

HOMENEWS

A Publication of Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries



Campus Spotlight	PAGE 3
Churches Needed	PAGE 8
Memorials.....	PAGE 12



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Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing love, care, and hope in Christ to children and families in need. Established in 1899, the Children's Home is an agency of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and is governed by a 17-member board of trustees elected by the Convention to serve three-year terms on a rotating basis.

The Children's Home is recognized by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as a "Foster Care Community." Approximately 80% of the children in LBCH foster homes are placed by DCFS and the other children are privately placed by a legal guardian.

The Children's Home receives no state or federal funding. Approximately 79% of all funding comes from individuals and churches. Less than 25% of funding goes to administrative costs; 75% goes to direct ministry services. Less than 8% of funding comes from payment of services.

Our major service areas include: Residential Child Care for Children ages 5-17; Pathfinders Transitional Living for ages 18-21; HomePlace Residential Family Care for Homeless Children and Mothers; Christian Women's Job Corps of Monroe providing job and life skills training and certified HiSET preparation and testing; Granberry Counseling Centers with 11 statewide locations; Connect 1:27 Foster Care & Adoption Ministries; and Orphans Embrace International Orphan Care Mission Trips.

Our dedicated Christian ministry team strives to offer the highest quality of services. Services are provided without regard to race, gender, religion, or ability to pay. Please contact us for more information on how we may serve you or someone you know: 318.343.2244, home@lbch.org, www.LBCH.org

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words from home...

by Perry Hancock Ph.D., President & CEO

It is hard to believe that 2017 is history and that 2018 has begun. Almost every year at the Children's Home we experience some type of "first." This past year was the first time that we had over 100 children in our off-campus Connect 1:27 foster care ministry. Dozens of families from churches all around the state answered God's call to provide a home for a child in need. Twenty seventeen was also the first year of construction for an orphanage that we are co-sponsoring in Haiti. We are one of the many partners in this work which seeks to reach a generation of young people for Christ in that most impoverished nation.

What firsts will we see in 2018? Many of our children will face their first challenge of being away from family. They will face the anxiety of an uncertain future. But most of them will experience what it is like to live in a safe, peaceful home for the first time. Many will go to church for the first time. They will have people tell them that they are special for the first time in their lives. And, most importantly, they will experience Christian love for the first time.

Those are the most important firsts we will have this year at the Children's Home. They will happen because of you. You will help our children believe in themselves. You will bring the peace, the joy, and the hope that they need. And, you will help them experience, for the first time, the unconditional love of the Savior.

Thank you so much for making those most important firsts possible. It is through your continued and generous support that we are able to provide our children with everything they need to succeed. Please know how grateful we are for the investment you are making in their futures. Thank you for helping them grow into all that God has planned for their lives.



New Life In Christ

We are excited to share that we have a new brother in Christ at LBCH. One of our Hope Cottage residents made a profession of his faith and was baptized! We know that God has special plans for this young man.

• OUR MISSION •

The mission of the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries is to provide love, care, and hope in Christ for children and families in need.

• OUR VALUES •

1. We value the Bible as the foundation and guide for our ministry (2 Timothy 3:16).
2. We value the worth of the Children and Families to whom we minister (Genesis 1:27).
3. We value Servant Leadership as our model for ministry (Mark 9:35).
4. We value Excellence as our standard for ministry performance (Colossians 3:17).
5. We value Personal Integrity as our ministry standard for living (Romans 12:1-2).

Meet Ashli, MaKayla & Aleeiya...

CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT

By Debbie Robertson, HomeNews Writer

“For I know the plans I have for you....”

Jeremiah 29:11, one of Ashli Buggs’ favorite scriptures, was her lifeline throughout the past year. Ashli’s journey started in December 2016 when she lost her job. A single mom of two, Ashli had worked in fast food and housekeeping, so she had good experience. She promptly started her job search. Even though no doors were opening for her, she knew that God was in control and He had a plan for her family. When her car broke down, that limited the areas where she could apply and, without a job, she couldn’t afford the needed repairs. Still, Ashli was hopeful that she’d find something soon.

