

to wellness

long day's journey to light Successioner

Opportunity knocking

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# Gala memories Celebration and thanks at 50

Also ...

Working together to be a light

Learning, growing

Joyful, joyful

Striving for excellence

children's

Write from the hear

**Christmas wishe** 

children's

50<sup>th</sup> anniv

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the newsletter of southeastern children's home

### Working together to be a light

Recent home purchase is both opportunity and leap of faith

#### **By Robert Kimberly Executive Director**

For the past fifty years, three acres of land have been a neighbor to Southeastern Children's Home. Nestled in an opportune corner of the property, it has offered unintentional curb appeal to the Home's acreage. Ten years ago, a beautiful American Craftsman home was built on the three acres housing a wonderful family as our neighbors. This

past Fall they put it up for sale providing

an opportunity of faith for the Home to

purchase it on the grounds that it would

bringing all Southeastern Children's Home

Not only is there cause for celebration in

owning this property is cause for protecting

having all programs on the main campus,

the children and the facilities as well - one

knew who our neighbors were for the past

several years; and with them leaving, it put

So, purchasing this property made perfect

The scripture that comes to mind is this:

"And we know that all things work

together for good to those who

according to His purpose."

- Romans 8:28

love God, to those who are called

All things do work together when there

of the top priorities here. Safety first. We

us at an unease with the potential safety

issue that the next buyers could create.

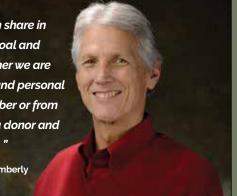
become a transitional group home -

programs to one campus.

sense.

"You and I both share in this common goal and purpose, whether we are here up close and personal as a staff member or from a distance as a donor and prayer warrior. "

Robert Kimberly



is a common goal among people who come together for a common purpose. The common goal here is to "provide the care to needy children and families through group home care, foster care, adoption, maternity services, and counseling". The common purpose is to create a Christianbased organization for the "strengthening" of these children and families.

You and I both share in this common goal and purpose, whether we are here up close and personal as a staff member or from a distance as a donor and prayer warrior. It takes all of us as a team to accomplish what God has set out for us to do here at SECH – living out the calling to a ministry of helping the needy.

Some of you may not really know or get to see the impact that you have on the children that you donate to. Here at the Home the staff have the opportunity to spend time talking to the children. One of the questions asked over the years is:

Continued on Page 3



On the cover: Past issues of our "Hope!" newsletter look back as we look forward to our next 50 years.

### Contact us!

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

We can be reached **by mail** at Post Office Box 339, 115 Children's Way, Duncan, SC 29334, **by phone** at 864.439.0259, and online at sech.org.

children's

<u>February 20, 2019</u>

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# Joyful, joyful!

#### **By Cindy Davis**

"Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love" are the lyrics I sing in my head as I think of this past Christmas season. You see, for most of us, the holidays are about joyful giving, celebrating each other, contagious happy spirits, and the adoration of our Lord Jesus. It is, simply put, a positive time for most.

Sadly, these same lyrics carry the melancholy sound of sad memories for some, and the holiday season itself may activate feelings of grief. Such is the case for most or all the children at Southeastern.

For them, Christmas can be a season she tor of complicated emotions triggered by first gli any number of holiday-related situations, down, of everything from missing family to past cried. H trauma. Negative behaviors and tears almost always surface during this time of year, and our staff prays for guidance as they seek to buffer and comfort all involved. This past Christmas season was

This past Christmas season was an exception, however, perhaps because Southeastern was celebrating 50 years and jubilation was in the air. Or perhaps it was the generosity of our donors. Lear, for example, took residents shopping for shoes and clothes, spending one-on-one time with each child, making them feel special and important. Being able to buy name brands worn by other students at school reminds these children that they're valuable members of society.

Another donor, DraexImaier, helped us teach our residents the art of giving, taking them to buy loved ones gifts they otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford. The moment the children returned home, they asked to wrap the gifts, because they were so excited to have something to give brothers, sisters, cousins and grandparents.

Had you been with us inside the resident cottages on Christmas morning, here's what you'd have seen ...

#### **Unexpected** joy

Wearing the warm pajamas they'd received the night before, the children sat opening gifts beneath the tree while the rest of the family watched and enjoyed.

A few hours later, only one gift remained and it was for Mary. She was so grateful



Special delivery to Southeastern from Santa

for what she'd received already and was overwhelmed by the prospect of yet another gift for her to open. Eyes wide, she tore into the colorful paper and at the first glimpse of what was inside, she set it down, covered her face with her hands and cried. Her house mom sat beside her and

asked, "Are you okay, Mary? Is something wrong?" and the room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. Then Mary looked up with a big, timid smile and said, "I put this on my list, but there's no way I expected to get it".

