

# HOME NEWS

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



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**November 2022**

Volume 60 - No. 6



Words from Home...

Perry Hancock, PhD  
President & CEO



In the past few weeks we have been celebrating a number of things at the Children’s Home and it is all because of you. We are rejoicing over the great response our churches have made to the Fall Food Roundup. The Roundup supplies all the non-perishable food items we need for the entire year. Thank you so much for collecting those cans of corn and jars of jelly to meet the physical needs of our children.

We also celebrated the 25th anniversary of our Granberry Counseling Centers. In those twenty-five years, you have helped us provide professional Christian counseling for over 30,000 individuals. This past year we provided help and hope to over 900 people. Thirty-six of those were Louisiana Baptist ministers and their family members. Counseling was provided for them at no cost because of your generous support and a partnership with the Pastoral Leadership division of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. Currently, Granberry has 12 locations across the state. Thank you so much for meeting needs and sharing Christ through our Granberry Counseling Centers.

Finally, we are celebrating the growth and hope we see each day in the lives of our children. Some are beginning to trust while others are starting to laugh. Some are learning for the first time that they are loved, and others are learning that they can accomplish great things with a little effort and encouragement. Best of all, many are believing that God has a great plan for their lives and that Christ is the beginning and end of that plan. Thank you for meeting these most important needs.

As we all look forward to Thanksgiving, our children and families are thankful for your special love and care. They are thankful for the safe and loving, Christian home

you provide. They are thankful for new clothes, school supplies, the opportunity to play in the band or on a sports team. They are thankful for their cottage parents and other staff who are such a blessing to their lives. They are thankful that you are helping them grow into all God has planned for them. They are thankful that you helped introduce them to Jesus.

I pray that you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving. As you celebrate God’s goodness in your family, know that we are celebrating His goodness in our family, the blessings that your have provided through your generous support. May the Lord bless you as you have blessed our children at your Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home.



PRAYER CALENDAR...

Angela.....	November 10
Sophia.....	November 11
Brady .....	November 12
Adriana .....	November 13
Zay .....	November 14
Ma’Rissa .....	November 15
Josie .....	November 16
Jason.....	November 17
Emily.....	November 18
Morganna .....	November 19
Jermya .....	November 20
Ta’Mojah.....	November 21
Reynaldo.....	November 22
Hayden .....	November 23
Jadyn .....	November 24
TJ .....	November 25
Za’lynn .....	November 26
Michael.....	November 27
Jessica.....	November 28
Laekyn .....	November 29
Camila.....	November 30
Lauryn.....	December 1
William .....	December 2
Hailey.....	December 3
Zachary .....	December 4
Ashley .....	December 5
Ashton .....	December 6
Oliver .....	December 7
Nikki.....	December 8
Kailen.....	December 9
Kenley .....	December 10
Lexi .....	December 11
Zander .....	December 12
Ryver.....	December 13
Carrie.....	December 14

Bentley .....	December 15
Linda .....	December 16
Isaac.....	December 17
Nicole .....	December 18
Jett.....	December 19
Reagan.....	December 20
Fisher.....	December 21
Finley .....	December 22
Patti .....	December 23
Shanira.....	December 24
Jayla .....	December 25
Kayla .....	December 26
Gracie .....	December 27
Zoey.....	December 28
Kyler.....	December 29
Terri .....	December 30
Kelly .....	December 31

Birthdays...

Reynaldo .....	November 10
Laekyn.....	November 12
Patti .....	November 30
Jason .....	December 12
Nicole .....	December 27
Zander .....	December 31



• 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 •

We value the Bible as the foundation and guide for our ministry  
*(2 Timothy 3:16).*

We value the worth of the Children and Families to whom we minister  
*(Genesis 1:27).*

We value Servant Leadership as our model for ministry  
*(Mark 9:35).*

We value Excellence as our standard for ministry performance  
*(Colossians 3:17).*

We value Personal Integrity as our ministry standard for living

• TRUSTEES •

Matt Coker, Chairman  
Mike Hawkins, Vice-Chairman  
Diane Walker, Secretary

Walt Brown	Jason Lupo
John Carrigan, Jr.	Julie Page
Louis Charrier	Caleb Richardson
Brian Craddock	Melanie Sanchez
Trish Gunter	Jeff Thomas
Steve James	

