



# 2024

PALMER HOME FOR CHILDREN  
**IMPACT REPORT**







## A YEAR OF GRATITUDE: A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

Reflecting on the past year at Palmer Home, I am grateful for your ongoing support. It's genuinely heartwarming to see how your generosity has positively impacted the lives of so many children this year.

When children come to us, they are in need of immense support and healing. We offer that by building strong relationships and trust. Remarkably, these children are resilient, but they often carry unseen burdens that need our attention.

**WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE HELP BREAK THE CYCLES OF DISTRUST AND PAIN.**

Over the years, I have observed life changing transformations. The two young ladies pictured on this page are living testimony to the work we do. As I watch them grow, along with so many others in our care, I see their strength increase and their faith deepen. I see them planning their futures and I believe they will make choices that reflect the hope and values we cherish at Palmer Home.

This year, Palmer Home reached over 268 children, from newborns to young adults who are navigating life based on circumstances beyond their control. But with your help, they will gain control and live out the plans God has for them.

Thank you for joining us on this journey.



**Drake Bassett**  
President & CEO





WITH A SWIFT AND COMPASSIONATE  
RESPONSE TO CHILDREN IN NEED, PALMER  
HOME PROVIDES A SAFE HAVEN WHERE  
CHILDREN CAN HEAL, GROW, AND THRIVE.  
OUR DEDICATED TEAM WORKS TIRELESSLY  
TO ENSURE THAT EVERY CHILD RECEIVES THE  
LOVE, CARE, AND SUPPORT THEY DESERVE,  
*regardless of their circumstances.*

## PALMER HOME MISSION

PALMER HOME IS A 100% DONATION  
BASED NONPROFIT WITH THE  
MISSION TO PROVIDE SUPERIOR  
CARE FOR CHILDREN WHILE  
INTRODUCING THE LOVE OF GOD  
THROUGH OUR SERVICE TO EACH  
INDIVIDUAL CHILD.



CAMPUS  
CARE



FOSTER  
CARE



FAMILY  
CARE



TRANSITIONAL  
CARE





whole child initiative

Whole Child Initiative is a vital component of our mission, shaping the way we care for and support the children entrusted to our care. This holistic approach helps every child receive the individualized care and support needed to realize their unique potential. From academic empowerment to spiritual well-being and emotional healing, Whole Child continues to guide our mission and fuel our growth.

We remain deeply committed to Whole Child Initiative because of its impact on our programs and service lines. Our standard plan of care originates with the Whole Child Review, which is a “wraparound” exercise including teachers, counselors, houseparents, caregivers, and leadership to measure the status and progress of each child. Whole Child Reviews are essential to helping children reach their full potential as they build a foundation for a brighter future.



## WHOLE CHILD INITIATIVE MISSION

**EMPOWER ORGANIZATIONS THAT  
SERVE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO  
CULTIVATE POWERFUL TRAUMA-  
INFORMED RESILIENCE AND LASTING  
CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION.**

## PARTNERS IN *hope*



WHOLE STORY



WHOLE CHILD



WHOLE TEAM



WHOLE CAREGIVER

# THE ROLE OF PALMER SCHOOL IN ACADEMIC SUCCESS

A child with unique circumstances often has difficulty getting the services or support needed to thrive and grow in larger classroom settings.

At Palmer School, students who have experienced tough situations or whose academic needs may not have been a priority, are given a chance to feel supported. Meeting the individual physical needs of a child with trauma or adverse childhood experiences is only half the battle. They must feel safe, secure, seen, and heard before you can provide educational material that will be retained.

The children in our care serve as examples of why there is not a “one size fits all” approach to teaching children. This is especially true in environments where children have faced trauma or adversity. These young minds require an educator who can serve as a bridge between their past and their future. At Palmer School, these children not only have the chance to gain the confidence to ask questions and understand where they may need more support or resources, they are also able to catch up to their peers because their unique individual needs are being met.

**“WITH THE LEVEL OF UNIQUE ATTENTION WE CAN DEVOTE TO EACH STUDENT AT PALMER SCHOOL, I AM ABLE TO BUILD RAPPORT AND HELP THEM CATCH UP IF THEY HAVE FALLEN BEHIND. IN A TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM SETTING, WE MAY LACK THE TIME OR RESOURCES TO MEET THOSE CRUCIAL NEEDS FOR KIDS WITH ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACES).”**

**- ABBY GRAY**  
PALMER SCHOOL EDUCATOR

**“THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF PALMER SCHOOL IS TO CONNECT CHILDREN WITH THE SUPPORT THEY NEED SO THEY CAN THRIVE BOTH IN THE CLASSROOM AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM. ONE CHILD IN OUR CARE, WHO WAS ONCE MANY GRADE LEVELS BEHIND, HAS NOW GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL WITH A NEW SENSE OF CONFIDENCE IN HERSELF AND RENEWED PRIDE IN HER ABILITIES.”**

**- DR. ANDRE CRAFFORD**  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION  
AND TRAINING





# 2024 *highlights*

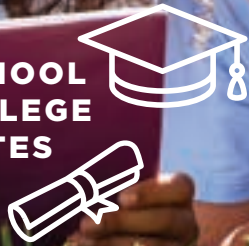
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CHILDREN  
PROFESSED  
FAITH IN  
CHRIST



