

SEPTEMBER/
OCTOBER 2023

A Ministry of the
Free Will Baptist
Children's Home



Home HAPPENINGS

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



SUMMER BREAK ENDS AND SCHOOL BEGINS

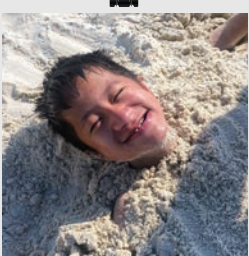
The summer is coming to a close with all our children back in school. (You might have heard a house parent shout "hallelujah".) The busy summer with camps, vacations, day trips, and visiting groups gives way to classrooms, homework, and football season. A very important part of our program is to encourage and challenge our children to be good students. It has a significant impact on their future. Our residents many times have a tough time with school due to inadequacies in their past. Please pray for them educationally and spiritually as they begin this school year.



UNSUNG HEROES



As a ministry, we are grateful for the front line individuals... the house parents and staff. They are essential to our success. We also want to express our appreciation to a group who rarely is mentioned but is important. The Board of Directors provides the oversight and accountability of the organization. The members of the board believe in the ministry and have a heart for the children who have been helped by it. Bro. Donnie Blackmon recently completed his service on the board after over 30 years. During those years he promoted the Home and referred several children to our ministry. Thank you Bro. Donnie and all who serve as our Board of Directors.





MANDY MITCHELL

DIRECTOR'S DESK

Whenever we are meeting potential residents for the first time, we always talk about how this can be a fresh start for them. No one here knows what they have been through, what they have been involved in, or the kind of family they come from. They get the chance to create a new story for themselves.

Not only are we excited to be able to give these children a stable home they can be comfortable in, but that they can experience that "fresh start."

We continue to get out-of-state referrals where the children have been adopted by perfectly nice families. For reasons due to trauma and unhealthy attachment caused from abandonment, these children struggle to bond or maintain normal child behaviors in these homes. The children do not understand their behaviors, nor do the families, and no amount of counseling, medicine, or discipline is helping.

This month we have hosted two children from two different states who experienced these struggles in their adoptive families. While they were here, they were just "normal" children. They laughed, had fun, and made new friends. Not only are we excited to be able to give these children a stable home they can be comfortable in, but that they can experience that "fresh start."



NICK'S KIDS

We were so pleased to be invited back to the University of Alabama for the Nick's Kids Luncheon. We had our first invitation in 2014 and have been able to go every year except the 2 years they canceled it due to the pandemic. The children were able to get autographs from players, pictures with the cheerleaders and Big Al, a delicious BBQ lunch, and of course, a photo with Coach Saban and Miss Terry. The Home also receives a financial contribution from the KIDS foundation.



Hope you have a special day.

ELLEN (STAFF)	9/09	MEDJOUNA	9/22/12
SKYLAR	9/10/13	BARB (STAFF)	10/06
MASON	9/13/12	AUBREY	10/9/17
JUDY (STAFF)	9/18	JAMES (STAFF)	10/17
KATRINA (STAFF)	9/21		

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.



Free Will Baptist Children's Home, P. O. Box 8 Eldridge, AL 35554
Mandy Mitchell, Executive Director | Ralinda Aspey, Counselor | Danny Williams, Communication
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 | Wade Peoples
Tim Baumgarten | Danny Williams
Wayne Parker | Joey Pettis
Waymon Fields



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

21ST ANNUAL

Eldridge Toy Run

"All roads lead to Eldridge the first Saturday in December!"



Thank You!

Our friends out did themselves in their response to our request for school supplies, fees and money for school clothes shopping. We received supplies and the money needed for our children's school expenses again this year.

WHAT A BLESSING!
We Appreciate You!

NEWS ITEMS:



In addition to this publication, an online newsletter/update is available each month. If you would like to receive it, send us your name and address and we will add you to our list.



The annual board meeting for the Home's Board of Directors and Advisory Board will be held on October 21st beginning at 9:00 am.



If you would like to have a representative from the Home for your church or organization, please let us know. We enjoy sharing about this ministry.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Below are memorial contributions from July/August 2023. We thank all those who honor their loved ones in this special way.

