



WINTER 2021

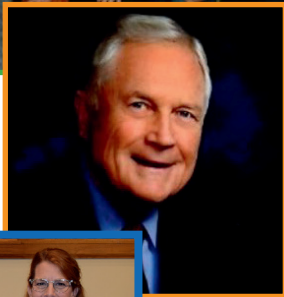
# news@home

A PUBLICATION OF INDIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

515 W. Camp Street  
Lebanon, IN 46052  
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www.iumch.org



## Meet the 2021 Indiana Children's Champion Honorees



Indiana United Methodist Children's Home (IUMCH) honored five Hoosier community leaders for providing life-changing hope for children and families in crisis on the 2021 Indiana Children's Champion Day during a virtual celebration via Facebook Live. The honorees were recognized for helping the Children's Home live up to its values of love, family and education.

The 2021 Indiana Children's Champion Honorees:

- **Rev. Jim Gentry** received the *Lifetime Leadership Award* for his vision and his 60 years of exemplary service with the Children's Home;
- **Morris "Mo" E. Thomas, Jr.** also received the *Lifetime Leadership Award* for his vision and nearly 40 years of exemplary service with the Children's Home and more recently with the Foundation;
- **Daryl and Lois Hoffman** received the *Agape Award* for their dedication to sharing love, compassion, healing and giving hope to the youth at the Children's Home;
- **First United Methodist Church, Noblesville** received the *Partner in Christ Award* for their five decades of dedicated service to the Home;
- Retired Marion County Juvenile Court Judge **Marilyn Moores** received the *Advocate Award* for her exemplary impact on children's rights at the Children's Home and throughout Indiana.



The 2021 Indiana Children's Champion Day celebration offered a chance for the Home's leadership to thank individuals and groups for their tremendous support and impact in helping the Children's Home make a difference for so many young people in Indiana.

The virtual event featured an inspirational interview with former resident Chyna Gates. She shared insight into a dysfunctional childhood which led her to the Children's Home. Chyna, a scholarship recipient, also shared highlights of her new life as a college student at IUPUI. Her goal is to become a registered nurse. **To hear more about Chyna's story, go to [iumch.org/celebration/](http://iumch.org/celebration/).**

To watch the video featuring the award recipients, go to [www.iumch.org/celebration/](http://www.iumch.org/celebration/).



# #GivingTuesday

November 30, 2021



Together, we can do something BIG! #GivingTuesday 2021 is right around the corner. Our 2021 goal is to raise enough funds in just 24 hours for our youth to have their Best Christmas Ever. Please join us in reaching our \$3,000 goal on November 30th. Funds raised will allow each of our youth to experience some new holiday traditions. All youth will have the opportunity to go to Christmas at the Zoo followed by a festive dinner at a restaurant. Additional funds, beyond the goal, will fund holiday movies, trips to Newfield Gardens and other seasonal activities.

According to Lin, "I was at the Home last year and able to go to the Indianapolis Zoo. The lights were amazing and I got to see giraffes up close for the first time. I loved every minute of that day."

Since #GivingTuesday is an online campaign, it relies on the limitless possibility on social media. Don't forget to share, tag us and use the hashtag #GivingTuesday, #HopeHasAHome and #IUMCH. To make a gift on November 30th, go to [www.iumch.org](http://www.iumch.org). We'll have updates on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

## United Methodist Churches Give from the Heart

One hundred and six years ago, the Home's founder, Miss Godwin, inspired congregations to support the Home's mission. Today, the Home continues to receive unwavering support from churches and related organizations all over Indiana.

Most recently, Christ UMC in Westfield collected \$1,200 in gift cards for the youth at IUMCH. According to Donita Hiatt, member of the church, "We have toured the Home several times and it always makes an impact when we visit. We see how the youth are treated with love and compassion. Having the faith-based component also connects many of us with the Children's Home. It's hard not to be inspired when visiting the campus and meeting the youth and staff."

