

The Record

News from Epworth Children's Home



Micayla

Annual Report Edition

There are some children who have a natural maturity about them, are born with the ability to be wonderful caretakers, and are wise beyond their years. That description would definitely apply to Micayla, who came to us last spring along with her younger brother. Micayla and her brother Andre were originally placed with a relative, after DSS found that there was significant neglect happening in their home. It had taken awhile for anyone to even realize that Micayla and Andre were neglected though, because Micayla is such a good caretaker for her younger brother, and is so responsible - much more responsible than a 15 year old girl should have to be. The placement with the relative did not work out, and after a short time Micayla and Andre came to Epworth.

At first, it was hard for Micayla to adjust to not having to worry about getting her brother up for school, making

breakfast for the two of them, and making sure they caught the bus. Worrying about and caring for Andre had become so second nature to her that she found it hard to relax and put her own needs first. The stability and routine that Epworth provided was something she was not used to in her own home. Not only that, she had become so attached to Andre since they had been through so much together, that she found it difficult not to be with him all the time; it was almost like he was her security blanket. At Epworth, the children live in cottages that are organized by age and gender, so Micayla and Andre couldn't stay together overnight. They still ate meals together, would see each other at counseling and tutoring, cottage activities and at church, though. The separation helped provide Micayla time to find her own identity and not have to worry about someone else so intensely, much like a mother does for her child. Not only that, Micayla could form friendships and

Continued on Page 9



Key Moments and Objectives

Spring 2019

A Message from The Rev. John Holler
President

The Epworth Children's Home exists to serve children, youth, and families, through a caring, accepting, and safe community where hurts are healed; hope is nurtured; and faith in God, and trust in self and others is developed. The key purpose of Epworth is to break the destructive cycle of abuse, neglect, and shame and replace it with an opportunity for each child to live a life of self-respect, responsibility, and productivity.

Key moments from the previous year include:

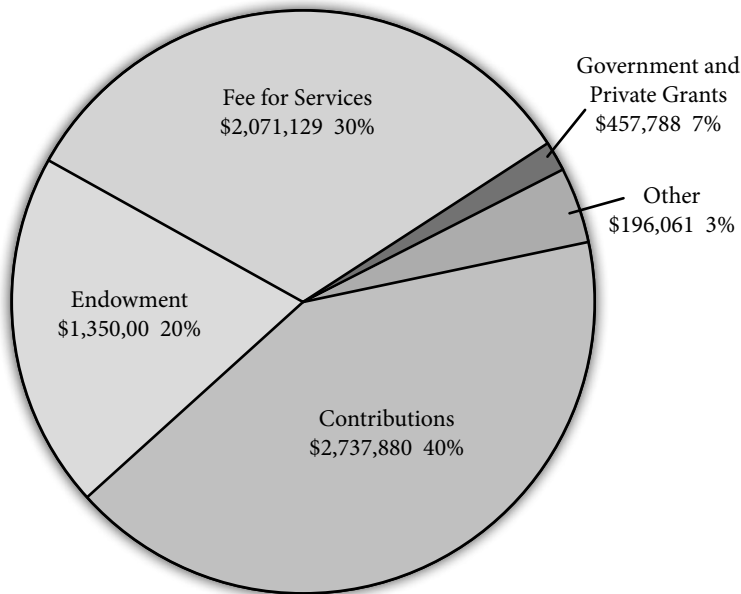
- I. Continued to create a culture of success which is reflected in the following statistics:**
For the sixth year in a row Epworth's high school students graduated at a 100% rate; 96% of residents had two or fewer behavioral referrals at school; 86% of students achieved a C or better average each quarter; and 96% of students earned academic honor roll each quarter.
- II. Epworth was awarded significant grants from Google and The Duke Endowment that enabled Epworth to bring the Epworth Institute for Child and Family Wellbeing to life.** The Institute, when fully established, will be comprised of specialized centers that will engage children and family members through a collaborative strength based approach in order to improve child wellbeing throughout South Carolina. This will occur by establishing missional outposts in local churches in each of the 12 districts in the Conference.
- III. Launched the Institute for Child and Family Wellbeing, and opened the first regional center for Family Engagement in the Charleston District.** Staff are actively working with churches in the area to recruit, mentor, train and provide support to foster parents, grandparents raising children, and others who provide homes for children in need.
- IV. Received the coveted 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator for sound fiscal management, and commitment to accountability and transparency for the seventh year in a row.** Fewer than 7% of all charities receive the 4-Star rating five or more years in a row. The 4-Star rating is the highest rating awarded.
- V. Established the Center for Social Enterprise under the umbrella of the (Epworth) Institute for Child and Family Wellbeing.** The Friends of Epworth brought Epworth Ice Cream to market and The Epworth Ice Cream Company engaged its first intern from Epworth's Center for Independent Living to work and be mentored in marketing, sales, and retail.
- VI. Congregational giving increased for the 12th year in a row.** The average giving per church member was above \$8 in 2018. There were 237 congregations in the conference that did not respond to any of the special Sundays or offering appeals for Epworth's children.

