

Hope!

the newsletter of southeastern children's home



where the heart is

Weathering the storm

Horse therapy, resident of the quarter and more ...

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April 8 to November 10, 2011

Horses, handlers benefit

Horse therapy gives new meaning to "stable" relationship

Buddy was abused and neglected at a young age. He couldn't walk. He wasn't fed properly. Buddy was close to death. Just before it was too late, Buddy's life took a strange turn. He was purchased and brought to the Southeastern Children's Home. That's right; he was purchased... because Buddy is a horse, of course.

Each Tuesday, several of our children participate in our on-campus Equine Therapy Program. The Southeastern Children's Home campus is blessed to have plenty of space for three beautiful horses: Buddy, Zane and Rocket.

"Children receive several benefits when they interact with animals," Vicki Stidham, Southeastern's Director of Residential Services, said. "Being around the horses improves their social behavior, helps decrease stress levels, reduces feelings of anger, hostility and anxiety, and it helps them learn about trust and patience. The program utilizes a one thousand pound animal so that kids realize that they can master something greater than themselves."

Young people who ordinarily shun physical and emotional closeness with other people often can accept such contact from a horse. The child-horse bond can create mutual trust, respect, affection, confidence, and

unconditional acceptance.

"The children must learn to catch the horse, groom, and tack up, before they're allowed to ride," Riding Instructor, Leslie Scott of Scotsgrove Stables said. "It's not a program where they can just show up and ride. We're not offering free pony rides."

Teaching responsibility is a key factor in this program.

"Children must realize that giving care is an important part of any relationship," Scott said. "You don't just pat a horse on the nose and start to ride. You have to love them and provide for them. The children have to get involved in the horse's life. This helps make the concept of love more realistic to them."

Several of the children have utilized their experience from the Equine Therapy Program to participate in other endeavors.

"... Young people who ordinarily shun physical and emotional closeness with other people often can accept such contact from a horse ..."

Weathering the economic storm

An active year marred by misguided State budget cuts

By Robert Kimberly
Executive Director



This has been an exciting and interesting year for Southeastern Children's Home. Several of our children graduated high school this summer. We've had 8 baptisms. We've had two new sets of houseparents join us. It's been an incredibly active year as we continue to serve children who have been abused and neglected.

This is my 21st year serving as Executive Director. During my tenure, I cannot recall a more eventful twelve months.

In addition to a busy year on-campus, we've been busy adapting to a number of changes that have occurred behind the scenes. As

supporters of Southeastern Children's Home, you may find it helpful to be apprised of our current situation.

Due to the economic climate, state funds used to support children's homes have reduced dramatically. We've seen a 12% reduction in the

Contact us!

Hope! is a publication of Southeastern Children's Home, **Robert Kimberly**, Exec. Director.

We can be reached ...

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 115 Children's Way
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by fax: 864.949.0248
online: sech.org



from interaction

"Some of the kids have become good enough to go fox hunting, participate in a 4-H event, or compete in the Hunters Pace 8-mile fundraiser," Scott said. "I've seen dozens of children benefit from this program over the years I've been involved."

For many of the children, it's the highlight of their week.

"I always loved working with the horses," a former resident said. "It made my week. I loved it so much that after graduation I decided to work at a local animal shelter."

Buddy, the horse, has blossomed since coming to our campus. He's gained weight. His feet and hooves have been corrected. He's a handsome animal who looks nothing like the neglected creature brought to our campus years ago.

There's no horsing around on Tuesdays, because Buddy has work to do. Buddy is busy building friendships with our kids.



Buddy was abused when he was young, but he's found good friends, better prospects and much greener pastures at Southeastern Children's Home. A former resident said, "I always loved working with the horses. I loved it so much that after graduation, I decided to work in an animal shelter."

Unbeknownst to him, he's teaching and providing life lessons for abused and neglected children.

We can only hope that our children will continue to emerge from their troubled pasts and become as healthy and happy as their friend Buddy.

daily rate we have been paid by the state of South Carolina.

Moreover, the new S.C. Director of Social Services ("DSS") has implemented several "wildly important goals" which will have a drastic effect on child care. Some of the new goals are admirable and will benefit child care in our state. However, I'm afraid some of the new cost-cutting measures will prove detrimental to children and families over the course of time.

Most troubling is that the new administration is very focused on reducing the amount of money spent on abused and neglected children. In addition to making sweeping, across-the-board financial cuts for services provided to needy children, DSS is resolved to have less children in their custody.

A reduction in placements increases our fear that child safety is more at risk every day.

See KIMBERLY on page 4



State cutbacks mean fewer children will be removed from potentially harmful situations.

