



PALMER HOME FOR CHILDREN
IMPACT REPORT **2021**

DEAR FRIENDS,

No one could have predicted the events that unfolded over the past year. However, we can rest in faith knowing that God is sovereign and He will equip us to handle any situation. As we read in John 14, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

On the following pages are stories illustrating the remarkable impact of your support, and the amazing resilience of children. We have enjoyed many special moments like graduations, first jobs, baptisms, adoptions, and reunifications. But there are much quieter, yet equally important, moments happening every day at Palmer Home. A child in foster care getting to paint his very own bedroom his favorite color. A teenage girl receiving her first-ever birthday party. A young boy cheering on his big brother at his football game.

With the prayers and generous support of friends like you, Palmer Home served 250 children this year. Every story matters and though we are grateful for the growth of our impact and the expansion of services, we remain mission driven to serve even more in the coming year.

Thank you for helping to create these powerful moments – from the extraordinary to the everyday. They bring peace, hope and healing to the children in our care.



Drake Bassett
President & CEO



“No matter what the world is facing, the children we serve at Palmer Home will always know this: God loves them, we love them, and their lives make a difference in this world.”

- DRAKE BASSETT



OUR UNIQUE APPROACH



Palmer Home seeks to help vulnerable children overcome trauma and position them to thrive in home, school and community life through our proprietary approach to care, *Whole Child Initiative*.

Children with a history of trauma have unique physical, emotional, social, educational and spiritual needs that must be addressed before they can overcome their trauma. *Whole Child Initiative* allows our caregivers to meet these needs so children can heal, grow and thrive.

At Palmer Home, we strive to understand what a child has been through before coming to our doors so we can help design a healthy path forward.

“By understanding the past - the Whole Story - we can help build a bright future.”

LAUREN STRICKLAND, LICSW, PIP
DIRECTOR, *WHOLE CHILD INITIATIVE*



OUR MISSION

Palmer Home provides superior care for children while introducing the love of God through our service to each individual child. Palmer Home ensures restorative environments where children feel safe, connected and supported.

OUR SERVICES



CAMPUS CARE

Children live on campus in a Christ-centered family atmosphere connected to trustworthy adults and supported as they grow and develop.



FOSTER CARE

Children receive support and the connection of a family through Palmer Home's certified foster families.



FAMILY CARE

Infants of mothers in prison receive nurturing care with the goal of reunification. Staff and caregivers also offer support for mothers in prison and after release.



TRANSITIONAL CARE

Young adults receive guidance and coaching designed to build educational, career and life skills needed for independence.





UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA



Trauma and adversity are widespread and its effects devastating. Without dedicated intervention, the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) like poverty, abuse, neglect or parental incarceration leave children vulnerable to chronic medical problems, emotional health issues and relational challenges in life. Unaddressed, ACEs prevent children from thriving in their families, excelling at school and flourishing in their communities. Through Whole Child Initiative, Palmer Home strives to understand each family's unique life experiences in order to respond competently and compassionately to the individual needs of the children entrusted to our care. This ensures we are able to chart a healthy, sustainable path to healing and restoration.



HOW YOUR DONATION IMPACTED KESHA

MEDICAL CARE FOR TYPE 1 DIABETES

DIABETES PRESCRIPTIONS & SUPPLIES

DENTAL CARE

HEALTH & WELLNESS CLASSES

KESHA'S STORY

Upon receiving children into our care, Palmer Home conducts a series of assessments to ensure we have outlined goals and services that meet their needs in each area of life. When 17-year-old Kesha received her medical assessment, the doctors determined that she had Type I diabetes. This was affecting every part of her life - her behavior, her emotional development, her grades and more but had been undiagnosed until this point. After receiving the medical care she severely needed, Kesha's behavior improved dramatically, her spirit shined and her grades soared. She continues to focus on her health and recently began taking yoga classes.