Objectives for the coming year include:

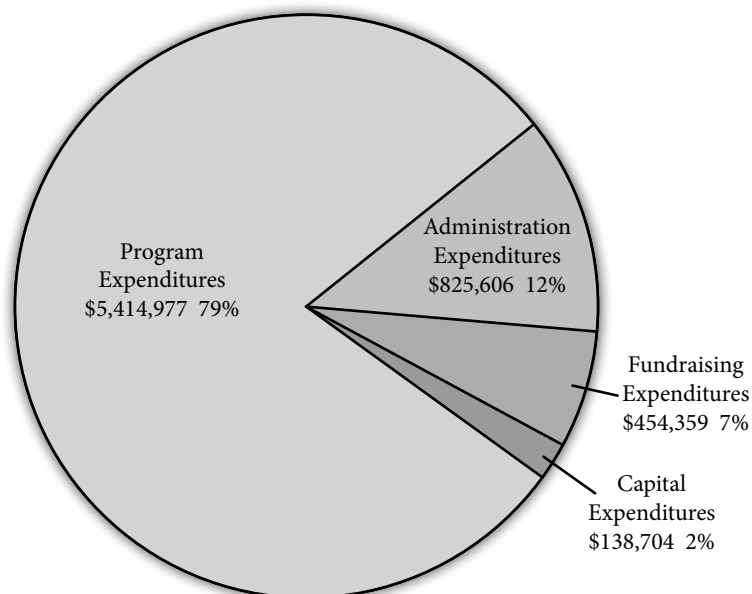
- I. Establishing the Center for Child and Family Counseling.** The Center for Child and Family Counseling will establish assessment, counseling, and educational services that are available to children and families in crises, and will be open to the general public. The principal therapeutic model utilized in the Center will be Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). This is an evidence based model of therapy.
Projected Cost: \$600,000
- II. Opening a second regional outpost in another district.** The Center for Family Engagement will continue to expand district by district as financial resources allow. Projected Cost: \$200,000

2018 Revenue Sources
Total Revenue \$6,812,858
(Unaudited)

Revenue



2018 Total Expenditures
Excluding Depreciation
Total Expenses \$6,833,646
(Unaudited)



2018 Individual & Business Sponsors

\$10,000 or more for Annual Operational Support

Aflac Charitable Fund
Anonymous
Bonner Family Private Foundation, Inc
Matthew and Marie-Claire Brittain
Building Systems Solutions, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Don Cassels
Central Carolina Community Foundation
Coldwell Banker NRT
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company
Delta Dental of South Carolina
Epworth Alumni Association
Mr. and Mrs. A David Fary, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Horlbeck
J C Wilkie Construction, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Rickie Lemay
Mr. Lawrence S. Lumpkin
Marion and Cindy Gramling Fund
Rebecca and David McPherson
John and Cathey Pate
Dan and Karen Reider
Rite Aid Foundation KidCents
South Carolina Christian Foundation
SC Physicians Care Charity
SC United Methodist Foundation
Dr. and Mrs. John Schaberg
Mrs. Kim Shellnutt
Ms. L Kaye Vallentine

Investing in Care!

