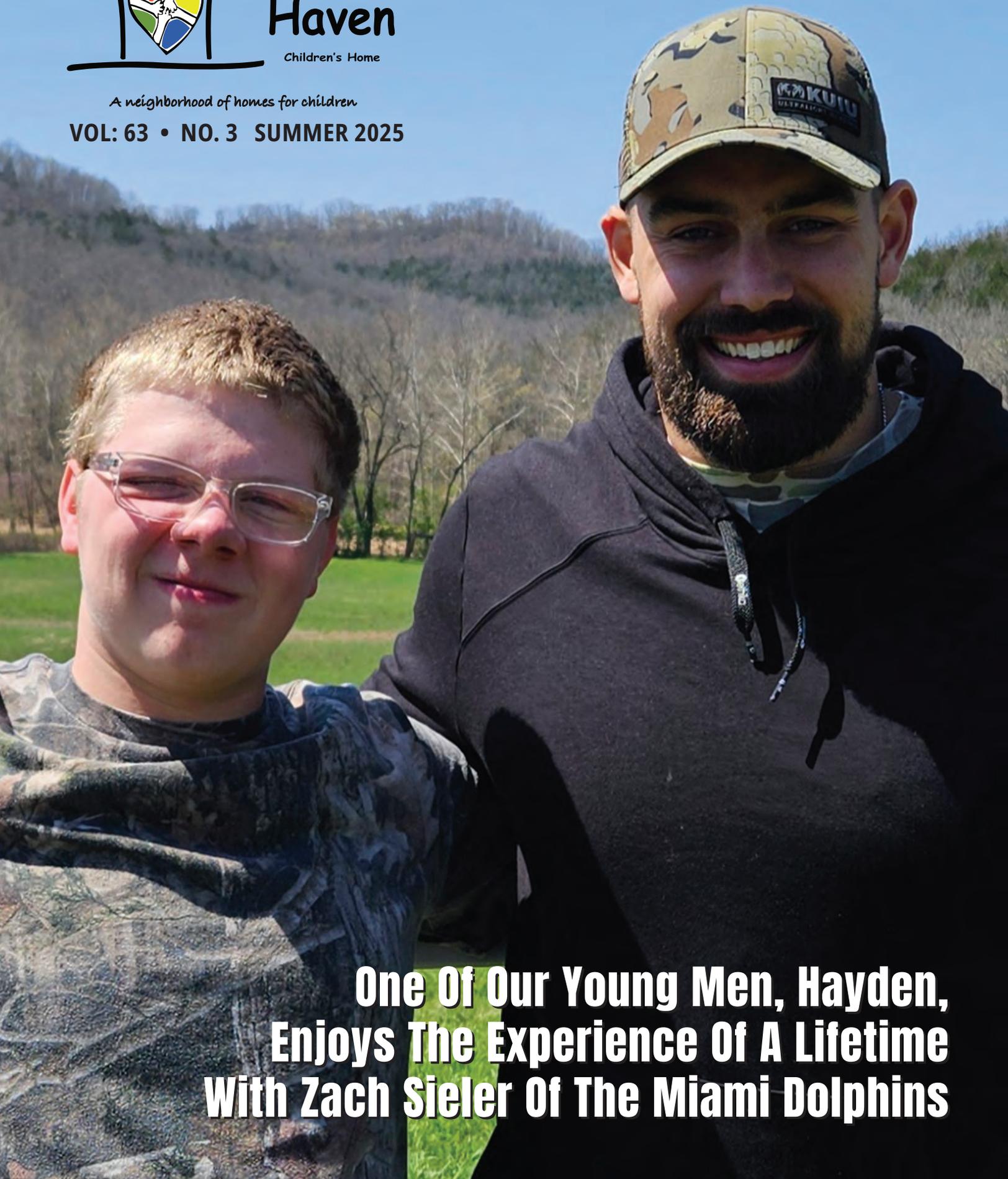


Fair Haven

Children's Home

A neighborhood of homes for children

VOL: 63 • NO. 3 SUMMER 2025



**One Of Our Young Men, Hayden,
Enjoys The Experience Of A Lifetime
With Zach Sieler Of The Miami Dolphins**

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www.facebook.com/FairHavenChildrensHomeStraffordMO/

Fair Haven Children's Home Administration & Staff

- CEO / Executive Director Barney Crawford
- Board of Directors/Elders (Water Mill Church of Christ)
 - Barney Crawford
 - Gene Kenyon
 - Brendan Carrol
 - Gene Lund
 - John Ewing
 - Travis Morrison
- Office Manager..... Donna Jordan
- Administrative Assistant Debbie Crawford
- Director of Child & Family ServicesBrad Fox
- Director of Development Brian York
- CounselorDon McFall
- Case Worker Sydney Murphy

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



Barney Crawford,
Executive Director

"Unto the least of these..."