Reggie Bridges, LBC President  
Steve Horn, LBC Executive Director  
Perry Hancock, LBCH President & CEO  
Marc Eichelberger, LBCH VP of Development & PR  
Julie Cupples, LBCH Director of Communications





# Campus Spotlight...

## Gracie

*Thankful to have her family reunited.*

By Debbie Robertson, HomeNews Writer

Gracie Broussard and her daughter Zoey joined LBCH’s HomePlace Ministry in December 2020. Her sons Kyler and Clayton were in foster care at the time. Gracie’s goal was to “bring my boys home soon.... They were well taken care of, they were in a good place,” Gracie says. Thankfully she was in a position to maintain contact with them, but she wanted more. “I wanted to be a mother to them and to have my family back together again.”

Gracie embraced the parenting, financial planning, and other life skills classes that HomePlace offers to moms. She started her studies to become a CNA while holding down a job, preparing for independent living while also starting to save for her family’s future. Gracie is thankful for the safe environment that HomePlace offers to moms and families, and she thrived with the support, and encouragement she and Zoey have experienced. She adds that she’s thankful for the accountability that is also part of this special ministry. She has gained more confidence and is continuing to grow in her faith.

Gracie’s determination and life change did not go unnoticed, and, because of her progress, the boys were allowed to visit in December. This was followed by another visit, and soon the boys were back in Gracie’s care. She was thrilled but nervous when a court date for custody was set. She smiles as she shares the judge’s words, “I knew you could do it!” There were others in the courtroom who had also followed Gracie’s case and who shared with her how proud they were of her and her accomplishments. “They had been watching and waiting for me to get my act together!”

Having her family together full time has had its challenges. Even though she had a relationship with the foster parents and had visits with the boys, that definitely wasn’t the same as being together on a daily basis. She is thankful for the HomePlace counselors who have helped Kyler, 8, and Clayton, 6, better understand the changes they’ve experienced. “It’s been interesting to watch the kids interact with one another, too,” Gracie says. “Zoey needed her brothers as much as I did. Zoey is 4—she’s the baby and sometimes a little bossy. She somehow always manages to keep up with her big brothers, and they are very protective of her. And Clayton is so sweet telling me, ‘I love you more.’ They all have each other’s backs.”

Clayton and Kyler are in school at Cypress Point, and they are doing well there. Gracie laughs that the boys never stop eating! The family enjoys movie nights together. The kids also like board games, being outside, playing in the park and the boys like football. Gracie hopes that Kyler and Clayton can join the football team once they start middle school. They want to play and, hopefully, school and work schedules will allow for that. In the meantime, she is checking out basketball and other sports they might be able to participate in now.

Celebrate Recovery continues to be a part of Gracie’s life. She’s had a church home for the past couple of years but lately has visited a new church where she especially loves the worship time. “Whatever I need to hear that day, that seems to be the theme.



The kids are making friends, and Kyler wants to be baptized. We’ve been reading the Bible and talking about what baptism means. Kyler loves God and wants to know more about Him.” Gracie is planning for her family to study the 10 Commandments together next.

Gracie’s favorite Scripture continues to be Proverbs 31:25, “She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future.” A year ago, Gracie shared that, “To me this says God’s got the future, and I can walk into it. He loves us. No matter what we’ve done, He’s waiting for us to come back to Him. I want to be a good, godly woman. Hopefully, others will see that in me and that will help bring them to Jesus.” She smiles that this is even more meaningful to her following the events of this past year and, indeed, her life change is evident in her face and demeanor—she radiates joy. As she celebrates 2½ years sober and having her family reunited, Gracie is thankful and readily shares her faith journey with others.

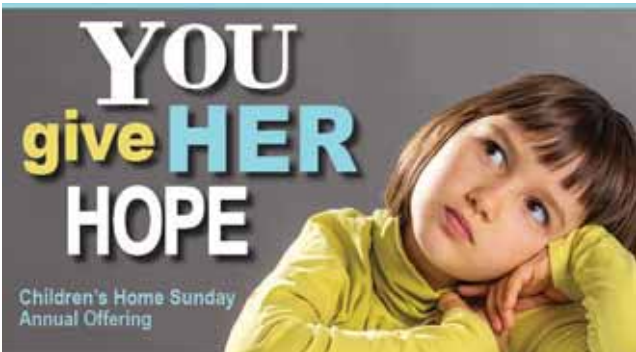
Gracie is excited about the future. Her next goal is her CNA license. She is praying about a move to Florida for her family. She is thankful for HomePlace and readily recommends this ministry to other young moms like herself who need a fresh start. “HomePlace gave me a second chance and helped me get back on my feet. They helped me learn and grow. They held me accountable, and they have helped me get where I needed to be.” She’s excited to see what God has next for her and her family.