2018 Residential Service Figures

January 1st – December 31st 2018

- Year-end residential population 12/31/2018: **52**
- Average residential population for 2018: **55**
- Total Days of Care Provided: **20,210**
- (49%) 57 out of 116 of residents discharged from Residential Care were reunified with family or placed with a family member
- Total number of children served in 2018: **174**
- Average stay for children during 2018: **116 days**
- Gender: Male: **46%** (80 of 174) Female: **54%** (94 of 174)
- Race: African American - 82/174 = **47%** Caucasian - 71/174 = **41%**
Bi-racial - 13/174 = **8%** Hispanic - 3/174 = **2%**
Other—3/174 = **2%** (3 American Indian)
- Ages: (0-3) = (1 of 174) = **1%** (4-5) = (0 of 174) = **0%** (6-9) = (6 of 174) = **3%**
(10-12) = (12 of 174) = **7%** (13-16) = (111 of 174) = **64%**
(17-18) = (38 of 174) = **22%** (19+) = (5 of 174) = **3%**

Epworth Family Care Center

2018 Data

The FCC serves mothers with substance addictions and their children. The families live together in a cottage on Epworth's campus and receive treatment as a whole family through a 6-month program.

1. The total number of mothers in the FCC in 2018 - 6
2. Total number of children in 2018 - 7
3. Number graduations in 2018 - 3

Epworth Foster Care Program

- 32 total clients were served this year (non-duplicated)
 - ♦ Average length of stay for any client was 128 days
- 28 new clients were admitted this year
 - ♦ Clients were from Aiken, Anderson, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, and Saluda counties
 - ♦ Client Gender- Majority of clients served were male
 - 62% (20 of 32) were male
 - 38% (12 of 32) were female
 - ♦ Client Age - Majority of clients served were in the 0-5 age range.
 - 66% (21 of 32) were between 0-5 years old
 - 28% (9 of 32) were between 6-10 years old
 - 6% (2 of 32) were between 11 years old or older

Epworth Early Intervention Center (EEIC)

2018 Data

The EEIC serves children with developmental delays and disabilities.

Preschool: 24 (non-duplicated)

Home-Based: 56 (non-duplicated)

Respite: 9 children from 7 families (non-duplicated)

Volunteers: 12

Student Interns: 2

Total Giving to the EEIC: \$34,699.43 - Development Office

Attendance numbers are totals of children served for the year.

Epworth Academic Points of Interest 2017-2018

During the 2017-18 school year:

- 86% of residents tested below grade level in reading on initial assessment testing.
- 76% of those residents had shown improvement in their reading scores on final assessment testing, with 38% improving more than one full grade level
- 76% of residents tested below grade level in math on initial assessment testing.
- 79% of those residents had shown improvement in the math scores on final assessment testing, with 45% improving more than one full grade level.
- 2487 tutoring sessions were offered with an attendance rate of 77%.
- The tutoring center provided 7 tutors.
- 85% of residents maintained an overall “C” average or higher.
- 49% of residents earned Honor Roll.
- 96% of residents had 2 or fewer behavioral referrals during a quarter.
- **100% of seniors graduated at the end of the 2017-18 school year. This is the 6th consecutive year with 100% graduation rate.**



Investing in Care!

\$10,000+ Congregational Sponsors

Central UMC	Florence	\$56,806.00
Mt Horeb UMC	Lexington	\$51,744.00
Chapin UMC	Chapin	\$47,814.00
First UMC	Myrtle Beach	\$42,508.00
Bethany UMC	Summerville	\$42,021.00
Trenholm Road UMC	Columbia	\$40,084.88
Buncombe Street UMC	Greenville	\$25,755.46
Shandon UMC	Columbia	\$25,446.00
Harmony UMC	Johnston	\$25,275.00
St Johns UMC	Aiken	\$23,446.25
Grace UMC	North Augusta	\$21,586.49
Union UMC	Irmo	\$17,804.30
Clemson UMC	Clemson	\$16,430.86
Edisto Island UMC	Edisto Island	\$16,237.00
Carteret Street UMC	Beaufort	\$15,341.00
First UMC	Isle of Palms	\$15,054.00
Belin Memorial UMC	Murrells Inlet	\$14,688.00
Highland Park UMC	Florence	\$13,119.50
St Andrew by the Sea UMC	Hilton Head Island	\$12,944.00
Ashland UMC	Columbia	\$12,591.00
Cannons Camp Ground UMC	Spartanburg	\$11,857.80
Shady Grove UMC	Cameron	\$11,016.00
Mt Hebron UMC	West Columbia	\$10,671.22
Mauldin UMC	Mauldin	\$10,080.50
John Wesley UMC	Charleston	\$10,035.00

Congregational totals include gifts from the congregation, special offerings and individual congregation members.