One of the greatest blessings from our Savior was that He spoke to His disciples as children. He brought things down to a level so we could grasp His meaning and intent and there would be no question about the direction He wanted us to go. In Matthew 25, Jesus wrapped up a couple of parables with the illustration of feeding, clothing, and visiting those in need. He states clearly that the reward is for those who take care of this need and punishment is for those who neglect to do so. Truly, our Lord has made the simplest of requests to be the noblest.

Fair Haven is constantly faced with children who need the basic necessities of life and we have been able to take care of those needs because of you. In doing so, you become a part of our work and a part of fulfilling our Lord's desire that we provide for those in need.

In addition to providing our young people with a safe home, food, and clothing, they have all also been able to enjoy bible camp, many outdoor activities, and some exhilarating fireworks displays. We want to thank you for your support so that we are able to take care of the needs of "the least of these." (Matthew 25:40)

God bless,

Barney Crawford

Barney



**Fair
Haven**

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THE TREASURE IS IN THE HUNT



Rolling out of bed an hour before daylight is seldom easy but knowing that he was going to be greeted by freezing temperatures made it even harder. Despite the elements, Hayden knew he was blessed to be going on a youth turkey hunt as an honored guest of a special host.

The afternoon before, Hayden and I drove down to a secluded cabin in rural Christian County. After crossing the creek, on which I would not have wanted to use anything other than a four-wheel drive, we entered the gate to a picturesque cabin that would be our home for the next 24 hours. Hayden had been invited to be part of the inaugural session of the Missouri branch of the Sieler Safe Haven Foundation. The foundation at its heart seeks to create opportunities for youth to experience nature and foster an appreciation of the outdoors, while promoting integrity, respect, responsibility and servant leadership.



We unpacked our gear and soon Hayden went with Tyler Fox, who works with the foundation, to learn about hunter safety and do some target shooting with a .410 shotgun. We shared an evening meal with a group of people to celebrate this occasion. Then Hayden and I got to spend some time with our host, the namesake of the foundation, Zach Sieler. Many of

you may not realize that name, but if you are a fan of the National Football League you probably will. Over the last couple of years with the Miami Dolphins Zach has put up numbers that place him among the greatest defensive tackles in the NFL. Despite his success, Zach made us feel at home by treating us like family. Zach's wife, Hannah, an Ozark native, and one-year-old son, Stetson, help make the experience memorable, as did Tyler Fox and Justin Fann, another SSHF worker.

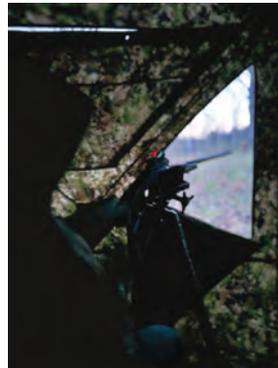


Zach's story makes things even more special. After high school, he was not able to secure a scholarship with any college or university. Zach was given an opportunity to make the team as a walk-on player with Ferris State University. He later earned a scholarship and after his college career was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens. After

a few years and only playing a handful of games with the Ravens, he joined the Dolphins and has steadily

climbed his way to the top. It hasn't come easy, but with determination, listening, learning, hard work and the support of those around him, he has achieved success.

I believe his story embodies what we are trying to do with our kids here at Fair Haven. We desire to give kids an opportunity to have something different, something better. We will help them, provide a plan and cheer them on from the sidelines, but each child will have to decide to commit themselves to success. Please pray for our kids and those who are helping them along the journey.



