



SUMMER 2022

news@home

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

515 W. Camp Street
Lebanon, IN 46052
765-482-5900
www.iumch.org

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Looking to the Future through Strategic Planning



The Strategic Planning Committee meets regularly to discuss future programming for the Children's Home. Pictured from left to right are: Dan Evans, Strategic Planning Committee Chair and Jim Engledow, Vice President of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation.

A Strategic Planning Committee was formed to focus on the future direction of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home. The Committee recommends the Home diversify its programs and services to meet the needs of children and youth. The committee is chaired by Dan Evans, a member of the Board of Trustees. Dan is President Emeritus of Indiana University Health.

The committee gave the following imperatives:

- Achieve the best possible outcomes for children and youth served by the Home in a residential setting.
- Identify additional greatest needs for programs and/or targeted populations to diversify services and funding streams. This could include becoming a Licensed Child Placing Agency (LCPA) to create and manage foster homes.
- Define and implement a sustainable financial model.

According to Rich Lapinski, Executive Director of the Home, "It is imperative that we continue to meet the ever changing needs of abused and neglected children in Indiana. We are in excellent hands with the leadership of Dan Evans as he leads us through the strategic planning process. We will continue to meet throughout 2022 and will be ready to announce our plans sometime this year. The future of the Home is an exciting one and our staff will continue to provide state-of-the-art care to the children we are so privileged to serve."

Six May Graduates Celebrate Educational Achievements



Jackie Morris, retiring teacher, gives a congratulatory hug to one of the graduates and scholarship recipients. "I am so proud of this young man who made outstanding progress." The student added, "I will never forget you, Mrs. Morris. You made learning math a lot of fun."

"My family never thought I would graduate. I am the first in my family to graduate from high school. This is the best day of my life," stated Zeke. These were his words as he addressed the audience at the May commencement ceremony. He added, "Before coming to the Home, I was really down and out. I have to give credit to my teachers and Mr. Stuart for helping me get to this point." All six graduates have new hope for a promising future. Special thanks goes to Bethel United Methodist Church in Indianapolis. They provided \$100 gift cards for each graduate. The Home also presented the graduates with a laptop computer to help with their continuing education.

One of the highlights of the graduation included the naming of three scholarship recipients. Edna May, Chairperson of the Foundation's Scholarship Committee and member of the Home's Board of Trustees, presented scholarships from The Hoffman Family Scholarship and the Sue Davis Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship recipients have been accepted into post-secondary education programs at IUPUI, Indiana State University and Ivy Tech. Majors include graphic arts/photography, medical science and criminal justice.

During the ceremony, Jackie Morris, a teacher at the on-grounds school announced her retirement. "I loved teaching math at the Home for twenty years. Seeing the youth achieve their goals makes it so worthwhile as a teacher," stated Jackie. Over the years, Jackie has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of students at the Home. Many former students recognize her as one of the best teachers they ever had.



Our graduation ceremonies are well attended by family members, volunteers and the Home's staff.

Ben and Sherry

It may look like a plain brick to you but former resident Ben Lilly is holding something very special to him...a brick from Carr Hall where he spent much of his time while living at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home.

Ben visited the Home in May and spoke to our youth about his time at the Home and some of the challenges he faced when he turned 18. As Principal Jim Stuart introduced Ben, he said, "I am extremely proud of Ben. He is a very good man."

Ben encouraged the youth to listen and learn. "Twenty-five years from now, you will look back at your time at the Home and realize that you were given great opportunities. You will have obstacles to face as I did but the Home can help you prepare for those instances. So, my advice to you is to take advantage of all the things that are offered to you here. You will not regret it."

Ben inspired the establishment of the Ben Lilly Emergency Fund. To learn more about the fund, go to iumch.org/benlilly.



Sherry Hall, Case Manager at the Home, presented Ben with a brick from Carr Hall. Ben lived at the Home for more than six years and Sherry was one of his child care workers at the time. Ben credits the Home's staff for helping him recover from a difficult childhood. He was discharged in 2000. Today, Ben has a successful job in sales and is the proud father of three children.