Highest Congregation Giving by Total Dollars By District

Anderson	Clemson UMC	\$16,430.86
	Dickson Memorial UMC	\$9,555.00
	St Johns UMC	\$8,884.00
Charleston	Bethany UMC	\$42,021.00
	Edisto Island UMC	\$16,237.00
	First UMC	\$15,054.00
Columbia	Mt Horeb UMC	\$51,744.00
	Chapin UMC	\$47,814.00
	Trenholm Road UMC	\$40,084.88
Florence	Central UMC	\$56,806.00
	Highland Park UMC	\$13,119.50
	St Paul UMC	\$8,925.00
Greenville	Buncombe Street UMC	\$25,755.46
	Mauldin UMC	\$10,080.50
	Advent UMC	\$9,768.25
Greenwood	Harmony UMC	\$25,275.00
	Grace UMC	\$21,586.49
	St Mark UMC	\$8,821.66
Hartsville	Trinity UMC	\$8,933.00
	Lyttleton Street UMC	\$6,854.55
	St Luke UMC	\$6,579.00
Marion	First UMC	\$42,508.00
	Belin Memorial UMC	\$14,688.00
	Macedonia UMC	\$9,397.00
Orangeburg	St Johns UMC	\$23,446.25
	Shady Grove UMC	\$11,016.00
	Trinity UMC	\$8,005.10
Rock Hill	St Johns UMC	\$9,503.33
	Pleasant Hill UMC	\$6,291.00
	First Church UMC	\$4,734.00
Spartanburg	Cannons Camp Ground UMC	\$11,857.80
	St James UMC	\$8,041.00
	Jacksons Grove UMC	\$7,465.00
Walterboro	Carteret Street UMC	\$15,341.00
	St Andrew by the Sea UMC	\$12,944.00
	Trinity UMC	\$7,320.00

Number of Churches by District that Gave \$0

<u>District</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Total</u>
Anderson	17	Marion	23
Charleston	25	Orangeburg	19
Columbia	7	Rock Hill	13
Florence	23	Spartanburg	10
Greenville	15	Walterboro	30
Greenwood	15		
Hartsville	39	Total	236

Highest Per Member Giving by District (599 or Fewer Members)

District	Church Name	Total Gifts	Members	\$/Member
Anderson	Zion UMC	\$625.00	6	\$104.17
	Dickson Memorial UMC	\$9,555.00	137	\$69.74
	Donalds UMC	\$477.00	17	\$28.06
Charleston	Edisto Island UMC	\$16,237.00	73	\$222.42
	First UMC	\$15,054.00	550	\$45.55
	Aldersgate UMC	\$7,460.10	175	\$42.63
Columbia	First UMC	\$9,270.75	261	\$73.83
	Whaley Street UMC	\$6,786.00	148	\$45.85
	Zion UMC	\$700.00	22	\$31.82
Florence	Elim UMC	\$2,960.00	29	\$102.07
	Scranton UMC	\$5,500.00	54	\$101.85
	Lane UMC	\$1,300.00	52	\$39.42
Greenville	Bethel UMC	\$4,060.00	56	\$72.50
	Trinity UMC	\$1,500.00	24	\$62.50
	Fews Chapel UMC	\$2,326.00	66	\$35.24
Greenwood	Harmony UMC	\$25,275.00	273	\$92.58
	Warrenville UMC	\$2,685.00	34	\$78.97
	Ebenezer UMC	\$4,995.68	76	\$65.73
Hartsville	McLeod Chapel UMC	\$2,500.00	54	\$46.30
	Bethlehem UMC	\$3,381.00	142	\$23.81
	Ashland UMC	\$400.00	18	\$22.22
Marion	Boykin UMC	\$3,800.00	39	\$97.44
	Poplar UMC	\$2,510.00	42	\$59.76
	Lake View UMC	\$2,688.62	69	\$38.97
Orangeburg	Shady Grove UMC	\$11,016.00	56	\$196.71
	Limestone UMC	\$2,820.00	27	\$104.44
	Salley UMC	\$725.00	8	\$90.63
Rock Hill	Shady Grove UMC	\$1,000.00	17	\$58.82
	Hanging Rock UMC	\$2,815.00	88	\$31.99
	St Paul UMC	\$3,865.00	203	\$19.04
Spartanburg	White Stone UMC	\$3,385.00	34	\$99.56
	Jacksons Grove UMC	\$7,465.00	121	\$61.69
	Roebuck UMC	\$3,930.00	84	\$46.79
Walterboro	Green Pond UMC	\$6,505.00	53	\$122.74
	Gillette UMC	\$1,715.00	19	\$90.26
	Mt Tabor UMC	\$2,325.00	30	\$77.50

