

The Record

News from Epworth Children's Home



Annual Report Edition

2012



Nicole, Kallie and Heather had a toyless Christmas, and as if that wasn't difficult enough, the sisters were evicted on Christmas day. Now homeless, their mother tried for two weeks to find an alternative for her and the girls, but nothing materialized. They felt lucky to find food each day and spent their nights bundled up in their car. After realizing it was only going to get worse, the girls' mother agreed to place the children at Epworth.

They arrived with nothing—no extra clothes, no luggage, no food and no toys. This was the worst Christmas ever for these three sisters.

When the staff realized the girls had not received any gifts for Christmas, they got to work. They brought the Christmas tree from Santa's

Workshop back out, provided milk and cookies, and let the girls open their very own brand new toys.

Recently homeless, Nicole, Kallie and Heather are now at Epworth through the generosity of our donors! Their stay is not funded by any state or federal government funding, but instead through gifts of all sizes that add up to provide them with food, shelter, tutoring, counseling, nurturing cottage parents, health care and yes—Christmas.

Our thanks to all of our donors who gave to Epworth during the 2011 calendar year. It has been an amazing year of transformation and care for our children. We look forward to another year of providing that same quality of care that transforms lives!



Strong Foundation Exceptional Care

Winter 2012

A Message from The Rev. John Holler
President

The financial information contained in this Annual Report edition of the Epworth Record reveals that Epworth Children's Home took another major step toward reaching the "Balanced Budget" goals adopted in 2007. The objective of these goals is to secure Epworth's future by increasing income, and reducing expenses while continuing to serve children and families with the highest quality of care.

Prior to 2007, Epworth's average annual budget deficit was \$1,300,000. The difference between income and expenses was covered by using funds from Epworth's non-restricted endowment. Since 2007 the budget shortfall has been reduced by a minimum of \$200,000 per year. Because of the increase in contributions and in government reimbursements, Epworth Children's Home is on track to reach the "Balanced Budget" goals by the end of the 2013 budget year. This is one year earlier than scheduled.

The revenue pie chart on the next page indicates a healthy mix of income including a grant for our independent living initiative from Richland county. Since 2006, the percentage of the budget supported by contributions has risen from 28% to 40%, government reimbursements have risen from 12% to 22%, and the percentage of the budget supported by funds from the endowment has been reduced from 52% to 33%.

These positive numbers indicate a strong foundation and a committed constituency. Together we are building a

strong financial base that will allow Epworth to care for children and families for years and years to come, and have experiences such as the one described below that enable children to believe in themselves and in each other.

The Epworth senior girls were playing the church league basketball championship game in January. They had reached the finals, not through skill, but through hustle, supportive coaches, and a bit of luck. The majority of the girls had never played a team sport so they were learning to trust their teammates and themselves.

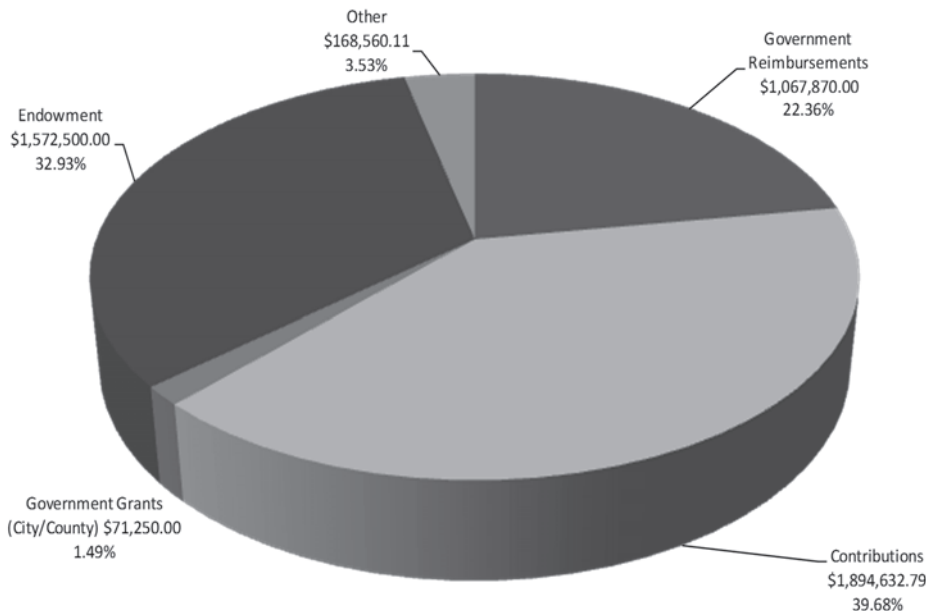
It was late in the game. The Epworth girls were falling behind, and they were tired. We, who were watching, could see the familiar signs of doubt and failure on their faces. Coach Parker called a time out. When play resumed, an Epworth player hit a lucky three point shot. Our girls rallied, cut the deficit, pulled ahead and won the championship game. They are smiling still, and viewing themselves in a way they have never seen themselves before.