A group from Waldron UMC invited Susan Bennett, Director of Public Relations, to present a program to their women's circle. During the meeting, they presented a check for \$700 to the Home. Following the presentation, the women wanted to learn more about the Home so they set up a tour in October. One of the leaders of the group stated, "It's good to have someone from the Home visit our church but the impact is even more powerful when visiting the campus. When touring, it is evident that the Home is truly a place for youth to heal in a safe and loving environment. It makes us all proud to support the Home and to know our mission dollars are saving young lives."

In the spirit of these two churches, we hope you will plan on touring the Home in 2022. To find out more about tours, contact Susan Bennett at 765-482-5900 or send email to [susanb@iumch.org](mailto:susanb@iumch.org)



During the September 26th worship service, Christ UMC, presented Susan Bennett, Director of Public Relations, with gift cards totaling \$1,200.



Members from Waldron UMC raised \$700 for IUMCH. The church has supported the Home for more than two decades.



## Prayers of Hope – *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.* Romans 12:12

John Wesley is quoted as saying, "In souls filled with love, the desire to please God is continual prayer." That's why we are asking you to pray for our youth through our Prayers of Hope initiative. We are continually made aware that our youth at the Home have many prayer requests and need the love and support from our staff and from friends of the Home.

Here's how our Prayers of Hope works...go to the Home's website at [iumch.org](http://iumch.org) and click on the Make an Impact tab. Simply provide your e-mail and on the third Thursday of the month, you will receive five to six prayer requests from our youth. You may also contact Susan Bennett for a signup sheet which allows for multiple people to receive the prayers.

Praying for others is powerful. Thank you for praying for our youth.

Here is a sample prayer: *Heavenly Father: Sean, a former resident, is heading to boot camp this month. He is excited about serving his country but is nervous about his new journey. We are thankful for our Family Teachers that continue to be a part of Sean's life. They take the time to continue to offer support and guidance as he makes important decisions in adulthood. Lord, please keep Sean safe and motivated as he enters boot camp. He knows it will be challenging, but with your love and guidance, he will graduate with flying colors. Thank you Lord, for leading Sean to the Home and for placing good role models in his life. In Your Name we pray, Amen*

**\*The actual prayers are gathered during worship services and youth group activities. The real names are not used but God knows exactly who we are praying for.**



# Four Graduates...Four Success Stories

"I never thought I would graduate from high school. This is the happiest day of my life," said Ross. Ross was one of four graduates receiving diplomas during the trimester graduation on November 5th. All four graduates had no hope for the future when arriving at the Home. Their trajectory has changed dramatically thanks to the progress made at the James E. Davis on-grounds school. According to Principal Jim Stuart, "When youth arrive at the Children's Home, they are often times behind academically two to three grades. I give so much credit to our excellent teaching staff. They do everything possible to give the youth confidence in their school work. Along with patience and tenacity,



*Members of the scholarship committee congratulate Sara as she embarks on a career in phlebotomy. Pictured from left to right are: Daryl Hoffman, Sara, Lois Hoffman, Edna May and Christy Huston, Executive Director of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation.*

we see a growing number of youth graduating from our program. The four graduates today had many hurdles but they were able to make some astonishing progress."

A highlight of the graduation included the naming of the most recent vocational scholarship recipient. Edna May, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee and member of the Home's Board of Trustees, presented Sara with three scholarships – a Hoffman Family Scholarship, a Pulliam Scholarship and a Sue Davis Memorial Scholarship. Sara is using her scholarship funds to receive training in phlebotomy. She currently lives in one of the Independent Living Learning homes and is close to finishing her phlebotomy training. Before getting a full time job she will complete an internship to obtain even more hands-on experience. Sara added, "These scholarships have been so important to me. Although I saved some money, it sure helps to have these funds available to me. I am so grateful to all of the people who made these scholarships available."



*Four new graduates received diplomas during the on-grounds school trimester graduation.*

## Bobs' Benches...A Legacy of Love

Two men named Bob...both were servants of the Lord...both loved working with children. One was a school principal, the other a junior high school science teacher. Both Bobs left a legacy their families will cherish forever. And, their lasting legacy will remain at the Children's Home, as well. Two benches were recently dedicated in their memories by family members and friends.