So back to rolling out of a warm bed before the crack of dawn. Hayden got up, bundled up and headed out into the woods with Tyler leading the way. They settled into a blind and began their hunt shortly before daylight. Tyler showed Hayden how to call for turkeys, but after a few hours of effort, they loaded up to return to the cabin for breakfast. After

eating enough biscuits and gravy to send most adults into a food coma, I think I lost count somewhere around seven, Hayden and the rest of us explored the grounds around the cabin for a bit, then he and Tyler returned to the blind. They spotted one some distance away, but were unable to get him called in. After a few more hours they decided to call it a day. We were unable to stay for an evening hunt, so we packed up our gear and spent a little more time with our gracious host.

I was a little disappointed that Hayden didn't get a turkey, but when I talked with him about it, Hayden was so excited to have had the experience it didn't seem to faze him much. His comment was "That's the best experience I've had in a long time!" As I reflect on the past two and a half years of knowing Hayden, this shouldn't surprise me. He has been through so much in his early years and through a lot of effort on the part of Hayden and those helping him, has come so far. So, we'll keep helping, and planning, and cheering and doing whatever we can to see that Hayden has the success story he deserves.



A big thank you to Zach and all the folks at the Sieler Safe Haven Foundation!

Brad Fox
Director of Children's Services

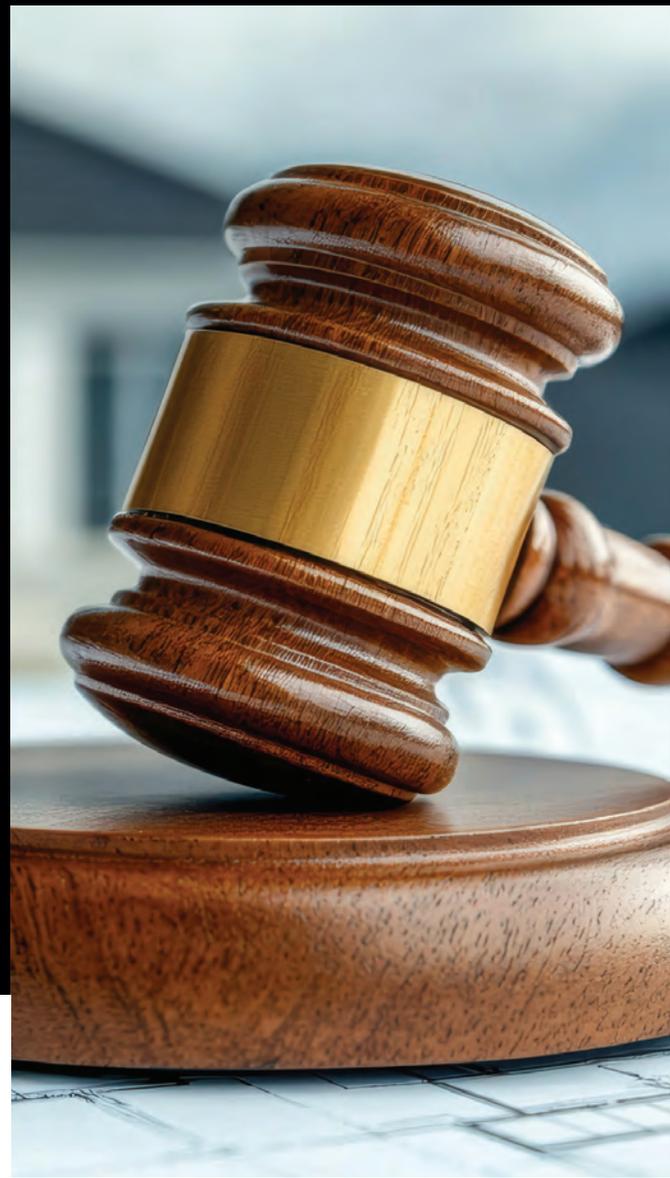


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ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION SEPTEMBER 20, 2025



Location: Fair Haven Gymnasium
Time: Doors open at 9 AM
Bidding starts at 10 AM

Mark your calendars and save the date. This year's annual auction will be the 20th one we have held and this year, it falls on the 20th of the month. Let's make this one the best so far. We are already gearing up for this event and it should be a great one. However, our annual auction relies on you. We need some big-ticket items (cars, boats, etc.), new/nearly new small items, and antiques, to push this auction over the top.