This Annual Report edition of the Record contains an abundance of numbers. All of these numbers represent children in transition. I thank you for making a difference and for giving each child at Epworth an opportunity for a new life.



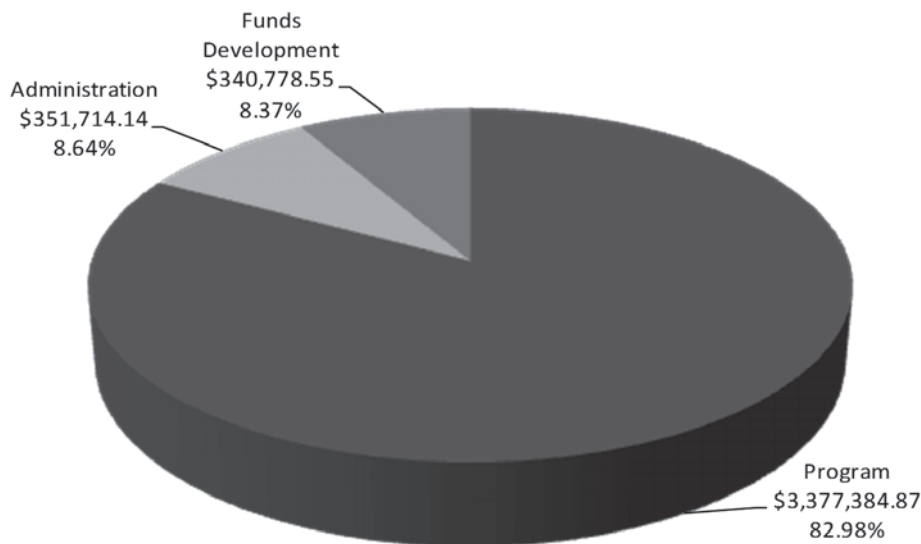
2011 Revenue Sources

Total Revenue \$4,774,812.90



2011 Expenses Excluding Depreciation

Total Expenses \$4,069,877.56



2011 Residential Service Averages

- Year end residential population 12/31/11: **71**
- Year end independent living population: **9**
- Average residential population for 2011: **76**
- Total Days of Care Provided: **29,372**
- Total number of children served in 2011: **156**
- Average days of service provided for each child: **181**
- Average stay for children during 2011: **1 year and 8 months**
- Gender Averages: Male **40%** Female **60%**
- Race Averages: African America-**58%** Caucasian-**37%** Bi-racial-**5%**
- Age Averages: (4-5) **1%** (6-9) **13%** (10-12) **12%**
(13-16) **40%** (17-18) **22%** (18+) **12%**