# Children’s Home Sunday Offering Top 25 Giving Churches...

- Temple Baptist Church, Ruston
- Lake D’Arbonne Chapel, Ruston
- Bethel Baptist Church, Bastrop
- Koran Baptist Church, Haughton
- First Baptist Church, Bastrop
- First Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, Jena
- Keatchie Baptist Church, Keatchie
- First Baptist Church, Livingston
- First Baptist Church, Clinton
- South Winnfield Baptist Church, Winnfield
- Paron Baptist Church, Sterlington
- Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Florien
- Redemption Church, Lacombe

- Calvary Baptist Church, Gilbert
- Riverview Baptist Church, Alexandria
- First Baptist Church, Haynesville
- Rock Corner Baptist Church, Dubach
- First Baptist Church, Lockport
- Glenmora Baptist Church, Glenmora
- Palestine Baptist Church, Grant
- First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge
- First Baptist Church, Harrisonburg
- Temple Baptist Church, Winnsboro
- Coliseum Place Baptist Church, River Ridge
- Holloway Baptist Church, Deville



**Congratulations to our Top 25 Children’s Home Offering churches and thank you to all churches across the state who participated.**

**You give hope to hurting children and families.**

**Thank you!**





# Homebuilders...

## A Thanksgiving Surprise

For most Americans, you would imagine the Thanksgiving holiday is all about food, football, and the kick-off to Christmas shopping. But according to a study by LifeWay Research, surprisingly more than half (56 percent) of those surveyed said the most important part of the annual holiday is “being thankful to God for my blessings.” Nearly four in ten (39 percent) said “time with family and friends” tops their Thanksgiving priorities.

Times of prayer and thanking God for the harvest stretch back to the Protestant Reformation in Europe and continued as Pilgrims and Puritans settled in America. On Thursday, November 26, 1789, President George Washington issued a proclamation for “a day of public thanksgiving and prayer.” Beginning in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln encouraged Americans to recognize the last Thursday of November as “a day of Thanksgiving.” On October 6, 1941, Congress passed a bill and President Roosevelt signed it into law late that December, to set the last Thursday of November as the official national Thanksgiving holiday.

Since then, the holiday has developed several other traditions like the extravagant meals, football games, and the start of Christmas shopping. But eating, football, and shopping each garnered only one percent of Americans who say it is the most important aspect of Thanksgiving.

“In a nation that prides itself on personal independence, Thanksgiving priorities are a noticeable contradiction,” Scott McConnell, executive director of LifeWay Research, said. “Rather than focusing on a feast or football, most Americans relish the holiday to acknowledge the hand of God in their

success and many others cherish the time with loved ones.”  
Unsurprisingly, Christians are more likely to value thanking God above the other parts of Thanksgiving than anyone else. More than two in three Christians (68 percent) point to thankfulness to God.

We do not need a LifeWay Research study to conclude that 100% of your Children’s Home staff is very thankful to God for the countless blessings that come to us through our friends of children. Because of your prayers and continuous generosity, Christ-centered ministry services were provided for over 8,000 children, families, and individuals this past year. Many of those we served came to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you!

More and more children are coming to us from hard places in life. Most have not experienced a truly Christian Thanksgiving celebration with their needs met in a safe, caring environment. You are helping them experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Christ they so desperately need.

Please know what an incredible difference you are making in the lives children and families across Louisiana as you pray and give in partnership with your Children’s Home!

May God bless you with His provision, protection, and peace throughout this holiday season!