Fair Haven uses the proceeds from our annual auction to buy propane for the coming winter. While it never fully covers our heating fuel costs, this event significantly reduces the financial burden on us.



HOUSE PARENTS NEEDED



As of last Fall, Fair Haven was fully staffed with a full campus of children. However, as life seems to make changes in different folks' situations, we currently find ourselves in need of 2 new set of houseparents. This work comes with a competitive salary, fully paid health insurance premiums, a 6-bedroom home, a 12-passenger van, and we are able to hire husband and wife teams. The husband is also welcome to work off-campus if that situation is better for you.

Being a houseparent can be a difficult work, but it can be just as rewarding. Many of these children just need someone to care for them, make them meals, shuttle them to and from school, pray with them, and occasionally, be a shoulder to cry on. If you think you could do this job, then you're probably right. Some of the most unlikely couples, make the greatest houseparents.

If you think maybe you'd like a job change this year, give us a call; you might be just what we're looking for AND you might be just what these kiddos need.

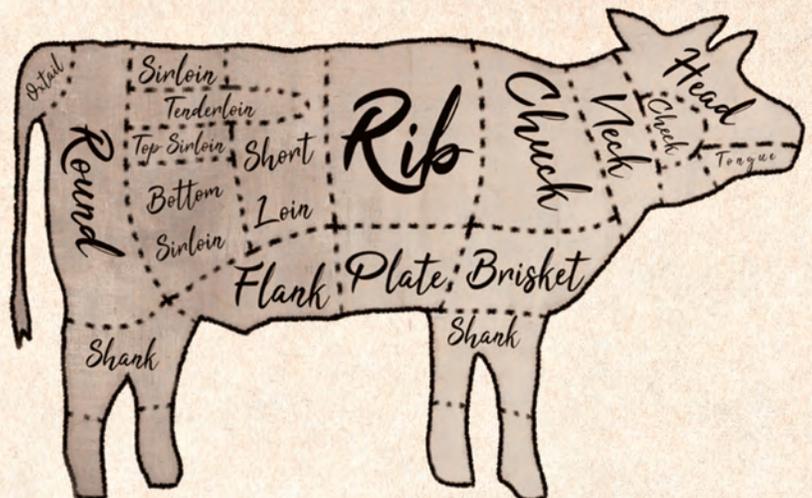
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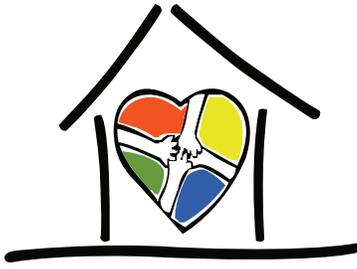


BEEF DONATIONS REQUESTED

Over the years, Fair Haven has relied on its donors to help us keep our food room supplied and the response has always been positive and supportive. Right now, we find that our walk-in freezer is nearly out of ground beef and roasts. If you, or someone you know, would be able to donate a cow or steer, Fair Haven can provide a letter of donation for tax purposes. We also typically pay the processing fees and take care of the pickup from the processor. Any help in this matter would be greatly appreciated.



WAYS TO DONATE



Thrift Haven Store

If you haven't visited our thrift store in the last year, you are in for a nice surprise. The store next to ours decided to discontinue business and we were able to expand into their space. This expansion allowed us to increase our square footage, update some of our fixtures, and increase our parking. Sales for the year have been strong and we have kept our prices down, which helps Fair Haven as well as the community.

Thrift Haven covers the 6-10% shortfall in our budget and with rising prices, it has proven crucial for our work with the children here at Fair Haven. Without Thrift Haven, we would not have been able to continue. Our expanded floor space has proven to have increased revenue as well, so we are thankful we chose to take on this additional area.

Please stop by and see our expanded and updated store.

Apparently, You CAN Have Too Much of a Good Thing!

18 years ago, when we opened the thrift store, we were concerned about having enough donations to keep it stocked. Currently, we find that we have too many donations for our volunteers to sort through and get to the shelves. This situation is difficult for us as we don't have the room to store the excess and neither do we wish for good items to go to the dumpster.

Additionally, we are shorthanded at the store. While having too many items coming in sounds like a good problem to have, we need to try and regulate the volume as best we can.