1896 Society Members

As of December 31, 2012

Norman B. Collins II*
 Johnny & Marilyn Sue Evans*
 Gladys Rowell Sullivan*
 Betty L. Bruner*
 Sam G. Parler*
 Everett N. Infinger*
 George Robert Fowler*
 Anonymous*
 Harry Arthur Turner, Jr.*
 Martha E. Rentz*
 Elisabeth P. Taylor*
 Albert Armstrong
in Memory of Nell and Jan Armstrong
 Christopher H. & Dottie Watkins Lloyd Craft*
 Thomas G. Herbert, Jr. & Miriam Pope Herbert*
 John E. & Vicki Holler
 Charles A. & Eva Grey Hutchins
 Alvin A. McCall, Jr. & Wanda E. McCall
 Theodore H. and Pegilie Walter
 Sidney R. Crumpton*
 David Ewing*
 Elizabeth F. Biel*
 Ruth Morgan Dean*
 Elizabeth K. McKelvey*
 Hampton K. Snipes, Sr*
 Elisabeth W. Parris*
 Hall M. Outzs*
 Florence G. McGarrah*
 Mary Etta Johnson*
 H. Carlisle Booth*
 Marcus L. Hunt*
 Edwin Trumble*
 Albert H. Eargle*
 Addison Estate*

**denotes someone who is deceased*

Members of the Epworth Society of 1896 have chosen to remember the children of Epworth in their will and/or estate planning at a level of \$25,000 or higher and informed Epworth of their decision.

Early Intervention Center

2011 Data

Children Served:	
Preschool (ages 1-4):	21
Home-based (ages 1-4):	37
Respite (ages 1-16):	17
Volunteers:	42
Student Interns;	5
Total Giving to EEIC:	\$50,478

Sponsors

\$10,000 or Above

(Listed in alphabetical order)

Belin Memorial UMC, Murrells Inlet
 Bethany UMC, Summerville
 Bethel UMC, Jackson
 Bethlehem UMC, Hartsville
 Bonner Family Private Foundations Inc,
 Lexington
 Buncombe Street UMC, Greenville
 Carteret Street UMC, Beaufort
 Central UMC, Florence
 CG Fuller Foundation, Columbia
 Chapin UMC, Chapin
 Christ UMC, Myrtle Beach
 Epworth Alumni Association, Columbia
 Mr. and Mrs. John Farley
 First UMC, Isle of Palms
 First UMC, Myrtle Beach
 Grace UMC, North Augusta
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Graham
 Mr. Michael Harris
 Hibben UMC, Mount Pleasant
 Mr. John C. Lewis, Sr.
 Macedonia UMC, Mullins
 Mr. Horeb UMC, Lexington
 Salem UMC, Ballentine
 Shandon UMC, Columbia
 Sharon UMC, Pendleton
 St. Johns UMC, Rock Hill
 St. Johns UMC, Aiken
 St. Mark UMC, Greenwood
 Trenholm Road UMC, Columbia
 Union UMC, Irmo

Number of Churches by District that Gave \$0

Anderson	16
Charleston	28
Columbia	1
Florence	34
Greenville	15
Greenwood	8
Hartsville	35
Marion	21
Orangeburg	21
Rock Hill	9
Spartanburg	15
Walterboro	45
Total	248

Highest Per Member giving by District

(599 or Fewer Membership)