Then came a day that was absolutely devastating. While Ashli and her girls were out with someone very close to them, they were dropped off at the Salvation Army Shelter. There was no explanation, no warning. Ashli was in shock, hurt by this betrayal of trust, and she was afraid. She asked God why, how, and what do I do now. She tried to remain hopeful and positive, especially in front of the girls, but she had no idea where to turn. This situation also created a new challenge for her family. She and the girls had a place to spend their nights, but the shelter closed during daytime hours. Ashli and the girls would walk around in a nearby park or the Downtown RiverWalk to pass the time until the shelter opened for the night.

“There were days I had only \$2 or \$3, and the girls would need something to eat. Aleeiya needed shoes. I knew where to go for the cheapest snacks and how to make a few dollars last. I could do without, but I had to take care of my babies.” Even though there were moments when she was overwhelmed, Ashli continued to remind herself and her girls of God’s promises. When she learned that the shelter would soon be closing, a new fear gripped her heart.

One cold, wet, miserable day, she took the girls into an office building to use the restroom and to try and get warm. As she and the girls walked around, Ashli noticed someone watching them. After a few minutes, a gentleman cautiously approached her and

asked if she and her girls were all right. Ashli told him they were fine. The man continued to watch her and asked again if he could help in some way. He didn’t give up, and Ashli finally shared a little of her story. The man took her and the girls into a nearby gift shop and bought them food. He gave Ashli \$10 and a card with his mother’s phone number, encouraging Ashli to make that call. Ashli was hesitant to call a stranger. But, after a few hours, she broke down and reached out for help.

The gentleman, Pastor Marty Campbell, and his mom, Irma, quickly became part of Ashli’s list of “my angels.” Mrs. Campbell invited Ashli and the girls into her home, fed them, loved on them, and started making phone calls on their behalf. Their time at the shelter was coming to an end soon, and Ashli still had no idea where they would go. But now there was a glimmer of hope.



Ashli beams as she shares that the Campbells’ connecting her with HomePlace was truly an answer to prayer, an answer that came in His perfect timing and in a bigger, better way than she could ever have imagined. While there was concern that the application process might not be complete before the shelter closed, Ashli’s reference and background checks

came back in record time. On August 24, at 3 p.m., Ashli got the call that she, MaKayla and Aleeiya had been approved. She celebrated, “Lord, You are in control of me and my babies!” And on August 25, Ashli laughs that she was so excited, she and the girls were at the Children’s Home before the staff arrived, ready to move into their new home.

She and the girls have been overwhelmed by the HomePlace Ministry. She had no idea that not only did her family have a safe place to live, they would have much needed clothing and other resources and support as well. Ashli beams as she shares that job offers started coming in. “I actually had to turn down opportunities because, all of a sudden, there were so many.” Susan Clark, Director of Family Care Ministries, and Kathy LaCaze, Maggie’s Place Cottage Mom, have been wonderful encouragers, and they have been such faithful prayer warriors. Everyone here has been so good to us.”

On December 4, Ashli started working at the Rolling Hills Ministry Thrift Store. She loves sorting
...Continued on page 11

PRAYER CALENDAR

Samaya	Feb 12
Anthony	Feb 13
Skylar	Feb 14
Waylon	Feb 15
Cadien	Feb 16
Cindy	Feb 17
Isabella	Feb 18
Cenobia	Feb 19
Ja’Liyah	Feb 20
Azyria	Feb 21
Jo’Aiva	Feb 22
Ashley	Feb 23
Jennalyn	Feb 24
Ashli	Feb 25
MaKayla	Feb 26
Aleeiya	Feb 27
Kaithlyn	Feb 28
Taegon	Mar 1
Blaise	Mar 2
Melissa	Mar 3
Brayden	Mar 4
Paige	Mar 5
Talen	Mar 6
Kanyen	Mar 7
Tomika	Mar 8
Jeriya	Mar 9
Raiesha	Mar 10
Ja’Yania	Mar 11
Ja’don	Mar 12
Ai’lan	Mar 13
Ebony	Mar 14
Laniya	Mar 15
Layna	Mar 16
Hana	Mar 17
Nicholas	Mar 18
Brylee	Mar 19
Stephanie	Mar 20
Parker	Mar 21
Randal	Mar 22
Kenny	Mar 23
Nesa	Mar 24
Brady	Mar 25
Antonious	Mar 26
Anterious	Mar 27
Ash’shton	Mar 28
Chase	Mar 29
Noah	Mar 30
Gerald	Mar 31



homebuilders...

by Marc Eichelberger
Vice President of Development & Public Relations

The 'Three S Framework:' Spender, Saver, or Servant?

