



FROM OPERATIONS

Dr. Kevin Egan, Chief Operating Officer

Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Well it's certainly no secret that 2020 has seen more than its fair share of challenges with the current pandemic being at the forefront of everything we do. The Children's Home has been navigating the challenges associated with COVID-19 while continuing to ensure that there are as few disruptions to services as possible. Our Facilities Team has done an exceptional job of maintaining the cottages and other buildings while making sure the youth have the best possible living spaces. Because we have limited access to the campus for the most part, except for essential services, our team has risen to the challenge of increased demands on their time. It has also limited our ability to move forward with some of our capital projects.

After being closed the last three months of the 2019 - 2020 school year, Legacy Scholars Academy (LSA) opened its doors for the 2020 - 2021, serving our middle and high school students. Our elementary aged students began this academic year by distance learning but have since safely returned to school. Volusia County Schools has been an outstanding collaborative and supportive partner, ensuring our students are able to continue their studies. Youth at the Madison Youth Ranch are back to attending school in that county after a period of studying remotely. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, In As Much, our early childhood education development program is thriving and we are continuing to see increases in enrollment.

Our Support Services Team, including the Commissary and Food Services, has been outstanding in meeting the challenges of the past months. They have provided support to direct care staff in our Emergency Shelter by preparing meals that can be reheated and served, allowing the staff to have more time to focus on the youth. The Support Services Team has also worked with cottage staff to modify how they get groceries and supplies to the cottages while maximizing the safety of all.

Our Foster Care Team has deftly navigated the pandemic and they have not experienced any significant issues due to COVID-19. The Foster Care staff continues to provide excellent support for our foster parents, ensuring the children in our care are living in a safe and happy environment. As we head into 2021, we are prayerful that the pandemic will leave us behind and we can begin to get back to the projects we have in the works for both the Enterprise and Madison Campuses.

Dr. Kevin Egan, Chief Operating OfficerFlorida United Methodist Children's Home

ON THE COVER:

Decorating the Christmas tree in one of our cottages

CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN A DAY OF SERVICE

Many of our youth and staff recently participated in a Day Of Service. The Day Of Service is a special day when youth from the Children's Home go out into the local community and help others with projects. Rev. Madeline Luzinski, Director of Pastoral Care, has set up many of these service days in the past but has had to postpone days planned earlier in the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For this Day Of Service, our youth were able to participate while taking the necessary precautions like distancing where possible as well as wearing masks and gloves. Community members who had projects for our helpful and enthusiastic youth included:

- All Saints Episcopal Church, Enterprise
- Barnett Memorial United Methodist Church, Enterprise
- Deltona Alliance Church, Deltona
- Enterprise Elementary School, Enterprise
- Enterprise Preservation Society, Enterprise
- First United Methodist Church Sanford, Sanford

Our youth performed projects like weeding, landscaping, cleaning, and gardening. They also helped unload donated items from a truck and then assembled Halloween treat bags for other children who attended a Trunk or Treat event. "Events like this empower our youth to see themselves as capable or serving and giving to others. They always come back excited and asking when they can do it again," said Rev. Luzinski.



Teamwork makes tree trimming easy



Assembling Halloween treat bags for other children



Removing the weeds in the crack before pressure washing



Every year during a special program at Day On Campus we recognize those who stand out in their support of the children. Since Day On Campus was cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions, we wanted to make sure these individuals and organizations received the recognition they deserve.

Church Of The Year

First United Methodist Church of Oviedo consistently exceeds their goal of giving to the Children's Home. They frequently send volunteer groups to provide meals to our youth in their cottages and spend time interacting with them and the staff. First UMC regularly provides for special events for our children and their youth group has repeatedly welcomed our youth to join them in activities. Their annual "Women's Night of Fellowship" hosts a linen drive that benefits the young adults in our Independent Living program. The pastors of First United Methodist Church of Oviedo are Rev. Brian James and Rev. Patina Ripkey. The Local Church Representative (LCR) is Margaret Morris.

Pastor Of The Year

First United Methodist Church of Sanford has always been supportive of the Children's Home, but engagement has grown considerably in recent years under Revs. David and Meghan Killingsworth. They have participated in various events with the Children's Home including a Love Feast as part of our Spiritual Life Program and "pulpit swaps" with Rev. Madeline Luzinski, our Director of Pastoral Care. First United Methodist Church of Sanford has also been the venue for our Legacy Scholars Academy high school graduation ceremony. Revs. David and Meghan Killingsworth are supported by Larry Kozak, the LCR in their church.

Local Church Representative Of The Year

United Methodist Churches have one person who actively keeps the congregation informed about the impact they have on young lives at the Children's Home and facilitates their continued support of the children. That person is the Local Church Representative or LCR. Some churches, like Lena Vista United Methodist Church in Auburndale are

lucky enough to have a pair of LCRs like Bud and Susie Klein. They've only been LCRs for a couple of years but have been very involved in that time. They have participated in multiple trainings and workshops and encouraged church engagement through gift card drives. In fact, they have been so encouraging that they have been able to double the church's financial support to the Children's Home. Rev. Jeanne Icenhour is grateful to have them and appreciates their passion.