Highest Per Member Giving by District (600 or Higher Members)

District	Church Name	Total Gifts	Members	\$/Member
Anderson	Clemson UMC	\$16,430.86	1080	\$15.21
	St Johns UMC	\$8,884.00	1410	\$6.30
	St Mark UMC	\$5,351.00	895	\$5.98
Charleston	John Wesley UMC	\$10,035.00	1197	\$16.71
	Hibben UMC	\$9,527.00	780	\$12.21
	Bethany UMC	\$42,021.00	3505	\$11.99
Columbia	Trenholm Road UMC	\$40,084.88	1676	\$29.90
	Chapin UMC	\$47,814.00	2235	\$21.39
	Ashland UMC	\$12,591.00	790	\$15.94
Florence	Central UMC	\$56,806.00	1942	\$29.25
	Highland Park UMC	\$13,119.50	606	\$21.81
	Friendship UMC	\$535.00	708	\$0.76
Greenville	Buncombe Street UMC	\$25,755.46	3012	\$8.55
	Memorial UMC	\$5,180.00	624	\$8.30
	Mauldin UMC	\$10,080.50	1668	\$6.04
Greenwood	Grace UMC	\$21,586.49	1702	\$12.68
	Central UMC	\$6,855.00	612	\$11.20
	Wightman UMC	\$5,359.32	690	\$7.77
Hartsville	St Johns UMC	\$3,085.00	616	\$21.24
	Trinity UMC	\$8,933.00	800	\$11.17
	First Church UMC	\$5,315.00	618	\$8.60
Marion	First UMC	\$42,508.00	1505	\$28.24
	First UMC	\$8,777.00	786	\$11.17
	Duncan Memorial UMC	\$6,758.00	722	\$9.36
Orangeburg	St Johns UMC	\$23,446.25	1953	\$18.07
	Edisto Fork UMC	\$300.00	1430	\$0.21
	St Johns UMC	\$4,007.00	893	\$60.48
Rock Hill	St Johns UMC	\$9,503.33	2052	\$11.94
	Pleasant Hill UMC	\$6,291.00	697	\$9.03
Spartanburg	St Paul UMC	\$6,077.00	673	\$9.03
	New Beginnings UMC	\$3,735.00	614	\$6.08
	Lyman UMC	\$3,756.00	659	\$5.70
Walterboro	St Andrew by the Sea UMC	\$12,944.00	783	\$16.53
	Bluffton UMC	\$6,177.50	655	\$9.43
	Bethel UMC	\$5,090.00	843	\$6.04