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April 8 to November 10, 2011

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- Albemarle Church of Christ
- Apalache Baptist Church
- Archdale Church of Christ
- Azalea Drive Church of Christ
- Ballentine Church of Christ
- Bamberg Church of Christ
- Barnwell Church of Christ
- Beech Island Church of Christ
- Bennettsville Church of Christ
- Bethany Baptist Church
- Bethel Church of Christ
- Billmore Church of Christ
- Boiling Springs Church of Christ
- Boyd Lake Road Church of Christ
- Bremen Church of Christ
- Brevard Church of Christ
- Brooks Avenue Church of Christ
- Bryson City Church of Christ
- Burnsville Church of Christ
- Campobello United Methodist Church
- Campus Church of Christ
- Cape Fear Church of Christ
- Capernaum Church of Christ
- Catheys Creek Church of Christ
- Central Church of Christ
- Century 21 Blackwell & Co. Realty
- Central Church of Christ
- Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ
- Chester Church of Christ
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Adult
- Sunday School Classes
- Christian Student Fellowship
- Church of Christ at Ames Road
- Church of Christ on Hilton Head Island
- Church of Christ Rutherfordton
- Church of God of Prophecy
- Clemson Church of Christ
- Clinton Church of Christ
- Cornerstone Baptist Church
- Covenant United Methodist Church
- Covington Church of Christ
- Crawford Road Church of Christ
- Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- Dillon Church of Christ
- Dixon Springs Church of Christ
- Duncan Church of Christ
- Duncan United Methodist Church
- Dysartsville Church of Christ
- Early Branch Church of Christ
- East Chestnut Church of Christ
- Eastside Baptist Church - Women of Mission
- El Bethel United Methodist Church
- Essex Village Church of Christ
- Fire Mountain Church for All People
- First Baptist Church Duncan
- First Baptist Church of Lyman - Peggy Fogel
- Fedelis Sunday School Class
- FernCreek Creative
- First Baptist Church
- First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- First Presbyterian Church
- First Presbyterian Church - Hannah Circle
- Forest City Church of Christ
- Franklin Church of Christ
- Friendship Baptist Church of Lyman
- Garden City Church of Christ
- Gaston Street Church of Christ
- Gastonia Church of Christ
- Georgetown Church of Christ
- Gold Hill Road Church of Christ
- Grace Baptist Church
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Grand Strand Church of Christ
- Greater St. James Temple
- Greater Zion Tabernacle Apostolic Church
- Greenwood Church of Christ
- Gregg Avenue Church of Christ
- Hayesville Church of Christ
- Hendersonville Church of Christ
- Hickory Church of Christ
- Highland Acres Church of Christ
- Hillcrest Church of Christ
- Holland Park Church of Christ
- Holly Hill Church of Christ
- Holly Springs Baptist Church
- Holston Creek Baptist Church - Caring Sunday School Class
- Inman First Baptist Church
- Jericho Church of Christ
- Johns Island Church of Christ
- Joy Lutheran Church - WELCA Group
- Lake Cooley Baptist Church
- Lake Norman Church of Christ
- Lakeside Drive Church of Christ
- Lancaster Church of Christ

April 8 to November 10, 2011

Giving is similar to cornbread

There's no wrong way to give

By Philip Murphy
Development Director

My mother never added sugar to her cornbread. For me, sweetened cornbread wasn't "real" cornbread. At least, that was my sentiment until I met my wife.

My wife's cornbread is sweet. Is her family recipe wrong? Nope. And you'll never hear me say otherwise. Obviously, there's more than one recipe for "real" cornbread.

Giving is somewhat similar to cornbread. There's not just one "real" way to give.

Sometimes, organizations, and our supporters, get too focused on one particular aspect of giving. We tend to get tunnel vision.

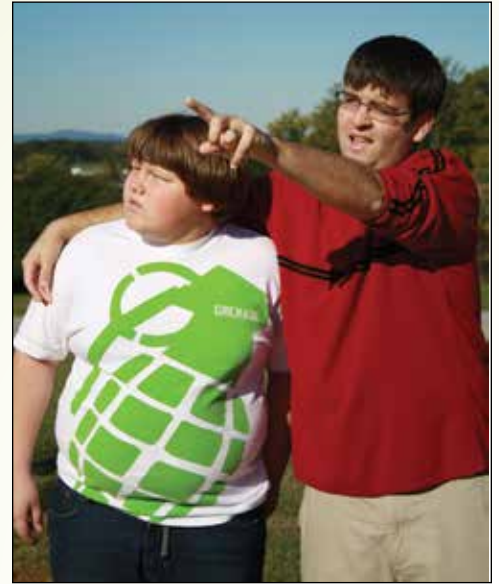
I just wanted to remind you that there are a number of ways you can help Southeastern Children's Home such as:

1. Set up a direct monthly payment from your checking account by completing the ACH form below and sending it to us;
2. Gift stocks or other securities directly to SECH;
3. Name SECH as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy, IRA, or 401(k) plan;
4. Have your congregation or civic group

take a special collection; or
5. Leave a bequest through your will or living trust.

