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**Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes & Family Ministries (ABCH)**

**2021 Report**

In our homes across the state, we are blessed to see God working and transforming the tender hearts of so many of our children and teenagers. We see Him at work in both small and big ways, and we know as Kingdom partners in this work with us, you too, will celebrate how God has been at work in these young lives this year:

Brothers, Nick\* & Andrew\*, adjusted well in school, performing above average in academics and stayed committed to the football team, despite a tumultuous family life.

We saw Deon\*, who had been with us for over three years, able to be reunited with his father. This is a miracle and praise, and also a prayer request. We ask that you pray for this family and other families like them, as they reunify and transition to life together again and that parents and relatives will maintain all they need to do to keep their families healthy and intact.

Wes\* followed the Lord in Believer’s Baptism. He was saved several years ago but had never had the courage to be baptized because one of his closest family members is very hostile to the Christian faith. Our house parent shared this wonderful news of his baptism, saying, “Only God could’ve given him the courage to overcome those fears.”

When teenager Maggie\* first came to us, she barely held her head up when she would speak to you. She had very few life skills. She did not know how to take care of herself in regard to simple hygiene habits that most of us learn as children, and she was failing in school. But after being in our care—being consistently loved, protected, and nurtured—things began to change in Maggie’s life in the best ways.

First and most importantly, she accepted Christ as her Savior! Over time, we’ve seen her grow to be very health conscious and very well kept. She began to make A’s, B’s and C’s in school and is well respected by her teachers and peers. Finally, this shy little girl who barely uttered a word, tried out and made Color Guard at her high school. She continues to grow in her faith and tells her friends at school about Jesus.

2020 was certainly a year like none other, but we praise God that He still faithfully worked in thousands of lives through your Children’s Homes. Looking back at 2020, your support helped us care for 4,443 people across all areas of ministry, serving 382 in our Foster Care homes, 105 in our Campus and Shelter Care homes, 93 in our Family Care homes, and 3,758 through our counseling services! We are thankful to the Lord for 15 professions of faith in 2020, 42 new homes licensed for foster care, 35 adoptions, and 130 reunifications to family members!

**Your support of children from hard places is invaluable to the work God has called us to do. Thank you.** Every day in our ministry, lives are being influenced and impacted for the Kingdom. Thank you for praying, serving, and giving as we work together to protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services. We are so grateful for what God has done and look forward to all that He has in store!