



# Rewritten

ALABAMA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S  
HOMES & FAMILY MINISTRIES

*Annual Report 2018*



# table of contents

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<b>FROM OUR PRESIDENT</b> .....	2	<b>MONTGOMERY</b>	
<b>HIGHLIGHTS ACROSS ALABAMA</b> .....	3	<i>GROWTH IN OUR HEARTS &amp; HOMES</i> .....	10
<b>DECATUR</b>		<b>AUBURN-OPELIKA</b>	
<i>A LEGACY THAT SHELTERS</i> .....	5	<i>CELEBRATING A YEAR</i> .....	11
<b>MOBILE</b>		<b>PATHWAYS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING</b>	
<i>HOPE &amp; HELP FOR MOMS</i> .....	6	<i>SEEKING TO SERVE</i> .....	13
<b>BIRMINGHAM</b>		<b>EVENTS ACROSS THE STATE</b> .....	14
<i>EXPANDING IN BIRMINGHAM</i> .....	7	<b>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</b> .....	16
<b>OXFORD</b>		<b>CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS</b> .....	17
<i>UNIQUE MARKS ON OUR HEARTS</i> .....	8	<b>WAYS TO ENGAGE</b> .....	18
<b>DOTHAN</b>		<b>LEADERSHIP</b> .....	20
<i>LITTLE VOICE, BIG PRAYER</i> .....	9	<b>MORE 2018 HIGHLIGHTS</b> .....	21



# from our president

*Dear friends,*

I love to write, but I do not love to be edited. I like to imagine that what I put on paper flows so well and is so moving that it should not be altered. I have learned from experience that this belief is erroneous. In fact, when I write something, it is almost always better to walk away from it for a few hours and then re-read it. This re-reading oftentimes leads to a rewriting (sometimes minor, sometimes starting from scratch!).

I am so thankful that God is writing so many life stories every day. I am thankful that He has not finished writing my story. Our God is a God of rewriting. When He sees that the story has gotten too complicated or too simple, when the end is not what He intends for it to be, He loves us enough to re-write our stories and to change the ending.

Many of the children in our care are desperately in need of a rewritten story. In our 2018 Annual Report, you will read a few stories of lives rewritten. Oh sure, it's an annual report, so it will have some numbers and charts as well, but don't get so caught up in the numbers that you miss the stories.

I found the following paragraph from our 1903 Annual Report:

"Three thousand pounds of pork and five hundred pounds of lard were consumed by the children in 1903. The total worth of the food produced in the field and garden was estimated to be \$1,750. Thanks to the combined production of the dairy cows belonging to the home and those loaned by friends, the children were able to have milk and butter about two-thirds of the time."

Oh my, how God has rewritten our Annual Report! From an agricultural setting in the beautiful town of Evergreen, Alabama, to a statewide ministry that served over 500 children in 2018 through Children's Homes and Foster Homes and thousands more through professional counseling services from a Christian perspective!

Our founder, "Father" John Stewart was a man of incredible vision. Paul Miller, my mentor and predecessor was a man of incredible wisdom, courage, and vision. But, I don't think either of them could have imagined the story God was going to write through this ministry in the lives of the thousands of children we have been privileged to serve.

The great thing about stories is that they are best judged by their ending. God takes stories every day at your Baptist Children's Homes that have traumatic beginnings, and He rewrites them. We have alumni who are doctors, pastors, veterinarians, educators, pharmacists, social workers, great mothers and dads, and the list could go on and on and on.

Thank you for your support of our ministry. It is a privilege to serve the Divine Author who can rewrite our stories and turn our weeping and mourning into laughter and dancing! I hope you enjoy these rewritten stories woven through the following pages.



Sincerely,

*Rod Marshall*

Rod Marshall  
President/CEO

# highlights across *Alabama*

## DECATUR

- 2** professions of faith
- 5** adoptions
- 12** new families licensed to foster
- 12** reunifications to family members

## OXFORD

- 5** professions of faith
- 4** adoptions
- 5** new families licensed to foster
- 19** reunifications to family members

## BIRMINGHAM

- 3** professions of faith
- 8** adoptions
- 23** new families licensed to foster
- 32** reunifications to family members

## AUBURN-OPELIKA

- 9** reunifications to family members
- 11** new families licensed to foster

## MOBILE

- 5** professions of faith
- 3** adoptions
- 10** new families licensed to foster
- 37** reunifications to family members