Marc Eichelberger  
VP of Development  
& Public Relations

## Therapy Dog Visits Children...

The children made a new four-legged friend recently (and a two-legged one too)! Luke, a yellow Labrador Retriever therapy dog, and his trainer, Keith Manuel stopped by to share some tricks, belly rubs and words of encouragement. Luke is professionally trained to be a Pet Therapist. He listens to children read and study and provides comfort for people in crisis. Thank you to Keith and Luke for taking time out to stop by LBCH! The boys and girls loved the visit.

For information on  
Luke and Keith’s ministry,  
visit [www.confidencek9s.com](http://www.confidencek9s.com)



Help Children While  
You Christmas Shop!

AmazonSmile is an easy way for you to support Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home every time you shop, at no cost to you. Simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), select us as your charity and start shopping! Prices are the same and Amazon will donate a percentage of every purchase to our ministry. Please let your friends know! THANK YOU!

# JOB OPENINGS

## IN BATON ROUGE & SHREVEPORT

### SOCIAL WORKERS NEEDED!

Two full-time social workers needed, one for Baton Rouge and one for Shreveport. Positions include salary, benefits, and paid vacation. LMSW licensure required. A minimum of two years’ experience in child welfare or related field preferred. Must demonstrate proficient speaking and writing skills. Must be able to work independently. Some travel required. Must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and families and be an active member of a local Southern Baptist church.

Please send resume to Susan Nolan at [snolan@lbch.org](mailto:snolan@lbch.org) or PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

## Schedule Your Campus Tour!

We are so happy to be able to open our campus to tours once again! Tours are available for groups or individuals by appointment. We would love to show you around and let you see first-hand what God is doing at your Children’s Home!

To schedule a tour contact Matt at [matt@lbch.org](mailto:matt@lbch.org) or 318.343.2244.



We are Thankful for You

“I thank my God  
every time I remember you”  
(Philippians 1:3).

November 2022

Dear Friend of Children,

**I thank God every day for you!** Your continued sacrificial giving makes an immediate and eternal difference in the lives of children in need. We could not do this ministry without you!

Liam\* and Olivia\* came to us over three years ago from a home filled with domestic violence and drug abuse. With an absentee mother, a dad not knowing how to parent and struggling to make ends meet, these precious siblings desperately needed a safe, stable home and hope for a better life.

Thank you for providing exactly what they needed when they arrived at the Children’s Home. God’s love took them in through caring Christian cottage parents. They each had their own bedroom, plenty to eat, new clothes and toys. With lots of trauma in their young lives, our Christian counselors and social workers began helping them to heal.

During their time with us, Liam and Olivia have learned to ride bikes, play soccer, and do gymnastics. They have attended church each week with their cottage families, and they are learning about God’s great love for them in Christ.

Friends like you have made all this possible and more. Recently, Liam and Olivia were adopted by a wonderful Christian family who will love them and continue to show them how to become part of God’s forever family through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. What a blessing!

Your giving throughout the year, and especially your Thanksgiving gift, will make an immediate and eternal difference in the lives of so many children desperately in need of love, care, and hope in Christ. I thank God every day for you because you are meeting needs and changing lives through the ministries of the Children’s Home. I pray you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Gratefully,

  
Perry Hancock, Ph.D.  
President & CEO

*\*Names changed to protect confidentiality.*

Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home & Family Ministries - P.O. Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211 - 318.343.2244 - [www.lbch.org](http://www.lbch.org)

**YES, I want to help children in need with my Thanksgiving gift!**

☐ \$100   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$25   Other \$

NAME

ADDRESS  PHONE (  )

CITY  STATE  ZIP  EMAIL

\*Credit Card Info: Account No:  Visa ☐ MC ☐ AmX ☐ Discover ☐

\*Expiration Date:  \*Code:  \*Signature:

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

Please notify (honoree/relative)

Address  City  State  Zip

☐ Send me your FREE Personal Estate Planner ☐ Send me info on how to become a monthly sponsor \*Required for credit card processing

**GIVE ONLINE AT  
LBCH.ORG  
or  
Text the word “GIVE “  
to 318-269-7440**



## Become a HOPEBuilder!

### HopeBuilders: A Special Group of Heroes to Children in Need

Heroes protect the vulnerable, restore the broken, and bring hope in desperate situations. Every child who has been neglected, abused, or abandoned needs a hero. Our HopeBuilder Monthly Sponsor Ministry gives YOU the opportunity to be a hero to children in need.

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.