District	Church	Total	Members	\$/Member
Anderson	Zion UMC	\$1,270.00	8	\$158.75
	Ebenezer UMC	\$2,495.00	48	\$51.98
	Dickson Memorial UMC	\$6,648.00	205	\$32.43
Charleston	Lebanon UMC	\$8,245.27	139	\$59.32
	Edisto Island UMC	\$2,257.00	61	\$37.00
	Wrens Chapel UMC	\$550.00	15	\$36.67
Columbia	Faith UMC	\$8,040.00	141	\$57.02
	Bethel UMC	\$3,866.00	132	\$29.29
	Rehoboth UMC	\$4,631.00	174	\$26.61
Florence	Elim UMC	\$1,675.00	45	\$37.22
	Paxville UMC	\$1,321.00	60	\$22.02
	Scranton UMC	\$1,464.50	75	\$19.53
Greenville	Trinity UMC	\$3,165.00	28	\$113.04
	Fews Chapel UMC	\$5,321.00	60	\$88.68
	Bethel UMC	\$1,386.16	40	\$34.65
Greenwood	Spann UMC	\$890.00	10	\$89.00
	Ebenezer UMC	\$4,655.50	92	\$50.60
	Warrenville UMC	\$1,340.00	32	\$41.88
Hartsville	Ashland UMC	\$1,800.00	17	\$105.88
	Bethlehem UMC	\$14,435.00	145	\$99.55
	Bethel UMC	\$2,331.82	87	\$26.80
Marion	Poplar UMC	\$7,380.00	63	\$117.14
	Central UMC	\$1,930.00	39	\$49.49
	Macedonia UMC	\$12,425.00	327	\$38.00
Orangeburg	Shady Grove UMC	\$7,456.34	70	\$106.52
	Bethel UMC	\$12,445.00	165	\$75.42
	Cameron UMC	\$1,189.33	19	\$62.60
Rock Hill	Shady Grove UMC	\$500.00	16	\$31.25
	Bethel UMC	\$2,514.70	163	\$15.43
	Damascus UMC	\$491.00	46	\$10.67
Spartanburg	Roebuck UMC	\$4,630.00	72	\$64.31
	Mesopotamia UMC	\$1,725.00	63	\$27.38
	Whitestone UMC	\$1,185.00	48	\$24.69
Walterboro	Cypress UMC	\$5,600.00	90	\$62.22
	Furman UMC	\$951.00	16	\$59.44
	Trinity UMC	\$4,231.69	93	\$45.50

Volunteer Totals for 2011

Number of Volunteer Units Approved for service in 2011: **72**

Cottage Partners: **30**

Estimated Number of Volunteers serving: **116+**

Estimated number of Volunteers Hours served: **8122+**

(A Volunteer Unit is an individual or group approved to serve in some capacity on campus.)

Highest Per Member giving by District (600 or Higher Membership)

District	Church	Total	Members	\$/Member
Anderson	Clemson UMC	\$7,970.32	943	\$8.45
	First UMC	\$3,297.09	898	\$3.67
	Trinity UMC	\$3,243.00	1,009	\$3.21
Charleston	First UMC	\$10,702.98	603	\$17.75
	Hibben UMC	\$11,493.00	825	\$13.93
	John Wesley UMC	\$9,924.00	1,340	\$7.41
Columbia	Trenholm Road	\$43,724.21	1,726	\$25.33
	Chapin UMC	\$28,081.69	1,600	\$17.55
	Salem UMC	\$13,651.50	1,026	\$13.31
Florence	Manning UMC	\$8,513.00	634	\$13.43
	Central UMC	\$15,898.44	1,888	\$8.42
	St Paul UMC	\$4,010.00	635	\$6.31
Greenville	Aldersgate UMC	\$7,811.43	1,481	\$5.27
	Buncombe Street	\$11,801.69	2,400	\$4.92
	Mauldin UMC	\$6,482.30	1,916	\$3.38
Greenwood	St Mark UMC	\$10,540.50	1,198	\$8.80
	Grace UMC	\$10,562.00	1,928	\$5.48
	Main Street UMC	\$5,092.00	1,208	\$4.22
Hartsville	Lyttleton Street	\$8,050.00	1,039	\$7.75
	Trinity UMC	\$5,907.05	765	\$7.72
	First Church UMC	\$2,290.00	649	\$3.53
Marion	Trinity UMC	\$9,210.16	665	\$13.85
	First UMC	\$16,977.00	1,836	\$9.25
	Christ UMC	\$11,037.11	1,224	\$9.02
Orangeburg	St Johns UMC	\$20,790.52	1,623	\$12.81
Rock Hill	Pleasant Hill UMC	\$4,295.00	607	\$7.08
	St Johns UMC	\$12,842.86	1,947	\$6.60
	Woodland UMC	\$5,545.00	975	\$5.69
Spartanburg	St James UMC	\$3,591.83	631	\$5.69
	Bethel UMC	\$7,533.61	1,332	\$5.66
	Trinity UMC	\$2,887.00	914	\$3.16
Walterboro	Carteret Street	\$11,921.00	859	\$13.88
	St Andrew By-the-Sea UMC	\$5,954.52	785	\$7.59
	Bethel UMC	\$2,022.00	851	\$2.38