## MONTGOMERY

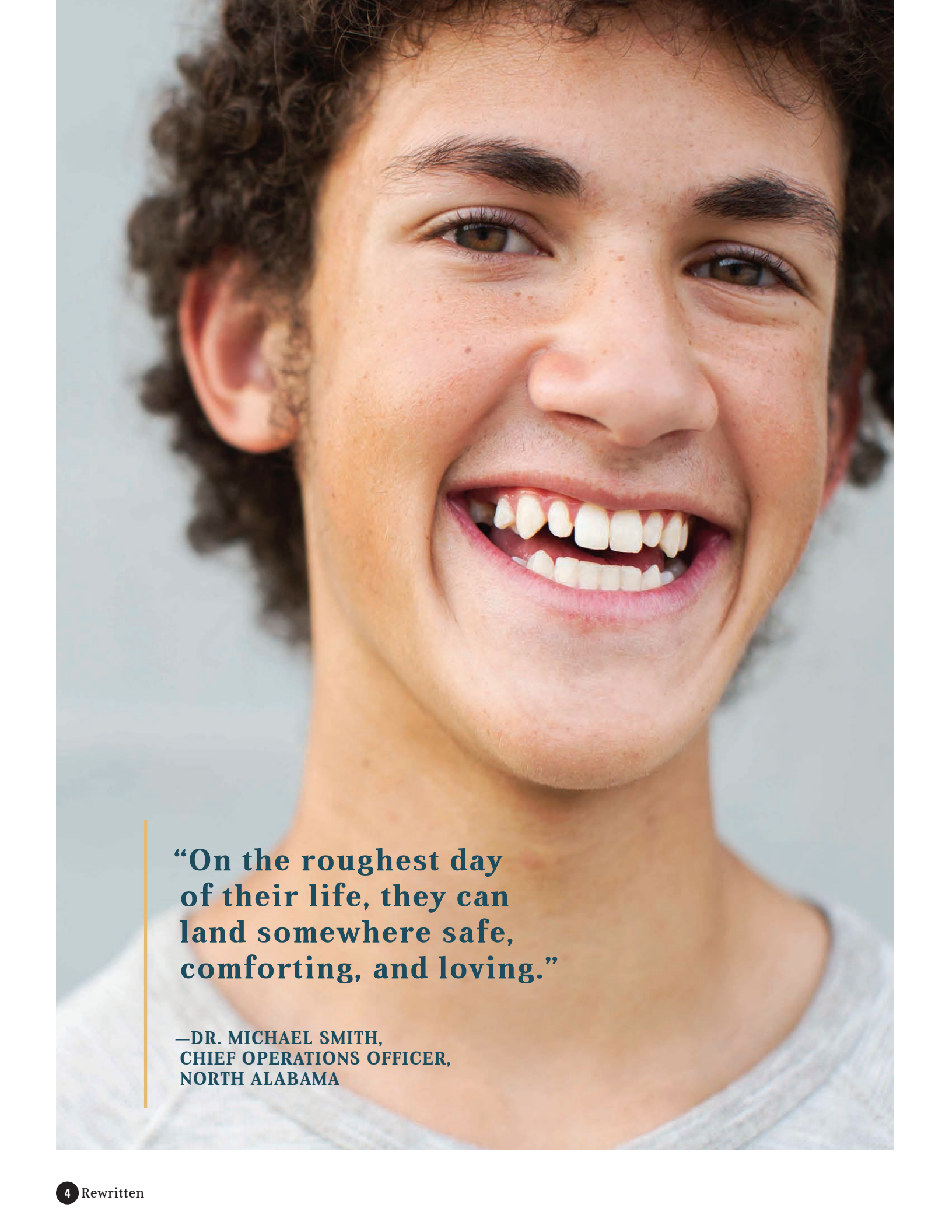
- 1** profession of faith
- 2** adoptions
- 5** reunifications to family members
- 9** new families licensed to foster

## DOTHAN

- 1** profession of faith
- 4** adoptions
- 10** reunifications to family members
- 15** new families licensed to foster



 Regional Office



**“On the roughest day  
of their life, they can  
land somewhere safe,  
comforting, and loving.”**

**—DR. MICHAEL SMITH,  
CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER,  
NORTH ALABAMA**

# a legacy that *Shelters*



"On the roughest day of their life, they can land somewhere safe, comforting, and loving." This is the vision Chief Operations Officer for North Alabama Dr. Michael Smith has for the Ensor Shelter Care home being built in Decatur: that children who need a secure place to stay in a transitional time would be given a safe place to call home.

The Ensor Shelter Care home will open in 2019 and will be named in honor and memory of Dr. Herman and Janie Ensor who faithfully provided for and loved our kids in Decatur as their own. Throughout the years, the Ensors helped build a playground, renovate the recreational courts, paid for cottage repairs, and provided literally hundreds of meals for the children in our care at the Decatur campus.

"Though Dr. Herman and Janie did not have children of their own, they often referred to the children in care as 'their children.' They treasured every small gift and thank you note sent to them from our children," shared Michael.

When asked how he believes the new home will impact the community, he said, "The impact I see is more stability for children. If they've been removed from their home, we are minimizing the movement from placement to placement . . . In the long run, although Shelter Care seems temporary, it's really a step towards permanency."

*Learn more about Shelter Care and this project at [alabamachild.org/decaturgrowth](http://alabamachild.org/decaturgrowth).*



*A duplex is also in construction to benefit our college students, missions teams, and off-duty house parents.*



**5** children earned academic letters



**50+** years of service among house parents



**2** new homes being built



**3** children inducted into National Honor Society

# hope & help for *Moms*

## MOBILE

“All this happens because of the kindness and love that people have for us at ABCH.”

—MONTE GILSTRAP,  
RELIEF HOUSE MANAGER



2

student athletes  
(basketball & cheerleading)



5

students on  
A/B Honor Roll



1

child received the  
“Ready Reader” Award



1

child received student of the month

“In 2001, I knew a young lady who left an abusive relationship and had two children. She was unable to take care of them because she had no job, no car, and no place to live,” says relief house manager at Grace’s House of Hope, Monte Gilstrap.