**Here’s how it works:** Go to our website at [LBCH.ORG](http://LBCH.ORG) and click on the GIVE NOW button. Set up recurring monthly gifts (\$10 minimum) using Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card, American Express, Debit Card, or E-Check. Simply put HopeBuilder in the notes section. You may cancel your monthly donations at any time. 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.



# Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association Partners with LBCH to Develop an Associational Foster Care and Adoption Ministry...

Several months ago the Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association invited the Children’s Home to present its new Connect1Child Associational Foster Care and Adoption ministry model. Connect1Child is the off campus foster care and adoption ministry of the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home with a vision to connect all Louisiana foster children to Christian families and churches.

Dr. Perry Hancock, LBCH President and CEO, provided an overview of the new associational model and cast the vision for how churches can engage in life-changing foster care and adoption ministry.

The Connect1Child team members provided state and local statistics outlining the great need for church involvement in foster care and adoption ministry. With almost 4,000 children in Louisiana foster care, the team described how they can assist the association to become a strategic network of churches, working together to serve the local foster care community more effectively. The team offered help to the churches in hosting ministry planning meetings to gather members with a personal connection or interest in foster care.

The team introduced the role of an Associational Foster Care and Adoption Ministry Coordinator. The Coordinator would work closely with the Connect1Child team, the Department of Child and Family Services, and association churches to be aware of current resources within the local foster care community. The coordinator would also identify local needs, organize efforts to “call out the called” to serve as foster parents, and help churches utilize existing ministries and/or develop new ones to support those who foster and adopt.

Dr. Hancock closed out the meeting with a call to action, inviting participants to consider how God is calling them to serve. “Everyone is not called to foster and adopt, but everyone can help in some way to care for vulnerable children and families. By becoming a foster parent, you can show a child the hope and healing that is found only in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

As a result of that meeting, the Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association recently voted to partner with the Children’s Home to develop a multifaceted Associational Foster Care and Adoption ministry!

Dr. Larry Hubbard, pastor of Riverside Baptist Church, Denham Springs, and association moderator shared, “Our Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home ministry, Connect1Child, has provided the vision, structure, and practical advice to minister to foster care parents in Livingston Parish. In a day when many families have been devastated by destructive behavior, leaving children isolated from the essentials of family life, Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association is proclaiming and living out the gospel through Connect1Child which will transform the hearts of these children and their parents.”

Association Missions Coordinator for the Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association, Dr. Richard Blue shared, “Livingston Parish has the greatest need for foster parents in our region. Connect1Child will provide churches with the opportunity to engage in a Matthew 25:40 ministry, “And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of Mine, you did it for Me.’” Connect1Child will be a step in helping to mend broken families and providing children with hope for their future. As well, it provides the opportunity for children and families to hear and receive the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

*“Everyone is not called to foster and adopt, but everyone can help in some way to care for vulnerable children and families.”*

Sensing God’s call to serve in foster care? Have questions?  
Please contact our Connect1Child ministry team at 318-343-2244 or Connect1Child.org.



November 13, 2022, has been designated as “Stand Sunday.” Churches are encouraged to dedicate one Sunday to calling their congregations to care for vulnerable children and families. Through Stand Sunday, your faith community can stand together and ensure no child or family in foster care has to stand alone. Go to [standsunday.com](https://standsunday.com) or find resource links at [lbch.org](https://lbch.org).

## Honors...

August 22 - October 8, 2022

*Honor gifts are received in thoughtful tribute of a relative, friend or loved one. Names of honorees are printed in all caps followed by the names of those making the honor gifts.*

