



Children's
Home Society
of West Virginia

2021 Christmas News
In Programs & Communities Edition...

...In Beckley

By: LaAmy'a Manley



This year was amazing and the best Christmas we've had. Books-A-Million collected donations and donated over \$4,000 in books and small toys for our children. These toys included science kits, plushies, and fidget toys that help with fidgeting and coping skills. These books made having a small library possible in our shelter.

The community came together and donated \$2,400 worth of toys, linen, socks, and other hygiene materials that the shelter needed. This included local churches, Glade Springs community, family members of staff, and other local businesses/community members. There was so much, this allowed us to store some of the items for future clients and birthdays/incentives for our kids.

The Southern West Virginia Exceptional Youth Emergency Shelter (EYES) would like to thank our local community for contributing to such a special Christmas. Some of our children said this was the first Christmas they had where Santa actually brought what they asked for. They were so excited and are still enjoying the many gifts they received.

Tabatha Conn and Angel Scaggs, EYES Shelter staff, attended a craft fair to raise funds for new EYES Christmas decorations. With the funds raised, we were able to buy all new decorations.



...In Charleston

By: Delvin Johnson



Laughter, love, giving and reflection. These are a few words that come to mind when thinking about Christmas at Children's Home Society. It is seeing and hearing the children's laughter, families both foster and biological giving and receiving, and agencies reflecting on their missions to be there to aid children and families.

During the Christmas season the Charleston location was able to bless our children and families in a variety of ways. Additionally, we received assistance from several agencies and events and were able to pass on that assistance to our families in order to make their holiday merry and bright.

To begin the Christmas holiday, the Charleston Permanency Program treated our families with gingerbread houses and ugly sweater cookies that they could construct and decorate with their families. This created an opportunity for a fun child and family focused activity.

We received a donation from CAMC in the amount of \$1,325 with these funds we were able to purchase toys and gifts for our children in care. Newton Baptist Church donated boxes of quilts and stockings for our foster children and children in the emergency shelter.

Harley Davidson held a Corn hole Tournament and raised \$1,000, with these funds we were able to purchase luggage for children in foster care and in the emergency shelter. They wanted our children to be able to transition from placement to placement or to their forever home with their items in a suitcase. This event led to a participant wanting to hold another tournament for CHS to focus on the needs of our teens and HealthyGrand families for the holiday season. The 304 Hole Hunters gifted CHS a check in the amount of \$ 3,340 with the team coming in second place also donating their winnings of \$90. This event was so special and the beginning of a relationship that we both hope to continue in the future. With these funds we were able to provide our teens and their families with clothing, gift cards, game cards, cologne, makeup, bedding, hygiene items, household products, and food baskets.



Par Mar raised \$642.97 with their Wednesday Wish Giving Campaign. With these funds we were able to provide toys, food, and clothing to families who needed assistance. From Santa for Foster Children, we received approximately 1000 toys and stocking stuffers. We were truly blessed to have this donation and it assisted many children. We were given \$4,000 in Inspire funds to assist our children and grand families in any way that was needed.

Children's Home Society currently works with the Healthy Grand families Program. This program offers assistance to grandparents and often great grandparents who are raising their grandchildren along with their great-grandchildren. This year we were able to assist 10 Grand families during the holiday season with the donations that we received. These families often have little to no assistance so they were very thankful for any help they received. We explained that they are part of our CHS family and that we will always help them in any way that we can. The smiles on their faces brightened our day as they looked at the food and toys that their children would be receiving on Christmas morning.

...In Charleston Continued

When reflecting back on the Christmas season we at CHS felt an outpouring of love and generosity from others that we were able to share with our children and families. This along with the smiles and giggles of our children truly demonstrated the true spirit of Christmas.

Davis Child Shelter

For our 2021 Christmas season, the Davis Child Shelter was blessed with gift donations of various forms and sizes for our kids. Mountain State Oral Surgeons donated clothing, pajamas, house shoes, various board games, Build-A-Bear stuffed animals, blankets, and individual stockings for each child. We were extremely grateful to them. Instead of celebrating Christmas within their own office party, they decided instead to collect money that could be used for a better purpose and we are very thankful that they reached out to us to help provide our kids with a happy Christmas.