At the time, Monte was serving at our Decatur campus and knew of Family Care in Mobile, a program that helps moms in situations like this, who need a safe place to land in the midst of their storm. When she moved to Mobile in 2007, she was asked to serve at our Family Care home and was thrilled! This home was expanded in 2017, and in it’s first year, 13 moms and 22 children were served.

Moms come to us homeless for a variety of reasons, but our goal is central for all. Monte says, “The goal of Family Care has never changed over the years—to work with the broken and help them learn how to be successful in their lives, which includes parenting, job skills, budgeting, and their spiritual walk as well.”

She continues, “Working with ABCH has always been the hardest job I have ever had but is certainly the most rewarding. The rewards you see from our Family Care program sometimes take a while, but I have been surprised at the women who have contacted us after leaving to share how they were helped by it. All of this happens because of the kindness and love that people have for us at ABCH.”

Learn more about Family Care at [alabamachild.org/familycare](http://alabamachild.org/familycare).



# expanding in *Birmingham*



**4** student awards at school



**1** new playground in Family Care



**4** children on All-A Honor Roll



**7** moms graduated Family Care

With the kind of growth we have experienced in Foster Care in Birmingham, office and clinical space has been limited for some time. On November 2, 2018, at the leading of our Children's Homes Board, we broke ground on new construction to expand our services in the Birmingham area!

The timing for this new construction meets a great need. Since the beginning of 2018, we have had to turn down services to more than 60 children in Foster Care because there was no availability in the Birmingham area. Adding additional foster homes requires adding additional staff and providing appropriate workspace for them. As we continue to grow, this expansion will provide more opportunities to do just that.

The renovation plan allows our Social Services team to grow from six shared offices to 13 offices, creating adequate space to meet job demands and serve even more kids from hard places. To help improve the quality of our services we are also building a . . .

- larger training room, waiting room, interview room, and family visitation room.
- playground for children to enjoy while waiting at our office or visiting with family.
- staging facility to house donations for foster families, supplies for Camp of Champions, as well as an area for staging and sorting Christmas gifts and other items.

Your support has helped so many children and families over the years. As we grow, we look forward to partnering with you as more children and families are served through Christ-centered services.

Learn more at [alabamachild.org/bhamexpansion](http://alabamachild.org/bhamexpansion).



# unique marks on our *Hearts*

## OXFORD



**“Each child in care makes their unique mark on our hearts.”**

**—JOSH AND HEATHER HILL,  
HOUSE PARENTS, OXFORD  
(pictured here)**

Andrew\* was one of the first kids to be welcomed to our Shelter Care home in Oxford, The Friendship House, after Josh and Heather Hill started as house parents. “He was very shy at first and would not open up to us or really even talk at all. I could tell he just needed to trust someone, and we gave him all the time he needed to do that. Finally, he began to talk more. Over time we gained his trust and then, at times, we couldn’t keep him from talking!” Josh says.

He stayed at the shelter for a few months, during which time he became involved in the band at school and made new friends at school and church. The Hills could really tell he was beginning to settle in and thrive.

Josh says, “When it was time for him to move on, it was hard for him and for us, as we had seen him truly grow so much. The day he moved, he wanted to give me a hug before he left. That moment was when I knew we were where we are supposed to be: loving kids and seeing them change, even if over a short period of time.”

Josh and Heather, just since starting their journey with us in mid-2018, have cared for over 20 children. “Like all individuals who come and go from a person’s life, each child in care makes their unique mark on our hearts . . . Each child changed us personally and in how we house parent. We will never forget any of them and their unique personalities and stories,” says Heather.

Read the full version of this feature at [alabamachild.org/hills](http://alabamachild.org/hills)

*\*Name has been changed for privacy purposes.*



**2** new house parents



**1** new playground at the Friendship House

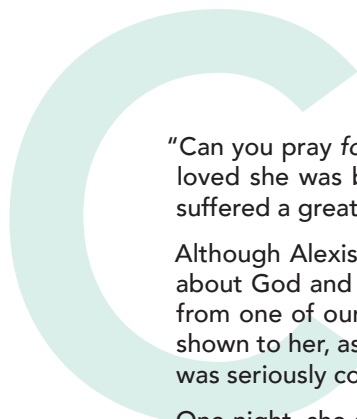


**2** children received school awards



**30** church or community presentations given

# little voice, *Big Prayer*



"Can you pray for me?" This question came from a girl who, for so long, did not realize how truly loved she was by her heavenly Father. Alexis\* came into our care from a home where she had suffered a great deal of neglect and often struggled with self-confidence.

Although Alexis had felt unwanted and unloved, things started to change the more she learned about God and His character from our Dothan house parents, Mike and Heidi Pickels, as well as from one of our relief house parents, Emily Vick. After weeks of experiencing the love of Christ shown to her, as well as asking a series of questions about God and other stories in the Bible, she was seriously contemplating what it meant to accept Christ as her Savior.

One night, she and Heidi got down on their knees to pray, and she asked her, "Can you pray for me?," hoping Heidi could say that prayer of salvation for her. For all the years of neglect she'd endured, little Alexis didn't think her words would be good enough for God to hear.