Summer Activities Underway at IUMCH

Summer is off to a busy start at the Home. Many of the youth are attending half-day summer school and others work in the community. Check out some of the fun activities planned for the summer:

- Staff softball games
- Biking and hiking on nearby trails
- Watching summer movies like Jurassic Park
- Swimming at the Lebanon Water Park
- Outdoor concerts
- Backyard cookouts
- Annual trip to Kings Island
- Trips to Dressed For Success (to pick out professional clothing)
- Arts and crafts activities (making tie-dyed shirts)
- Volunteering in the community (serving meals to families in need and visiting nursing homes)



Fishing is a popular activity at the Home.

These are just a few of the activities planned. Check us out on Facebook and Instagram to keep up with all of the activities taking place this summer.



Backyard water games keep the youth active and cool.

2022 Auxiliary Student of the Year

In May, the Auxiliary named their choice for Student of the Year. This year's recipient was Matt. He received a trophy and a congratulatory check from the Home and Auxiliary. When addressing the Auxiliary program in May, Matt said, "I really worked hard this year and it's nice to be getting this award. I would like to thank the Auxiliary for all they do to help me and all the students at our school."

The teachers at the on-grounds school had positive things to say about Matt. Check out what they had to say!

"Matt is an 11th grade student who is soon to have 31 credits toward his Core 40 Diploma. He is a very hardworking young man who always gives effort and participates in his classes. Matt has maintained above average grades all trimester and has worked his way off of his daily behavioral school note altogether for displaying a positive academic work ethic and maintaining positive behavior in all his classes."

Matt completes his work in class, but if he is absent, he is responsible to make up the work or he attends tutoring to get additional support. He has earned Top Physical Scientist this trimester and he also regularly earns perfect scores on his weekly map tests in World History class. He participates in skits and plays with enthusiasm in his Dramatic Literature class and he is a member of the Student Announcement Committee to help read the morning announcements over the intercom to the school. He always tries his best and asks for help if he is unsure. Matt is friendly to his peers and helpful to his teachers. He has been a wonderful student to have in classes and we are so proud of his success and continued achievement at our on-grounds school."

Thomas Puts Fatherhood First

For Thomas, becoming a father changed his life in a very positive way. He was a resident at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home for one year. Thomas came from an abusive home and never had positive role models until coming to the Home. He gives credit to his Family Teachers for preparing him for the future.



In May, Thomas received a Hoffman Family Scholarship and will attend Indiana State University in the fall.

Thomas' trajectory changed when he became a father. He stated, "Having a daughter is the ultimate responsibility. It is something that I take very seriously. I want to give her a much better childhood than I had."

In May, Thomas received a Hoffman Family Scholarship and will be studying Criminal Justice at Indiana State University in the fall. Thomas added, "I want to have a successful career so that I can provide all the things my daughter needs and deserves in life."

Thomas says that he learned many life skills while at the Home. He uses those skills everyday as a parent. Thomas added, "I will always put my little girl first."



Thomas loves being a dad and wants to provide the best childhood possible for his daughter.



As one of our Auxiliary members says, "Scott Swan is the real deal. His message was both inspiring and uplifting." Pictured from left to right are: Christy Huston, Executive Director of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation; Scott and his wife Janae; Reverend Jim Gentry, President of the Board of Trustees and Rich Lapinski, the Home's Executive Director.

WTHR Anchor Scott Swan Delivers Inspirational Message About Hope

The Annual Auxiliary Program and Luncheon was held on May 21st and featured guest speaker Scott Swan. His message resonated with the Home's youth as he focused on hope and the importance of not giving up. In his message, he said, "The Home has been on my mind all week. I've been praying for all of the kids. I want you to know that there is hope for a good life. Turn everything over to God and he will direct your path."