Churches that Sent Volunteer Groups to Epworth in 2018

Advent UMC, Simpsonville	First UMC, Clover	Philadelphia UMC, Fort Mill
Aldersgate UMC, Greenville	First UMC, Isle of Palms	Platt Springs UMC, West Columbia
Asbury Memorial UMC, Columbia	First UMC, Winnsboro	Rehoboth UMC, Columbia
Ashland UMC, Columbia	Grace UMC, North Augusta	Riverside Community Church, Columbia
Bethany UMC, Charleston	Grover UMC, St George	Shandon Baptist Church, Columbia
Bethany UMC, Summerville	Highland Park UMC, Florence	Shandon UMC, Columbia
Bethel UMC, Forest Acres	Incarnation Lutheran Church, Columbia	Sharon UMC, Greer
Bethlehem/Foster Chapel/Jonesville UMC, Union	Jericho UMC, Cameron	St. James UMC, Spartanburg
Bible Way Church, Columbia	John Wesley UMC, Charleston	Summerton UMC, Summerton
Boone Hill UMC, Summerville	Jordan Charge UMC, Manning	Trenholm Road UMC, Columbia
Bowers Chapel UMC, Florence	Journey UMC, Columbia	Trinity UMC, Blythewood
Carteret Street UMC, Beaufort	Langley UMC, Langley	Trinity UMC, Clinton
Centenary UMC, Monks Corner	Leesville UMC, Leesville	Trinity UMC, Lancaster
Central UMC, Florence	Lexington UMC, Lexington	Trinity/Berea UMC, Clio
Central UMC, Newberry	Lytleton Street UMC, Camden	Union UMC, Irmo
Chapin UMC, Chapin	Midtown Fellowship Church, Columbia	United Methodist Men of Columbia
Christ UMC, Bennettsville	Mt. Hebron UMC, West Columbia	Virginia Wingard Memorial UMC, Columbia
Church of the Palms UMC, Okatie	Mt. Holly UMC, Rock Hill	Washington Street UMC, Columbia
Cornerstone UMC, Rock Hill	Mt. Horeb UMC, Lexington	Wesley Memorial UMC, Columbia
Covenant UMC, Greer	Mt. Tabor UMC, Ridgeville	Wightman UMC, Newberry
Eastlake Community Church, Irmo	Mt. Zion UMC, Sumter	Windsor UMC, Columbia
Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia	New Beginnings UMC, Boiling Springs	Woodland UMC, Rock Hill
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia	NewSpring Church, Columbia	
First UMC, Bennettsville	Northeast UMC, Columbia	

2018 Businesses, Schools and Community Volunteer Groups

Alfred Williams & Company	Girl Scouts of South Carolina	Saluda Shoals Foundation
Alpha Psi Lambda of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity	Go Go Lazer Tag	Scott Hannon Memorial Foundation
American Legion	Hammond School	South Carolina Philharmonic
AmeriCorps Vista	Heathwood Hall Episcopal School	Southern Valet
Bikers of South Carolina	Junior League of Columbia	The Southern Strutt
Birthdays for All	Kappa Epsilon Psi Military Sorority, Inc.	United Way of the Midlands
Breakfast Optimist Club of Columbia	Keller Williams Reality	University of South Carolina
Calison Tighe & Robinson Law Firm	Lexington Wildlife	US Marshalls Office
Camp Horseshoe	Lowe's	USC Athletics
Canoeing for Kids	Lululemon Athletica	USC- Chi Omega
Chick-fil-A Columbia and Lexington	MB Kahn	USC Men's & Women's Basketball Players and Coaches
Chick-fil-A Garners Ferry	Moe's Columbia	USC School of Nursing
Columbia Chicktime Chapter	Old Republic Title	USC Womens Soccer Team
Columbia Police Department	Palmetto Paralegal Association	Wofford Chaplain's Office
Edens	Richland County CASA	Young Democrats/Young Republicans
Fort Jackson	Richland County Community Development	
GaBBY Bows	Richland County Sheriffs Office	
Get Engaged Media	Rolling Jokers Riding Group	

2018 Volunteer Totals

A volunteer unit is an individual or group approved to serve in some capacity on campus.

Total Volunteers on Campus	2383
Total Number of Volunteer Groups	90
Estimated Volunteer Hours Served	14,594.50
Estimated Value of Volunteer Services	\$248,106.50

Continued from Cover

bonds with her cottagemates, another area she hadn't really had the opportunity to explore, since she was so busy being the primary caregiver in her home.

Once Micayla was able to relax and focus on not only her own needs, but her hopes and wishes for her life, she began to come out of her shell. Micayla is a natural leader, and also very creative; she has a way of making everything around her beautiful. "You can give Micayla anything, and she will turn it into something amazing," says Reverend Pamela Richardson, Epworth's campus Pastor. For example, Pastor Pamela (as the children call her), gave all of the kids a loose topic in Sunday School one Sunday before church services. It was just something for them to think about during the week and ponder about how it applied to their own lives. Micayla, being the creative person she is, took the topic and turned it into an amazing spoken word. She then performed the spoken word for all of her peers in her MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship) group!

Just a couple of months ago, Pastor Pamela experienced a loss when her brother unexpectedly passed away. When the residents found out about the sad news, the older boys and girls all got together to think of a way to express their condolences to Pastor Pamela and her family. Being the natural leader she is, it was a given that Micayla would be the one appointed by her peers to share the condolences on behalf of all of the children on campus. When Pastor Pamela returned to campus, it was Micayla that sought her out to share everyone's wishes for healing for Pastor Pamela and her family. She feels empathy for people and cares for them in a way that is far beyond the somewhat self-centered worldview of the typical teenage girl.