Heidi gently explained that it was important that the prayers were Alexis's own, and that God could in fact hear her. And not only that He *could* hear, but that He *wanted* to hear her say that prayer. That night, Alexis realized she was truly loved, and nothing would ever change the Father's love for her. She went on to say a prayer and call on Jesus Christ to be her Lord and Savior.

*Read this full story at [alabamachild.org/littlevoice](http://alabamachild.org/littlevoice).*



**9** children on A or A/B Honor Roll



**14** children engaged in school and sports activities



**1** child joined the Junior Police Academy



**16** groups toured our Campus Care home



*\*Name and photo has been changed for privacy purposes.*

# growth in *Hearts and Homes*

## MONTGOMERY

**“I want to be  
a Jesus girl . . .”**

**—HARMONY,\*  
CHILD IN  
FOSTER CARE**



In homes and in hearts, Montgomery has seen a year of growth. Nine new homes were licensed for foster care, and nearly 20 new volunteers were engaged with our ministry! Many families attended our night at the Montgomery Biscuits baseball game, and with the partnership of The Church at Eastern Oaks and donations from several local businesses, families enjoyed our Second Annual Cookies & Cocoa Christmas Party.

This has been an especially remarkable year for one of our young girls in care, Harmony\*. In addition to overcoming a terrifying fear of school, she also enjoyed many first time experiences in 2018—going to the beach (which she LOVED), the zoo, an Auburn gymnastics meet, the art museum, the library, and the Living Christmas Tree at First Baptist Montgomery.

Respite foster mom, Elizabeth, shared, “When we had Harmony one weekend, we took her to church. At the beginning of the service, our pastor was baptizing a little girl about her age. He told this little girl several things, one of which was to always be ‘a Jesus girl’. Harmony was sitting in my lap and turned and looked me in the face and said, ‘I want to be a Jesus girl.’ It was so sweet.”

Continue to pray with us that as children are exposed to life-giving relationships and the truth of the gospel, that their hearts will grow in faith and they will respond and ask Jesus to be their personal Lord and Savior.

*\*Name and photo has been changed for privacy purposes.*



**18**  
new  
volunteers  
serving



**3**  
children played  
school basketball,  
one child  
earning the “Most  
Coachable” Award



**1**  
child played  
indoor soccer and  
made her first goal



**5**  
community or church  
presentations  
by staff

# celebrating a Year

 AUBURN-OPELIKA



**3** foster family fellowships



**9** community or church presentations by staff



**2** new partnerships with Childcare Network and Parkway Baptist



**1** full year of foster care

One year ago, there were no ABCH foster families in the Auburn-Opelika area. Upon launching in 2018, we ended the year with 11 licensed homes and took care of 24 children!

The Berrys are one of the newest families to join us in caring for children in need. They had no idea God would lead them to ABCH, but years down the road, here they are, regular donors to our ministry and have recently completed foster parent training through our Auburn-Opelika office.

Kris and Kallan Berry met while attending Auburn University, were married in 2011, and have two sons. Kris says, "We've known since early in our marriage that one day we'd like to help children in some way."

He continues, "Over the past year, God has made it abundantly clear to me that we need to pursue helping children through ABCH. We've had countless conversations and encounters with people impacted by or involved with foster care. Through lots of conversation and prayer with Kallan, we decided it would be best to first look to ABCH . . . The conversations we've had, coupled with the convenience of ABCH being in Opelika, led us to begin foster training."

To anyone considering their next step in caring for children, Kris encourages, "Prayer is key . . . Each time we've had second thoughts, God has given us direction and comfort. If you are considering adoption, foster care, or helping children in any way, pray first."

Learn more about foster or respite care at [alabamachild.org/fostercare](http://alabamachild.org/fostercare).



**“Prayer is key . . . God has given us direction . . .**

**—KRIS BERRY, FOSTER PARENT**

**(pictured here with Kallan and their sons)**

**“Counseling  
has been an  
instrumental  
tool that the  
Lord has used  
to draw me  
nearer to Him.”**

**—BIRMINGHAM  
COUNSELING CLIENT**



*\*Photo has been changed  
for privacy purposes.*

# seeking to *Serve*

## PATHWAYS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

With your support, the ability to serve even more children, families, and individuals through professional, Christ-centered counseling will essentially double after our new Pathways Professional Counseling Center opens. The Lord is constantly at work, and here, one of our clients shares insight into how they have experienced healing and a new found hope:

"Pathways Professional Counseling has been a blessing to my life in more ways than one. Counseling has been an instrumental tool that the Lord has used to draw me nearer to Him. I will be forever grateful of the lessons and practices that I have learned, but I am most thankful for the way that you always pointed me to the Lord before any practice or idea.