Our relationship with the Golden Oldies group continues for the 2021 Christmas season and we are eternally grateful. I can't tell you how much we love interacting with these amazing people and seeing their continued dedication in providing kindness and support to an organization such as Children's Home Society and the children that we serve. They provided amazing gifts for our foster care and shelter kids. Our kids were excited to open these gifts on Christmas day.

Our new friend Faye Zinn kindly donated various forms of clothing (shirts, pants, socks) for each of our residents as well as hygiene products. We are very excited to continue our newly established relationship with Faye. After speaking with her about the wide variety of programs that are offered throughout CHS, her interests in becoming more involved with CHS has grown. We continue to communicate with Faye and look forward to our growing relationship.



Alpha and Beta organizations dropped off several items for our kids. The items included, blankets, candy, cakes, toys, board games, and hygiene products. Thank you for your continued partnership and our kiddos loved everything.

...In Charleston Continued

Alone But Not Forgotten organization was a blessing to our kiddos this Christmas. From day one, Agency organizer, Jennifer Simes, was extremely attentive and wanted to make our kids light up on Christmas morning. Mrs. Simes asked us to provide a Christmas list, in which she purchased one item along with socks, gloves, board games, candy, and other items. One youth asked for a basketball. Mrs. Simes went an extra mile and had the basketball autographed by the West Virginia State University Men's basketball team. We appreciate your organization and we are forever grateful.



We were visited by our amazing CHS Board of Director, Lori Ray. She was such a joy and our kids loved interacting with her. She provided them with stockings and held a holiday cheer party with snacks and drinks. They also decorated ornaments together. We are extremely grateful to Lori and her continuing love and support in advocating for the kids we serve.

Our kids love to attend movies at the movie theater and our friends, the Biohaven "Shiners", graciously donated \$500 dollars in the form of a Marquee Cinemas gift card to be utilized for the kids and their love of movies and snacks at the theater. We also would like to thank CHS Board of Director, Marie Long and her parents for donating a KFC gift card. She knows our kiddos best. They sure love to eat chicken. We appreciate you.

Anthony Lewis had his annual Sugar Bowl foundation event at Buffalo Wild Wings. This event proved to be a success once again. Mr. Lewis dropped off ten \$100 Amazon gift cards to our kids on Christmas Eve. They were so excited. Mr. Lewis, thank you once again and we look forward to next year.



We also received a large outreach of community members this Christmas season as well. Although many of these individuals requested to remain anonymous with their donations, their gifts of hygiene products such as shampoo, lotions and soap did not go unnoticed. Al Williams, donated \$100 to be used for any needs that our kids may need. We also received gift donations from Linnea Estep and her family in the form of clothing, Crocs, blankets, and small goodie bags full of candy that were kindly individualized for each of our residents. Community members like Al Williams, the Estep family and other anonymous donors continue to be our biggest supports in our journey to provide the highest level of care possible for our kids at the Davis Child Shelter.

...In Charleston Continued

We would like to acknowledge our existing and new partners who make thousands of West Virginia children's lives better every year. Our mission is truly about the kids we serve, it's all for them. As we delivered our stockings this year, people were so excited to see us and very eager to kick off the 2021 Little Red Stocking Campaign. Here is a picture of a young women I met at Go Mart. As I approached the counter, she was smiling ear to ear and mentioned this was her favorite time of the year. She mentioned she loved helping people. Brandi, it's because of people like you that keeps us going. Thank you so much.



We would like to thank the students at Kenna Elementary for raising \$193 to go towards the Little Red Stocking Campaign.



Natalie Shelton and all the employees and customers at City National Bank helped to put smiles on many little girls' and boys' faces this holiday season with lots of toys. From stuffed animals to board games, the toys brought joy and excitement to children of all ages. Natalie Shelton and the folks at City National Bank have been sponsoring Children's Home Society with a toy drive for many years now. Great folks who want to do good things for those in need. We cannot thank you enough for your support. The donation totaled \$3,000!

The John Adams Middle School's Civitan Club generously donated a trunk full of toiletries, backpacks, school supplies, and arts and crafts supplies totaling \$1,500. They were so excited to be helping this year and were eager to drop these items off so that they could be distributed to many children and families.