Mission Work Team Of The Year

Wacissa United Methodist Church is passionate about the ministry of our Madison Youth Ranch and have sent work teams there consistently for the past four years. The teams have always shown a high level of enthusiasm, and coupled with a broad skill



Kitwana McTyer, CEO of the Children's Home; Principal Alicia Douglas; Ruben Colon, School Board Representative District 5



Susie and Bud Klein

set, they have complete a wide range of projects of the years. The support of our children is widespread throughout the congregation and is confirmed by Wacissa UMC being named as a Top 20 Giving Church per capita in 2019.

Community Partner Of The Year

Our middle and high school students on the Enterprise campus attend our Legacy Scholars Academy. Enterprise Elementary School, just down the street from campus, has been providing for the educational needs of our younger children for many years. Their staff, from teachers up to the principal, Ms. Douglas, have recently visited our campus. They have continued to demonstrate unending compassion and patience with our children, and the results are clear to see.



First United Methodist Church of Oviedo

Day On Campus - 2021

March 27 is the date for our next Day On Campus. And in an effort to keep our children, guests, and staff as safe as possible, we are planning to host a virtual event that will allow everyone to attend. More information will be sent in the near future, as well as being posted on our website and Facebook page.



If you're like most people, you're looking for ways to save money on this year's taxes. Considering the difficult year we've all had with COVID-19, we're all looking for ideas that provide financial benefit. While there is the simple and deductible monetary gift that can reduce your tax liability, there are also many other ways that you can support the Children's Home while saving on your taxes.

Outright Gifts of Appreciated Assets

Gifts of appreciated assets such as securities are an excellent way to help the Children's Home. These gifts can provide you with numerous benefits:

- Receive an income tax deduction, based typically on the asset's fair market value
- Avoid federal and state capital gains taxes
- Avoid the Affordable Care Act Medicare tax

Life Insurance Gifts

Making a gift to us of your old, unneeded, or obsolete life insurance policy can provide you with the following benefits:

- Receive a charitable income tax deduction
- Reduce your taxable estate
- Preserve your cash and savings

Charitable Life Income Plans

If you own low-yielding assets and are seeking a higher income, a charitable life income gift such as a charitable life annuity or charitable remainder trust may be worth exploring. In exchange for your charitable gift of cash or appreciated securities, you reap multiple benefits:

- Receive payments over your lifetime
- Generate a current income tax deduction
- Bypass all or a portion of the capital gains on appreciated assets
- Enjoy increased financial security

Charitable Life Estates

If your estate plans include leaving your residence (home, farm, or vacation home) to charity, you may wish to create a charitable life estate arrangement. You can make a gift to the Children's Home of your property today and receive the following benefits:

- Current income tax deduction
- Life use and enjoyment of the property
- A lasting legacy to further our mission

For information about estate planning contact:

ELISABETH GADD

Chief Development Officer 386.753.2066 plannedgiving@fumch.org www.fumchlegacy.org

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME ANNUAL SURVEY

You are a valued partner in the mission of empowering children and families to experience God's love and care as revealed in the ministry of Jesus Christ. In order to be good and faithful stewards of the funds you afford us to support this organization, we would like to hear from YOU! You may also fill out the form online.

Go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChildrensHome2020

PROGRAMS What program(s) of the Children's Home is most important to you?	Did you know that we have a second residential campus, the Madison Youth Ranch in Pinetta, Florida? \square YES \square NO	
Emergency Shelter Residential Care Foster Care Specialized Treatment for Boys Legacy Scholars Academy Independent Living Counseling Program Early Education Center	Did you know that we now have a K-12 school on the Enterprise campus serving some of the residents on that campus known as Legacy Scholars Academy? ☐ YES ☐ NO Did you know that our Independent Living Program serves young adults who have aged out of care until age 26? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
	COMMUNICATION In terms of newsletters and information pieces, do you feel that you receive:	
\square Right amount \square Too many \square Not enough	n	
Do you feel that the Herald newsletter provides you enough information to keep you engaged? YES		
Is there any other information you would like to see?		VIRTUAL COMMUNICATIONS During the pandemic, have you attended meetings or events remotely or by computer?
Do you utilize our website? ☐ YES ☐ NO		□ YES □ NO
If yes, for what purpose? ☐ General updates ☐ Specific program information ☐ Make gifts ☐ Reach out to staff	ion	During the pandemic, have you attended church remotely or by computer? ☐ YES ☐ NO
In terms of the number of requests to contribute, do you feel that you receive: ☐ Right amount ☐ Too many ☐ Not enough		Would you be interested in attending Children's Home events if we hosted them remotely or by computer? $\hfill YES \hfill NO$
If you call/email with a question or concern, do you is addressed in a timely manner? \square YES \square NO	ı feel that it	
(Optional) Name: Ph	one No.:	Email:

Thank you for your willingness to provide vital feedback. You can return the survey in the envelope provided in this newsletter.

TRIBUTES

TRIBUTES RECEIVED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2020



Faith selling lemonade to benefit our children

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Halloween art by one of our middle-school boys



Some of our boys dressed as ninjas for Halloween

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Brian Sheaffer and his dad donating 330 pairs of new athletic shoes



One of our youth sporting a Pink October shirt

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