"The daily anxieties and baggage of my life had been drowning out the still, small voice of my loving Father, and his call for a life filled with freedom and grace. My story became one of fear and deep discouragement, and I had forgotten something very important: my story is beautiful in God's eyes. Thank you, Pathways, for reminding me that my story is simply one of God's faithfulness and of God's unchanging grace to me. It's a lesson that I will remember for the rest of my life." —Birmingham client

Since 2001, Pathways Professional Counseling has been meeting the needs of children, individuals, and families through Christ-centered guidance, counsel, and support. *Learn more about our new building project at [pathwaysprofessional.org/expansion](http://pathwaysprofessional.org/expansion).*



*A rendering of the counseling center currently under construction at our Birmingham location, expected to open in late 2019/early 2020.*

### 2018 Highlights:

**354** speaking hours at events

**24** counselors and therapists on staff

**44** ministry locations statewide

**14,647** hours spent with individuals

**1** fall conference hosted by Pathways

**6** counselors completed basic EMDR (Eye-Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy) training

**3,767** individuals served

**1** counselor traveled to Zambia to serve those impacted by trauma, depression, and anxiety

**4** counselors traveled to Haiti to lead training with ministry partner, Children's Hope

**1** EMDR grant received from Blue Cross Blue Shield

# events across the *State*



**2019 DATE:  
TUESDAY,  
DEC 3  
MOBILE &  
BIRMINGHAM**

## TREES FOR HOPE

"I hope that through this event, we're creating awareness and involving the community. I pray that in some way we're helping to change lives by supporting such a great organization and what they're doing to help children and families," shares Jimmy Dietz of Air of Excellence.

In its second year, Trees for Hope Mobile raised the bar in every way from the previous year—twice as many guests were in attendance and over twice the amount was raised as in the first year: \$81,101!

Eric Ludgate of EnSec Pest & Lawn met Jimmy at a business networking group in Mobile. Learning about ABCH at one of the meetings, God stirred their hearts to help our kids, and the two began working on a fundraiser. Trees for Hope was created in 2017 and directly benefits our children and families. Through sponsorships, ticket sales, and a silent and live auction, it's easy to get in on the holiday fun and dive head-first into the giving season!

Learn more at [alabamachild.org/treesforhope](http://alabamachild.org/treesforhope).

## #GIVINGTUESDAY

On November 27, we were absolutely blown away by the generosity we experienced in our fifth year of participating in #GivingTuesday. We set out to reach a goal of \$350,000 that day, but you went above and beyond to help us raise even more—\$408,670!

Because of your support, lives are impacted everyday across Alabama. Children hear the gospel while in our care and are regularly pointed back to Jesus Christ as their ultimate healer and hope in life!

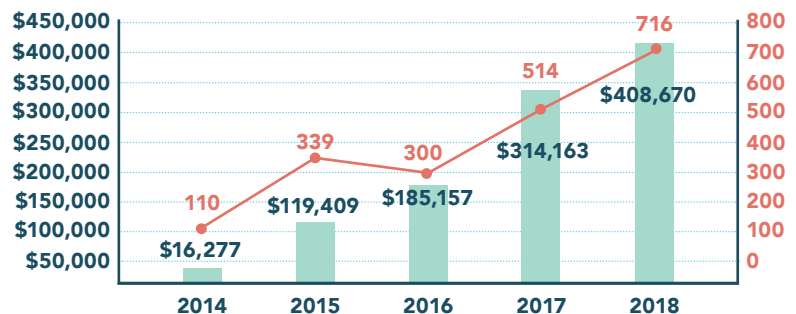
Learn more about #GivingTuesday at [alabamachild.org/GT](http://alabamachild.org/GT).

**2019 DATE:  
TUESDAY,  
DEC 3**



## #GIVINGTUESDAY GROWTH FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS

- Total amount raised (including matching gifts)
- Number of donors (including matching gifts)





# OPEN HOUSE

What would it be like to see how our children live each day in our Campus and Shelter Care homes? Attendees of our annual Christmas Open House events get a peek into those days, sometimes with our children proudly providing guided tours themselves!

In Decatur, Dothan, Mobile, Oxford, and now at Family Care in Gardendale and Mobile, guests are able to come and enjoy time in our homes, getting an up-close look at how our homes are run, with opportunities to meet and talk with house parents and staff, and enjoying holiday food and fun.

Many guests enjoy bringing donations collected throughout the year to these events, especially in Decatur. Year after year, we are blown away at the generosity of our friends in North Alabama at Open House. This past year was no different, as donations made that day totaled just over \$50,000!

Learn more at [alabamachild.org/openhouse](http://alabamachild.org/openhouse).



**2019 DATES:**  
**DOTHAN**  
**FRIDAY, DEC 6**  
**DECATUR,**  
**MOBILE,**  
**GARDENDALE**  
**& OXFORD**  
**SUNDAY, DEC 8**

# AIM FOR HOPE



**2019 DATE:**  
**FRIDAY,**  
**OCT 18**

With blue skies as far as the eye could see and cool October breezes ushering in the promise of autumn, close to 100 friends enjoyed time at Orvis Shooting Grounds at Pursell Farms in Sylacauga for our first-ever Aim for Hope Sporting Clays event!

"We are so grateful to Simmons Sporting Goods and all of our sponsors, as well as those who participated and enjoyed their day at Orvis Shooting Grounds," said Jay Boyd, Director of Development. "Aim for Hope raised over \$63,000 for children being served through our ministry, and we are confident this event will continue helping more of Alabama's children in the years ahead!"

Not only did our morning and afternoon shooters enjoy 12 unique shooting stations across 3,000 acres of Orvis Shooting Grounds, they also came together at lunch and learned more about how their gifts of finances, prayers, and time impact children and families all across Alabama.