The wonderful folks with the Board Game House graciously donated 20 board games for children to enjoy playing with their families. Their hopes are that families will enjoy playing board games as much as they do and in return make wonderful memories they can carry with them for their entire lifetimes.

Linda Carper and the Women's Circle at Newton Baptist Church were eager to contribute to the well-being of our grandparents by making 23 handmade holiday stockings and blankets this year. The blankets were not finished in time for Christmas, but will be a welcomed gift of warmth in the weeks to follow. The handmade stockings were appreciated by grandparents and grandchildren alike and made a special addition to their Christmas décor. A big thanks goes to these sweet ladies.



...In Charleston Continued

Over twenty years in the making, the Teamsters Local 175 is still going strong. Their goal each year is to do more than the year before, and they certainly did that in 2021. The Teamsters delivered a whopping \$55,000 in toys, clothing, and non-perishable food items this year to our Operations Office in Charleston. It took several hours to get everything unloaded and organized, but it was all worth it. The Teamsters were thrilled they were able to bring Christmas to many needy children and their families. This year the Teamsters brought joy to 2,040 children and families, of that, 154 were grand-families who take care of their grandchildren.

The Teamsters Local 175 has been working with the Children's Home Society for over twenty years, donating over a half a million dollars in food, toys and clothes. We cannot thank them enough for what they do year after year.



...In Charleston Continued

The fact of the matter, some kids woke in a shelter on Christmas, with no parents to run and hug. No siblings to gander over the magic snow left by Santa, No grandparents to show off their newest gadget to. It was us. I would like to thank the Davis Child Shelter Youth Care Workers, Administrative Assistant, Nurse, Shelter Supervisor, Shift Supervisors, and Social Workers for the amazing work they do day in and day out. During these special moments, for a brief period of time, you make the kids forget where they are. You bring hope to the hopeless and provide direction to the lost. For that, you all made my Christmas come true. An amazing team of individuals who drives the mission of the agency day in and day out!

-Snowman "wink"



...In Huntington

By: Diane Lucas



The 2021 Holidays at the Janet Smith Vineyard Home for Permanency (Jan's House) was simply life-altering, not only for the children and families we serve, but also for all the amazing Huntington employees who come to work each day to help improve the lives of others. What a blessing it is to behold.

Let me start with Thanksgiving... As most of you know, in addition to the work we do in our Permanency, Safe at Home, RPG and Shelter programs, we also operate the Nancy Stuart Tonkin Children's Resource Center here at Jan's House. Our Resource Center reaches families in Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Mason, Putnam and Kanawha counties. Through grants, contributions and generous In-Kind support, we were able to provide Thanksgiving Food baskets (670 total meals), and other assistance to 155 Families, including 316 children and 276 adults.



Christmas was what I like to call beautiful chaos here at The Jan. The thrilling hustle and bustle is an experience that grows bigger and better with each passing year. The office was filled with toys and books, pajamas and socks, coats and shoes, beds and mattresses, blankets and pillows, ear buds and make-up, turkeys and hams, green beans and yams... Our elves made the lists and checked them twice to find just the right thing to bring big smiles and twinkling eyes to the children's faces on Christmas morning. They engaged family after family and listened intently to their stories of hardship, loss and despair. Hearing their heart-aches served as inspiration to provide a small reprieve from their hardship. In total, 102 families including 242 children were blessed with Christmas cheer through the work of the Nancy Tonkin Resource Center. It was life-altering, for them, and for us.

...In Huntington Cont.

Special Thanks:

Huntington Elks
United Way of the River Cities
The Pallottine Foundation
Woodmen Life, Chapter 223
Cafaro Foundation
APG Polytech, LLC
Johnson Memorial UM Church
Dutch Miller Auto
The Smith & Vineyard Families
Pea Ridge Women's Club

Pea Ridge Baptist Church
Federation of Republican Women
Women 2 Women
The Chaney Foundation
Go Mart
Stephanie Williams
The Morris Family
Marshall Med School
Leo's Club of Barboursville
Simple Solutions Cleaning

CHRISTMAS AT
Jan's House

...In Lewisburg

By: Mary Carr



Christmas at the Children’s Home Society Lewisburg Site, radiates the true spirit of the holiday. Rooted in giving, loving and selflessness, our community members support children in need year after year. Christmas 2021 brought us so many families who could not provide for their children, grandchildren or themselves. Fortunately, for us, many organizations and community members were ready to jump in and fill those needs.