5

HIGH SCHOOL  
AND COLLEGE  
GRADUATES



268



CHILDREN SERVED

27,375

MEALS SERVED



6

FAMILY  
REUNIFICATIONS



12

RELATIVE  
PLACEMENTS

10

CHILDREN INVOLVED  
IN SPORTS



8



SIBLING  
GROUPS

40



FAMILY CARE  
MOMS SERVED

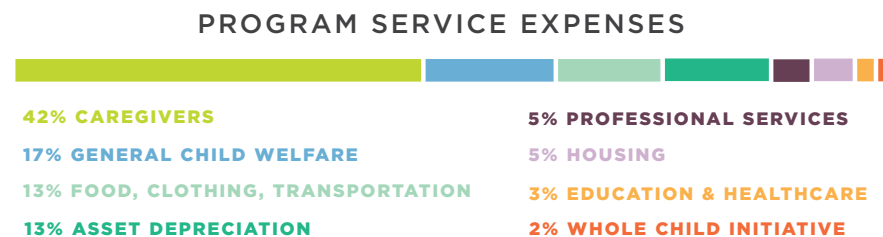
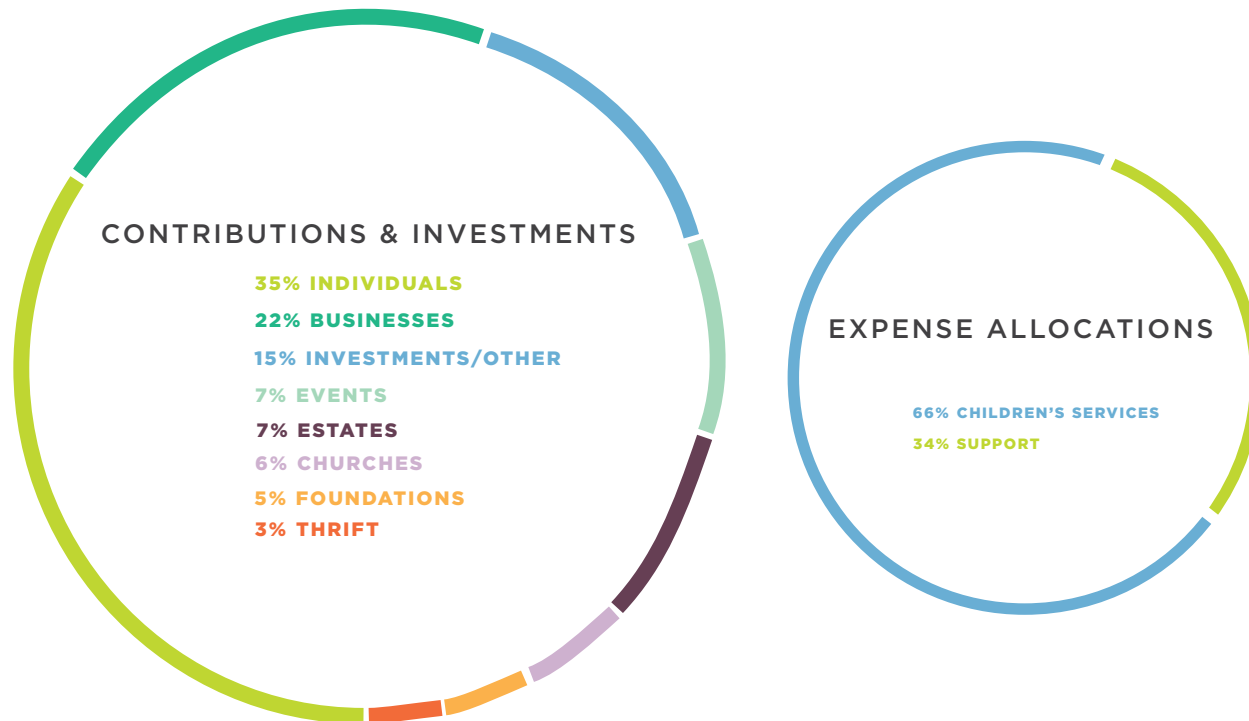
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YOUNG ADULTS  
IN THE MILITARY



# FUNDING FOR THEIR FUTURE



SCAN TO VIEW PAST  
PALMER HOME  
FINANCIAL REPORTS.

**YOUR DONATIONS HELP US  
EMPOWER CHILDREN IN CRITICAL  
SITUATIONS TO ACHIEVE THEIR  
TRUE POTENTIAL.**



**“SPORTS MADE ME  
REALIZE I WANTED  
SOMETHING MORE  
IN LIFE.”**

**- TREVOR**

## ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO PURSUE PASSIONS

Your gifts have positively impacted hundreds of children and families, including Trevor, who came to Palmer Home years ago with his siblings. Thanks to your generosity and the tireless work of our staff, his childhood was filled with love and support, which transformed his future.