Learn more at [alabamachild.org/aimforhope](http://alabamachild.org/aimforhope).

# 2018 EVENT REVENUE\*

■ Trees for Hope: **\$81,101**      ■ Aim for Hope: **\$63,211**  
 ■ Open House events: **\$59,239**



\*This revenue is included in our 2018 fundraisable income received from individuals, churches, and businesses, as seen on page 16.

# financial information

## 2018 INCOME

### FUNDRAISABLE INCOME

Individuals	\$3,494,882	38.8%
Churches	\$3,047,245	33.8%
Foundations & Grants	\$974,934	10.8%
Business	\$333,912	3.7%
Cooperative Program	\$261,766	2.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,112,739</b>	

### OTHER INCOME

Estates & Legacy Gifts	\$366,576	4.1%
Other Income	(\$26,580)	-0.3%
Endowments & Trusts	(\$1,194,555)	-13.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$854,559)</b>	

### PROGRAM SERVICE FEES

Foster Care & Campus Care	\$1,280,496	14.2%
Counseling Services	\$469,099	5.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,749,595</b>	

**2018 TOTAL INCOME** **\$9,007,775 100.0%**

## 2018 EXPENDITURES

### PROGRAM COSTS

Foster Care	\$4,010,849	30.7%
Campus Care (cottages & shelters)	\$3,071,686	23.5%
Pathways Professional Counseling	\$2,464,078	18.9%
Family Care	\$726,837	5.5%
College Care	\$189,505	1.4%
Family Aid	\$75,567	0.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,538,522</b>	

### ADMINISTRATION THAT MAXIMIZES RESOURCES

Development	\$1,411,951	10.8%
Administration	\$655,372	5.0%
Communications	\$464,158	3.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,531,481</b>	

**2018 TOTAL EXPENDITURES** **\$13,070,003 100.0%**



EVANGELICAL  
COUNCIL FOR  
FINANCIAL  
ACCOUNTABILITY

\*The 2018 totals above are unaudited and generally reflect cash received and cash spent during the calendar year 2018. A copy of the complete 2018 independent audit will be available once it is final.

# church *partnerships*



“God always provides a special blessing to those who care for the innocent around us. We seek to help children who need God’s grace and families who have been called to be the channel of His grace. Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes provides for us opportunities to do both while honoring Christ along the way.”

—BUDDY CHAMPION, PASTOR, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TRUSSVILLE

Here are a few ways your church can support children and families in need:

## PRAYER

Everything we do is built upon a foundation of prayer. We are always looking for partners who will make our ministry and the children in our care a prayer emphasis in their church. We have a variety of materials available to help guide you and your church in ways to pray for our ministry.

## PARTICIPATION

Your church members can become personally involved in ministry to children in need through serving in a variety of ways, including volunteering or becoming foster/respice parents.

## PROVISION

One of the best ways your church and small groups can support our ministry to children and families in need is through budgeted church giving, church offerings, and gifts or support from individuals within the congregation.

## PROMOTION

Call your church into action by raising awareness and championing ways to help children in need during a Sunday morning worship service. We have materials available to help share ways you can make an impact.

Visit [alabamachild.org/church](http://alabamachild.org/church) for more details about ways your church can engage in helping children and families across Alabama.

## TOP 25 CHURCHES GIVING TOTAL

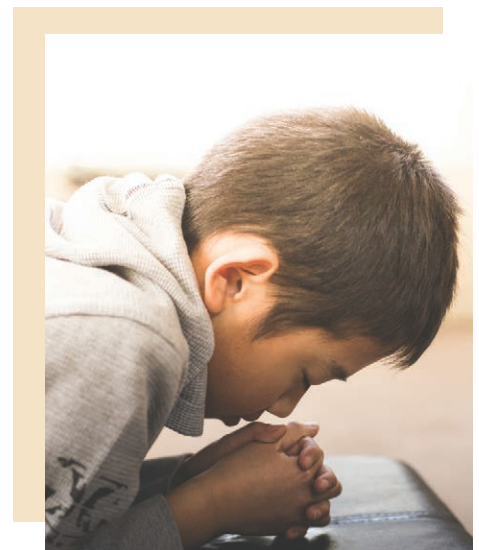
1. Henagar Baptist Church (Sand Mountain)
2. First Baptist Church Trussville (Birmingham)
3. Church of the Highlands
4. Shades Crest Baptist Church (Birmingham)
5. Hunter Street Baptist Church (Birmingham)
6. Westside Baptist Church (Walker)
7. Pell City First Baptist Church (St. Clair)
8. Dothan First Baptist Church (Southeast)
9. Crawford Baptist Church (Mobile)
10. Decatur First Baptist Church (Morgan)
11. The Church at Brook Hills (Birmingham)
12. Living Faith Baptist Church (West Cullman)
13. Eastern Shore Baptist Church (Baldwin)
14. Brookwood Baptist Church (Birmingham)
15. Athens First Baptist Church (Limestone)
16. Clanton First Baptist Church (Chilton)
17. Fairview First Baptist Church (East Cullman)
18. North Shelby Baptist Church (Shelby)
19. Taits Gap Baptist Church (Blount)
20. Winfield First Baptist Church (Marion)
21. Mt. Sterling Baptist Church (Choctaw)
22. The Grove Baptist Church (Limestone)
23. Silver Run Baptist Church (Russell)
24. Huntsville First Baptist Church (Madison)
25. Calvary Baptist Church (Southeast)

# ways to Engage in 2019

## ALL IT TAKES IS A FIRST STEP.

All of the incredible things that have happened this year could not have been possible without the support of people like you—donors, churches, and volunteers. If you're not yet involved with our ministry, there are several ways you can get involved and help make a difference in the lives of children and families.