IN MEMORY

Carey Pickett
George Deavours
Rodney Jackson
Doug Riley
Tommy Bell
Hank Hollis
Odessa Ledlow
Jesse McGaha
Sallie Barnes
Frank Barron
Elaine Prescott
Mildred Tilley
Larry W. Luna
Joyce Bishop
Ann Harrison
Janie Gale Clouse
Donald Waldron
Olan & Nancy Kuykendall
Frank Neely
Ms. Dixie Kuykendall
Mae Rene Franks Crowe
Roger Moore

DONOR

Faye Lovelady
Jim & Lisa Courington
Cheryl Webb & Family
Burma Jordan
Paula Cowart
Forrest & Kathryn Scott
Regina Barron
Sheilah Herron
Patsy Tilley
Rita Luna
Kennith Bishop
Antioch FWB Church
Spring Grove FWB Church
Linda McCroskey
Alabama Mining Museum
N Jefferson Baptist Assn/Caring Center
A Friend
Jean Christian

IN HONOR

Regina Pickett Garson
Dot Hollis

DONOR

Cherry Cash Pickett
Burma Jordan

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.






NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WINFIELD, AL
PERMIT NO. 41

P.O. Box 8
Eldridge, AL 35554

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

Harvest Drive

The fall Harvest Drive has been an annual event for the Home since the 1960's. Over the years churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals have donated tons of food, cleaning, and paper products. The drive is a major element in stocking our pantry and reducing our expenses. It is also a wonderful way for folks to have a practical and more personal method of supporting our children.

In this issue of "Home Happenings" we have provided an extensive list of specific items we presently need. We encourage you to join others in making this year's drive a great success. Thank you for thinking of us. Whatever you are able to give, it will definitely be appreciated!

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green Beans | <input type="checkbox"/> Black-eye peas | <input type="checkbox"/> Elbow Macaroni | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Sugar/Sugar | <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet tissue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diced tomatoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Splenda/Equal | <input type="checkbox"/> Lasagna/Egg noodles | <input type="checkbox"/> Salad Dressing | <input type="checkbox"/> Wet Wipes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manwich | <input type="checkbox"/> Parchment Paper | <input type="checkbox"/> Saltine/ritz crackers | <input type="checkbox"/> Styro Plates/cups/bowls | <input type="checkbox"/> Glade plug-in refills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cream of Celery | <input type="checkbox"/> Cream of Mushroom | <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon Juice | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic forks/spoons | <input type="checkbox"/> Awesome Orange |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creamer | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt/Pepper | <input type="checkbox"/> Confection Sugar | <input type="checkbox"/> Oven cleaner | <input type="checkbox"/> Floor Cleaner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Peas | <input type="checkbox"/> Garlic/onion/sage | <input type="checkbox"/> Cereal/Pop Tarts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dish Detergent | <input type="checkbox"/> Body Wash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BBQ sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking oil/spray | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks/Chips | <input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher Detergent | <input type="checkbox"/> Face Wash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lima Beans | <input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter/Jelly | <input type="checkbox"/> Canned pears | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry Detergent | <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veg-All | <input type="checkbox"/> Pizza sauce/Salsa | <input type="checkbox"/> Apple Sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> Bathroom Cleaners | <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo/Conditioner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honey mustard | <input type="checkbox"/> Minute Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Peaches/pineapple | <input type="checkbox"/> Window cleaner | <input type="checkbox"/> Hairspray |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bread crumbs | <input type="checkbox"/> Refried Beans | <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit Cocktail | <input type="checkbox"/> Clorox | <input type="checkbox"/> Shaving Cream |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato Sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown Gravy mix | <input type="checkbox"/> Cranberry Sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> Dryer Sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Hair brushes/combs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rotel/Chili | <input type="checkbox"/> Mac & Cheese | <input type="checkbox"/> Cake Mixes/Frosting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fabric Softner | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Soap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cream of Chicken | <input type="checkbox"/> Bush Bake Beans | <input type="checkbox"/> Brownie/Cookie Mixes | <input type="checkbox"/> vinegar | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Paper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuna/Chicken | <input type="checkbox"/> Soups-all kinds | <input type="checkbox"/> Pancake mix/syrup | <input type="checkbox"/> SOS pads/Magic erasers | <input type="checkbox"/> Color pencils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pinto Beans | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn meal/flour | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickles (spears/slices) | <input type="checkbox"/> Garbage bags (all sizes) | <input type="checkbox"/> Clorox wipes/Lysol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chili/Taco Seasoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Pudding | <input type="checkbox"/> Green/Black Olives | <input type="checkbox"/> Ziplock bags(qt/gal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken/Beef broth | <input type="checkbox"/> Pop Corn | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature's Seasoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Wrap/Foil | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheets/Pillows |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tea/Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Gatorade | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustard/mayo | <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Towels/Napkins | <input type="checkbox"/> Dish cloths/towels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juices/kool-aid | <input type="checkbox"/> Country Time Lemonade | <input type="checkbox"/> Ketchup | <input type="checkbox"/> Kleenex | <input type="checkbox"/> Towels/wash cloths |