Our Christian tradition has quite a lot to say about giving. However, today's Christians, despite living in the wealthiest society in history, give a relatively small portion of their resources to advance the cause of Christ and to help the poor. There are some notable exceptions to this troubling gap—

Christians who sacrificially submit their financial resources to God in profound and life-changing ways.

Authors John Cortines and Gregory Baumer, through their research in writing *God and Money*, developed a frame of mind that differentiates highly generous Christians from the rest of American Christians. After studying this issue deeply, they concluded that our "money mindset" will make us a Spender, a Saver, or a Servant with our financial resources.

A **Spender**, represented by most people in the Western world, is someone who pursues the greatest possible present consumption, even if mindful of the need to save some.

A **Saver**, by contrast, strives to limit consumption to some extent, focusing instead on increased wealth accumulation.

A **Servant**, possessing the rarest mindset of all, orients their life around limiting both consumption and wealth-building, focusing instead on giving the most money they can toward blessing other people.

Our money mindset is driven by two factors: our temporal focus and our view on the highest purpose of money. Temporally, Spenders maximize value today, Savers maximize value in the future, and Servants maximize value in eternity.

These attitudes are driven by our view of money's purpose. A Spender views financial resources as a way to "live it up," enjoying every part of life that money can buy. Savers have a more complex view of money, viewing it mostly as a tool for security, stability, flexibility, and personal freedom. A Saver's net worth might become a simple way to "keep score" in life. Servants, by contrast, view their money as a potential blessing to the world in Christ's name, desiring to make the most of its potential for eternal impact.

The three money mindsets definitely bleed into one another, but each of us can identify our own core mindset by looking at the highest hopes we have for our wealth. Rather than just examining the percent of income spent, saved, or given, it is better to ask, "Where would I focus my thoughts and efforts if my income began dramatically increasing over time?" If you spend, spend, and spend some more to enjoy all that the world has to offer, you are (you guessed it) a Spender. If you would seek to pay off the mortgage early, retire early, or build a family dynasty of wealth, perhaps you're a Saver. If you would immediately begin thinking about how to give your excess resources to the cause of Christ, you're definitely a Servant.

The highest purpose of wealth, like the highest purpose of our lives as Christians, is not just enjoying life today or finding security for tomorrow. Instead, the purpose of wealth should be to help us glorify God by extending His Kingdom here on earth. Servants know that they need things today, and they also realize that someday they may need to retire, send children to college, etc. However, their primary focus is to serve the Lord Jesus Christ with their money, and this means their decisions may appear inconsistent to both Spenders and Savers.

Most modern personal finance teaching tends to reside somewhere between spending and saving, while failing to recognize the third mindset of Christian Servanthood. Giving generously is encouraged perhaps as one component of an overall plan, but building God's Kingdom here on Earth is not held up very clearly as the central purpose of money. I pray that you will join me in challenging the prevailing framework for thinking about money's purpose in life and have the mindset of a servant!

THANK YOU



Thank you First Baptist Natchitoches for the beautiful handmade blankets!

Obituaries

Former Residents:

Ola Gleason King

Baker, LA

Anne Marie Hilton Wade

Metairie, LA

Happy Birthday!

- GeraldFebruary 9
- Ja'donFebruary 16
- AshliMarch 3
- PaigeMarch 19
- BraydenMarch 21
- Chy'NeshaMarch 25
- ClavienMarch 25
- AzyriaMarch 30
- ChaniyahMarch 31



Support LBCH at no cost to you just by shopping! To get started, go to smile.amazon.com, select Louisiana Baptist Children's Home as your charity and start shopping! Amazon will donate a percent your total purchase!

YOU Can Be a Heroto a Child in Need!