In addition to Scott's powerful message, the Auxiliary announced the Student of the Year and the 2022 Auxiliary officers were installed. Auxiliary Executive Committee officers for 2022 are: Elise Taylor, President (Christ UMC, Indianapolis); Norma Singley, Secretary (Trinity UMC, Lafayette); Joy Pollock, Treasurer (Lebanon) and Susan Hughes, Membership Chair (The Garden UMC, Indianapolis).

Reverend Jim Gentry, President of the Board of Trustees, led a meaningful memorial service for Auxiliary members who have passed away since the last gathering.

To learn more about becoming involved in the Auxiliary, visit iumch.org/auxiliary.

Our Caring Church Family

Members of Castleton United Methodist Church – United Women in Faith group, visited the Home in June. They care deeply about mission and helping organizations such as the Home. They donated a car load of bath towels, wash cloths and hair products for the Home. According to Rosemary Draga, a member of the Castleton UMC, "Our group loves to tackle projects that benefit those in need. We believe there are so many needs in and around our community and we are blessed to be able to help. We believe in what the Home is doing to help children and it is our privilege to be able to help."

If any of your church groups are interested in tackling a project for the Home, we are currently in need of building kits. Our youth enjoy building kits so we are asking for the following: Snap Builders by Lakeshore, UGears Mechanical Models, K'NEX 70 Model Building Sets and Lego Kits.



New Vision, Mission, and Values Statements for Indiana United Methodist Children's Home

OUR VISION – To enrich the quality of life for children, youth and families through Christian values.

OUR MISSION – The Indiana United Methodist Children's Home provides the best opportunities for children and youth to thrive and to achieve permanency in a stable and loving environment.

OUR VALUES

- **Compassion.** We serve with a caring and loving spirit, regardless of faith and/or culture.
- **Connection.** We foster loving relationships with those we serve and with our generous donors of all faiths. We seek partnerships in the community and state to further our mission.
- **Diversity and Inclusion.** We create an environment where everyone is valued, respected, and included.
- **Education.** We focus on social skills and also on career and life preparation through high school and post-secondary completion which leads to independence.
- **Excellence.** We continually improve our services to children, youth and families, utilizing evidence-based treatment through the Teaching-Family model.
- **Family.** We believe that teaching and modeling healthy family-style relationships is essential to the development of social, relational, and interpersonal skills to create strong families and citizens.
- **Respect.** We embrace all people, treat them with dignity and love, honor confidentiality, and separate the person from the action.
- **Safety.** We ensure that everyone feels secure and is physically and emotionally safe.
- **Spiritual Development.** Using Christian values, we promote each person's search for sacred meaning on the journey to healing and self-directed, positive choices.

Adopted by the IUMCH Board of Trustees on April 19, 2022



Indiana United Methodist
Children's Home
Hope Has A Home

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Lebanon, IN 46052
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Rich Lapinski
Executive Director/CEO

Susan D. Bennett
Editor
Director of Public Relations

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

Check out the job openings at the James E. Davis School

- Full-time Art Teacher
- Full-time Math Teacher
- Full-time English Teacher
- Part-time Teacher Assistants

Teachers must hold a teaching license in the area they teach in order to work at the Home's school. Interested candidates may call Principal James Stuart at 765-894-1219 or send email to jamess@iumch.org.

The James E. Davis School is a fully accredited non-public school on the campus of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home in Lebanon.



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

June 2022

Dear Friends,

"You saved his life!"

It was humbling to hear these words, and my feelings of gratitude to you, our donors, was tremendous.

Last week I attended the Annual Conference of the Indiana United Methodist Church in Marion, Indiana. On Friday I met a minister from Johnson County who told me ***the Children's Home saved the life of one of his members***. The pastor twice visited with this teen on our campus while the teen was living in one of our family-style homes.

Before coming to the Children's Home, the teen was a danger to himself, his family and local community.

Through our therapeutic care, educational programming and spiritual development, this young man's life was transformed. He began leading worship services in our chapel, graduated from high school and became a role model to his peers. He left our care last fall and is exceling in his new career. He also reunited with his mother and his father this month. The pastor told me,

"Now he is a good man."

