



THE GUARDIAN

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LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

Falcon Children's Home & Family Services began its ministry of caring for children in 1909. With the support of amazing people like you, we're serving countless children and families in the Southeastern part of the United States.

We offer a number of ever-changing programs to serve children under our care with an end goal of family reunification.

A FALCON CHILDREN'S
HOME & FAMILY
SERVICES PUBLICATION

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A RETURN TO NORMALCY?

BY JOSEPH LEGGETT

A term that has become commonplace during the last few months is what prognosticators are referring to as “a return to normalcy”. After a year that has been beseeched with unusual firsts, it is a term we anxiously want to accept. What does a return to normalcy mean for Falcon Children’s Home and Family Services?

"WHAT DOES A RETURN TO NORMALCY MEAN FOR FALCON CHILDREN'S HOME & FAMILY SERVICES?"

Well first, it means that the students are able to socialize again in school and group activities. This is perfect with graduation ceremonies from Falcon Christian Academy occurring in two weeks.

The timing could not be better also for the beginning of the summer program, which includes various athletic events, swimming, fishing, hiking and other enjoyable activities. It also means the reopening of the cafeteria for lunch and evening meals and no more take out only.

A return to normalcy also means we can get back to a semblance of a normal calendar of events. Beginning June 1, the choir and I will begin traveling once again. We have not traveled since March of 2020.

The kids are as excited, as I am to visit our churches and represent the ministry of Falcon Children’s Home. Turbeville Children’s Home is on schedule to once again host the Hope Train in Lake City South Carolina on 7/1. Not only will there be a wonderful program presented but there will also be the introduction of the new Director, Reverend Tim Moore.

Last year marked the first time since its inception in 1949 that Harvest Train did not occur. Normalcy means that Harvest Train is on schedule for the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. We can hardly wait to see all the smiling faces in attendance across the country. Royal Home



Ministries will present their program on the Monday night before Harvest Train. We will join forces with M25 for the March for Life in Washington DC in January.

"THE MISSION OF FALCON CHILDREN'S HOME HAS STAYED THE SAME"

Yes indeed, it appears that Normalcy is set to return. Yet while the world around us has changed and I am not sure that the normal we knew before will ever return totally, THE MISSION of Falcon Children’s Home has stayed the same. We are here to provide a home for children who, for whatever reason, are not able to live a normal home setting. We are striving to help bring normalcy to their lives when many times their lives have been turned upside down. When you support Falcon Children’s Home with your prayers, financial support or by being a part of the events listed above, you are helping us to bring some sense of a “return to normalcy” in their lives. Thank you for your support and we appreciate you so much

Unexpected Contributions

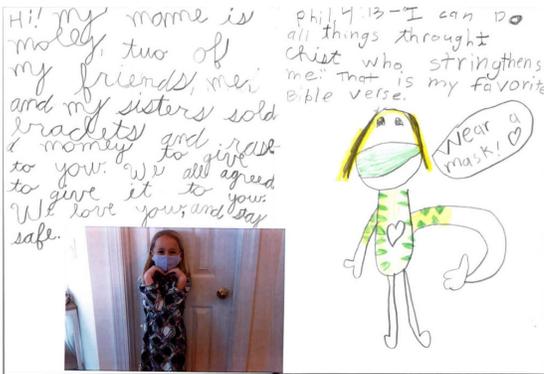
by Alexandria Gaines

I'm sure you've heard that old saying, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Well a sweet, young lady named Isabella did just that.

Ms. Isabella came to our office during the Christmas season last year to drop off a donation she raised from her very own lemonade stand to help make our student's Christmas just a little extra special.



Isabella Citro dropping her donation off to Mr. Joey Leggett



The letter Molly sent to us with her donation attached.

7-year-old Molly, along with two of her friends and her sisters, got together to design bracelets to sell so they could raise money and decided to send their proceeds as a donation to us.

In the middle of a pandemic and the craziness of life, it's thoughtful gifts like the two from these young ladies that remind us just how many amazing people love our kids as much as we do.

