

# Who are the children in our care?

This is a complicated question because children and teens come into our care from many different avenues.

Some come from unsafe homes and need fostering before they can return to their families. Some are waiting for adoption because they no longer have – or have never had – secure families. A few,

because of medical diagnoses and learning disabilities, participate in our specialized services program. Others need a temporary place while they receive behavioral and psychological assessments. Some kids are with us by court order and some older court-involved teens ask if they can participate in our program, knowing we

can help them on their path to becoming successful members of the community.

No matter how or why they find us, all of the children in our care receive grace, guidance, and the space to grow into their God-preferred future.

## A closer look at what we do –

### EDUCATION

This is one of our top priorities and its attainment has a profound and measureable effect on our children, families, and society. Here are a few highlights from our year.



#### Birth – PreK

The Curtis Center opened and earned a 5-star accredited rating. The Jordan Center and the Curtis Center both offered childcare to essential workers during the quarantine.

#### Adolescents – Teens

Students from our group homes competed at Quiz Bowl. Other high points include grade level improvements in reading and math; driver's ed classes; college tours; and visits to the Smithsonian, Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park, and the North Carolina Museum of History.

#### College

We awarded \$61,000 to our 21 college students for help with their expenses and we celebrated four college graduations (including cum laude and summa cum laude distinctions). One student began graduate studies at Johns Hopkins University.



### FAMILY

Children do best in families. This is the bedrock of all we do – of all we have ever done. Not always traditional, our families all provide stability and unconditional love.

#### Foster Care and Adoption

We started as an orphanage and, although our program looks very different today, we still provide the warmth and comfort of family through foster care and adoption.

**30** – number of new MHC foster care families

**184** – children in our care

**6** – percent of these children were adopted



Our **\$19.5 million** operating budget funded **6** programs that served **1,256** children and families

EXPENSES		REVENUE		PROGRAMS	
Programs	87%	Fees for Service	81%	Juvenile Justice	43%
Administration	8%	Donations & Grants	14%	Early Childhood	23%
Fundraising	5%	Invested Funds	5%	Family Preservation	17%
				Foster Care & Adoption	14%
				Higher Education	2%
				Specialized Services	1%

(includes annual operating revenue and expenses only)

## you did this!

This was a hard year but your generous gifts kept children safe and supported. You fed them when they had no food; provided technology when schools went remote. You kept foster children clothed and made sure adoptions went through despite the pandemic. You helped care for children of essential workers and cheered when our students graduated from college. Because of you, children thrived and families grew stronger. **Thank you.**

## COMMUNITY

Our kids become part of the community – meeting people and trying new things. And that’s when it happens: They begin to imagine what they can become.

What if your world view was no bigger than your neighborhood? Growing up, what if you had never talked to an adult who wasn’t a family member or teacher? That’s the starting place for many of our kids. We change that. We send them out to see, to learn, and to do.

### See the World

They swam in the ocean, canoed down rivers, hiked on mountain trails, and explored caves. They went out – to an N.C. State basketball game and live theater productions. They met forest rangers and elected officials.

### Find a Job

A fortunate few of our older students joined a job shadowing program and – for the first time – glimpsed a previously unimagined future. We helped our high school students find part-time jobs.

### Help Your Neighbor

Our students routinely visit residents at nursing homes; during quarantine’s isolation, they made cards for their nursing home friends. Other volunteer activities included working at the food bank, meals on wheels, and in a soup kitchen.



### Family Preservation

By the time they reach our family preservation team, parents are in crisis. They may be struggling with addiction, mental illness, employment, or housing problems. Our specialists work one-on-one with families to manage setbacks.

**57** – number of families we served

**3773** – hours spent counseling families

**94** – percent of these counseled families stayed together