- Currently, we are limited to sending trucks out for furniture pickups only.
- No mattresses or televisions
- No broken furniture (we do not have the manpower to repair items)

We are so thankful for the donations, unfortunately, we can't take everything. We can no longer accept mattresses of any kind or televisions. These items end up costing us as we must send them to the landfill and pay the disposal fees.

For more information contact Dan Pfaff

Thrift Haven
1312 S Glenstone Ave
Springfield, MO 65804
(417) 882-3392



HOUSE OF KINDNESS By Brian York



In John 5, we read of Jesus coming to a lame man lying by a pool, hoping for someone to put him in the waters for its healing effect. The place is called Bethesda, which is a combination of Hebrew

words meaning, House of Kindness. Although this place was called the House of Kindness, it seems that it was anything but that! This man had been afflicted for 38 years and was just hoping for some small bit of kindness, yet others stepped over him to take advantage of the healing of the waters. Many of our young people at Fair Haven have experienced something of this sort themselves. For a variety of reasons, some of them have been stepped over and sometimes felt stepped on.



I can only imagine what it would feel like to lay beside healing waters for years and hope for one good person to help. I can also only imagine what it would be like to live

in a home where there was no kindness. Sadly, it is too often that young people get in the way of parents fulfilling their own desires, just like the folks stepping over the lame man at the pool.

I suppose you could say Fair Haven tries to be a true House of Kindness. Jesus showed the man kindness by giving him what he needed. Fair Haven works to give these young people what they desperately need as well. We give them a safe home, food at the table, and a comfortable bed to sleep in. Most importantly, we show them the One who is the greatest source of kindness, Jesus Christ. Jesus did not even tell the man who He was at the time, He just healed him and left. We don't take care of kiddos for the glory; we do it to be like our Savior. We give these young people a hand up and hope they have a better life because of our influence.



Brian York

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

-James 1:27 (KJV)



WAYS TO DONATE

Cash or Check

- Mail to Fair Haven Children's Home | 3132 N. Fair Haven Loop | Strafford, MO 65757

Time

- Donate your time by becoming a Volunteer at Thrift Haven
- Volunteers are needed for all days, but especially Saturday.
- Call 417-882-3392 and ask for Dan

Credit Card / Paypal Donations through our website

- <https://www.fairhavenchildrenshome.com/donate>

Change for Children

- Contact us at 417-862-6675 to have cans sent to you, then drop in your extra change.
- Return cans to Fair Haven or put them with your Grocery Run donations at your local congregation to have them picked up.

CLOTHING AND OTHER NEEDS

- Bath Towels
- Brushes
- Combs
- Feminine hygiene products

- Hair Accessories
- Nail clippers
- Qtips
- Washclothes

Boys and Girls clothes size 5T and up:

- Pajamas
- T-shirts
- Sweat Pants
- Sweat Shirts

GROCERY LIST

Thank you to all who have helped by donating groceries and money, and have participated in the Grocery pickups. We can't stress enough how important your donations are to keep our pantry fully supplied. See below for a list of current needs:

DRY GOODS / COOKING

- Brown Sugar
- Cereal
- Chili Powder
- Chocolate Chips
- Cookie Mix
- Corn Muffin Mix
- Cornmeal
- Olive Oil
- Pepper
- Powdered Sugar
- Snacks
- Spaghetti
- Taco Seasoning
- Vinegar

CANNED GOODS

- Salmon
- Spaghetti Sauce

JUICE/BEVERAGES

- Kool-Aid
- Juice

FRUITS/VEGGIES (CANNED)

- Mandarin Oranges

CONDIMENTS

- Chocolate Syrup
- Miracle Whip
- Pickles
- Relish
- Salad Dressings

PERSONAL ITEMS

- Body Wash
- Hand Soap
- Shampoo (kids/adults)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Aluminum Foil
- Cleaning Supplies
- Dish Washing Liquid
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Fabric Softener
- Paper Cups
- Paper Plates
- Trash Bags (13 & 30 gal)
- Zip Lock Bags
- Sandwich & Gallon sizes; Storage & Freezer

Sometimes items are listed by brand name so our donors will understand exactly what we need. However, store and generic brands are always welcomed with great appreciation.