The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine provided Christmas for 50 children through their “Heart of the Holidays” campaign. The students brought multiple carloads of gifts to our office, dressed in their Christmas best, with bells on! They were so excited to help our foster children and even provided stockings full of goodies for biological and adopted children in those same homes.



Greenbrier East High School (GEHS) fulfilled Christmas wishes for 63 children in the community. Our staff are always amazed at the quality and quantity of gifts that the honor students and faculty at GEHS purchase to bless such a large number of youth. It took 10 SUV’s and trucks to bring everything back to our office for distribution. What a joy it is to see students helping other students have the best Christmas possible.

Warner Music School in downtown Lewisburg provided for 17 children through their angel tree. As soon as we took “angels” to the tree, they called needing more! Our community members reminded us daily that good people are not as far and few between as we sometimes think.

The Army Reserves reached out offering their support and decided to work with our local IGA to make Christmas Dinner Boxes for those in need. With the rising cost of groceries, providing a turkey dinner with all the fixin’s for 12 local families was such a blessing. The recipients of these boxes consisted of kinship families, grandfamilies and Independent Living Program clients.



An additional 30 children came to us during the month of December that our Permanency office was able to assist due to monetary donations provided by generous donors who understand the need for help and give us the ability to do so each year.

Our staff worked together to build a float for the local Christmas Parades. We enjoyed seeing our supporters along the parade routes. We decorated a barn at the State Fair of West Virginia with a jumbo size Red Stocking on the front of a “house” that featured our “Foster Parents Needed” signs. We celebrated the holiday in Hinton at the Christmas Festival, selling soups and baked goods and watching our little elf, Betty Hendrick, raise money and awareness in the community with her basket of red stockings.

...In Lewisburg Cont.

It was a record year for our Little Red Stocking community engagement. Our LRS coloring contest had almost 300 participants from surrounding elementary schools. We had 100 local businesses agree to sell LRS in their stores within our four county span. Between the businesses who sold stockings and sponsors of our campaign, including our amazing Go-Mart stores who always exceed our expectations, we were able to raise \$10,101 dollars for the Lewisburg Site.



Grateful, thankful and blessed are the words that permeate our hearts and souls after experiencing another Christmas at our site. The support and encouragement felt by all of us will push us through the year with hearts that are open and humbled. We are ready to face 2022 refueled with the kindness of strangers and friends who showed us what Christmas is really about once again.

“Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It’s discarding the meaningless and stressing the true values.”

– Thomas S. Monson

The Greenbrier Valley Children’s Home

By: Davina Agee



Every year I write the Christmas report and I say that our community completely outdid itself, but the same is true every time. Even in the midst of a pandemic, workforce crises and economic struggle, the community surrounding the Greenbrier Valley Children’s Home (GVCH) came together to make this special time of year very magical for a lot of children.

This year, we wanted to get ahead of the Christmas chaos, so we decided to start doing our shopping early. The funny thing about shelter is, you really cannot know what kids you will have on Christmas day, until Christmas day. So, even though we got out early and started collecting Christmas goodies, we were still shopping on Christmas Eve.

Although we battled quarantine this holiday season, we were still able to make the holiday special for the kids. Obviously, we had some help. Donna Cadle-Whitt helped get the holidays giving kicked off with a basket making fundraiser. She and her basket weaving group (The Basket Cases as she calls them) partnered with Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate to make and sell fabulous baskets to raise money for the shelter. Donna and her group ended up making over \$2,500 on their sale. Donna and the rest of the Cadle family have been avid supporter’s of GVCH for several years now. So, on top of the basket money, The Cadle Farm (Daniel & Ruth Cadle) pitched in another \$5,000. We are so blessed to have such wonderful giving people to support us.



Better Homes and Gardens Central & Southern WV Basket Weavers Guild

...Greenbrier Valley Children's Home Cont.

Our friend, JP Stevens, from the Greenbrier County Toys for Tots chapter, came and delivered two gigantic boxes of toys. We kept what we could use and then invited representatives from all four area elementary schools to come and pick out toys for the children at their schools. We also put some toys in the blessing box outside for some of our "returning guests" to find.