Heroes protect the vulnerable, restore the broken, and bring hope in desperate situations. At Louisiana Baptist Children's Home, we believe every child who has been neglected, abused, or abandoned needs a hero. Our cottage parents, social workers, counselors, and other staff are everyday heroes who point children in our care to the Ultimate Hero—Jesus Christ.

Our HopeBuilder Monthly Sponsor Program gives YOU the opportunity to be a hero to children at LBCH too!

When you become a "HopeBuilder," you join a special group of people making monthly investments in the lives of precious children, providing them with love, care, and hope in Christ.

God uses HopeBuilders to rebuild the foundation of trust and hope in the lives of children who come to us from some really hard places in life. *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).*

As a HopeBuilder, you have the satisfaction of knowing that 100% of your monthly gifts are going to meet the essential needs that directly impact the children and families we serve. These needs include food, clothing, medical care, education, and counseling.

How It Works:

Click on the GIVE NOW button at www.lbch.org. Set up recurring monthly gifts (\$10 minimum) using Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card, American Express, Debit Card, or E-Check. Simply put HopeBuilder in the comment section. It's that easy!

You may also give by check. Simply put HopeBuilder on the memo line and mail to LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

In Psalm 10:17-18, the psalmist declares, "Lord, you know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will hear their cries and comfort them. You will bring justice to the orphans and the oppressed..."



Become a HopeBuilder Monthly Sponsor Today!

Immediate Need!

**Full Time
Cottage
Parents**

318.343.2244

Here is my Gift for the Children

__ \$25 __ \$50 __ \$100 __ \$250 __ \$500 __ \$1000 \$ _____

**Give online at
www.lbch.org**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE () _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL _____

Credit Card Number and Type: Visa MC AmX Discover

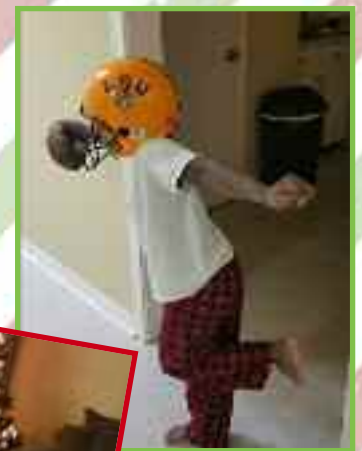
Cardholder Signature: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Code: _____

(Optional): I would like to present my gift in _____ memory or _____ honor of

Name _____ Please notify (honoree/relative) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

____ Please send me your FREE Personal Will Planner ____ Please send me information on how to become a monthly sponsor



Christmas Memories

Cottage Parents of the Year



Congratulations to Scott and Shawn Bradshaw of Love Cottage on being named Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries Cottage Parents of the Year for 2017!

The award, which was presented by LBCH Executive Director of Children and Family Services, Susan Nolan, is voted on by members of the LBCH staff. Cottage parents are chosen for this award based on their total contribution to the ministry over the past year.

The Bradshaws serve as cottage parents in Love Cottage. They joined the LBCH family in 2013.

Snow at LBCH!



LBCH Pathfinders Program Participant is Developing Skills for Successful Living



Parker Smith - 2018

"This program is giving me confidence and is helping me come out of my shell." – Parker

Although Christian Women's Job Corps is a program for women, as an LBCH resident and participant of the Pathfinders Independent Living Program, Parker is able to take advantage of the HiSET training portion of the CWJC program.

For information about CWJC call 318.343.2244

Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries

2018 MISSION TRIPS



• Haiti •

June 2-8 & October 13-19

Please consider joining us on our next journey to Haiti where you will experience the love of Christ by sharing Him with others!

