman's Birthday**  
John Farrell

**DFCS SNAP Program  
Specialists**  
Virginia Davidson

**Ben, Mike, Scott and  
Mary Dickerson**  
Clifton S. Dickerson

**Howard Farriell**  
Cassie Madewell

**Collins Farris**  
Kallie Barley and Colton Covington

**Jack and Karen Faubion**  
Jenny and George Schroder

**Jodi Frizzell's Fundraiser**  
Anonymous

**Pastor Ken Hildebrand**  
Collinsville United Methodist  
Women, Collinsville UMC,  
Collinsville, TX

**Robert Houghton**  
Tommy and Connie McMillan

**Howard Home Legacy**  
Charles and Ann Cantrell  
Joe and Belinda Faubion  
Grant Howard Goble and  
Kate Goble  
Ellen Miller  
Jim and Rasie Faubion Miller  
Jenny and George Schroder

**Alisha Nicole Jones**  
Ed and Debbie Hewitt

**Pastor Mike and Dianne  
Kerzee**  
Les and Karen Leskoven

**Will Klepper**  
John and Cathy Klepper

**Pastor Monty Leavell**  
Debbie and Eddie Guy

**Les Leskoven**  
Laura Ackerman  
George and Vicki Winningham

**The marriage of Addison  
Lewis and Daniel James**  
Alice Sappington

**Nanette Lynch**  
Belinda Price

**The marriage of Michelle and  
Michael McMains**  
Judi Hewitt

**Rev. Marie Mitchell**  
Trey and Karen Oakley

**Jan D. Moden's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
Sharon and Al Wertz

**Trey and Karen Oakley**  
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Howard  
Stephen Wheeler

**Mary Burson Orona's Birthday**  
Anonymous

**Jamie and Donna Rainwater**  
Jeff White

**Pastor Mike Ramsdell and  
Rhonda Ramsdell**  
John and Donna Krupala

**Thomas and Janet Sheahan**  
The Hinton Legacy Fund

**Ken and Debra Smith**  
Joan M. Hallmark

**Ena Dennis Stoesser**  
Sandra Wallace

**Maurice and Kathleen Talbert**  
Wesley Talbert

**Melodi and Lance Tripp**  
A.A. Schellenberg, Jr.

**Sherry Vaughan**  
Virgil Vaughan

**Tambra Walton**  
David Calliham

**John R. Warren's Birthday**  
Becky and Quentin Warren

**Dillon Wertz's 1<sup>st</sup> Valentine**  
Sharon and Al Wertz

**James E. White's Birthday**  
John P. White

**Robert D. Wilhite**  
Lori D. Wilhite

**Pastor Wayne Williams  
Renew Church Waco**  
John R. and Sandra L. Haldeman

**Shelby Zimmerman**  
Shirley and Bob Zimmerman

## MEMORIALS

**Arnold and Wanda Alberts**  
Gary and Mary K. Alberts

**Nile Lovelace and  
Lena (Hamby) Bailey**  
Nila Bailey Allen

**Michael Andrews**  
Carolyn S. Andrews

**Joel and Imogene Arnold**  
Philip Arnold

**Carl Joseph Arsneult**  
James and Ramona Coulter

**Steve Bach**  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Balducci  
Billie Garner  
Captain and Mrs. Randall Seay  
and Family