When Trevor came to Palmer Home, he was a rambunctious child. His houseparents quickly realized he needed a healthy outlet for his abundant energy. At Palmer Home, we encourage children to pursue their passions. When Trevor showed an interest in sports, his houseparents were immediately supportive.

It turns out Trevor is a natural athlete. Today, Trevor is a high school varsity athlete in multiple sports. This year, he was hand-selected to play on a state-wide football team, and his team won the state championship.

As Trevor says, “Sports made me realize I wanted something more in life.”

Participating in athletics not only allowed him to showcase his natural talents, but also taught him the importance of hard work, accountability, coachability, and camaraderie. Sports gave Trevor the motivation to succeed in school because he knows that if he doesn’t maintain his grades, he can’t compete on the field.

Giving to Palmer Home provides children like Trevor with a typical childhood filled with joy and laughter. Trevor had loving caregivers who nurtured his interests. He had transportation to and from each practice, with his siblings cheering him on at each game. Nutritious meals, clean uniforms, and restful nights in a safe, stable home gave him the foundation to thrive. Trevor has transformed into a disciplined, determined young man who now dreams of attending college and opening his own business.

**THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US TO SUPPORT TREVOR AND  
SO MANY OTHER CHILDREN LIKE HIM.**



## DR. HUGH FRANCIS, JR. WELLNESS CENTER

311   
TOURS GIVEN

565   
THERAPY HOURS

208   
TUTORING HOURS

6   
CHILDREN ATTENDING  
PALMER SCHOOL

1,117   
VOLUNTEER HOURS





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert H. Clark - STARKVILLE, MS  
Amy Brown - HERNANDO, MS  
George Sousoulas - MEMPHIS, TN  
Tim Edmondson - VARDAMAN, MS  
Karen Carlisle - MEMPHIS, TN  
Felix Dornier - NESBIT, MS  
Harold Clark - STARKVILLE, MS  
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Dr. Daryl Guest - STARKVILLE, MS  
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Tom McCann - PEACHTREE CITY, GA  
Rick L. Powell - MEMPHIS, TN  
Dr. John Russell - COLUMBUS, MS  
Alan Walters - JACKSON, MS

**“I am honored to join the board of Palmer Home and continue Valero’s commitment of giving back to our communities. Since my family and I moved to this area, we have been impressed with the incredible work of this faith-based organization and look forward to serving in a greater capacity. Palmer Home for Children works tirelessly to transform the lives of children and families in need, and I am humbled to be part of this mission.”**

**- FELIX DORNIER**  
VALERO ENERGY CORPORATION



## HOPE WORKS PROGRAM

The Valero Hope Works program teaches work and life skills needed for adulthood with a focus on enhancing independence, building self-esteem, mastering competency, and learning social-relational skills. This program also creates opportunities for youths to develop time management skills, punctuality, a good work ethic, interviewing skills, positive relational skills, and more - preparing them to launch into work outside of campus.



# MUDBUG BASH 20 YEARS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PRESENTED BY **SKYLAKE**  
-CONSTRUCTION-

BENEFITTING **PALMER HOME**  
FOR CHILDREN



"I have watched this event grow and prosper, which is why I consider it one of my favorites each year. Palmer Home is an easy charity to support because of its incredible impact. However, what makes Mudbug Bash so special is how it is embraced by Hernando and the surrounding community. The staff at Palmer Home and the volunteers—many of whom have been involved for all 20 years—make it truly special. I look forward to April each year!"

- **MACON MOORE**  
MEMPHIS CRAWFISH COMPANY



**\$1.3 MILLION RAISED**



**50,000+ POUNDS OF CRAWFISH SERVED**



**VOTED DESOTOS BEST CHARITY EVENT FOR OVER A DECADE**



**20 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT**







# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

## CONNECT US WITH YOUR CHURCH

We desire to partner with your church to provide clear pathways for caring for the vulnerable children in our communities. Email [development@palmerhomeorg.com](mailto:development@palmerhomeorg.com) to connect your church today!

## BECOME A PALMER HOME HERO

Help sustain our mission by becoming a Palmer Home Hero. There is no gift too small. Monthly giving is an easy and consistent way for you to help make lives whole. Visit [palmerhome.org/donate](https://palmerhome.org/donate) to learn more.

## VOLUNTEER

Palmer Home's volunteers provide support in a number of ways. From wrapping gifts at Christmas to helping plant produce or flowers in our Hope Grows Garden, volunteers can choose from a number of roles. Visit [palmerhome.org/volunteers](https://palmerhome.org/volunteers) to learn more.

## FOSTER

Palmer Home's foster families provide loving homes to children in need. We believe every child benefits from a safe, stable, nurturing family that provides supportive relationships and a sense of belonging. Visit [palmerhome.org/foster](https://palmerhome.org/foster) to learn more.

## ARE YOU THE NEXT PALMER HOME *champion?*

- ☐ Connect us with your church.
- ☐ Sign up to volunteer.
- ☐ Become a Palmer Home Hero.



PALMERHOME.ORG



PALMER HOME FOR CHILDREN  
800 BALDWIN RD. SOUTH  
LAKE CORMORANT, MS 38641



Follow us on social @palmerhome