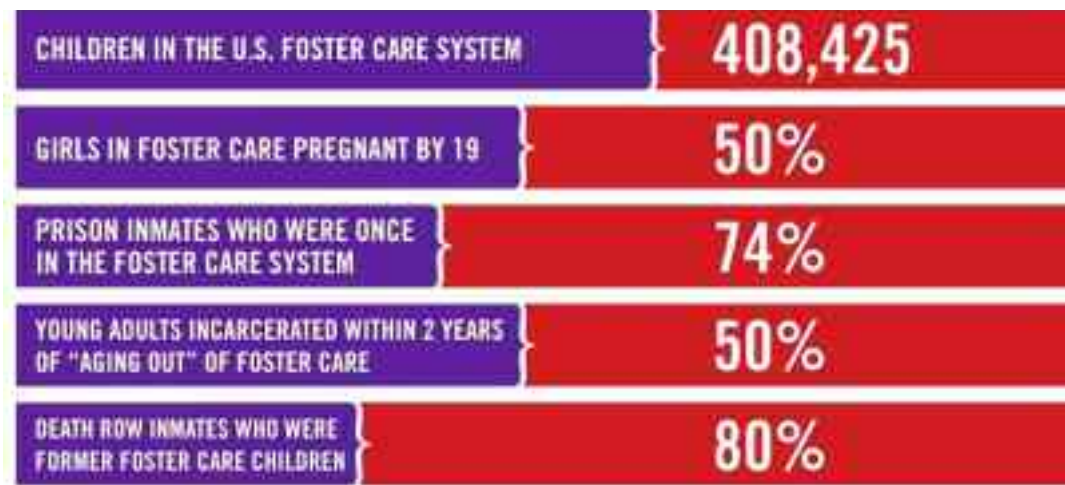
For more information, visit lbchorphansebrace.org.

Louisiana Foster Children Need Help from Our Churches

CONNECT1:27 is a foster and adoption ministry of Louisiana Baptist Children's Home, committed to networking Christian families and churches to answer God's call to care for hurting children.

We would like to ask your church to join our network of Louisiana churches and families and help bridge the gap between God's heart and His orphans. Through foster care, adoption, and ministries to support foster and adoptive families, you and your church can change a child's life forever! All services and materials provided to your church are free of charge.

Let's change these statistics. YOU are the key!



Free Materials and Services provided to Connect1:27 Churches Include...

- Orphan Care Kit with literature, sermon outlines and prayer guides
- Recognition in print and social media
- Training for your church to begin and maintain a foster care ministry
- Option to offer foster care orientations on your church campus
- On-going support from LBCH foster and adoption specialists
- Guest speakers to present ministry opportunities to your congregation
- Subscription to monthly newsletter with inspiring stories and information

"Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world." James 1:27 (CSB)

**Louisiana Baptist Children's
Home/Connect1:27
Foster & Adoption Specialists
Available To You
and Your Church:**



Marissa Wilson
Baton Rouge Area
618.520.2979
marissa@lbch.org



Margie Nielsen
Monroe Area
318.343.2244
margie@lbch.org



Dru Crenshaw
New Orleans Area
504.482.9135
dru@lbch.org



Kerri Byrd
Shreveport Area
318.372.9021
karri@lbch.org

CONNECT1:27
FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION MINISTRIES
Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries

www.connect127.org



Ever Thought About Becoming a Foster Parent?

If you have ever, even for a moment, considered becoming a foster parent, we would like to invite you to one of our foster parent informational meetings. You will learn what is really involved in fostering a child and we will be happy to answer any question you might have. You will not be asked to make any commitment. Meetings are held once a month in locations across the state.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

Alexandria Region

March 18

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Utility Baptist Church, Jonesville

Contact: Margie at 318.343.2244 or margie@lbch.org

Baton Rouge Region

February 13 & March 13

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Florida Boulevard Baptist Church

Contact: Marissa at 618.520.2979 or marissa@lbch.org

Covington Region

February 22 & March 27

6:00-7:30 p.m.

James Storehouse

Contact: Dru at 504.482.9135 or dru@lbch.org

Monroe Region

February 13 & March 13

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Louisiana Baptist Children's Home

Contact: Margie at 318.343.2244 or margie@lbch.org

New Orleans Region

March 6

6:00-7:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church New Orleans

Contact: Dru at 504.482.9135 or dru@lbch.org

Shreveport Region

TBA

CONNECT1:27

Q&A With an LBCH Foster Family

The Haynes Family

Southeast Louisiana



Justin and Brittany Haynes are answering God's call to care for hurting children. They have graciously shared with us some of their experiences as a foster family.

How many years have you served as a foster parent, and to how many children?