MEMORIAL & HONOR GIVING

You can also make Memorial/Honor Gifts Online at: www.fairhavenchildrenshome.org

Honor the life and/or memory of a loved one by giving to Fair Haven Children's Homes in the form of a Memorial gift or Honor gift. Gifts will be used in specific areas of service at Fair Haven Children's Home (ie. school supplies, needs for the houses, etc.) upon request.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION!

- In Memory Of: In Honor Of:

Send Acknowledgement To:

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Your Information:

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Daytime Phone (in case we have questions about the gift)

Congregation (if applicable)

E-Mail Address

MEMORIALS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS

FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL 2025

FREIDA ADEY
Mike & Molinda Mitchell

KENNA ATKESON
Kerry & Sharon McDuffie

EVA PARKER BEY
Mike & Molinda Mitchell

ED BAILEY
Kelley Ritter
Beverly Bonner

HERMAN BENNETT
Jack & Janella Crites

MARVIN BLAKE
Nona McElroy

JOHNNY BOLTON
Wheaton Church of Christ

SUE BOND
William Totty

MARY BRATCHER
DON ESSEX
Water Mill Church of Christ

JANET BROWN
Brad Calkins

VELMA BYRD
DOUG ROBINSON
KATHLEEN WOOLARD
Gary & Kim Crockett

ALLEN CANTRELL
Bill & Linda Blazer
Gilbert & Mary Cruise family

PAULA CHRISTIAN
Sharon Hedden
Dr. Carl & Linda Claxton
Joe & Vicki Bright

RON COLE
Troy & Jana Bowline
Ted & Becky Koontz
John & Tracy Sayre
Nick & Jeannee Thrasher
Brad & Cathy Fox

Billie Fields
Norma Taylor
Joyce & Lonnie Coker
Carolyn Mitchum

CLIFFORD CRUZ
BETTY STRONG

GAVAUGHNA SMITH
Donald Amyx

JANET DALTON
Wheaton Church of Christ

NICHOLAS M DAVIS
DEL HOLMAN
Nadean Davis

JAMES DECKER
Amber Redburn

NORMA DEMENT
TIM HOUGH
Leo & Sharon Martin

NORMA DEMENT
ALLEN NUTTER
South Highway Five Church of Christ

AUDREY DENNIS
Barbara Tullock

KENNETH (RED) EMBREY
Clyde & Betty Embrey

NINA ROBERTA FUHR
High School Class of 1965

SARA GOLDMAN
Joyce & Lonnie Coker

MARVIN GREEN
JIM LOFTIS
Janet Bassett

LOIS HEMMING
Mike & Molinda Mitchell

HILMA HINES
Wheaton Church of Christ

TIM HOUGH
South Highway Five Church of Christ
Leo & Sharon Martin

DORIS IORG
Dona Baucom

ARVIL JACKSON
WAYNE SIMPSON
Gilbert & Mary Cruise family

JOHNNY JENNINGS
Leo & Sharon Martin
South Highway Five Church of Christ

EDNA JOHNSON
Lincoln Church of Christ

MR. & MRS. JAMES W JONES
Gary D Jones

NORMA JONES
Frances McGinnis

DON KELLEY
Chris Wade

STEVE KELLEY
Beverly Kelley

JIM KENAGY
Leo & Sharon Martin

DON & LORENE KENNON
Sue Christie

MAXONA LAWLER
South Highway Five Church of Christ
Leo & Sharon Martin

SUE LEA
Sunset Sewing Ladies

BONNIE LILES
DORTHETA STRACKE
VENTON HASKINS
BRENDA CHAYER
LEONARD CRON
RON LEA
NANCY WITTMEIR
PHYLISS SIMPSON
JIM MORRIS

MEMORIALS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS

FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL 2025

MARTY ESSARY
MACK CASS
BOB GLOVER
SHELL SHORT
BRENT SHORT
JOHN DALE SHORT
John & Linda Short

BUD LONG
Elaine & Jim Poland
John & Nancy Cox

CHAROLETTE LUCAS
Sparta Church of Christ

SAM LYNCH
MARILYN DEAN
GENE SCROGGINS
EARL GRUNDEN
CHARLOTTE (HANSON) LUNDQUIST
SAM LYNCH
KELLY ELDRED
Sunset Church of Christ