This humbling story of a saved life has been repeated many times during the 107-year history of our Children's Home. If we had not provided our faith-based care to children in crisis, who would have been there when the need was so great?

It takes us all to meet the needs of caring for today's troubled youth. Thank you for stepping up with your prayers, your volunteer service and your generous donations.

The following pages recognize some of our donors who have responded to our requests. As you read the names, I hope you feel pride in knowing that the support of so many is making a difference in the lives of troubled youth, including the young man from Johnson County, whose life has new meaning.

Blessings abound,

Christy

PS: Thanks to the ongoing support of our churches and you, miracles are transforming lives, even saving lives at the Children's Home every day. **It takes us all to meet the needs of our children's mission.**

*Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

— James 1:27



Christy Huston
Foundation
Executive Director



Hope Has A Home

www.iumch.org

9333 North Meridian Street, Suite 222, Indianapolis, IN 46260 | 317-775-0606 | info@iumchf.org

Angie Godwin Society

Donors of \$1,000 or more – in one gift or throughout 2021 are recognized below as Angie Godwin Society donors. Miss Godwin was the founder of the Home 107 years ago. Her vision has endured because of generous donors like you! Thank you!

To learn about being included in 2022 contact the Foundation at **(317)-775-0606**.

GIFTS OF \$1,000,000 AND MORE

Methodist Health Group, Inc.
Linda Meyers

GIFTS OF \$25,000 - \$999,999

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

**Your gift - large or small - helps
our children's mission give hope
for the future. To find out how
you can be a part of the Angie
Godwin Society in 2022, contact
Christy Huston at 317-775-0606 or
make a gift today at www.iumch.org/donate or, you may mail your
contribution to Indiana United
Methodist Children's Home
Foundation, 9333 North Meridian
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46260-1823**



Thank You!

Do You Have a Vehicle You No Longer Need?

Donate your working or nonworking car to the Children's Home. It's easy. Really! All you have to do is fill out an online form or make a phone call. Then sit back. Your car will be picked up and then sold. The proceeds go to the Children's Home Foundation.

"I want it to go to a special place," said Jan Blaising who donated her 1998 Volvo in June. She is a long-time supporter of the Children's Home and when she no longer needed her car, she decided to donate it to help the youth.

"I am delighted it can go to a place where it will help deserving kids."

We work through a partner charity called CARS (Charitable Adult Rides & Services). They pick up your car and sell it. Then they send the proceeds to the Children's Home Foundation. The donor is eligible for a tax deduction.



Jan Blaising's donated car will bring long-lasting support for the Children's Home.

To get started, go online to careasy.org/nonprofit/indianaUnitedMethodistChildrensHomeFoundation. Enter your contact information.

You can continue filling out the form or you have the option to speak with someone at CARS who will take your vehicle details. You'll be asked to enter your VIN number and title information. Call Tom Fagan at the Children's Home Foundation for more information. Tom Fagan, 317-775-0606, tomfagan@iumchf.org.

Shop Amazon and SMILE



Do good when you shop Amazon. It costs you nothing! Choose the Home as your charity and start shopping. It is the same Amazon you know – same products, same prices, and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the Home.

Go to <https://www.smile.amazon.com> and search for "Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation Inc." to start supporting the Home today.



Is a Gift From Your IRA Right For You in 2022?

If you're age 70½ or older, a transfer directly from your IRA to the Indiana United



Methodist Children's Development Director Tom Fagan Home Foundation is a simple but highly effective way to give. The reason: You pay no tax on the distribution (popularly known as the IRA charitable rollover or Qualified Charitable Distribution).

- Instruct your IRA custodian to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) transfer directly to us before December 31, 2022.
- Although there is no tax deduction, the amount transferred counts toward your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and is excluded from your income for federal tax purposes – no tax is due on transfers up to \$100,000!
- Your gift makes an immediate impact on children in crisis!

It's so easy, we can give you instructions over the phone. For more information, contact Tom Fagan, 317-775-0606, tomfagan@iumchf.org.

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. Or visit www.IUMCH.org/legacy/

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