Micayla has excelled at Epworth, and has big plans for her future. She has excellent grades that will make the different colleges she is considering a very real possibility for her when it is time to apply. She is excited to move into the Independent Living program after she graduates as well. Her brother, Andre, is doing great in school and socially, too! Not only has Epworth provided this sister and brother pair with a safe, nurturing environment, it has given them the opportunity to just be kids again. Which is something that every child should have the opportunity to be – just themselves.

Continued from Page 2 - Rev. Holler's Article

- III. Expand the Family Care Center.** The Family Care Center houses mothers and their children on the main campus. The mothers work on substance abuse issues coupled with parenting skills while the children are provided with a safe home and are aided in their developmental process. Cost: \$200,000
- IV. Expand the Center for Independent Living.** The Independent Living program serves youth ages 16-23 who are preparing to age out of the foster care system, but are not ready to live independently. This program provides safe housing, supervision, and a host of services that enable youth to successfully make the transition to a productive adult life. Cost: \$150,000
- V. Reach the Goal of Receiving a Minimum of \$5,000,000 of the \$10,000,000 Every Child is a Miracle Financial Campaign.** This campaign was authorized at the 2017 Annual Conference, and, will in part, enable Epworth to sustain, strengthen, and expand its transformative work in current and future areas.
- VI. Please know this about Epworth:**
Epworth has completed 123 years of providing homes, quality care, and other services for children and families from across South Carolina in a faith centered environment. The child welfare and child protection systems are rapidly changing in our nation and state. Epworth is on the cusp of expanding the quantity and quality of its services in order to reach children and families in every district of South Carolina.

With the support of the United Methodist of our conference we can change the face of child and family protective services in South Carolina. Every Child is a Miracle. As people in the lineage of John and Charles Wesley, let's seize this opportunity to make a lasting difference.

A short story: John (Cotton) James was placed at Epworth when he was just a boy. Epworth became his home, the staff members his parents, and the other children who lived there were his lifelong brothers and sisters. He graduated from high school and served with distinction in the Korean War where he attained the rank of Sergeant. After his service days he became a productive civilian and active member of Mauldin UMC. At every chance he had, he would talk about what Epworth gave him; a chance for a new life. He would always ask, "If it had not been for Epworth do you know where I would be?" The listener would answer "Where would you be?", and John would say, "In prison! That is where I would be." Mr. James died a few years ago, and he is likely now bending St. Peter's ear while describing the investment Epworth Children's Home made in him and his peers, and telling St. Peter about the generosity of the Methodist people of South Carolina who gave him a future.

Foster Care Program expanding to Charleston

We are excited to announce that our Foster Care Program is expanding into Charleston! There is a huge need for Foster Homes throughout the state of South Carolina. There are approximately 1,975 children in need of foster homes in all of South Carolina, with the Charleston area needing 250 homes and Columbia in need of 410 homes, specifically. We here at Epworth Children's home are working diligently to help identify foster parents and walk with them through the foster care process.

Our Columbia office has been up and running since 2017. We currently have 20 licensed homes, with 11 more in the process of being licensed. With our state's overwhelming need for foster homes, it was a logical next step to open a satellite office in Charleston. By adding another office at the coast, we are slowly making strides to being able to serve children in different areas of South Carolina, not just the Midlands. We hope that Columbia and Charleston will be the first of many Foster Care offices throughout South Carolina!



Our Charleston office will be led by McBee Zimmerman. McBee holds a Masters of Education, and is a Licensed Professional Counselor as well a Licensed Clinically Certified Sex Offender Specialist. She brings to agency over twenty years of clinical and leadership experience in child welfare. Ms. Zimmerman recently joined Epworth Children's Home as the Director of Foster Care and Adoptions where she brings a wealth of experience in Foster Care having served as the Executive Director for Neighbor to Family for four years. During her tenure there she was responsible for overseeing the start up the first outpost in South Carolina, as well as also succeeding in promoting and establishing a revolutionary model of Foster Care that specialized in keeping sibling groups together while in foster care. We are very excited to have McBee at the helm of our Charleston office!