We have been foster parents for one year and seven months to six children.

Why did you become a foster parent?

We knew God had specifically instructed us to become a foster family. We want/wanted to love children and provide stability when they needed it most. Basically...to further serve God.

Why do you continue to be a foster parent?

We see the need and have a God-given desire to provide a loving home for children when they are in desperate need. We also are increasingly aware of the brokenness within families and want to continue helping share Jesus with the families of these sweet babies.

Describe your family dynamic.

We are church planters from North GA who moved to New Orleans for seminary first, and then for church planting. We have been married for eleven years and have four biological children.

What is your favorite activity to do as a family?

We enjoy being outdoors. Some activities are walking/hiking, exploring, sports, and water activities. We love being together and being silly in everyday activities!

What has God taught you as a foster parent?

-Forgiveness - It is a very difficult task to watch children you love being hurt by those who are supposed to be taking care of them. We have learned to forgive and to love through difficult situations.

-All children are His. Loss is a natural part of fostering and you learn to grieve while drawing closer to God. We can rest in the fact that His kids are in His hands, while they are in our arms and after they are gone.

-To depend on God even more. We have learned that we cannot walk this fostering journey in our own abilities. We have to fully and completely rely on God and His strength.

Former Resident Who Rode the Orphan Train to Monroe Passes Away

Ola Gleason King and her three sisters entered the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home (which was located in Lake Charles at the time) as young children. The four sisters were living at the home in 1925 when the decision was made to relocate to Monroe. The sisters rode on the "orphan train" which transported the children to the new location.

Mrs. King, a long-time resident of Baker, Louisiana, was one of the last known living alumnus of the Children's Home to have ridden the train, passed away on December 3, 2017 at the age of 104.

In 2001, Mrs. King made her first and only return visit to the Children's Home campus. She shared fond stories of living at LBCH including how she read to then superintendent Frank "Daddy" Flowers just prior to his death. There is still an oak tree standing in front of Joy Cottage (formerly Mary Goss Cottage) that Mrs. King planted in 1925.

According to her daughter, Jo Ann Gorman, Mrs. King was "a dedicated prayer warrior who read her Bible every day as long as she was able."



Children with Daddy Flowers in front of Mary Goss Cottage in the early 1920s.



Ola Gleason King in 2001, standing in front of the oak tree she planted on the the LBCH campus.

Granberry Counseling Centers... Answering God's Call to Care

*By, Dr. Kathy Eichelberger, Director
Granberry Counseling Centers*



I always look forward to January. All of our Granberry counselors meet together for a time of training and fellowship at our main office on the Children's Home campus in Monroe. It is a joy for me to spend quality time with our incredible counselors and administrative team.

Every member of our Granberry team really senses God's call to serve in this life-changing ministry. Our counselors are committed Christians who ask God to use their knowledge and skills to serve their clients. They are truly answering God's call to care.

In 2017, our Granberry counselors provided professional Christian counseling for 1,254 individuals at 11 different centers across our state. Through our partnership with the Louisiana Baptist Convention Pastoral Leadership Team, Granberry provided counseling for 53 Louisiana Baptist ministers and their family members. I am grateful to know that the Wonderful Counselor is at work in and through our lives to extend His truth, love, grace, and hope to those who come to us for help!

I am so thankful for the legacy of Ray and Mary Anna Granberry. Their generosity established our Granberry Counseling Centers in 1996. Their vision has provided help and hope for thousands of individuals, couples, and families across our state.

Please contact us if we can serve you, your family or your church in any way. Our toll free number is 1-877-345-7411 or you may visit our website at www.granberrycounseling.org. You may also contact our counselors directly to set up appointments:

Granberry Locations:

Alexandria:	Kellie Rogers – 318.623.1711
Baton Rouge:	Dr. Wendy Leger – 225.590.3233
Covington:	Fred Selby – 225.223.1497
Leesville:	Belinda Edwards – 318.355.1067
Minden:	Amy Butler – 318.773.5539
Monroe:	Dr. Kathy Eichelberger, Justin Kelly, Skylar Artigue – 318.345.8200
Natchitoches:	Kellie Rogers – 318.623.1711
Ruston:	Justin Kelly – 318.450-4660
Shreveport:	Amy Butler – 318.773.5539
Winnsboro:	Maranda Young – 318.307-0417

GRANBERRY COUNSELING CENTERS

Toll Free 1.877.345.7411 • www.granberrycounseling.org



highlights from homeplace...