Because we were in and out of quarantine during December, a lot of folks left donations outside for us. Every day, a new delivery of things seemed to be left on the stoop outside. Many donations were left and we still don't know who to credit for the gifts. Folks, left gifts (some already wrapped) and some left boxes of food for our blessing box. We saw a lot of community folks filling our box during the holiday season. People left food, hygiene items, winter hats and gloves and even blankets.



Every time we would get all of our donations put away, there would be more and then more to arrive. Mid way through December a friend of mine from emergency services in Monroe County contacted me about several angels that we left on their community Angel Tree. At GVCH we have always adopted the motto "When you're blessed, be a blessing." We are always blessed here, so we turn around and try to bless others. We were able to take the 15 remaining angels off their tree and provide Christmas for them. Our neighbors in Monroe County were so grateful, I couldn't help but remember that some of the folks helping with the angel tree are some of the same folks who came to GVCH to bring supplies during the 2016 flood. Its nice to have neighbors you can count on.

GVCH also adopted 3 youth from Greenbrier West High School to help with Christmas. We partnered with the girls and boys athletics to help supply gifts, clothing and food to these three teens. While we know it's important to help and support those in need in our communities, it is just as important to pass that value down to our upcoming community leaders. The athletes at Greenbrier West were more than willing and excited to help shop for and wrap gifts for an unknown fellow classmate. GVCH is proud to be a part of a program that helps to instill kindness and humility in young men and woman as they learn to help others.



Speaking of groups of young men and women, GVCH has also developed a relationship with our local Girl Scout Troop. Each year the troop donates some snacks or small gifts to our kids and they come by to sing Christmas Carols and visit with our kiddos. It's always cute to see our kids encourage these young ladies and thank them for coming to visit.

The holiday's aren't always filled with fun. Sadly, just a week before Christmas some of the students at Greenbrier West experienced a tragic loss, as a young mother of 4 succumbed to her battle with COVID. She had spent the month prior to Christmas in an out-of-state hospital, leaving her 4 kids to be cared for by another family. This tragic situation left 11 children between these two families devastated. With the parents in a financial bind and in an emotional hurricane, Children's Home Society decided to make sure that these kids would have a plenty of gifts to open on Christmas Day.

Although I cannot imagine the immense loss that this family felt, when I went to deliver the Christmas goodies, each one showed so much gratitude. I'm not sure if I've ever felt more appreciated than I did that day. Though nothing can make up for the loss of a parent, I hope we helped make their Christmas a little more bearable. I was so proud and blessed to be a small part of CHS that day and to be part of the greater mission to take care of every child.

...Greenbrier Valley Children's Home Cont.

As for our residents, they were very humble and did not ask for much this Christmas. It seemed as though they didn't expect much from a shelter Christmas. I have to say that I believe every one of them was pleasantly surprised when they found that Santa had outdone himself again. The kids all had a great day, wearing their new outfits and new shoes to go to the movies on Christmas Day. Luckily enough, we were out of quarantine on that particular day, and an anonymous donor paid for movie tickets for all of our kiddos to have an evening out.



Sometimes it is a rarity to have a holiday in shelter when all the behaviors die down, the stars align and for a day, everyone is completely happy and content. Well on December 25, 2021, we had that perfect day at GVCH. The kids had fun, they felt loved, cared for and safe. They basked in the sunlight of a seemingly magical day and went to bed with full bellies and full hearts. You simply cannot ask for more!



Although we did not have a white Christmas, we certainly have had a white January at GVCH. You can see the "child" come out in everyone when there's a snow angel to be made. If you could hear the laughter in the snow photo's you would understand what keeps us coming back for more at GVCH. Nothing is more precious than the sound a tiny human makes when they experience pure joy.

As a result of the Christmas overload, our Community Closet is the fullest it has ever been. We are so excited to be able to have this community project going that will enable us to help kids and families outside our walls all year long. WOW!

"Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it the most." ~ Ruth Carter Stapleton



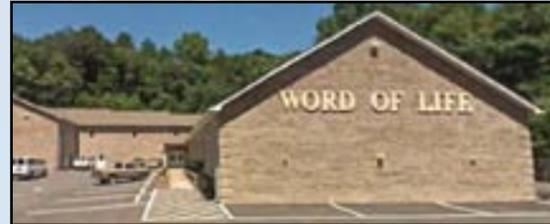
Community members who contributed to our Christmas

- Tom & Cindy Vance
- John Grossl
- The Rupert CEO'S
- New Prospect Baptist Church
- Beach Ridge Energy AKA Invenergy
- John & Jessica Kelly
- Grace Bible Church
- Ronceverte Presbyterian Church
- Newton Memorial Ladies Aid
- Linda DiMascio
- Betty Dobbins
- Cathy Thomas
- Verna Bowes
- Julia Thompson
- Lorrie Thomas
- Ramona Poticher
- Chestnut Knob Christian Church
- Donna Osborne
- Botetourt Community Church
- Karen Walker
- Keith Greenleaf
- Vicky Bill
- Jessica Hunter (Girl Scouts)
- Donna Regis

...In Logan

By: Ellen Browning

Children's Home Society's WECAN Program of Logan recently held our annual Christmas event on Sunday, December 12, 2021 at the Word of Life Church.



There was 40 families signed up for the party with 28 of those families attending the party. There were 101 children signed up to receive gifts. 70 children were in attendance and 46 parents, 25 Volunteers were present to help with the party.

We had an outpouring of support this year with 58 private individuals sponsoring 82 children and the 19 children remaining were shopped for by the WECAN volunteers and staff.

Mountain Laurel Integrated Healthcare/Logan Mingo Area Mental Health provided goodie bags for each child along with the paper products, cookies and soda for the party.

Family Resource Network provided the pizza's and chips and gave out resource information to the families. Missy Birchfield, of State Farm of Logan, provided 40 food boxes filled to the top for our families to take home. Mingo County Schools provided a Christmas book to each child/family. Jennifer and Randy Davis and Billie Jean Clay donated hundreds of toboggan's and gloves, scarves, clothing, and shoes that they have been picking up since last Christmas. Mountain State Harley Davidson provided us their cargo van to haul the gifts to the party.

Chuck Shultz was the DJ for the event. The children and parents had a fun time dancing. The staff from the Logan County Child Advocacy Center and the staff from the Department of Health and Human Resources were in attendance and volunteered at the door checking families in and providing masks to the families as they came in. They helped organize the gifts, and helped serve the food and making sure the families were having a good time.

Children's Home Society's Chapmanville permanency office donated blankets, coats, and socks for the families to take home. CHS Permanency social worker, Cassie Smoot attended the party and helped out.



...In Logan Cont.

And the highlight of the event was when Santa Claus came to town. Seeing the excitement and joy on the children's faces when Santa entered the room was priceless.

Domino's Printing of Gilbert designed and made the holiday t-shirts that we sold as a fundraiser and Sweet Tees Boutique designed and made the volunteer appreciation t-shirts.

So many community members/partners were a great help this year with bringing Christmas to the children. I am forever grateful to them.



June Montgomery Harless Children's Home

By: Amanda Runyon



The residents at June Montgomery Harless Child Shelter (JMHS) had a very blessed Christmas. The kids enjoyed decorating 2 Christmas trees in the rec room as well as putting up Christmas lights and décor throughout the shelter. Each child made a Christmas list and our staff shopped for them according to their list. JMHS staff worked hard to prepare a big Christmas dinner for the kids to enjoy on Christmas Day, along with their gifts and treat filled stockings.

Pam Surber organized a Christmas party on Dec. 17th at the Buck Harless Center in Gilbert. Four area churches came together (Verner Community Church, Justice United Methodist, Horsepen Southern Baptist, and Justice First Missionary Baptist) and provided the residents with pizza, drinks, desserts, and gifts. They played the Saranwrap game and also played the piano and guitar and let each child that was interested play too. Each child received a Bible, \$100 Walmart gift card, \$10 McDonalds gift card, luggage, games, and candy.



Alyssa and Chase Rice brought Christmas gifts on Dec 22nd. The boys received an outfit, shoes, hat, & bath robe. The girls received an outfit, shoes, makeup, and jewelry.

Lisa Meade (Logan Professional Counseling) gave each child a \$20 Walmart gift card.



David and Shanda Hager gave each child a body pillow, toboggan, clothes, house shoes, personalized tooth brushes, ear buds, bible, and more. The boys also received a personalized wallet. They also provided the residents with a Bob Evans meal that was brought to them on Christmas Eve.