**Monnie Baldwin**  
Frank and Judy Haring

**Philip Richard Barbee**  
Barbara Neilson McGraw

**Wilson and Iona Barfield**  
The Wilson and Iona  
Barfield Family

**Opal Chloe Barr**  
Charles and Carol Brown

**Ron Barrow**  
Sandra Owen

**Robert Lee Bass, Jr.**  
Clara Wheeler

**James Arnold "Jim" Bledsoe, Jr.**  
Sarah Ann Brannan

**Norbert James "Norb"  
Blohowiak**  
Gloria Gillenwaters Peck

**Sue Boland**  
Ann Gibson

**Augusta Bost**  
John and Janet Wilson

**Mary Ann Boyd**  
Kim Collier

**Mary Louise "Poodles" Boyles**  
Fred and Carolyn Hoffmeyer

**Lisa Bransom**  
Joey and Colette Stevens

**Ophelia Brown**  
Barry Brown

**Margaret Ann "Peggy"  
Campbell**  
Les and Karen Leskoven

**Norma John Campbell**  
Anonymous

**Michael "Mike" Ray Carson**  
Marc and Becky Clark

**Frances and Julian Caswell**  
Judith Ann Caswell

**James "Jimmy" Childs, Sr.**  
Joyce Childs

**Brenden Ryan Cofer**  
Les and Karen Leskoven

**Marjorie Lee (Hinnant) Collins**  
Robert Collins

**Judith Caroline (Reeves)  
Comstock**  
Thomas Comstock

**Edward Lamar Cox, Sr.**  
Novis H. Cox

**Marilyn Kay Cox**  
Judy Cox  
Julie Crittenden  
Wayne Crittenden  
Joy Gray  
Donna and Gordon Green  
Nell Lane  
Judy and Tom Morgan  
The VanderRoest Family  
Danny Wilson Family



**John D. Crawford, Jr.**  
Kenneth and Donna Hendrick

**Norman and Margaret Criswell**  
Bill and Marilyn Wells

**Allen Frederick “Fred” Crooke**  
Les and Karen Leskoven

**Drago Daic**  
Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Byrd

**Marcia Lea Daniel**  
Glenda Tapley

**Judy Carroll (Matheson) Davis**  
Pam S. Gremminger

**Bonnie Lou “MeeMee” Dickey**  
Sharon and Al Wertz

**Brenda Kay Dobbs Mayfield**  
The Children of Brenda Kay Dobbs

**Mary Phillips Droke**  
Mary Jane Caudill

**Betty Carole (Wills) Edwards**  
Anne Koval  
Mark and Kris McKinney

**Joan (Burdine) Ellington**  
Cindy, Mike and Christine Williams

**Lawrence “Larry” Philip Elwell**  
Larry and Martha Maxwell

**Helen (Groves) Embry**  
Thelma Ameh  
Bob and Marty Mathis  
Susan Solenberger

**David Ray Finney**  
Thomas and Barbara Menn  
Ernest Muzquiz  
Aunt Minnie Muzquiz  
Robert and Diana Muzquiz  
Robert D. Rogers, Jr.  
Carol D. Savage  
Emilio and Gloria Villarreal  
Paul and Teresa Woods

**Artie Fleener**  
Vicki Lackey

**Lynda Gayle (Wainwright) Follmer**  
Ann Brantley

**Dean Forrest**  
First UMC, Big Spring, TX

**Brad Allen Fouts**  
Alice Sappington

**Della Fox**  
Linda Fox

**Rev. John Travis Franklin**  
Rev. John Edd Harper  
Trey and Karen Oakley  
Keri Walthall Prichard  
Rita Rice

**Les Gandy**  
Kenneth and Donna Hendrick

**Marc Garrett**  
Ralph and Bobbie Detwiler

**Clara A. and John R. Gillham**  
Ms. Beth Gillham

**William Gilstrap**  
Ann and Patrick Mooney

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Gary and Cheryl Rodgers

**Shirley (Powers) Goodman**  
Tim and Joyce Woodlock

**Richard “Dick” Maxwell Grandy**  
Lanny and Marsha Peavy

**Jerome “Jerry” D. Green**  
Judy and Marion Daily

**Rev. John Griggs Greening**  
Margaret Gressett

**Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Griffin**  
Kathleen Griffin

**Robert Statham Griffin**  
Kathleen Griffin

**Rev. James “Gus” Guthrie**  
Lori and Ray Day

**Eugene Clarence Hammons**  
Sue and Nelson Peterson

**Albert “Al” Harrison**  
Nell Lane

**Nelda Fae (Latty) Hazlewood**  
Dr. Kallie Barley  
Cathy and Karl Herzog

**Larry Douglas Hester**  
Scott and Lori Cox  
Dennis Duffield  
Sheila Garner  
Richard and Betty Hester  
Kelli Hodges  
Patrick Krebs Family  
Dad and Gran Mann  
Riley and Traci Milliner  
Moncrief Cancer Institute  
John Southerland  
Kathy Machalik Turner

**Murvel Don Holt**  
Totsy Cunningham

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Nancy and Tom Goodson  
Jackie Maninger  
Lynn Maninger Paige  
Sheryl and Wayne Stanley