MATTHEW'S STORY

Matthew was 8 years old when he came to Palmer Home. His family had fallen on difficult times and they were evicted from their apartment months prior, so he spent many nights on friends' couches, in motels or in the back of his mom's car. He was uncertain of where he would lay his head, and what, if anything he would eat that day. His house parents at Palmer Home discovered that Matthew would take food from the kitchen and save it in his room, a telltale sign of food trauma. They worked to reassure Matthew that food would always be available and included him in the weekly menu planning, shopping, and preparation of meals to ease his fear of going hungry. This paved the way for Matthew to begin healing from his past trauma, and he is now a healthy, active teenager who loves to grill, play sports, and go fishing. Healing can only occur once children feel safe and accepted. By meeting each child at their stage in life, we provide healing and support, allowing children to grow and thrive.

HOW YOUR DONATION IMPACTED MATTHEW



CHRIS'S STORY

Many children in foster care face obstacles to academic success for a number of reasons - changing schools often, not having access to resources for learning disabilities, or difficulty focusing. Despite these obstacles, 18-year-old Chris valued his education and was determined to graduate high school early when he came to Palmer Home. Through the generous support of donors like you, he was able to receive the resources he needed to succeed. With hard work and initiative, he was able to graduate high school early with straight As and made the Honor Roll while maintaining a part-time job to save for his first car. Chris is now a student at a nearby community college, where he thrives academically while continuing to have access to a community of caregivers and vital resources. Teens like Chris are guided towards independence while still receiving care that supports their mental, physical, and spiritual wellbeing.



HOW YOUR DONATION IMPACTED CHRIS



STABLE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

EDUCATION SPECIALIST COUNSELING



PRIVATE TUTORING

ONGOING ACADEMIC SUPPORT





2021 AT A GLANCE

250
CHILDREN SERVED

26
REUNIFICATIONS
to biological families

545
THERAPY HOURS

320+
VOLUNTEER HOURS

15
INCARCERATED MOTHERS
served through Family Care

3 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS
5 COLLEGE GRADUATIONS

3 YOUNG ADULTS
IN THE MILITARY

10
COLLEGE STUDENTS

23,808+
MEALS SERVED THROUGH CAMPUS CARE

“
I STAND IN AWE
AND WONDER IN
HOW ABUNDANTLY
THE LORD
PROVIDES. I AM SO
THANKFUL I WAS
ABLE TO SPEND
THE SUMMER
IMMERSED IN
A COMMUNITY
THAT NOT ONLY
LOVES WELL BUT
SERVES THE LORD
WHOLEHEARTEDLY.

BECCA, 20

”

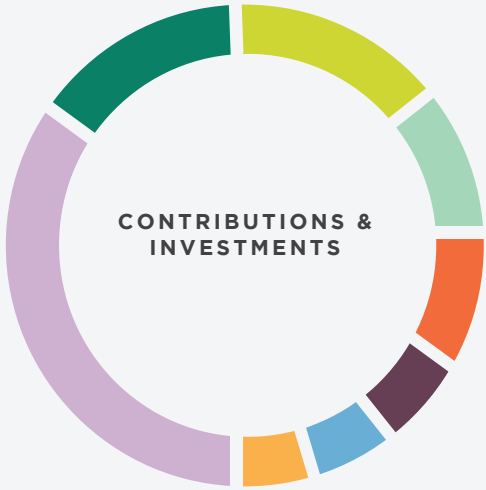
26
SUMMER CAMPS
ATTENDED





32
ATHLETES

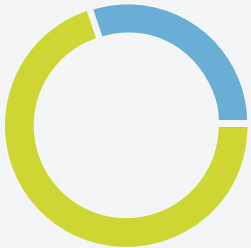
FUNDING FOR THEIR FUTURE



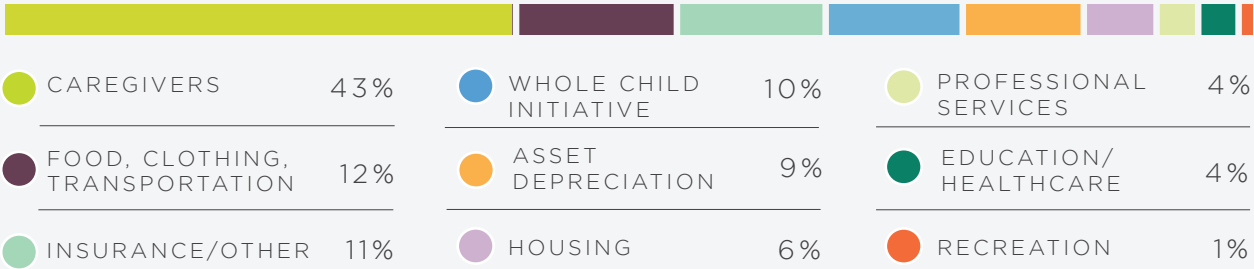
INDIVIDUALS	35%
BUSINESSES	16%
INVESTMENTS/OTHER	14%
THRIFT STORE	10%
CHURCHES	8%
FOUNDATIONS	7%
ESTATES	6%
EVENTS	4%

