

December, 2018



Monthly Newsletter

DEAR FRIENDS

One of the great strengths of the Woodburn Christian Children's Home is our emphasis on Christian *living*. Together with our houseparents, counselors, tutors, and on-grounds staff we embody the characteristics of a Christian family where faith and values are communicated life-to-life within our homes. Our daily rhythm centers on biblical studies, prayer, and hope so that children experience predictability and permanency. Children thrive in a Christian home.

Recently I discussed these thoughts with Katrina, one of our WCCH children, a sophomore at Harlan Christian School. Katrina has been with us since June, and loves sports and dogs. Her smile lights up the room. When we first met Katrina prior to placement, we asked her to describe some goals she wished to accomplish. Without hesitation Katrina said, "My goal is simple. I want to have the same bed for the rest of my high school years. I have been in several foster homes during the last two years. I just want a house I can call a home."

The Woodburn Christian Children's Home provides more than just a bed, we provide a Christian home where Katrina can thrive. Her grades are above average, her participation in the family is encouraging, and the spark is back in her eyes. Our time with Katrina reminds me of the Word of Life recorded in 1 Corinthians 3:18, "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

We pray this story encourages your heart during this Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

GRATITUDE IN OUR HEARTS

At the Woodburn Christian Children's Home, gratitude is a way of life, infused into every day. We believe experiencing and expressing gratitude is an important part of our faith. It opens the heart and activates positive emotion centers in the brain. The positive emotions we evoke soothe distress and broaden our thinking patterns so we develop a larger and more expansive view of our lives. Gratitude is an emotion of connectedness, which reminds us we are part of a larger Kingdom under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The children and staff of WCCH are *grateful* for your faith, and long-standing partnership. Your expressions of concern resonate deeply in our hearts. You may send pantry items, but we receive hope. You may send financial support, but we receive love. I often say serving at WCCH gives me hope for the human race because grace abounds in the common cause of caring for children.

"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now..." (Philippians 1:4)

The ministry provided to the children and families at the Woodburn Christian Children's Home is made possible by. If you, your church or organization would like to help, please mark your check "Christmas Offering" or donate at www.wcchonline.org.



Donate online at
www.wcchonline.org
Safe and Secure

If you made a contribution in November, your receipt is printed on the back. Thank you for your faithful support. Always remember we are partners together in a vital ministry without your help it could not be done.

In Service to Him, Joe Heins
Executive Director

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