Highest Congregational Giving Totals

District	Church	Total
Anderson	Clemson UMC	\$7,970.32
	Dickson Memorial UMC	\$6,648.00
	St Johns UMC	\$4,325.00
	First UMC	\$3,297.09
Charleston	Bethany UMC	\$14,691.00
	Hibben UMC	\$11,493.00
	First UMC	\$10,702.98
	John Wesley UMC	\$9,924.00
Columbia	Trenholm Road UMC	\$43,724.21
	Chapin UMC	\$28,081.69
	Shandon UMC	\$25,761.32
	Union UMC	\$21,729.43
Florence	Central UMC	\$15,898.44
	Manning UMC	\$8,513.00
	Ebenezer UMC	\$4,172.00
	St Paul UMC	\$4,010.00
Greenville	Buncombe Street UMC	\$11,801.69
	Aldersgate UMC	\$7,811.43
	Mauldin UMC	\$6,482.30
	Fews Chapel UMC	\$5,321.00
Greenwood	Grace UMC	\$10,562.00
	St Mark UMC	\$10,540.50
	New Hope UMC	\$7,465.00
	Main Street UMC	\$5,092.00
Hartsville	Bethlehem UMC	\$14,435.00
	Lyttleton Street UMC	\$8,050.00
	Trinity UMC	\$5,907.05
	Trinity UMC	\$4,807.09
Marion	First UMC	\$16,977.00
	Macedonia UMC	\$12,425.00
	Belin Memorial UMC	\$11,130.40
	Christ UMC	\$11,037.11
Orangeburg	St Johns UMC	\$20,790.52
	Bethel UMC	\$12,445.00
	Shady Grove UMC	\$7,456.34
	St Pauls UMC	\$5,487.00
Rock Hill	St Johns UMC	\$12,842.86
	Woodland UMC	\$5,545.00
	Pleasant Hill UMC	\$4,295.00
	St Johns UMC	\$3,342.00
Spartanburg	Cannons Camp Ground UMC	\$9,129.11
	Bethel UMC	\$7,533.61
	Roebuck UMC	\$4,630.00
	Gramling UMC	\$4,111.45
Walterboro	Carteret Street UMC	\$11,921.00
	Bethel UMC	\$6,828.18
	St Andrew By-the-Sea UMC	\$5,954.52
	Cypress UMC	\$5,600.00