Run for the Wall

by Alexandria Gaines

Run for the Wall is the largest and longest organized cross county motorcycle ride designed to honor our veterans, MIA, KIA and active duty.

Unfortunately they had to cancel their ride last year and this year but they managed to make time to drop off an amazing donation to us.

"I am having withdrawals. I cannot wait to visit the kids again. It is always a special time for me!" - Ken "Six Strings" Dugas (RFTW Midway Route coordinator.)

We can't wait to get this amazing organization back on campus. If you have a minute, check out their website rftw.us to learn more about Run for the Wall.



Mr. Leggett accepting the donation from Richard House, a member of RFTW

If you'd like to help support FCHFS or want to share a story about what FCHFS means to you, visit our website or send an email to againes@fchfs.org



"Take pride in how far you've come and have faith in how far you can go."

School's Out!

WRITTEN BY DR. MICHAEL STEWART

The end of the school year is an exciting time at Falcon Christian Academy. There are class parties, academic award assemblies, and finals. With COVID-19 still being a concern, we were able to use precautions in order to safely have in-person classes for the entire school year. Students and staff practiced the three 'W's' - wearing a mask, waiting a proper distance from others, and washing hands. With God's help we have not had any widespread of the virus and have been able to have a somewhat normal year but without any group meetings.

Even with precautions many special events occurred this year: Our Spanish Spelling Bee, Middle School and High School's first Science Fair with over 50

students participating, visits from Green Beret soldiers from Fort Bragg, our first March Madness Intramural Basketball Tournament, Junior/Senior Prom, Middle School Poetry Café, Historic Wax Museum, National Day of Prayer, Dr. Seuss Reading Week, March for Life, observed Black History and Women's History Months, Cinco de Mayo day, Elementary Field Day, and much more.

FCA has three schools: elementary, middle, and high school with over 100 students from Kindergarten to Seniors in High School. We also accept community and employee children as part of our learning community.

Our annual Kindergarten graduation is always a highlight. This year seven students will don their caps and gowns, walk across the stage, and accept their certificate of achievement. The morning is filled with singing, presenting their class work, and telling us their dream for when they grow up. We are thankful to have a hard working and dedicated staff of teachers that makes our elementary school second to none.



Middle School has been busy as well. They had many special events despite the pandemic. The transitional years of sixth, seventh, and eighth grades are filled with growing pains and finding oneself. Thanks to outstanding teachers that guide, challenge, and instruct, our Middle School students are receiving a firm foundation academically and spiritually as they mature.

Another highlight of each school year is our High School Graduation. This year at our tenth annual commencement eight seniors will receive their High School diplomas. They have met the North Carolina Standards for graduation and accumulated the needed credits to graduate. Some will be off to college, some the military and others the job force but with a foundation based on God's Word and the support of caring teachers



Soldiers from Fort Bragg came to play basketball with students at FCA



FCA students dressed in their Halloween costumes



FCA's Cinco De Mayo Celebration



Our FCA 2021 Prom theme



Interested in sending your kids to Falcon Christian Academy? Check out our website falconchildrenshome.org/falcon-christian-academy or reach out to us at infoefchfs.org to learn more.

ROYAL HOME MINISTRIES

BY KARELYS PEREIRA

WHO WE SERVE

Royal Home has a heart for young mothers and has taken a stand for life since the early 90's. This was a time when the shame and guilt of an unplanned pregnancy drew some toward choosing abortion and others to seek refuge in maternity homes. Rev. Marvin Whitfield's heart was to offer young women facing the choice of abortion with an AUTHENTIC alternative. Ours was a humble beginning with a genuine desire to unlock hope into the lives of these women who felt like abortion was their ONLY option. So, as time passed, our ministry grew and through Royal Home Ministries, we've gained insight into the lives of these extraordinary young women who chose LIFE. These women are from diverse cultural backgrounds, ages, beliefs- but all deserving of our love and support.