Remember, there's no wrong way to give.

Please contact us if you have questions regarding tax implications regarding these gifts.



Your generosity makes it possible for children to find new and better directions in life.



My gift to help children in need

Yes, I want to make a gift of \$_____ each month to the children at Southeastern Children's Home.

As a duly authorized check signer for my bank account, I hereby authorize Southeastern Children's Home to perform scheduled electronic funds transfers in the aforementioned amount from my bank account on the (circle one) 3rd or 15th day each month.

Authorizing Signature Date

Name(s)

Address

City State Zip Code

Phone Email

Please include **a personalized check marked "VOID"** so we can identify your account. Return completed form to: Southeastern Children's Home • P.O. Box 339 • Duncan, SC 29334



southeastern children's home resident of the quarter



"My favorite memories at Southeastern have been going to youth events with the Central church of Christ youth group, and getting to know my houseparents, Mr. Clay and Mrs. Tabitha." – Jesse

Meet Jesse, our resident of the quarter

- Age, year in school:** 15, sophomore
- Favorite Sport:** Skateboarding
- Favorite Food:** Pizza
- Favorite Movie:** *Fast and Furious*
- Favorite subjects:** Math and History.
- Favorite Music:** Eminem and Evanescence.

Jesse in quotes...

- ♥ "The thing I like most about Southeastern is that I get to live in a big house, with a big yard and go to a good school.
- ♥ I want to be either an Auto Mechanic or a Video Game Developer.

KIMBERLY continued from page 2

This means that not only will DSS remove fewer children from potentially harmful situations, but also children currently living in safe, out-of-home environments, such as Southeastern, may be reunited with families and placed into homes in which the original abuse occurred.

Such actions may save DSS some money in the short-term, but, we the taxpayers will likely end up paying more for the long-term repercussions of this new philosophy. As you may guess, this concerns me very much.

This means, for the time being, Southeastern Children's Home will likely have fewer residents, for shorter terms, and be paid less for assisting them. As such, our Board of Directors has begun the implementation of new programs to assist families in our region. Namely, we'll place a greater emphasis on our Counseling Center, and provide preventative counseling to

children and families. Hopefully, by providing these services, we can assist families and stop abuse before it ever occurs in the household.

Also, because of the decreased revenue from the state, we will need your financial support more than ever.

Please understand, despite the changes, Southeastern will continue to provide residential and therapeutic services for abused and neglected children. We're committed to helping children, despite the economic uncertainty!

I ask that you continue to pray for the children in our state and our organization as we deal with the implementation of the new measures.

Sincerely,

Contributors

- Laurel Baptist Church
- Laurens Church of Christ
- Lexington Church of Christ
- Life Song Church
- Life Springs Community Church
- Linville Forest Church of Christ
- Little Mountain Baptist Church
- Living Way Church of God
- Long Creek Church of Christ
- Loree United Methodist Church
- Lyman United Methodist Church Women Circle II
- Marion Avenue Church of Christ
- Mauldin Church of Christ
- Meadowbrook Church of Christ
- Memorial United Methodist Church Friendship Circle
- Missions From The Heart Ladies Night Circle
- Morganton Church of Christ
- Mount Zion Baptist Church
- Mountain Island Church of Christ
- Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church
- Mt. Zion Christian Fellowship
- Myrtle Beach Church of Christ
- North Augusta Church of Christ
- North Charleston Church of Christ
- North Main Church of Christ
- North Main Street Church of Christ
- North Raleigh Church of Christ
- Northwood Baptist Church
- Old Union Church of Christ
- Our Risen Savior
- Palmetto Church of Christ
- Park Street Church of Christ
- Peninsula Church of Christ
- Pike Road Church of Christ
- Plaza Church of Christ
- Poplar Springs Baptist Church
- Port Orange Church of Christ
- Port Royal Church of Christ
- Potosi Church of Christ
- Providence Road Church of Christ
- Redeemer Lutheran Church
- Reidville Presbyterian Church
- Reidville Presbyterian church – Women in the Church
- Restoration Church
- Riverside Church of Christ
- Rockingham Church of Christ
- Rutherfordton Church of Christ
- Seneca Church of Christ
- Shalom Christian Fellowship
- Sharon United Methodist Church
- Shelby Church of Christ
- Shiloh Baptist Church
- Sigsbee Church of Christ
- Slater Marietta Church of Christ
- South Fork Church of Christ
- Southern Hills Church of Christ
- St. Andrews Road Church of Christ
- St. George Church of Christ
- St. James United Methodist Church
- Sunnycrest Church of Christ
- Temple Independent Methodist Church
- The Church of Christ at North Mecklenburg
- The Church of Christ At Summerville
- The Phebean Class - First Baptist Church
- Third Street Church of Christ
- Travelers Rest Missionary Baptist Church
- Tryon Church of Christ
- Tucapau Baptist Church
- Twin City Church of Christ
- Tyger River Presbyterian Church
- Union Church of Christ
- Unity Presbyterian Church
- University Church of Christ
- Victor Baptist Church
- Warners Chapel Church of Christ
- Washington Street Church of Christ
- Watterson Trail Church of Christ
- Wellford Baptist Church
- Wendover Church of Christ
- West Columbia Church of Christ
- West Innes Church of Christ
- West Jefferson Church of Christ
- Williston Church of Christ
- Windsor Lake Church of Christ
- Winnsboro Church of Christ
- Woodruff Church of Christ
- Yadkinville Church of Christ
- Zoar United Methodist Church
- Bank of America United Way Campaign BI-LO Corporate
- Counseling Associates
- Fluor Foundation Matching Funds - United Way
- GE Foundation
- Give With Liberty - Employee Donations
- Hillcrest Chiropractic Associates
- IBM Employee Services Center
- Landmark Diner
- Middle Tyger Senior Citizens
- Recovery Works
- Silver Bay Seafood of Simpsonville
- Sims Bar B Que
- South Carolina Christian Foundation
- Spartanburg Animal Clinic
- The Carolinas District Kiwanis Foundation, Inc.
- The Spice Diner
- Trident United Way
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- United Health Group - Employee Giving Campaign
- United Way of Butler
- United Way of Greenville County
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- United Way of New England
- United Way of Sumter Clarendon & Lee Co.
- United Way Of The CSRA
- United Way of The Piedmont, Inc.
- UNUM
- Wells Fargo
- Windsor House West