**Florence Howard**  
Ellen Miller

**Melba Lee “Brown” Hughes**  
Tom Trevilion

**Noah Jackson**  
Glenn and Kay Furman

**Hollis Jean**  
Larry and Martha Maxwell

**Samuel David Jeppson**  
David and Jasmine Hall

**Marjorie (Brown) Johnson**  
Robert and Ima Brown

**Patricia C. “Pat” Johnson**  
Mel and Linda Bruggman  
Janis Champion

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Carla King Cothran  
Julie King

**Rev. W.B. and Adella Keener**  
Doris Nichols

**Bob Kelm, Lula Kelm and Kay Young**  
Larry Kelm

**Carl Wayne Kerns**  
Barbara Cole

**Ronald Scott Knapp**  
Kathleen F. Knapp

**Wallace Wilber Koenning**  
Wayne and Ellen Hooks

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Mrs. Eldon Kohlman

**Dr. Darryl Kussmaul**  
June Ivey

**Ruby Lanier**  
Judy Belt

**Mary Ellen Lathan**  
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Albert Littau

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Mark and Jo Alice Davis  
Stephanie and Vic McMullen

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Emily Moreland

**O’Dell Minnie (Koym) Lumpkin**  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Klahn  
and Family

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Cedar Springs UMC, Rosebud, TX

**Rebecca “Becky” Jo (Schramm) Martin**  
Les and Karen Leskoven

**Mary Lou (Young) Massengale**  
C.J. Behrendt

**Katherine Annette “Ann” Maze**  
Cynthia Stephens

**Donnie and Maxine McBee**  
Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Byrd

**Melba Lee McCall**  
Dub and Rebecca Bowden  
Naramore

**Phillip E. McCarty**  
Elzy and Cynthia Prater

**Rev. John Patton “Pat” McClatchy**  
Jeannette Chesser  
Dorothy and Tanya Cooper  
Fidelis Sunday School Class,  
Central UMC, Brownwood, TX  
Corwin Igou  
Joy Circle, First UMC Austin, TX  
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Jackie, Mike, Chris and Brian  
Anthony Kenrick  
Marsha Endahl Kramer, M.S.  
Elizabeth and Ken Lerner  
Ms. Betty Martin  
The Family of Joel McClatchy:  
Dianne, Cynthia and Steven  
The Pete McClatchy Family:  
LaVerne, Linda and Robert,  
Merridee and Bob, Jeanie and  
Fred, Nick, Nathan and Kate  
Mrs. Everett S. McCrum  
Billy and Mona Mills  
Dan and Karey Morelock  
Tom and Jamie Munson  
Connie Payne  
Milbert and Jean Pokorney  
Becky Ratliff  
Beth Scott  
Libby Sykora  
Krystal Wall Wagner  
Richard and Janet Wilhelm

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Barbara Neilson McGraw

**Edwin Marin McKay**

Will and Monica Blackwell

**Jack McKelvey**

Barbara Cole

**Jimmy “Jim” Ray McKown**

Betty Duelm

**Andrew McMahan**

Steve and Gail Millard

**Helen Ann (Tasto) McMullan**

Margaret Gressett

**Billy Don “Bill” Medlin**

Sally Griffin

**Lisa Millsaps**

Marjorie Mae Pyle

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Randy and Betty Moore

**Maxx Moore**

Barbara L. Berry

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Dan and Judy Philp

**Betsy Morris**

Andrew McMahan

**Jerald Walter Myers, Sr.**

Doug and Cheryl Ragsdale

**Robert Lee Neelley**

Leigh Neelley Boatman

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Sam D. Brown

**Ella Eloise Nichols**

Sandra S. Owen

**Juan D. Nichols**

Sally Griffin

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Joan Rochelle Steinhoff

**Mary Jo Osborne**

James and Donna Wade

**Shirla Parsons**Cedar Springs UMC, Rosebud, TX  
Wynnetta Johnson**Katherine Jeannette Pate**

Mary and Russell Brackeen

**Franklin “Frank” Terry Perkins**

Dr. Valerie L. Mogas

**J.W. and Bessie Perry**

Eleanor P. Ford

**William Thomas “Billy” Phillips, Jr.**

Lee and Marilyn Hale

**Nora “Estelle” (Jones) Potts**

Mel and Shirley Grobe

Jennifer Key

The Rudd Family

**Lynda Gail (Britton) Powers**

Shannon Powers and

Harry Zachau

**Mary Jane Pratt**

Charles and Pat Carpenter

**A.E. Prugel**

Susan Prugel

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Darwin Purvis

**Geraldine “Jerry” Rawls**

Bubba Clark

Marc and Becky Clark

**Richard “Dick” L. Raycraft**

Joy Circle, First UMC, Austin, TX

Marsha Endahl Kramer, M.S.