#### Wearable Joy

Johnny came to Southeastern with nothing but the clothes on his back, and although 16 years old, this past Christmas was the first one he'd ever celebrated. He'd never had a Christmas with gifts or a table filled with holiday food. Making a Christmas list was new to him, too, but he did it anyway. One item on his list was a Carhart

jacket, something he said he'd always wanted, and when he found that jacket inside a box on Christmas morning, his face lit up like the brightest lights on the tree.

#### **Grateful Joy**

We feel so grateful to have shared these moments, and many others, with our precious children. And while only two of the donors are highlighted here, we all know it takes many more wonderful people – people like you – to make the holidays happen for these children in a way that brings happiness into their lives.

We at Southeastern Children's Home thank you for your generosity and prayers, and we look forward to your friendship in all the years to come.

#### Contributors

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<u> May 1, 2018 - February 20, 2019</u>

## Gala memories Celebration and thanks mark 50 years of service

#### **By Steve Davis**

On December 1, 2018, after 50 years of service to children and families, Southeastern Children's Home paid tribute to past and present contributors during a gala-style reunion celebration. We remembered the half-century behind us, reviewed the present before us, and welcomed the half-century ahead.

Now let's raise the curtain for a glimpse of that gala:

It truly was a night to remember – women decked out in dinner dresses and men quite

dapper in suits and ties. Rain poured and umbrellas were up as we approached the ballroom, but nothing could dampen our spirits.

Each of us felt a part of something special



Fellowship and remembrance during the 50th anniversary gala.

as we gathered around the beautifully decorated tables to savor a delicious three-course meal. Talented musicians made a joyful noise while house parents mingled with donors, administrators mingled with former residents, friends mingled with board members, and all of us removed our professional "hats" in order to enjoy one another as family.

It was a spectacular time, lights dimmed just enough to twinkle in the energy of expectancy and victory as we honored friends past and present.

One presenter, former

resident Dorothy White who today is a thriving adult, spoke in testament to all God has done for her through Southeastern Children's Home. We were blessed also by founding board member Jerry Senn's story

#### Working together (continued)

*"What does the Home give you in this season of your life?"* 

The common answers among the children are:

*"I get to experience what a good family looks like"* 

"helps me learn how to manage myself - anger, anxiety, emotions, stress, and being social at school"

"the staff helps me move on from past trauma"

*"there are people that I can learn to trust here"* 

"the Home takes care of my emotional and physical needs"

These are real children that come with real needs, and real protection is provided so they leave here with real positive outcomes. And you have made a huge impact on the lives of these children just by providing for their basic needs through your bountiful donations. Thank you!

In our mission statement, highlighted as one of the values of this organization is stewardship – "understanding that we honor God when we make careful and prudent use of the resources He provides". And that is exactly what the Administration and Board Members of Southeastern Children's Home is doing when they sought the LORD and then made the decision to purchase.

It was a step of faith that God was going to provide the funds to make it happen; and not only was there a purchase of a piece of land and a building, there are state and group home standard that the house needs to meet in order for it to be up and running for children in our care. The handicap bathroom addition and laundry room renovation, the sprinkler system for fire code, the cameras throughout the main living space and hallways as an added protection for all children living in



Southeastern Children's Home Executive Director Robert Kimberly speaks to guests at Southeastern's 50th anniversary gala on December 1, 2018.

of how Southeastern Children's Home came into being.

S.C. State Representative Rita Allison shared words of wisdom, and U.S. Senator Tim Scott joined us in spirit, offering encouragement to all in a specially prerecorded message. Then Executive Director Robert Kimberly wrapped things up with wonderful words of thanksgiving for God's bounty. We're ever mindful that Southeastern's ministry would not exist for thousands of broken children were it not for the multitude of people, particularly our donors and prayer warriors, who come forward to bless this ministry every day. Which is exactly why we gathered that wet and wonderful winter evening – to celebrate and give thanks for the fifty years that God has blessed our home.



This home purchased by Southeastern in 2018 is being upfitted for residency.

the home, and the fire and house alarms are just a few items on the list.

All of this takes money, and in order to have money we need people like you who have servant hearts and are willing to sacrifice for the good of the common goal. Many of you have been blessed immensely for such a time and need as this and you're looking for a way to get involved and help. This is the area of urgency right now. We are about to begin the process of getting the home ready to give children what they need, and we need your help now in doing so.

We are so thankful for how you have helped thus far and we thank God for you. We thank God in advance for how He will provide in this particular area of Southeastern Children's Home. It's always exciting to witness all things that work together under the mighty hand of God. It's exciting to share how He does it as well with those around us. It brings a testimony to our lips giving God the glory and honor and praise.

It creates a "city on a hill that cannot be hidden". Matthew 5:14 And how appropriate - a property that SECH sits on – a hill that cannot be hidden.

Let's all come together in being a light of the world that cannot be hidden.