Ron and Karen Arnold of Columbus, Indiana wanted to pay tribute to their good friend **Bob Welsch (1935-2021)** so they donated funds for the Home to purchase a bench in his memory. Bob taught science for 30 years in Columbus, Indiana. He had an impeccable reputation as a husband, father, grandfather, friend, teacher, church leader and volunteer. According to Ron, "I couldn't ask for a better friend. Bob and I would make annual trips to the Children's Home to bring Christmas gifts. We even made it through a blizzard. He loved serving others, especially children. I feel giving this gift was a perfect way to honor my friend who loved serving children."

**Bob Stebbe (1929-2018)** also had a bench dedicated in his memory. Mark and Tracy Stebbe of Fishers, Indiana (Bob's son and daughter-in-law) donated funds for a bench to honor Bob. He had a love for children, having served as a principal for 30 years. He also had a heart for children growing up in difficult situations. During Bob's childhood, his mother died and Bob lived in two orphanages along the way. According to Mark, "My dad never complained about his childhood. He always showed gratitude. In return, I wanted to pay tribute to such a wonderful father. He had a positive impact on so many people. Tracy and I toured the Children's Home and were very moved. We had dinner with some of the boys and it had an impact on us and we wanted to support the Home in some way. Naming a bench in my father's memory was a meaningful way to honor the love he had for all children."

As Reverend Jim Gentry stated during the Welsch dedication, "In Hebrews, Jesus famously said, 'Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.' The benches are a place where our youth can rest, reflect and be restored."

Two benches...two Bobs...two wonderful servants in Christ!



*Friends and family of Bob Welsch attended the bench dedication service in October. Rev. Jim Gentry, President of the IUMCH Board of Trustees, officiated the service. Jim also knew the Welsch and Arnold families from when he served as their pastor at First UMC in Columbus.*



*The Stebbe Family attend their bench dedication in November. Rev. Marsha Hutchinson, IUMCH Board Secretary, officiated the service.*

# Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Christmas List



Christmas is just around the corner. Many churches and organizations ask how they can help during Christmas. Gift cards are the greatest need for us right now since we have older youth and they like to go shopping and pick out things they want. If you would rather not shop, monetary donations are also needed and appreciated.

We do have a list of items that you or your group could select from. Please do not wrap the gifts – we use gift bags primarily.

- Arts and craft kits (Sketch pads)
- Batteries (AA and AAA)
- Bath and Body Works lotions and special toiletries
- Bath towels and washcloths
- Bed spreads, sheets (twin)
- Board games/card games for older teens
- Gift cards to gas stations, Visa, MasterCard, Amazon
- Gift cards to Papa Johns, McDonalds, Burger King, Subway, etc. (please write the gift amount on the card if possible - \$5 and \$10 increments are great)
- Gift cards to Walmart, Kroger, Costco, Old Navy, Burlington, Half Price Books, Hobby Lobby. Bed Bath and Beyond, Kohl's)
- Hair dryers/curling irons/hair straightener
- Hats and insulated gloves
- Kitchen utensils for Teaching-Family Homes and students leaving for independent living
- Movie theatre gift cards (Goodrich Theatres are in Lebanon or AMC in NW Indianapolis)
- Recreational equipment (basketballs, footballs, outdoor games, soccer balls)
- Wrapping paper and gift bags

Just as a reminder, our youth are between the ages of 14-19. We would like to have the gifts by December 16th. Contact Susan Bennett, Director of Public Relations, if you have questions or need to schedule a pick up or drop off. (phone 765-482-5900 or email – [susanb@iumch.org](mailto:susanb@iumch.org))

We wish all of YOU a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for all you do to make Christmas memorable.