Marvin and Joyce Whitfield during the opening of the Marvin & Joyce Whitfield Life Campus.



TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

May is recognized as National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month! Although Royal Home Ministries serves as a residential maternity and mothers and babies program for young ladies, one of our goals is to support these young women through education. We strive to educate them in order to create awareness, change patterns and teach them to make better choices. The reality is that pregnancy at an early age impacts our society as a whole. It also directly impacts the lives of these young women and their children. Teen mothers often find themselves victims of poverty, abuse, dependents of welfare systems, and without the support systems necessary to thrive in these circumstances. Through our ministry, we engage in these difficult conversations, develop a plan of action, act as a support system and empower these young women to rise above their circumstances.



Mrs. Karelys Pereira and Melanie Waddell from Hand of Hope



Life Line Sampson, a pregnancy resource center in Clinton, NC



Helen Rogers from Agape Pregnancy Resources and Gary Burd from M25

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Another avenue that we've taken to make headway into Teen Pregnancy Prevention is by being an active part of our community. Royal Home Ministries is partnering with the Adolescent Parenting Program in Cumberland County. This program is actively "supporting adolescent parents to get an education, acquire job skills, improve parenting abilities and prevent future pregnancies helps them become self-sufficient and better able to support themselves and their families. It also establishes a strong, stable foundation upon which the baby will be raised. By investing in teen parents today, the Adolescent Parenting Program (APP) protects the future of two generations - the young parents themselves and their babies. They accomplish these goals through home visiting services, individualized goal plans, intensive case management services, and group educational sessions. program participants are empowered to become self-sufficient and build a better future for their babies*. We're so thankful for people like Mrs. Anne Thomas of Cumberland County Department of Health for the work she does through the Adolescent Parenting Program. Our girls have been blessed by this program.



Royal Home Ministries participates in the yearly March 4 Life in Washington, DC



**ROYAL HOME
MINISTRIES**

Interested in learning more about Royal Home Ministries? Head over to our website rhm.life and be sure to check out our monthly blog! If you're interested in receiving these digitally, please visit our website at www.rhm.life. We would also love to share opportunities for partnership with your church or organization! Please call 910-525-5554 for invitations to services, conferences, or other community events.

*<https://www.teenpregnancy.ncdhhs.gov/app.htm>

Institutional Ministry Comes Full Circle

BY TIM MOORE

It's kind of strange

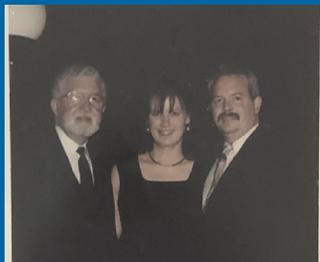
how sometimes God will lead us from one place to another, then another to eventually right back to where we started, full circle. In 1989, my wife, Pam and I came to Falcon Children's Home in our first ministry venture to become houseparents for teenage boys on Lila Berry Cottage. We had felt a definite call of God on our lives early in our marriage to minister at the Home. We were blessed to serve the children of FCH for five years. Pam additionally worked in the clothing warehouse and provided transportation for the children. One year later, we changed roles placing Pam as the primary houseparent and I had the opportunity to serve as a Social Worker. Some of our fondest memories came from our time at Falcon. Our three oldest children were all born while serving the Children's Home and some of our closest friends were made while living in this small community.

In 1994, God led our ministry path to Southwestern Christian University where I had the opportunity to serve as Director of Admissions then as Dean of students. We had a very fruitful ministry at Southwestern supporting students as they studied to become ministers of the Gospel. It was at Southwestern that the Lord reconfirmed a

calling he had placed in my heart at 16 years old to minister as a military Chaplain. In discussions and prayer with Rev. Dr. Hugh Morgan, IPHC Military Endorsing Agent, the door was opened for me to enter military service as Navy Chaplain.