April 8 to November 10, 2011

Memorials

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April 8 to November 10, 2011

Working (and saving!) for a Southeastern residents join ranks of the gainfully employed and

Be careful if you come to the Southeastern Children's Home campus this fall. There's something contagious in the air... WORK.

Several of our residents have begun working at local restaurants. First, Joy was employed at McDonalds. Soon thereafter, Ronald was hired at a local Zaxby's.

"One of our goals is to prepare our kids for adulthood," Brad Brooks, Southeastern Children's Home Case Manager said. "What better way for kids to be prepared for adulthood than to have the responsibilities that come with employment."

Both residents hope that their jobs are merely starting points for their careers.

"I hope that working at McDonalds is just a first step," Joy said. "I want to find a job in culinary arts and this type of job will hopefully give me some useful experience."

Teaching the children to save is an important part of the program.

"It's our policy that the children are required to save at least half of their paycheck," Brooks said. "Inherently that creates a nice foundation for them when they transition to independence."

"... the children are required to save at least half of their paycheck ... that creates a nice foundation for them when they transition to independence ..."

Ronald, who recently obtained his driver's permit, hopes to save enough money to purchase his first car.

"I still have a long ways to go," Ronald said. "But, I'm trying to save a little from each paycheck. Hopefully, I'll eventually have enough to buy a car. Right now, I'd like to buy an old Tahoe or some other cheap car. At this point, any car that runs seems like a good option."



As fall colors and cooler weather arrive, our family is reminded once again of how blessed we are to live in South Carolina's beautiful Upstate.

Cottages' wish list

Our resident cottages have immediate need of the following items. If you have any of these items, or know someone who does, please let us know!

- Carousel Microwave
- Wii games (list available upon request)
- Vacuum Cleaner
- Blender
- Small toolbox with basic tools
- Riding Lawnmower
- Movie Passes
- Used dependable cars



living

learn a few life lessons

Employment has taught both children the value of hard work.

"Working has taught me that, in general, you aren't going to get rich overnight," Joy said. "It's hard to save, but I do it anyways. Sure, I like to spend money. If I was on my own, I would spend it all. I've learned that it takes a lot of time and hard work to save just a little bit."

Working has taught the children about customer service as well.

"I've learned that customers are always right... even if they're rude and disrespectful," Joy said. "You don't get to choose your customer's attitude. If you have a rude customer, you learn to be calm and smile a lot. Eventually, they warm up."

These two residents have gained several important lessons from their experience.

"At first, I wasn't very good at showing up on time," Ronald said. "I'd sleep in and show up a few minutes late. So, they reduced my hours. I learned real fast that it was important to show up at my scheduled time."

Don't be surprised if you travel through Duncan and find that one of our residents is serving food at a local eatery. If you do meet one of them, you might just catch their contagious working spirit.

End notes ...

- Thanks so much to all the **sponsors, participants & volunteers** who made the 2011 Wade Scharff Memorial Golf Tournament possible. We raised over \$13,000 to make this our most successful tournament ever!
- Please contact our office if you have any remaining **Change For Children** cans that have not been collected.

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