*Below are a few ways to get involved in life-changing ministry.*



## give

### HERO SOCIETY

*Gifts from this group of monthly donors directly support children and families in care.*

[alabamachild.org/hero](http://alabamachild.org/hero)

### CAMP SPONSORSHIPS

*You can send a child to our annual Camp of Champions for \$195*  
[alabamachild.org/campsponsor](http://alabamachild.org/campsponsor)

### WOMEN OF COMPASSION

*A membership of women who are passionate to help children in need*  
[alabamachild.org/WOC](http://alabamachild.org/WOC)

**SPECIAL PROJECTS & NAMING OPPORTUNITIES:**  
*NEW Decatur Shelter Care Home*  
*NEW Birmingham Expansion*  
Email Jay Boyd at [jboyd@alabamachild.org](mailto:jboyd@alabamachild.org)



## pray

Join us in prayer each month as an ABCH Prayer Partner. As part of our prayer family, when you sign up to receive this email, you are signing up to be included in a key piece of God's work here. As you pray for our children and families in care, as well as our foster and house parents, staff, leadership, and others, you are helping us to further impact the Kingdom for His good and glorious purposes!

*Sign up and learn more about ways to pray at [alabamachild.org/pray](http://alabamachild.org/pray).*



## volunteer

Volunteers are a vital part of our ministry! We are always encouraged to see individuals, churches, small groups, businesses, and others, partnering with us to impact even more children and families. Here are a few ways to volunteer with us:

- FOSTER & RESPITE CARE
- CAMP OF CHAMPIONS
- GROUNDS/FACILITY
- EVENTS

Visit [alabamachild.org/volunteer](http://alabamachild.org/volunteer) to learn more about these opportunities.



## events

- HERITAGE FARM DAY & TRAIL RIDE, April 13 (DOTHAN)
- KRIS BANISTER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT, June 1 (CULLMAN)
- AIM FOR HOPE, October 18 (SYLACAUGA)
- STAND SUNDAY, November 10
- TREES FOR HOPE, December 3 (BIRMINGHAM & MOBILE)
- #GIVINGTUESDAY, December 3
- OPEN HOUSE, December 6 (DOTHAN)
- OPEN HOUSE, December 8 (DECATUR, MOBILE, GARDENDALE & OXFORD)

Visit [alabamachild.org/events](http://alabamachild.org/events) to learn more about these events.



## legacy

Protect those you love, minimize taxes, and steward your resources in a way that meets your families' needs. ABCH has a long-standing relationship with trusted partner, PhilanthroCorp, to provide will and estate planning assistance from a biblical perspective. This is provided to our supporters at no cost.

To learn how PhilanthroCorp can help, you may contact Susan Wylie at 719-955-2125.

# leadership

## 2018 ABCH LEADERSHIP

### PRESIDENT/CEO

Rod Marshall, Ed.S, LPC-S

### SERVICE TEAM

Chip Colee, Ph.D  
*President, ABCH Foundation*  
*Chief Administrative Officer*

Ross Hickman, LPC-S,  
Registered Play Therapist–Supervisor  
*President, Pathways Professional Counseling*

Michael Smith, PhD, LICSW-PIP, MBA  
*Chief Operations Officer, North Alabama*

Dana Watson, LMSW, MACE, MAMBE  
*Chief Operations Officer, South Alabama*

### AREA & PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Amber Albright, LMSW  
*Area Director, Northeast Alabama*

Jay Boyd, MA, CCNL  
*Director of Development*

Patrick Fitzgerald  
*Director of Information Technology*

Michelle Drashman Glassford  
*Director of Communications*

Lisa Edwards Keane, MAMFC, LPC-S,  
Registered Play Therapist–Supervisor, NCC  
*Clinical Director, Marriage & Family*  
*Pathways Professional Counseling*

Kristin Lowrey, LICSW, PIP  
*Clinical Director, Children & Adolescents*  
*Pathways Professional Counseling*

Kim McGainey, LMSW, MA  
*Area Director, Southeast Alabama*

Elise Vincent, LICSW, PIP  
*Director of Social Services, Birmingham*

Grace Wood, CPA  
*Director of Finance & Accounting*

## 2018 BOARDS OF TRUSTEES

### CHILDREN'S HOMES BOARD

*Protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services*

Mr. James Bearden, Valley Grande  
Mrs. Charolette Hamby, Vestavia  
Ms. Lana Hawkins, Arab  
Mr. Paul Huckeba, Hoover (Chairman)  
Dr. Fred Graham, Tuscaloosa  
Dr. Ray Hammock, Fairhope  
Mrs. Derry Johnson, Fultondale  
Mrs. Kelly McMurry, Trussville  
Mr. Allan Neill, Florence  
Mrs. Leah Stephens, Montgomery (Secretary)  
Rev. Jim Tate, Dothan  
Mr. Stephen Wellborn, Cragford  
Mr. Terry Wilhite, Cullman  
Mr. Winston Wilks, Henagar (Vice Chairman)  
Mr. Randy Winton, Brewton

