

**JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 2023**

A Ministry of the
Free Will Baptist
Children's Home



"Providing a *Loving* Home for *Hurting* Children."



In the words of
two of our children
after the Toy Run:

*My first Toy Run
was awesome!
My sponsors were
really nice and gave
me great gifts.
It made me feel
good that someone
who didn't know
me was so kind.*

*The Toy Run is cool.
All the cars
and motorcycles
coming in and all the
people is amazing.
It's always nice to see
the people every year
who sponsor us and
bring us presents.*

TWENTY YEARS AND COUNTING

For 20 years the first Saturday in December has been a day to remember. The Eldridge Toy Run and Benefit Ride has been an exciting and enjoyable event while providing funds to the FWB Children's Home.

The 2022 Benefit was another amazing day. Despite a cloudy, rainy morning, hundreds of motorcycles came rumbling onto the campus. Antique car enthusiasts came riding in along with hundreds of friends and volunteers.

A milestone like 20 years provided an excellent time to reflect and remember how the benefit began and how it has grown over the years. While pointing out key people and achievements from the past, the benefit team also introduced many new sponsors and team members, indicating the event is in good hands. Add a record number of volunteers from local churches and groups and you have the ingredients for a bright future.

As the day drew to a close, the contributions total of \$115,000 was announced, a "day of" record. Since that time the total has climbed to over \$150,000. All donations and every gift for the children are all expressions of love. We are thankful for each one.

The love shown at the event reminds us of another December event in which the love of God for mankind was revealed. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." How wonderful to experience such love first-hand.





MANDY MITCHELL

DIRECTOR'S DESK

It's hard to believe another year has come and gone. As I look back on 2022 there are so many good things to mention. We have had the opportunity to work with 36 different children this year. I am constantly receiving thanks from many of you about the work we do here. It is truly our pleasure. We are so thankful to be here, taking care of children who need a safe place to live when there are no other options for them. We are grateful to you who provide the resources to make sure these children's needs are met and are able to enjoy as normal a childhood as possible.

"We don't need to feel sorry for the children at the Children's Home, but for the children who need to be here and aren't."

Most of all we are pleased to have had eight of our residents make salvation decisions. There is no more important thing we do than introduce these children to the love of God. He is the only one who can truly heal their hurts and put them on the path to true joy.

We are looking forward to what 2023 brings. We are constantly praying that the Lord would lead children to us that need to be here. As one supporter said to me years ago "we don't need to feel sorry for the children at the Children's Home, but for the children who need to be here and aren't."



Christmas Time

The Christmas season was a wonderful experience around the Home. There were lots of lights, decorations, and parties to enjoy. Our Home Christmas party provided good food and competition. It also gave us the opportunity for the staff and children to focus on the first Christmas gift, Jesus. Then there were the churches and organizations that brought gifts throughout the month of December. We are so grateful for the generosity of these friends. They truly make Christmas special for our children. It seems so inadequate, but **THANK YOU!**



James	1-04-12	Dick (staff)	1-31
Cameron	1-06-11	Howard (staff)	2-7
Matt	1-26-10	Makayla	2-28-08

HONOR ROLL: GREAT JOB! KEEP IT UP.

CAMERON | BRAIDEN | DRAVEN | SOPHIA | SKYLAR | ZOE | MAKAYLA | MATT

PURPOSE

Free Will Baptist Children's Home is a ministry of the Alabama State Association of FWB's. As a non-profit organization, FWBCH provides a loving, home-like, Christian atmosphere for children struggling with life's challenges and turbulent domestic situations. Our task is to help children hurt by life to find faith in God and enter adulthood as responsible Christian men and women with a purpose in life.

The FWB Children's Home Newsletter is published six times per year to keep friends informed of current activities, programs, and service. If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments, please contact us.



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Phone: 205-924-9751 | Fax: 205-924-9574 | Website: www.fwbhome.org

FWBCH does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rodney Yerby, Chairman
Shelia Bynum | Donnie Blackmon
Tim Baumgarten | Danny Williams
Wayne Parker | Joey Pettis
Waymon Fields

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Below are memorial contributions from November/December 2022.