Michael and Carol Ratz (Logan Motorcycle Sales) donated a \$1,000 to spend on Christmas. They also purchased clothes, socks, shoes, and coats. These gifts were brought to the shelter on Christmas Day.

...In Logan Cont.

Coalfield Health Center donated \$200 to be able to do something fun for Christmas. The staff used this money to take the kids to the South Charleston Memorial Ice Arena where they were able to try ice skating and bumper cars.

Aetna donated draw string bags with pens, cups, balls, and hygiene items.

Fountain Place Cinema 8 donated movie tickets and free concession for the residents to enjoy during their Christmas break.



...In Martinsburg

By: Amanda Shank

We kick off our Christmas season with our Annual Breakfast with Santa. All of our children and families in our local programs were invited to a walkthrough Breakfast with Santa. Biker's Against Child Abuse was in attendance as well as Santa and elves to support staff and volunteers for the event. We had approximately 150 people attend this event. Each child received a gift from Santa and all attendees received Christmas candy, craft, books, and breakfast to-go.



We used our local Facebook page to promote our Amazon Wishlist for Christmas Wishlist items for children in our programs. We received an overwhelming amount of donations from individuals and businesses.

Many local businesses and groups also held their own gift drives for children in our programs. One of our biggest donors was our local Books A Million. They were able to donate just over \$10,000 worth of toys and books.



Our local Comcast office held a duffel bag drive for children coming into foster care. More than 100 duffel bags were donated. We invited some of our adoptive families to accept the bags from Comcast.

...In Martinsburg Continued

We also held our annual Gift Wrap Fundraiser at our new location. We met many new community partners and the people that have grown to love this service were so happy to have us back.

Our Little Red Stocking campaign was a great success. We added a few new businesses to the campaign this year. ROCS raised over \$6,700 dollars among the branches in our Eastern Panhandle.

We also held our first Little Red Stocking Silent Auction where we had many amazing items to bid on. We utilized an online platform for the first time and had positive feedback about the accessibility and ease of use. We hope to use it again for fundraising in 2022.

The support we received from our local community to make Christmas magical for all of the children in our programs and to make our fundraisers a success was nothing short of amazing. We are very lucky to be in such a great community. We also held a staff Christmas potluck right before Christmas where we played fun games and had drawings for prizes. We couldn't do all that we do without our wonderful staff.



...In Morgantown

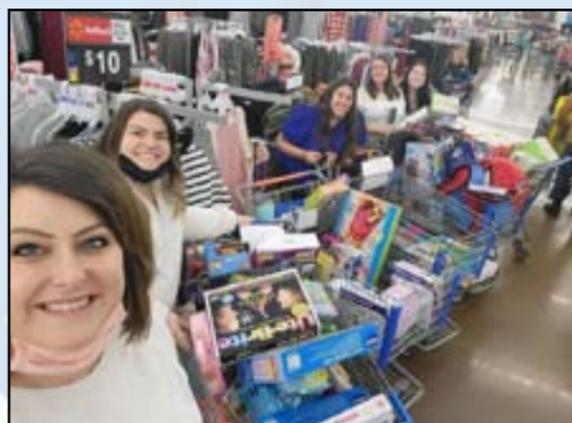
By: Brandi Davis

Through generous donations from various community partners and individual supporters, Children's Home Society Morgantown and Buckhannon Sites were able to provide Christmas cheer to over 30 families. Donations included warm clothing, new shoes, toys, and baby items.

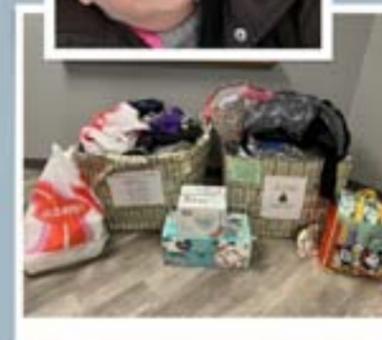
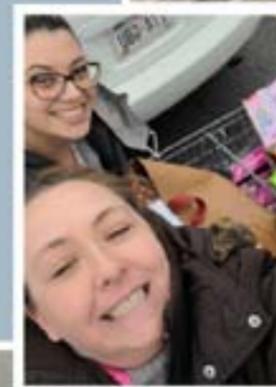


Homefinders, Brittany McCollam, and Traci Bodkins, magically became Santa's Elves and worked day and night to make sure all the gifts were wrapped and delivered to their new home.