SARAH CALHOUN ALLBRITTON

Jo Ann Parker Calhoun

CATHI ARNOLD

Eddie Arnold

MONA BAMBURG

Mrs. Lamar Tarver

TERRI BOURGOYNE

Joy Sunday School Cl

TONY & FAYE CLEMONS

Billy & Janell Windham

JEANETTE DAVIS

Gail G. Starkey

JAMES DAVISON

Ann Clark & Erma Hudson

ELIZABETH & EMELIA ANN

Lyle & Barbara Miller

DELLA FREDERICK

Rev. Andrew Lester

TERRY HAYDEN GARNER

Joy Sunday School Cl

DR. MAE GASPARD

Dinah Weil

DR. and MRS. PERRY HANCOCK

Dennis & Robbin Phelps

TANIA HILBURN

Roy & Beth Heatherly

EVELYN HOLLOWAY

Watson BC Ladies SS Cl

RONNIE HOOPER

Jane Leone & Barbara Hughes

WARREN HUGGINS

Helen Bossaller

SUSAN JACKSON

June W. Matheny

DR. MARCUS JONES

M&M. Lamar Tarver

JOHN LANDRY

Roy & Beth Heatherly

JESSICA LITTLE

June W. Matheny

ADELAIDE LOYLESS

Roy & Beth Heatherly

DON & EVA DEIL MABRY

Mark & Ann Fields

Charlotte Sims

JAY MULHERN

Roy & Beth Heatherly

TOM & REBA O’NEAL

Winston & Sandy Pace

MRS. JAMES ROACH

Faye Green

DR. PHILIP ROBERTSON

Herbert & Winnie Prewitt

FRED A. ROSTEET

Freddie J. Rosteet

VERGIE SHEALY

Jenn & David Shealy

DR. LISSO SIMMONS

Virginia Webb

BETTY SIMPSON

Joy Sunday School Cl

RUBY AUTRY SISTRUNK

James & Ruby Autry Sistrunk

WALTER STANFIELD

Gordy & Cindy Reed





# Highlights from HomePlace...

Cooler weather, fall leaves, and pumpkin spice coffee, cookies, cakes and even cereal are everywhere. I want to assure you this may be the most favorite season and flavor for many of our HomePlace families and staff.

We have welcomed new moms and their children into HomePlace and continue to receive requests concerning our program. Just this morning I had the opportunity to meet a mom’s young son. The weather permitted them to be outside and he was excited about playing on the playground. Then he discovered the swings! As I walked to meet them, my heart was blessed by the sight of this mom and her young son walking hand-in-hand.

We have completed our fall parenting classes. I’ve had the privilege to sit in on the classes and just watch the interaction between the moms and their instructor, Kelli Crumley. We served a light meal and provided childcare for their children. This allows them to participate and grow in their parenting skills. These women are motivated by the desire to be the “best mom” ever. I’ve enjoyed having this one-on-one time with our moms. In the spring we’ll begin another session of parenting classes led by Terri Davis.

Dr. Kathy Eichelberger, director of Granberry Counseling Centers, met with the HomePlace staff and instructors from our Women’s Learning Center to discuss “Compassion Fatigue.” Her presentation was excellent and informative. We gained insight on the signs of compassion fatigue and ways to prevent it in our lives. Thank you Dr. Eichelberger. We are a better team because of your presentation.

As we approach Thanksgiving, I wanted to share some things for which our moms are thankful.

*“I’m thankful for people not giving up on me, for my son, and for HomePlace.” — Hailey*

*“My kids.” — Reagan*

*“I am thankful for my family, for LBCH being there for me when I needed them, and for my girls Shanira, Jayla, and Kayla.” — Patti*

*“I’m thankful for God redirecting my steps and giving Bentley and me a place like this to come to and start over so we can have a great life.” — Carrie*

*“I am thankful for my opportunity to live here and be given a safe and sufficient place for my son to come home to me.” — Lauryn*

We all have so much to be thankful for this season. I’m thankful for the HomePlace program and the impact it is having on moms and their children. I’m also thankful for the HomePlace staff because they are so committed to this life-changing ministry.

A special thanks to all who support our program with your prayers and your gifts to the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home and Family Ministries. Enjoy this season with those you love. We welcome your visit to HomePlace, and I’m sure I can find a pumpkin spice treat for you to enjoy. Thank you!



**For information on the HomePlace ministry call 318.343.2244**

## Women’s Learning Center Update...

I have always loved the verse Isaiah 43:19: “See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and steams in the wasteland.”

Its such a great reminder that God’s hand is never at rest. He is always aware of exactly what is happening in our world around us. He is always moving. Will we perceive it?