We thank all those who honor their loved ones in this special way.

IN MEMORY

Wendell Cross
 Carey Pickett
 Bobby & Patsy Howell
 Winford Knight, Christine Knight
 Steve Randell Knight, Dewayne Knight, Morris T. Bishop, Sr.
 Mr. W.E. Brown
 Joe & Jane Burkett
 Calvin & Maxine Edgil
 Randall Mayo

 Erlene Ivey
 Anna Marie Sorrells

 Wilma Yerby Dooley
 Carol Dodd
 Mrs. Gaye Miller
 Frank Smith
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 Robert "Sonny" Cox
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 Katie Faye Anthony
 Ruth Lee
 Dewayne Self
 Jerry Evans
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 Mike Gilbreath
 Virginia Cochran
 Monica Martello, Tony Barnes,
 Steve Turner, Jessica Corbin,
 Debbie Alexander
 Calvin Odom
 Gary Nesmith

DONOR

Nell Sizemore
 Faye Lovelady
 Mr. & Mrs. Coley Mathis

 Norma Bishop
 New Zion FWB Church

 David & Brenda Edgil
 New Burton Baptist Church
 Harry & Ellen Allen
 Jerry & Betty Atkins
 Jason, Natalie & Madison Shelnut
 Herschel & Dianne Yerby
 Glenn & Lavonda Dodd
 Stephen Chappellear

 Jean & Pam Smith

 Tommy & Layne Hall
 Tony & Dawn Williams
 Steve & Rhonda Frye
 Charlotte Post
 Ashley Self

 Phil & Connie Frye
 Ruby Gilbreath
 Charles Cochran

 Winston County Grays
 Jerry W. Key
 Darlene Massey

IN MEMORY

Briscoe Thorne
 Mark Rakestraw

 Gail Thorne
 Bennie Joe Hayes
 Gail Thorne

 O'Neal Burkett
 Will Besant
 Larry Marcum
 Judy Dahlem Cox
 Robert S. Cox, Jr.
 Julius & Hazel Dahlem
 Bill Lunsford
 Tommy Guyton
 Buddy Wilson
 Bobby Mitchell
 Ora Jones
 Rev. Jack Rollins
 Bruce Roberts
 Frankie Roberts
 Sarah Collinsworth
 Rev. & Mrs. Bill George
 Glenda Johnson
 Jeffrey Johnson
 James A. "Tuck" Tucker
 Rev. Glenn Hood

 Frances Knight

DONOR

Sarah Puhr
 James & Joyce Malone,
 Nicole Hilton
 Jerry & Linda Rakestraw,
 Dwan Weeks

 Tygar Transportation
 BMW Motorcycle Owners of AL
 Don Norwood, Vincent & Joy Carta
 A Friend
 Rick & Susan Besant
 Don Norwood

 Kevin Cox

 Mollie Lunsford & Family
 Frances Wilson
 Joan Mitchell
 Sherry Norris
 Paul & Mary Holt

 Bill, Sandra & David Roberts

 Frankie Henslee
 George Deavours
 Alice Hood, Stephanie Hood Wise
 Allison Hood Riggs,
 Glenn Allen Hood, Jr.
 Jean Christian

IN HONOR

Hugh & Jan Holland
 Al & Tova Hamm,
 Ernie & Judy Williams
 Byron & Carra Williams

DONOR

Billy & Joyce Loden

 Ronnie & Donna Smith

IN HONOR

Barbara Burnette,
 Felicia Cook
 Hilary Littles
 Brian Langston

DONOR

David & Caroline Westfall
 April Langston

You may pay tribute to your loved one with a donation in their honor.

Please include with your gift the information needed to notify the family. Recognition will also appear in the upcoming newsletter.






P.O. Box 8
Eldridge, AL 35554

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Return Service Requested

PLEASE VISIT US:

-  Please visit us at our website: www.fwbhome.org
-  Join us on Facebook: **Alabama FWB Children's Home**
-  E-mail us at: admin@fwbhome.org



2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM THE STAFF AND CHILDREN OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME IN ELDRIDGE

amazon



You can help us by using this link:
amzn.to/2WThH91