For the past 22 years, Pam and I have had the awesome opportunity to serve God in the Navy as we have moved from New Jersey to Sicily then on to North Carolina, Hawaii, Virginia, California, Guam and back to Virginia. It has been an exciting adventure serving overseas, onboard ships, submarines, with Marines and the Coast Guard. God has used us in many ways to make a difference in the lives of service members and their families. God blessed us with another child in 2006 with the adoption of our youngest child, Joseph. We will always be grateful for our opportunities to minister, travel and make lifelong friends in the Navy.

In late May of 2020, Mr. Mike Dillard announced his resignation after serving as the Executive Director for Turbeville Children's Home. The dedicated service of Mr. and Mrs. Dillard and others launched the new ministry of Falcon Children's Home in the right direction. Under Mr. Dillard's leadership, Turbeville Children's Home has provided quality care to over 200 children throughout the state of South Carolina. Mr. Leggett called me in May of last year to inquire if I was

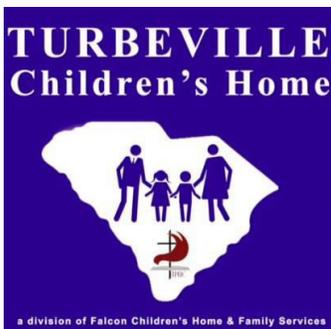


interested in returning to ministry at Turbeville to be Mr. Dillard's relief.

It is an incredible story how God orchestrated the timing of his call with leadership of the Navy to identify that this was God's plan and in His timing. Pam and I are so very happy to return to our first love of ministering to the needs of God's children now in South Carolina.

We look forward to working with the staff, getting to know the children and joining with the friends of the ministry in Turbeville to provide the best care possible to children and youth in need of our services. Thank you, Mr. Leggett for affording us this opportunity to serve, we look forward to all that God has in store for us at Turbeville Children's Home. We have come full circle, from Falcon literally around the globe back to the vital ministry of Falcon Children's Home!

"This was God's plan and in His timing."



Interested in learning more about Turbeville Children's Home or want to help support this ministry? Feel free to give us a call at (843) 650-2880 or visit our website www.falconchildrenshome.org/turbeville-children-s-home

Be sure to connect with us on Facebook! 

A New Hope



by Abbie Arena

Human Trafficking has become a hot-button issue over the last fifteen years, but until we understand how this issue is impacting our communities, specifically our children, we cannot hope to stop it. At Falcon Children's Home we have a passion to see the lives of children restored and redeemed, and it is through that passion that Magnolia Hope was birthed.

"50% of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children and Youth were at one time in the Welfare system."

It is commonly believed that well over 50% of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children and Youth were at one time in the Welfare system. This means that Falcon Children's Home has the unique opportunity to intercept some of this trauma before it happens. Falcon has implemented tools to assist in the identification of youth who are especially at risk for Human Sex Trafficking so they can help prevent exploitation from ever happening to them. On the other hand, there are many youth who have already been exploited and continue to be every day. These young ladies are the reason Magnolia Hope exists.

Magnolia Hope is a new outreach under the umbrella of Falcon Children's Home. It is a long-term residential program for teen girls who have been recovered from commercial sexual exploitation, commonly referred to as Human Sex Trafficking. Magnolia Hope is located in a non-disclosed location for the safety of our clients, and is not located near the campus of Falcon Children's Home. The mission of this new endeavor is to walk with these young girls on their journey to healing and restoration through intentional steps.



At this program, girls will receive trauma-informed therapies, medical care, legal assistance, substance abuse treatment, health and wellness classes, and much more. Healing is extremely challenging to find after facing the trauma these young girls have faced. Our deepest desire at Magnolia Hope is that we can make the bridge to healing for these girls shorter and easier to cross, hand-in-hand with our trained staff and in the safety of our supportive program.



Abbie Arena
Director
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Interested in joining the FCHFS Foster Care Family?

Thousands of children in North Carolina need out-of-home placement and YOU may be able to help. FCHFS is looking for Christian families in NC, who are interested in fostering or fostering to adopt to provide safe and loving homes for children in care. For more information, please give us a call or send us an email.



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