Indiana United Methodist  
Children's Home  
*Hope Has A Home*

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Rich Lapinski  
*Executive Director/CEO*

Susan D. Bennett  
*Editor*  
*Director of Public Relations*

## Our Mission Statement

*To enrich the quality of life for children and families through Christian values.*

## Our Vision

*To be a place where youth are safe and cared for; where youth are given the opportunity to become healthy and self-sufficient adults; where families are reunited; and where every person is treated with love and respect.*

## Core Values

### 1. Compassion:

*Serving those in need with a caring spirit, regardless of their faith or culture.*

### 2. Commitment:

*Making a lifelong commitment to generosity, integrity, leadership, and social justice.*

### 3. Excellence:

*Striving to continually improve services to children and families vested in our care.*

### 4. Connection:

*Fostering relationships with United Methodist Churches, clergy and our generous donors.*

**The stories you read about our youth are real. Often we change the names and identifying details to protect their privacy.**



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Follow us!







Indiana United Methodist  
Children's Home Foundation, Inc.  
*Hope Has A Home*



Christy Huston  
Foundation  
Executive Director

November 2021

Dear Friends,

**What would have become of the children in our care without your support? It is difficult to imagine.**

**God's grace brought young Chyna Gates to our Home when she needed safety and direction. "Life before coming to the Home was stressful,"** she told us. She was in our loving care for two years. Now a college student, she has nursing aspirations and direction. She credits our staff for giving her a model for positive change she needed.

**"I always had useful skills, but the Home helped me learn valuable lessons, like how to accept help, how to be in a community and taught me coping skills."** The college scholarships she receives from the Home today help her manage expenses. We know you join in feeling pride that the Home continues to help Chyna progress toward happiness and independence.

Each year donors like you partner with us, many sharing prayers, volunteer time and financial support. **On the following pages, we celebrate and thank our legacy donors who have included the Home in their estate plan or have shared their intent to do so. Their personal legacy of caring for children in crisis endures.** Because of their commitment, what began as a simple home for orphans in 1915 has grown. And it has changed remarkably. The challenges facing today's children, like abandonment, neglect and abuse, have taken a heavy toll on the youth in our care. Together, we are responding by providing a way forward for young people like Chyna, who otherwise might have been lost.

Legacy gifts include gifts in your will, retirement assets, charitable gift annuities, gifts of stock, life insurance gifts, trusts, gifts of real estate, jewelry and more. Please know that no matter the size, your legacy gift will be invested and held by the Foundation. **Your gift will grow** and help children in need for years to come. **We are very proud that our endowment earnings help the Home every year with needed expenses and that our average annual growth over the years exceeds ten per cent!**

For most people, assets are the greatest part of your estate. In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) Jesus urges us to be good stewards of our assets. **The "good and faithful servant" in the parable is the one who makes the most of what he/she is given. Consider including the Home in your will as an effective way to be a good steward of your assets.** We know how important a personal decision like this feels, and we want to partner with you **in the way that meets your philanthropic goals.**

Without our care and your support, it is difficult to imagine what would have become of the more than 5,500 children we have been so privileged to serve. Remembering the Home in your will or estate plans is easy and helps **ensure our doors will always be open for them. A legacy gift is an opportunity to make your greatest gift of caring for children in crisis. What a legacy!**

My best wishes to you this Christmas,

Christy

PS: To hear more about our graduate Chyna and her uplifting story, watch **"Celebrate Our Champions, Our Children, and Our Path to the Future"** at [www.iumch.org/celebration](http://www.iumch.org/celebration)



**Hope Has A Home**

[www.iumch.org](http://www.iumch.org)

# John Wesley Circle

*“Do all  
the good  
you can.”*

John Wesley

Together we are helping children in crisis find hope for the future, and we must ensure our doors will always be open. **John Wesley Circle** recognizes individuals who have committed a legacy gift or shared their intent to do so.

Legacy gifts include bequests, stock gifts, retirement assets, charitable gift annuities, life insurance gifts, trusts, real estate, jewelry, and other legacy gifts. No matter the size, all assets are invested and held by the Foundation.

The individuals below have embraced the privilege to secure the future of the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home and the urgent responsibility to serve children in crisis for generations to come. They are guided by the words of John Wesley: “Do all the good you can in all the ways you can.”