God continues to bring women to the Women’s Learning Center. I pray we always perceive His hand at work and follow it! This month we had an incredible

journey with a new student. She came to us wanting to pursue a career certification that would help her pay for college. She was eager and determined. Encouraged by her mother, Darneka sought to complete the Bank Teller’s Suite we offer through the American Bankers Association. She came in with a smile and determination! Last week we celebrated Darneka’s completion of this certificate! Our career director, Dr. Lynn Morris is working with Darneka. She has built her resume’ and portfolio and seeks jobs to which she will apply. Darneka continues to work with Dr. Morris on job interview skills and our Work Essentials curriculum. We can’t wait to see what new things God will do in and through this wonderful woman.

**HiSET Training and Testing • English as a Second Language (ESL)  
Digital Literacy Certification • WorkPlace Certification  
Bank Teller’s Certification • Paraprofessional Certification**



**The Women’s Learning Center was started in 2010 to provide women ages eighteen and older the opportunity to prepare for the HiSET (High School Equivalency Test) and receive career training at NO COST. The Center offers training and encouragement from the ministry team and fellow classmates.**

*For more information call 318-307-7624 or email twlcmmonroe@gmail.com*





# GRANBERRY COUNSELING CENTERS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS...

Granberry Counseling Centers recently celebrated the ministry’s 25th year of helping to improve the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health of individuals, couples, families, and ministers and their families around the state.

Held at the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home and Family Ministries campus in Monroe, the celebration included a welcome by Dr. Perry Hancock, LBCH President & CEO, a brief history of how Granberry was started by former LBCH Executive Director, John R. Williams, and a report of current ministries and partnerships by Dr. Kathy Eichelberger, Director of Granberry Counseling Centers. LBCH trustees, Granberry counselors from around the state, former Granberry staff, and other guests were in attendance. Dr. Steve Horn, LBC Executive Director, closed the anniversary celebration with encouraging comments and prayer.

The ministry was established through the vision and generosity of Ray and Mary Anna Granberry. They gave a million-dollar gift to the Children’s Home in 1996 that launched the Christ-centered counseling ministry, beginning with the dedication of the home office on the Monroe campus in October 1997.

Granberry employs licensed, professional Christian counselors who minister at 12 locations around the state. Since 1997, Granberry counselors have served more than 30,000 clients, including 600 LBC ministers and their families.

A Granberry counselor recently received this testimony from a client: “I just wanted to drop you a note and let you know things are going great. My husband and I are in a good place and I am once again aware of God’s presence and hand in my life. Thank you for your wisdom, love, encouragement, and belief in me. You will never know how grateful I am for you.”

Kathy Eichelberger shared, “We want to continue to offer affordable, professional Christian counseling and help individuals and families improve their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. We pray for God’s wisdom and discernment in our counseling ministry. We don’t have all the answers, but we know He does.”



Above: Granberry Counseling Centers’ main office in Monroe; Mr. John Williams, Executive Director of LBCH when Granberry began. Left: Dr. Perry Hancock, current President and CEO of LBCH.



Above and center: Friends along with current and former staff gather for the celebration



For more information about Granberry Counseling Centers, call 877-345-7411 or visit [www.granberriycounseling.org](http://www.granberriycounseling.org).



Current Granberry Director, Dr. Kathy Eichelberger and former Director, Dr. Kelly Barnett

## Giving Thanks Can Help You Be Happier This Holiday Season...

Each holiday season comes with high expectations for a happy and festive time of year. However, for many, this time of year comes with sadness, anxiety, or depression. Certainly, those with major depression or a severe anxiety disorder can receive help from professional counselors. But what about those who just feel lost or overwhelmed or down at this time of year? Research and sound biblical counsel suggest that one aspect of the Thanksgiving season can actually lift the spirits, and it’s built right into the holiday — being grateful.

The word “gratitude” is derived from the Latin word *gratia*, which means grace, graciousness, or gratefulness. In some ways, gratitude encompasses all these meanings. Gratitude is a thankful appreciation for what you receive, whether tangible or intangible. As Christians, with gratitude we acknowledge the goodness in our lives and understand the source of that goodness to be God.

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows” (James 1:17).

In positive psychology research, gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. Gratitude helps people feel more positive emotions, relish

good experiences, improve their health, deal with adversity, and build strong relationships.

People feel and express gratitude in multiple ways. They can apply it to the past (retrieving positive memories and being thankful for elements of childhood or past blessings), the present (not taking current blessings for granted as they come our way), and the future (maintaining a positive, optimistic attitude grounded in biblical hope). Regardless of the inherent or current level of your gratitude, it’s a quality that we can successfully cultivate further.