Sincerely, Robert

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AL & NORMA BERGERON Mr. Kenneth Hyder

#### In honor of birthday

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# Wish list

Southeastern gladly accepts donations and here are a few things we need in particular:

- Lawn Mowers
- Dependable Vehicles
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels

Fast Lube of Lyman First Baptist Church of Lyman First Baptist Church of Lyman Firstcall Furniture Liquidators Gastonia Church of Christ Gold Hill Road Church of Christ Gold Hill Road Church of Christ Golden Strip Church of Christ Grace United Methodist Church Graen Valted Methodist Church Greenwood Church of Christ Greenwood Church of Christ Greenwood Church of Christ Hampton Golf Hayssen Flexible Systems Helzberg Diamonds Henderson Church of Christ Henderson Church of Christ Holland Park Church of Christ Holland Park Church of Christ Holpe Church Firstcall Hope Church Hope Remains Ranch Jasmine Title Agency Kidz Klub After School Kidz Klub After School Lancaster Church of Christ Lexington Church of Christ Liberty Tax Liberty United Methodist Church Link's Body Shop Long Creek Church of Christ Loree United Methodist Church Los Altos Church of Christ Lyman Family Dentistry Lyman Family Dentistry Lyman Church of Christ McDonalds - AMC Management Corp. McDonalds - AMC Management Corp. Middle Tyger Community Center Middle Tyger Ruritan Club Middle Tyger YMCA Mountain Island Church of Christ Northgate Freewill Baptist Church Omicron, LLC Palmetto Church of Christ Pelican's SnoBalls Pest Management Solutions Pike Road Church of Christ Reidville Presbyterian Church Reidville Presbyterian Church Reidville Road United Methodist Church Church Rieter Corporation Resurgent Capital Services Riverside Church of Christ Riverside Church of Chinst Rogers Stereo, Inc. Roper Mountain Science Center Sark's Automotive LLC Secured Advantage Seneca Church of Christ Sharon United Methodist Church Shelby Church of Christ Silver Rav Seafood of Simosonville Silver Bay Seafood of Simpsonville Sims Tire & Muffler Sisters in Service Skins Hotdogs Skins Hotdogs Southern Barbecue St. Andrews Road Church of Christ Taylor's First Baptist Church The Black Derby Barber Company The Bryant Center The Clock of Greer The Melting Pot The Preserve at Verdae The Preserve at Verdae The Skillett Restaurant Tony's Pizza Town of Duncan – Shipwreck Cove Frader Joe's Tucapau Baptist Church Two Guys Maintenance Upstate Church of Christ Wic Bailey Ford Wade's Restaurant, Inc. Washington Baptist Church Westside Veterinary Hospital Whole Foods Windsor Lake Church of Christ Woodland Church of Christ Windsor Lake Church of Christ Woodland Church of Christ Zaxby's of Duncan Zoar United Methodist Church Mr. & Mrs. David Abernathy Mr. Chuck Allsbrook, III Dr. & Mrs. Jim Alston Mr. & Mrs. Darius Anderson Mr. & Mrs. Darius Anderson Mr. & Mrs. Darius Anderson Mr. & Mrs. Mike Andrews Mr. & Mrs. Mark Audia Mr. & Mrs. David Sathogen Mr. & Mrs. Don Axsom Mr. & Mrs. Dave Baker Mr. & Mrs. Dave Baker Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Bailey Mr. & Mrs. Dave Baker Mr. & Mrs. Joave Baker Mr. & Mrs. Joave Baker Mr. & Mrs. Joave Baker Mr. & Mrs. Joan Belcher, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. Ed Bilby Mr. & Mrs. Ed Bilby Mr. & Mrs. Ed Bilby Mr. & Mrs. James Bond Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Bozeman

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### **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **Financial statement**

Program Support Payments \$507,029.63 Grants & Reimbursements \$32,389.61 Contributions & Donations <u>\$553,796.73</u> <b>Subtotal</b>
Program Services for children\$750,298.26 Support services, Utilities,
Insurances\$164,236.25 Development expenses
Net Ordinary Income\$129,680.38
Investments \$7,551.35
Prepaid Expenses\$5,044.69
Restricted Funds \$41,227.72
Capital Expenditures <u>-\$313,148.40</u>
Cash Flow\$139,733.64

# Learning, growing

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Satterfield, Sr.

New beginnings mean new opportunities for Allen

#### **By Cindy Davis**

It's every child's dream to live a life that inspires celebration and Allen is no exception. That's why we're joining him in celebration of the diploma he received after working long, hard months to become a full-time employee at a manufacturing facility that produces parts for BMW.

Any new beginning can be a Source Children Sta bit frightening, but in Allen's case, this one also is a great confidence builder. At 17, he's already walked a difficult road and he experienced several foster placements before arriving at Southeastern. We're so proud of his accomplishment and will continue to encourage and support him as he rises to new challenges.

Allen recently shared with his house parents his desire to work in the automotive trade someday, but first he says he hears the military calling his name. Certainly, military service can be a valuable source of training and experience.

At the same time that Allen has been learning independence, he's been working to deepen his rela-

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tionship with the family that hosts him. He's a strong worker, too, helping the house dads around our campus, and we at Southeastern are grateful for the opportunity to help guide him toward good decisions and positive life choices.

the newsletter of southeastern children's home

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