### ABCH FOUNDATION BOARD

*Support and advance the mission and ministry of ABCH*

Mr. Chris Blackerby, Hoover  
Mrs. Helen Fisk, Birmingham  
Mrs. Laura Graham, Tuscaloosa  
Dr. Scott Guffin, Vestavia Hills  
Mr. David Lyon, Birmingham  
Dr. Robert Record, Birmingham

### PATHWAYS PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING BOARD

*Restoration through specialized, Christ-centered counseling*

Dr. Chris Crain, Odenville  
Mrs. Kim DeShazo, Trussville  
Dr. Blake Kersey, Decatur  
Mr. Ken Lass, Trussville  
Mr. Alan Taylor, Trussville

### HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Dr. E. Grace Pilot, Mobile

### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dr. Rick Lance, Executive Director  
*Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, Montgomery*

Dr. John Thweatt, President  
*Alabama Baptist State Convention, Pell City*

# more 2018 Highlights

nearly  
**1,000**  
PARTICIPANTS at Camp of Champions

**4**   
youth in our care  
GRADUATED from college

**124**   
REUNIFICATIONS  
to family members

**\$3.3**   
MILLION  
received from  
partnering churches

**17**   
professions  
of  
FAITH

**26**   
adoptions  
into FOREVER  
FAMILIES

**50%**   
increase in  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOLLOWING

**85**   
new  
HOMES LICENSED  
for Foster Care

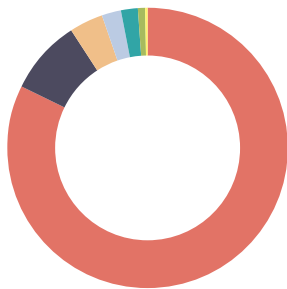
**41**   
SCHOOL-  
RELATED  
HONORS  
received by  
children in  
our care






**3**   
NEW  
Counselors  
at Pathways

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVED

2018 TOTAL SERVED:

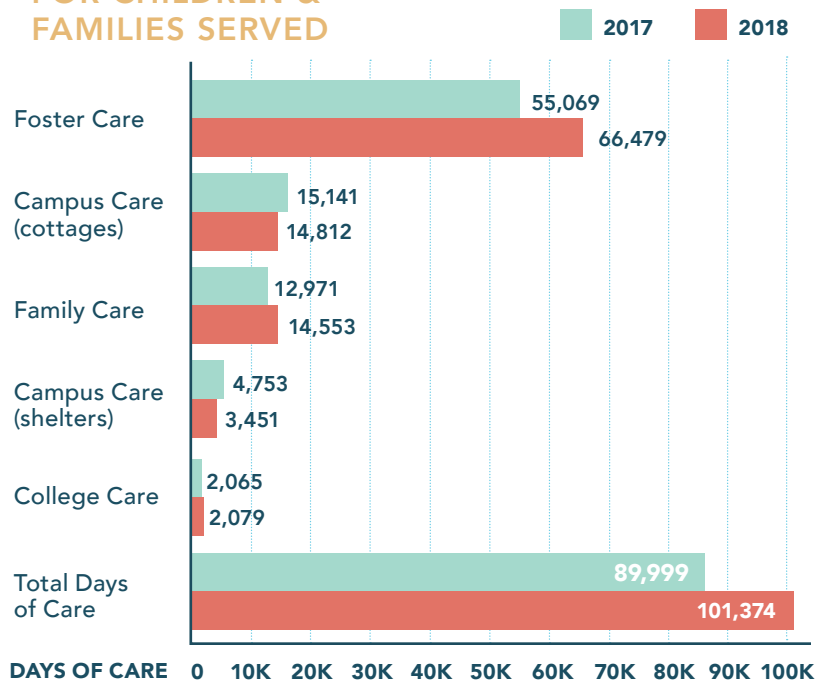
**4,575**



-  Pathways Professional Counseling: **3,767**
-  Foster Care: **393**
-  Campus & Shelter Care: **176**
-  Family Care: **108** (34 mothers and 74 children)
-  Family Aid: **83**
-  Help to children when one or both parents die: **39**
-  College Care & Independent Living: **9**

## DAYS OF CARE

FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVED





Alabama Baptist  
**CHILDREN'S HOMES**  
& Family Ministries

## Why we exist: OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries is to protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services.

## The result we hope to see: OUR VISION

Hope and wholeness for children and families through knowing God

P.O. Box 361767 | Birmingham, AL 35236 | (888) 720-8805

EMAIL: [info@alabamachild.org](mailto:info@alabamachild.org) | WEB: [alabamachild.org](http://alabamachild.org)

Our main ministry locations are in Auburn-Opelika, Birmingham, Decatur, Dothan, Mobile, Montgomery, and Oxford. For a complete listing of services available at each, as well as counseling offices around the state, please visit us online at [alabamachild.org/locations](http://alabamachild.org/locations).