*With your gifts you are
transforming lives!*

Churches That Sent Volunteer Groups in 2011

**denotes church groups who spent the night on campus.*

Aldersgate UMC - Rock Hill, SC
 Asbury Memorial UMC - Columbia, SC
 Ashland UMC - Columbia, SC
 Bethel UMC - Rowesville, SC
 Bethlehem UMC - Bishopville, SC
 Bluff Road UMC - Columbia, SC
 Camp Swamp UMC - Loris, SC
 Chapin UMC - Chapin, SC
 Christ UMC - Bennettsville, SC*
 Columbia Jewish Federation - Columbia, SC
 Ebenezer UMC - Elgin, SC
 Ebenezer UMC - Marion, SC*
 Faith UMC - Lexington, SC
 First UMC - Marion, SC
 First UMC - Isle of Palms, SC*
 Fisher Chapel UMC - Hardeeville, SC
 Grace UMC - Columbia, SC
 Harmony UMC - Ware Shoals, SC
 Jordan Charge UMC - Jordan, SC
 Kingstree UMC - Kingstree, SC
 Latta UMC - Latta, SC *
 Lebanon UMC - Honea Path, SC
 Lebanon UMC - Eastover, SC
 Lyttleton Street UMC - Camden, SC
 Mt. Hebron, UMC - West Columbia, SC
 Mt. Horeb UMC - Lexington, SC
 Mt. Tabor Lutheran - West Columbia, SC
 New Ebenezer Baptist Church - Columbia, SC
 New Life UMC - Walterboro, SC
 Northeast Presbyterian Church - Columbia, SC
 North UMC - North, SC
 Northest UMC - Columbia, SC
 Pisgah UMC - Florence, SC
 Platt Springs UMC - West Columbia, SC
 Port Royal UMC - Port Royal, SC
 Rehoboth UMC - Columbia, SC
 Riverbend Community Church - Lexington, SC
 Rivercity Network - Columbia, SC
 Riverland Hills Baptist Church - Irmo, SC
 Salem UMC - Anderson, SC
 Salem UMC - Elgin, SC
 Shady Grove UMC - Irmo, SC
 Shandon Baptist Church - Columbia, SC
 Shandon UMC - Columbia, SC
 Smyrna UMC - Elgin, SC
 St. Andrews By The Sea - Hilton Head, SC
 St. Marks UMC - Greenwood, SC
 St. Marks UMC - Seneca, SC *
 Suber Marshall Memorial UMC - Columbia, SC
 Swansea UMC - Swansea, SC
 Trenholm Road UMC - Columbia, SC
 Trinity UMC - Blythewood, SC
 Union UMC - Irmo, SC
 Virginia Wingard Memorial UMC - Columbia, SC
 Wesley Memorial UMC - Columbia, SC
 Wightman UMC - Prosperity, SC
 Windsor UMC - Columbia, SC
 Word of God Church and Ministries - Columbia, SC

Rashan's Voice

Rashan has one of those smiles you just can't look away from. At the age of 17, he has spent the last several months applying to colleges, taking the SAT and completing scholarship applications. He is a wonderful writer who is interested in continuing his education at Clemson or USC in Mechanical Engineering. If you met Rashan today - well dressed, well mannered and confident - you would have a difficult time believing he was ever abused or homeless—but that is exactly his story.

Rashan tells his story in his own words in an essay he did for a scholarship application (reprinted word for word to the right). It is a difficult story to hear, until you realize the level of hope Rashan has found deep within his character. After being on the streets for two weeks—alone, hungry and scared—Rashan got word from his mother that she was entering a recovery program after prison. She decided to place him at Epworth much to his dismay.

"I just thought it was going to be like a shelter where nobody talks to you and nobody cares about you," he said. "Everything was already down hill. I had been living on ramen noodles for two weeks, so I thought, *this will just be another let down.*" Much to Rashan's surprise, his first day proved to be an exception.

"On the first day they didn't question me. They gave me space, they made an exception to admit me immediately," he recalled. "They fed me, got me clothes and bedding and introduced me to Ms. Guy."

Ms. Brianna Guy is Rashan's Case Manager. "Rashan is a super star. He has so much potential," she said proudly.

"I've always been pressured by people who do absolutely nothing for me," Rashan said. "Ms. Guy has the right to pressure me to work harder because she cares about me, but she doesn't. It is always conversation about how she and the other staff can help me. 'What do you need?' they always ask me."

Rashan has found a new sense of hope, but it is a hope he had deep inside him as he walked the streets of Charleston. "Everyone has a time when they are down. If you think like that, you will stay like that. If you don't help yourself, no one else is going to help you." He got quiet for a moment. "I didn't want to come to Epworth because I thought it was just a place with more people who don't want to help me. But it wasn't like that at all. I didn't and still don't understand how people who don't know me could care about me, especially when my own family didn't. It's better than family here. From the first day, it has always been, 'How can we help you?'"

Rashan's Scholarship Essay

Growing up as a child I did not have much of a role model, unless you consider drug dealers and gang members as a reliable source. Although my parents always taught me right from wrong, they never led by example – they were always in the streets. My parents were heavy drug users and it started to play a tremendous role in my life.