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John McLain

MARGARET MARSHALL
Leo & Sharon Martin

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Victor Henson
Vaughn Henson
Minnie Jo Loretta Henson
Mike & Janet Price

KEITH MISHLER
DORTHETA STRACKE
LORNA WALKER
Sunset Church of Christ

MRS. NEWTON
Tracy Asher

ALLEN NUTTER
Leo & Sharon Martin

ELLA OWEN
DORTHETA STRACKE
DORIS ROACH
Jerry Owen

LARRY E OXLEY
Jim & Carolyn Ketcherside
Karen Gill
Jeanne Smith
Wayne & Joy Wheeler
Rita Kempker
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Cathy & Tom
Mary Ann & Dennis
Steve & Ronda
Mark & Gina

MARTINA PLAVNICK
J R & Davon Sampson

IVIE POWELL SR.
Tim, Amber, Corby Redburn

TERRY DALE PYLES
Nadean L Davis

GLENDA KAY RANDALL
Calvin Randall
Michelle Randall

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JAMES TAYLOR
JOHN MORITZ
Union Hill Church of Christ

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Twyla Menzies

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Terry & Karan Young

TERRY ROUNTREE
Kay Lynn Palm

EDITH RUSH
DARRIN TACKETT
Gary & Kim Crockett

ETHEL SANDBERG
BOB WINDES
Exeter Church of Christ
Norma Windes

GENE SCROGGINS
Mike & Debbie Mills
Niman Ranch Team
Sharon Caldwell

GENE SCROGGINS
BERTA COOK
Union Hill Church of Christ

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GUAVANA SIMS
Sparta Church of Christ

JOHN DALE SHORT
Antioch Church of Christ
David & Betty Galloway
Donna & Dale Galloway
Jamey & Diana Wright
Steve & Alice Samuel

RUTH SMITH
Raytown Church of Christ

DAVID SNOWDEN
Janet Price

ROBYN SPRAGUE
Sparta Church of Christ

DORTHETA STRACKE
Ison family

MEMORIALS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS

FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL 2025

TONYA STRAUSS
McKinney family
Dennis & Marilyn Tindall

WELDON SWINDLE
MARY WILLIAMS
DOYLE EDIE
Nancy & Johnny Bishop

KEVIN TACKITT
Elijah Church of Christ

CLAUDE & MARY TODD
Phil & Cathy Taylor

DONNA TODD
Sue Gardner

MARY F WILLIAMS
Exeter Church of Christ

GUY WILSON
HOBERT & MARGUERITE BYRD
GUY & DICIE FARRAR
Evelyn Wilson

STEVE WININGNEAR
Leo & Sharon Martin
South Highway Five Church of Christ

JOYCE WOODALL
Gilbert & Mary Cruise family

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

PHYLLIS CLAYTON
ANY VIGUET
BEVERLY LIGHT
CLIFTON JEWELL
ROSE SANTIAGO
DOROTHY VINZANT
DALE WAGNER
ANN FRIZELL
WANDA ROWE
MAXINE GHAN
KELLY ELDRED
RAYMOND GLENDINNING
KEN SPELLMAN
DALE WAGNER
DOROLINE BARNES

MANDY COLLINS
VERLA FRANKLIN
NANCY ELLIOTT
PAULA CHRISTIAN
DARRELL HANNAH
CARLEEN MORRIS
DAMON VINCENT
In lieu of flowers while in the
hospital
Sunset Church of Christ

SAMMIE GREEN
In honor of her
Camdenton Church of Christ

WHITAKER CLAYTON HENSON JR.
Thank you for making me a great
grandma
Minnie Jo Loretta Henson

CASSIDY KRULL
In honor of her
Exeter Church of Christ

BILL MCFARLAND
In honor of his 40 years of service
at North National and Water Mill
Jerry & Carolyn Young

CHARLOTTE ROBERTS
In honor of her faithful service
Omaha Church of Christ

ORGEL & MARY WILLIAMS
In honor of them
Exeter Church of Christ

Fair Haven



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Allisa	9-5-09
Acadia	9-10-08
Sora (Boy)	10-24-19
Sophia	11-4-09