When I was teaching school several years ago, I remember saying to one of my students, “to whom much is given, much is required” (Luke 12:48). This particular student was extremely smart, athletic, artistic, giving, and beautiful. Her peers did not seem envious of her because of her genuine and sweet spirit. She was a brand new Christian so I wanted her to know with opportunities come obligation and with giftedness comes giving. I had the privilege to continue to speak into her life for a few short years and to observe this student transform into a young lady that is now on a mission field serving the Lord with her godly husband.

It brings me to the conclusion that God sees our potential way before we even come into agreement with it ourselves. He declares the end from the beginning so our place is to pray into what God already knows about us and others until it becomes a reality.

We cannot assume that only wealthy people are given “much.” When new moms move into HomePlace much is given to them in the way of provision. They are afforded a beautiful place to live, food, clothing, childcare assistance, counseling, education and job opportunities.....but what about the things that God has given them that has not yet been revealed. Our prayer is that we will always see through God’s eyes in order to see all the possibilities He has for these families. We sometimes are guilty of defining people by a chapter in their lives while God has already written many more chapters that have not yet been read. I love the way Pricilla Shirer defines FAITH. “Faith is acting like it is so even when it’s not so in order that it might be so simply because God said so.” SO, may God open the eyes of our faith to see all there is to see.

As we begin this New Year at HomePlace, our desire is to recognize the “much” in each of these families as well as to steward His love into their lives. It is God’s expectation that we use His gifts to glorify

Him and to benefit others. The Apostle Paul wrote, “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.” Even the movie world has its own thoughts with this verse when Uncle Ben gave this advice to Peter Parker in *Spiderman*, “with great power, comes great responsibility.” We have been given “much” here at HomePlace and God’s desire for us is to take what he has given to continue to further His kingdom and lift up the name of Jesus for His glory.

As always, we are so grateful for all that God has blessed us with through your donations, gifts, prayers and love. It is “much!” We go forth this year with “much” excitement and anticipation! He sees our potential!!



Applauding Achievement



Learning a New Talent!



Celebrating a Birthday!



Mentoring

...Continued from page 3

donations, working the sales floor, re-stocking the sales area and other tasks.

It’s so wonderful for Ashli to see her girls, “my babies,” thriving in their new home. MaKayla, 9, grins as she gives Maggie’s Place a thumbs up. MaKayla, who is a little shy, is enjoying the campus recreation activities and piano lessons. Both girls attend Cypress Point Elementary and are doing well in school. MaKayla likes math, and wants to be either a teacher or a chemist. Ashli says that MaKayla loves fashion and makeup and is very talented with both. MaKayla has also tried cooking with her mom, which she enjoyed.

Looking back, Ashli clearly sees God’s hand of protection over her family and the growing of her faith through their difficult days. She is thankful for the experience. “There were times I thought I might want to

be a paramedic, an EMT or something like that. I have always wanted to help people. But there has always been this special place in my heart for single moms and dads. Through all that happened last year, I have learned so much. Now I know what it feels like to be homeless. With all that we’ve been through, this will help me be an even better help to single parents who don’t know where to turn,” she says. “Someday I want to open a place to help those moms and dads, give them encouragement and let them know that somebody really understands what they are going through. I even have the name. It’s going to be called “Shepherd’s Place.”

For now, Ashli, MaKayla and Aleeiya are enjoying the blessings of the HomePlace Ministry—a home, new job, new school, new friends and a time to rest and prepare for what’s to come: “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

memorials • 12/5/17-1/26/18

Memorial gifts are received by the Children's Home in thoughtful tribute to the memory of a relative, friend or loved one. Names of deceased persons are printed in all caps followed by the names of those making gifts to the Home in their memory.

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January/February 2018

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Children's Home Sunday Annual Offering is Father's Day, June 17, 2018

Please Mark Your Calendars!