As I grew older, matters became worse because my father's urge and sensation for the feeling emerged to the point where he would literally beat me and my mother so badly to the point where we were embarrassed to leave the house. The severe bruises left on me and my mother still show to this day. Eventually, my mother ran out on me leaving me with the "Devil's Angel", my father. Matters only got worse when he started to take all of his anger out on me, since my mother had escaped. I was in and out of the hospital, and soon I found myself out on the street alone – no family, no friends, just me, myself, and I.

I remember the days very vividly where I would be walking down the street with a Nike duffel bag full of clothes on my left shoulder because I could not bear the pain he left on the right side of my arm from when he nearly re-fractured my collarbone after he slammed me around the hardwood floor as if I was a fly being swatted around the house with a fly swatter. I was too scared to ask for help because it had been embedded in my mind that if I could not trust my own flesh and blood, then it was obvious no one else could be trusted. I felt like if my own family could cause this much pain and hurt, imagine what the next man could and would do.

Yet somehow I still had the strength to keep the mindset that something would fall my way eventually and that I could make it in life if only I continued to keep the strength to keep my head up. I always believed that I could not be at the bottom forever. Unfortunately, as time passed, my thoughts of success began to slowly fade away. Soon after, I found myself in a horrible state of mind – not only did I not care about what was going on, but I also began to stop caring about myself, I started falling behind in school, I started losing my faith and doing things I know I had no business doing.

I had this treacherous feeling until September 6, 2011, a day I shall never forget, the day I was "saved". All my prayers were finally answered – Epworth Children's Home took me in and restored my faith. Not only did they make an exception by bringing me in on the first day I was interviewed, giving me food and clothing, but they also gave me hope and love – something I had not felt in God knows how long. They let me know I was a bright, intelligent young man with much potential, and if given the opportunity could make a difference in the world. They brought me in with open arms. They never judged or questioned my decisions in the past, but focused more on my future and the changes I could make to better myself.





Epworth
Children's Home

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COLUMBIA SC 29250

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(803) 256-7394

www.epworthchildrenshome.org

Rev. John. E. Holler, Jr.
President

**Children's names have been changed for confidentiality.*

In an effort to be good stewards of God's gift, please help maintain current records to help with mailing costs.

Make corrections on the label and mail it back to us.

Name Change

I receive more than one copy

Address change

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The mission of Epworth Children's Home is to serve children, youth and families through a caring, accepting and safe Christian community, where hurts are healed; hope is nurtured; and faith in God, self and others is developed.

LOAD UP YOUR CHURCH VANS & COME!

There's no place better to chow down on some yummy BBQ and make a difference in the life of a child!

4th Annual Cook-Out-for-Kids BBQ

Saturday, April 14th, 2011

11am—4pm

On Epworth's Campus



Sponsored by

**EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

This is the 4th annual Cook-Out-for-Kids, organized and sponsored by the Epworth Alumni Association. Our thanks to each of them for their efforts to keep the tradition of caring for children at Epworth alive and thriving. As their lives were transformed by their time at Epworth, we appreciate the alumni's efforts to give back to those who call Epworth home today. Last year they raised over \$21,000. They would like you to know that all proceeds will go to provide care for current and future residents.

The Governor & Family Visit Epworth

"I can't believe the governor is going to come here," said James, a 7-year-old boy from Wesley Cottage. "Last month I didn't have a house and today I am going to meet the Governor."

On Tuesday, December 20th, 2011 Governor Nikki Haley and her family visited Epworth's campus. They came bearing gifts of a Virginia Smithfield country ham and a package of Hokie nuts which she won in a wager with Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell over the December 3rd ACC game between Virginia Tech and Clemson.

The Governor and family presented the winnings along with a financial contribution to the Rev. John Holler, President of Epworth. After the presentation she signed autographs for the children in Asbury and Wesley Cottages.

James like the others was thrilled with his autograph and returned to his cottage smiling from ear to ear.

Our thanks to Governor Haley and her family for choosing Epworth as the recipient of this gift.