SUPPORT SERVICES

CHILDREN'S SERVICES	64%
SUPPORT	36%



CHILDREN'S SERVICES EXPENSES



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

At 13 years old, Casey had spent his entire childhood bouncing around from place to place with his siblings, never knowing the peace of a stable home. Years before, he had assumed the role of primary caregiver for his younger brothers and sisters. He'd been exposed to many negative influences and was constantly navigating his siblings and himself through circumstances no child should have to face.

“My houseparents stuck with me. They gave me the time and space to determine my own path.”
- Casey, 19

All that changed when Casey and his siblings came to Palmer Home. After years of having to act as an adult and provider, Casey was finally able to rest, be a teenager and have typical childhood experiences. His tough exterior began to soften and his walls began to come down. Casey flourished in the loving care of his houseparents and thrived on our campus, enjoying sports and the outdoors. He graduated high school and progressed to our transitional program, which serves young men and women beginning at age 18.

This past fall, Casey announced he'd made a major decision: he wanted to serve our country in the military. It was the perfect fit for Casey, a mature and level-headed young man who grew up selflessly serving and protecting his family.

Last fall, Casey enlisted with the Air Force and graduated from US Airman basic training. He has since graduated from Advanced Individual Training (AIT). His next steps include continued military training, college in the spring and going to active status with military in the next year.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

**\$334,563 RAISED AT
9TH ANNUAL SUPERTALK
MISSISSIPPI RADIOTHON**

**62 NEW DONORS AT
94.1 THE FISH RADIOTHON
NASHVILLE, TN**



**BEGAN CONSTRUCTION ON THE
DR. HUGH FRANCIS, JR. WELLNESS CENTER**



**2021 DESOTO'S BEST CHARITY &
BEST CHARITY EVENT**



**SEPC PLANTED SEEDS OF HOPE
WITH NEW GARDEN ON CAMPUS**

VISIT PALMERHOME.ORG TO LEARN MORE



“Dr. Hugh Francis served on the Palmer Home board for over 40 years. His faith, knowledge and wisdom always provided a steady hand and his legacy for Palmer Home will continue through the wellness center that bears his name.”

- KAREN CARLISLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dr. Andrew Martin - STARKVILLE, MS
Tom McCann - PEACHTREE CITY, GA
Richard Powell - MEMPHIS, TN
Dr. John Russell - COLUMBUS, MS



3
HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATIONS

WAYS TO GIVE:

For 126 years, Palmer Home has remained independently funded thanks to the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, civic groups and churches.

- A pledge card and envelope are enclosed. Please complete the card and send your gift today.
- Give by credit card online at www.palmerhome.org.
- Consider a gift of appreciated stock. Call (662) 801-1971 for more information.
- Remember to check with your employer about their matching gift program. It's an easy way to increase the impact of your donation.
- Include us in your estate planning with a planned gift. Contact development@palmerhome.org to learn more.



For those who use a QR Reader on their smart phone - simply scan the QR code to give.

WAYS TO SUPPORT:

We are grateful every time we are asked this question by friends in the community. Here are a few ways you can get involved.

Please visit www.palmerhome.org/get-involved or contact development@palmerhome.org for more information.

CONNECT

Help us share our mission by having a member of our team speak to your church, civic group, or business.

MENTOR

Impact the life of a child through relationship. Mentors commit to spending time monthly with a Palmer child.

FOSTER

Open your hearts and your home to provide a family to a child ready to transition from our campus to a more permanent environment.

VOLUNTEER

Please reach out if you are interested in volunteering to help our mission. There are many ways to support through event volunteers, campus work programs, food drives, and more.



“Palmer Home served 250 children this year!
Your support makes our mission possible.”

- Drake Bassett, President & CEO



palmerhome.org



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