## Current legacy donors:

Susan D. Bennett  
Lisa Coleman  
Shirley Fisher  
Darleene and George Galyean  
Lois and Daryl Hoffman  
Christy and Jim Huston  
Georganna Irish  
Lois and Edwin Kellar  
Jean Kyle  
Stephanie and Rich Lapinski  
Marilyn and Rev. S Douglas Leffler  
Chris Lilly  
Beverly Marshall  
Nancy and Donald Miller  
Russell Nicoles  
Charles Noble  
Rev. Karen and Jim Ottjes  
Rita and Jerry Redden  
Dr. Donna Sandage  
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer  
Norma Singley  
Carmen Slavens Grose  
Marthana Smith  
Marla Stanton  
Morris "Mo" E. Thomas, Jr.  
Mrs. James E. Wilson and Family

## The following deceased individuals included the Children's Home in their estate planning and their legacy lives on:

Anonymous x2  
Mary Jane Apple  
Karleen and Charles W. Ballard  
Emily B. Beer  
Morris E. Boles  
Lauretta Borgman  
Merrill Brown  
Helen B. Cropp  
Alta and Lewis L. Davis  
Martha Davis  
Wilma Eckerty  
Helen Rae Elliott Kraud  
Harry Ervin  
John H. Fisher  
Nancy W. Friedersdorf  
Don C. Garboden  
Raymond E. Graf  
Ralph E. Harvey  
Mary A. Hise  
Russell B. Huckstep  
Harold Johnson  
Violet Kepley  
Betty Jane and George J. Kyle  
Elizabeth Lambert  
Clifford Lemon

Cora A. and James R. Lemon  
Betty Lunsford  
Katherine and Robert Mahan  
Michael McDonald  
Velma Mendenhall  
Shirley Messerlie  
Linda Meyers  
Donna S. Michael  
Beth A. and Rev. Charles Myers  
Phyllis B. Oakes  
Doris A. Onken  
Oliver G. Petero  
Jean and John M. Prendergast, Sr.  
John M. Prendergast, Jr.  
Martha Pulliam  
Robert A. Rice  
Margaret and James B. Richman  
Charles Russell  
Isgrigg Shaffer  
June Smith  
Marsella Smith  
Martha A. Smock  
Herbert L. Thompson  
James E. Wilson  
Dorothy P. Word

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the names. Please contact the Foundation if there are errors.

If you have included the Children's Home in your estate plan, please let us know so we can thank you!

To plan how you can shape your rewarding legacy of making a difference for children in crisis contact: Foundation Executive Director Christy Huston at 317-775-0606 or [christyhuston@iumchf.org](mailto:christyhuston@iumchf.org)

Indiana United Methodist  
Children's Home Foundation, Inc.  
*Hope Has A Home*



# Do All the Good You Can — *What A legacy!*

Lisa Coleman of Indianapolis is in our John Wesley Circle. She previously thought she was too young to have a will.



Lisa Coleman

“During Covid isolation, I began thinking about my own mortality and decided it was time to draft a will with my attorney. It was a simple decision for me to include the Home as a beneficiary.”

She added, “I love hearing the success stories of the youth. Through my charitable giving, I know I am part of their success and that means so much to me.” She added, “My grandfather, Dr. Heedlie Cobb, was a United Methodist minister and he lived by the teachings of John Wesley. He passed Wesley’s wisdom on to my family. Being a member of the John Wesley Circle honors my grandfather and allows me to support a very worthy United Methodist mission.”

## 2021 Tax Incentives

Under the COVID relief bill, an individual who doesn’t itemize deductions may deduct up to \$300 of charitable contributions made in 2021. A married couple who doesn’t itemize may deduct up to \$600 of charitable contributions made in 2021. Consider a gift to the Children's Home Foundation by December 31 to take advantage of this opportunity.

## Gifts of Appreciated Stock – Today’s Smart Way to Give

Appreciated stock held for more than one year, can be the ideal choice for individuals who want their charitable gifts to make the biggest impact for the lowest possible cost.