Our ultimate goal in Foster Care is family reunification. A current example of that goal involves one of our cases with a two year old girl. Coco was placed with a foster family, an older couple who are "empty nesters," who have grown children that had left the nest many years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor* opened their hearts and their home, and little Coco* was placed with them just a few months ago in October 2018. The foster parents have been communicating and working alongside Coco's biological mother, and have been instrumental in helping the reunification process, as well as preserving that familial bond while Coco is in their home. We are confident that the end result will be Coco being able to return home in a short time from now, and everyone is doing great work to make that happen!

**Name and identifying characteristics have been changed to protect the privacy of all individuals involved in the Foster Care process.*

This is an example of our yard signs that are available. If you would like a sign for your yard, please contact our Columbia Foster Care office at 803-256-7394.



Society of 1896

Bill and Lois M. Abrams*
Addison Estate
Anonymous
Anonymous
Jacob C. and Elizabeth Arant*
Albert Armstrong*
 in Memory of Nell and Jan Armstrong
James Bonner Baxter*
Elizabeth F. Biel*
H. Carlisle Booth*
Beverly Lovejoy Boyer*
Betty L. Bruner*
Mary Frances Fitzgerald Cagle*
Roslyn Chavis Catoe
Michael and Patricia Clancy
 in Memory of the Wilson Family, Lancaster, SC
Mary W. Clark*
Donald W. Cleveland*
Flora W. Cochran*
Norman B. Collins II*
Christopher H. and Dottie Watkins Lloyd Craft*
Sidney R. Crumpton*
Ruth M. Dean*
Edward Joseph Dunlap*
 by his parents Bruce Dunlap and Carole Dunlap
Flora M. Dunlap and David S. Dunlap
 in remembrance of Edward Joseph Dunlap
William A. Dunovant*
Albert H. Eargle*
Johnny and Marilyn Sue Evans*
David Ewing*
John E. Fairey III*
Raymond and Rosemarie Faucher*
William R. Flemming*
George Robert Fowler*
Marie Pickens Goodlett
Archie and Mary Frances Eargle Harrell*
James W. Hendrix*
Thomas G. Herbert, Jr.
 and Miriam Pope Herbert*

Murray C. Hicks*
Maureen Hightower*
John G. and Carol M. Hipp
John E. and Vicki Holler
Vera M. Horne*
Marcus L. Hunt*
Charles A. and Eva Grey Hutchins
Everett N. Infinger*
Raymond* and Charlotte Jackson
Mary Etta Johnson*
Mary Alice Jones*
Richard E. Jones*
Lee and Judy Kernell
Nora W. Lee*
Alvin A. McCall, Jr. and Wanda E. McCall*
Florence G. McGarrah*
Elizabeth K. McKelvey*
Dennis Earle McMakin*
Sarah S. Neely
Grace P. Norris
Hall M. Outzs*
Sam G. Parler*
Elisabeth W. Parris*
Harold W. Paschal*
Joy Presnick*
J. O. Reed, Jr*
Martha E. Rentz*
Glenn D. Reynolds*
J. Michael Ross
Hemrick N. Salley Jr
Hampton K. Snipes Sr.*
Gladys R. Sullivan*
Howard and Sarah Summers
Elisabeth P. Taylor*
Edwin Trumble*
Harry Arthur Turner, Jr.*
Ted and Pegilie Walter
Homer J. Walton Jr*
Lavetta D. Wimmer*
Grady and Elizbaeth Workman*

* = 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.



Epworth
Children's Home

PO BOX 50466
COLUMBIA SC 29250

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbia, SC
Permit No. 424

Invest. Care. *Transform.*

(803) 256-7394

www.epworthchildrenshome.org

The Rev. John E. Holler, Jr.
President

© 2019 Epworth Children's Home

**Children's names and pictures 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
 - ☐ I'd like to receive this publication by email
-
- ☐ Please remove me from the mailing list

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.

Annual Cookout for Kids BBQ

The 11th Annual Cookout for Kids BBQ will be held on April 6th, 2019 on Epworth's campus. This BBQ fundraiser is hosted by adults who spent some or all of their childhoods at Epworth. 100% of proceeds from the fundraiser are donated directly to Epworth. Please plan to join us on our campus on the 6th!