Two psychologists, Dr. Robert A. Emmons of the University of California, Davis, and Dr. Michael E. McCullough of the University of Miami, have done much of the research on gratitude. In one study, they asked all participants to write a few sentences each week, focusing on particular topics.

One group wrote about things they were grateful for that had occurred during the week. A second group wrote about daily irritations or things that had displeased them, and the third wrote about events that had affected them (with no emphasis on them being positive or negative). After ten weeks, those who wrote about gratitude were

**Kathy Eichelberger**  
Director  
Granberry Counseling  
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# GRANBERRY COUNSELING CENTERS

Made possible twenty-five years ago through a generous gift by Ray and Mary Anna Granberry. Their love for the Lord and faithfulness to His service has left a legacy of hope and healing that continues to change lives today.



**"I have a soft spot in my heart for children who need help."**  
— Ray Granberry



**GROUNDBREAKING:**  
January 27, 1997



**DEDICATION:**  
October 10, 1997



**"We took the Lord as our partner to lead, guide, encourage and direct our every activity."**  
— Mary Anna Granberry

## GRANBERRY COUNSELING CENTERS NOW SERVING IN 12 LOCATIONS



**MAIN OFFICE 2022**

Granberry Counseling Centers continue to answer God's call to care for individuals, couples, and families across the state through professional Christian counseling. In the past 25 years, through more than 128,000 appointments, over 30,000 clients have been served. Since 2002, 575 Louisiana Baptist ministers and their families have been helped through Granberry's partnership with the Louisiana Baptist Convention Pastoral Leadership Team. *"Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14).*



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  - Winnsboro

## ANSWERING GOD'S CALL TO CARE

more optimistic and felt better about their lives. Surprisingly, they also exercised more and had fewer visits to physicians than those who focused on sources of aggravation. Don't you love it when psychology catches up with the Bible? "This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful" (Colossians 3:15). "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:4-7). "Rejoice always; pray

without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Gratitude may seem to be an insignificant thing, but it can make a significant difference in your life and the lives of others. There are so many stressful things happening in everyday life (even more during the holidays), from conflicts with family members, to financial concerns, to health problems. But thinking about all the things you have to be grateful for can help put those challenges in perspective. And what better source to seek inspiration for gratitude than God's Word?



# Memorials...

August 22 - October 8, 2022

Memorial gifts are received 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 the memorial gifts.

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# Honor Your Loved Ones With a Children’s Home Christmas Honor Card!

Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home  
& Family Ministries  
P.O. Box 4196  
Monroe, LA 71211



Honor your loved ones this Christmas with an honor card from Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home & Family Ministries. Not only will you put a smile on your loved one’s face, you’ll put a smile on the face of a child in need.

Simply send your honor gift to the Children’s Home by December 9th along with a list of names and addresses of those you would like to honor. A Christmas Honor Card will be sent to the honorees on your list in time for Christmas. Proceeds from the cards go towards the daily care of the children at your Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home & Family Ministries.

**HOMENEWS**

A Publication of Your Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home & Family Ministries

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 for 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.” Most 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 74% 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 7% of funding comes from payment of services.

Our major service areas include: Residential Child Care for Children ages 5-17; HomePlace Residential Family Care for Homeless Children and Mothers; Women’s Learning Center providing job and life skills training and certified HiSET preparation and testing; Granberry Counseling Centers with 12 statewide locations; Connect1Child Foster Care & Adoption Ministries; and Orphans Embrace International.

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.

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## Immediate Job Openings

### COTTAGE PARENTS:

Husband and wife teams are needed. Full-time positions include salary, benefits, paid vacation, and training. Basic job description is to provide love, care, and hope in Christ for children in need. Applicants should not have children living at home under the age of 18. Applicants must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and be active members of a local Southern Baptist church. Part-time positions are also available.

Please send resume to: Susan Nolan at [snolan@lbch.org](mailto:snolan@lbch.org) or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

### COTTAGE MANAGERS:

Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available: Christian women needed to serve in HomePlace, a transitional living ministry for homeless children and their mothers. Must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and families.

Please send resume to: Jonann Byargeon at [jonann@lbch.org](mailto:jonann@lbch.org) or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.



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