Connie Payne

Becky Ratliff

**George and Frances Ricker**

The Warner Dahlberg Family

**Evelyn Irene Ridsdale**

Greg Ridsdale

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Anne Floyd Cavanagh

Mrs. Dee Money

**Mary Katherine Robertson**

Thomas and Karen Smith

**Mildred and Elmer Rodgers**

Gary and Cheryl Rodgers

**Mrs. Kathryn Rogers**

Dorothy Metting

**Steven “Steve” Santos**

Debbie Daugherty

Peggy Dishman Osborne

Tim and Joyce Woodlock

**Jack Mabray Saul II**

S.D. Saul

**James “Jim” Alan Schenk**

Vivian and Skip Curry

**Our loved ones**

Richard and Ann Schiltz

**Herbert and Eris Shelton**

Jim and Lynn Stuckey

**Ma and Pa Shoemaker**

Herman and Pamela Young

**Gerald “Jerry” Lane Sliger**

Wayne and Marilyn Key

**Bill P. Smith**

Reesa Roberts Smith

**Jeanel (Russell) Smith**

Kenneth and Velva Riddle

**Tony Ross Smitherman**

Lori Wilhite

**Richard “Big Daddy” Spencer**

Zane and Charidy McDonald

**Ellen Alvern Stanley**

Tess and Jay Arrington

**Emma Dee (Barker) Stevens**

Genevieve Stevens

**Eva Faye Strong**

Elzy and Cynthia Prater

**James “Jim” Tatman**

Curtis and Debi Newton

**Bill Vernon Taylor**

Totsy Cunningham

**Leona Terry**

Chelsea Read

**John E. and Gail Thomas**

Bill and Marcie Faske

**Peggy Jo (Doornbos) Thomas**

Dr. Joe and Linda Finley

**Christopher Wayne Thomason**

Dan and Kristine Thomason

**Patricia M. Tomerlin**

Gene Tomerlin

**Mark Trautmann**

Keith and Pamela Trautmann

**Edward Eugene Travis**

Arledge Brashers

Steven and Terelyn Garlington

Sarah M. Hudson

Tim and Joyce Woodlock

**Carol Alvin “Mote” Trimble**

Andrew McMahan

**Mary Jo (Box) Tune**

Delores M. Currie

**Clidie Jo Turner**

Linda Beckham

**Delores Jean Vickers**

Dale Vickers

**Paul and Marjory Vickery**

Dana Bolin

**Dora S. Villarreal**

Mr. and Mrs. Rolando S. Villareal

**Cynthia “Cindy” Sue Wagner**

Tess and Jay Arrington

**Ouida (Sellers) Waldrop**

Nancy Parker

**John Gomer Walrath**

Marcia R. Walrath

**Dwain Warren**

Jerry Hall

**Barbara Gayle (McNeely) White**

Leland White

**Dr. Robert “Bob” Whitson**

Larry and LaJuan McCormick

**Cleo and Herbert Wiley**

Gary and Cheryl Rodgers

**John Wilson**

Melanie Gentry

Tracey Prayer

Stacy Schaub

**Carol Winston**

Chuck Winston

**Cathryn “Kaye” Wolfe**

Joyce Hancock

New Home UMC, New Home, TX

**Vivian Charlene Woods**

Highland Park UMC, Dallas, TX

**Bobby “Bob” Lynn Worrell**

Mary Lane Peterson

**James “Jim” Terry Wright**

Gray Family

**Albert Zahner**

Elizabeth Rudolph and Family

**Georgiana Zustovich**

Frank Busch





Methodist Children's Home

1111 Herring Ave.

Waco, TX 76708

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PAID  
WACO, TEXAS  
PERMIT NUMBER 1519

## 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

*The Annual Report of Methodist Children's Home can be viewed at **MCH.org**.*

*To receive a printed copy, please email **PR@MCH.org** or call **1-800-853-1272**.*