The **smart** component: **double tax benefits.**

Let’s take a closer look: Suppose Ann gives us 100 shares of stock – purchased ten years ago for \$1,000 – with a current fair market value of \$5,000. Today, Ann can deduct the full \$5,000 on this year’s income tax return if she itemizes. The \$4,000 capital gain is not taxed, even though the gain is quadruple the purchase price. Avoiding capital gains tax and receiving an income tax deduction make it possible to give stock at the lowest possible after-tax cost.

Gifts of appreciated stock are simple – so easy that we can give you the details over the phone. It would be our privilege to provide you and your advisors with the information you need to choose a gift that ensures you enjoy maximum benefits and personal satisfaction from your generosity. Call the Foundation at 317-775-0606 to learn more or request free copy of our publication, “Gifts of Stock”.

# *Thank You!*



# Family Legacy of Caring for Children

Dr. Donna Sandage, an active member of North United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, learned philanthropy from her mother and lives by the words of John Wesley, "Do all the good you can". Donna continues to honor her mother's legacy of caring deeply about the Home's youth by including the Children's Home in her regular philanthropic giving and also in her will.

As Donna reflected on her family, she stated, "My mother grew up in a divorced home and back in 1915, people were harshly judged when they couldn't keep the family unit intact. The Methodist Church was one of the few places my mother found acceptance, especially from a Sunday school teacher named Lillie Cooper. My mother wanted to give money to the Home because she was aware of children who grew up in troubled households. She entrusted me with a \$30,000 check several years ago that I handed to Dr. James E. Davis who was executive director at the time," Donna added.

Donna and her husband John toured the Home and then joined the youth for dinner. Donna and John were both inspired by the Teaching-Family Model and how the youth respond to the care and treatment they receive. Donna stated, "Witnessing this first-hand makes me realize that I want to continue my mother's legacy by giving to the Home."

According to Donna, "The model of small group living is impressive.

**"Witnessing this first-hand makes me realize that I want to continue my mother's legacy by giving to the Home."**

It's very home-like and not at all institutional. Children at the Home have their own rooms and share in household chores, including grocery shopping and preparing meals. These skills are vital to young people, many who come from dysfunctional families that often never share meals or create a sense of structure and safety. I admire the Family Teachers who devote their time to caring for and providing role models to teens who often lack those basic life skills."

Donna spent her career as a public-school teacher and believes in inspiring students to love and appreciate art. Most recently, she donated funds for some of the students to tour the Indianapolis Museum of Art and view the Van Gogh exhibit. She added, "I applaud the art teacher who displays students' artwork in the hallway at the on-grounds school. Even though the students may be behind in academic skills, they express their creativity through their art."

When asked why she gives to the Home, Donna replied, "I give to the Home several times a year. I also have it listed in my will to receive part of my estate when I die. I support the Home partly in



*Dr. Donna Sandage, shown in the chapel of North United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, has included the Children's Home in her will and is a member of the Home's John Wesley Circle*

honor and memory of my mother. But also, I believe in its mission of giving youth an opportunity to learn life skills beyond academic achievement. These words come from a Phi Beta Kappa with a PhD who had the good fortune of growing up in a supportive, stable home with a secure source of food and security."

Donna can rest assured that her generosity and the generosity of her mother to the children at the Home will continue in perpetuity, because Donna has included the children's mission in her will. A beautiful family legacy!



Be sure to consult your legal, tax and financial advisors when considering your gift to help you understand its impact on your personal situation.

For more information, contact Christy Huston at 317-775-0606 or [christyhuston@iumchf.org](mailto:christyhuston@iumchf.org). Or visit [www.IUMCH.org/legacy/](http://www.IUMCH.org/legacy/)

To make a gift, go to [www.iumch.org/Christmas2021](http://www.iumch.org/Christmas2021) or mail to Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation, 9333 N. Meridian St. Suite 222 Indianapolis, IN 46260 or call 317-775-0606.