Our Morgantown and Buckhannon Crews shopped, wrapped, and dressed up as Santa's Elves and visited each of our foster families to spread Christmas Cheer!



...In Morgantown Continued



Christmas
In
Morgantown



...In Northfork

By: Tina Williams & Becky Brown

Santa's Elves started early, very early preparing for Christmas at Northfork's Family Resource Center. All Elves participated in the annual fund fundraiser hosted by Cliffs Industries. The success of the event was so overwhelming, the Elves contacted Santa for reinforcements.

The reinforcements arrived full of energy and eager to do whatever possible to assist the residents of McDowell County.

Elves contacted Catholic Community Services and requested for assistance with Healthy Grandfamilies. They responded by donating 25 large ham's, hygiene products, hand sanitizer, and toys. These donations totaled \$1,500.

With more drive than ever the Elves kicked it into overdrive as the season progressed, contacting any and every one informing them of our county's continuous needs for assistance to make sure families with needs were served. Their persistence resulted in Healthy Grandfamilies receiving \$300 from Powhatan Church of God, Powhatan, WV and \$200 from Lovely Zion Baptist Church, Kimball, WV.

Coal County Christmas was fast approaching! The elves still had a massive number of gifts to purchase, wrap and sort. Elves were EVERYWHERE! With so much work to do, that they decided to again call for help. They needed more elves! Elves from "We are the Teachers, Local Eastern Star Organizations, WECAN Volunteer's, and many residents the center had previously served came to help.

With that phase completed the elves focused on making the holiday special for our Healthy Grand Families, for their dedication to their grandchildren and the program. West Virginia Healthy Grandfamilies Program donated \$1,250 to fund the project. With this donation, the elves were able to provide 26 Healthy Grandfamilies and 7 other identified Grandfamilies with Christmas Baskets. Each basket consisted of a beef stick, crackers, holiday mustard, jellies, candy, gourmet popcorn, mask, cheese, Nutella, hand sanitizer, gloves, and a ham for Christmas Dinner.

The Christmas Holiday was a great success at the Forever Families Resource Center. Many area and county residents were served, and all responses were positive. However, Santa discovered items for the center were still at the North pole! How did this happen? What to do? Santa knew the answer! Snyder Foundation! The truck arrived with, blankets, hygiene products, food, toys, towels socks, underwear and kitchen utensils totaling \$1,500. These items were distributed to residents that were not served prior to Christmas Day.

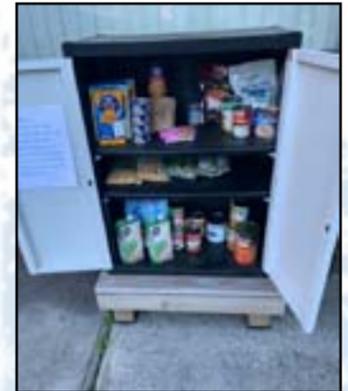
While the Elves were focusing on the present Christmas, Goodson's Supermarkets and Welch Bantam Market were focusing on Little Red Stockings. Goodson's locations in Welch, Pineville, and Oceana raised \$1,903 and Bantam Market raised \$357.



...In Northfork Continued

Forever Families Resource Center is very appreciative of the support of our donors, and community residents. Merry Christmas.

And...The spirit of giving continues! Our Blessing Box is being stocked weekly by??????????????



Thanks to Mike Day and Cleveland-Cliff's Princeton Coal, Inc. our Northfork site was able to serve 240 Families and 604 children throughout McDowell County at the 2021 Coal Country Christmas event.

A fundraiser was held in September, and staff and volunteers began shopping in October for clothes, shoes and toys from wish lists. Volunteers wrapped tirelessly at the Princeton and Northfork offices. Deliverance Temple Church in Brushfork, allowed us to store all the black "Santa" bags in their gym, and then brought trucks out to load and haul them to Northfork prior to the event. COVID rates had begun to soar again, so we organized a drive-thru pickup event on December 9th at the Forever Families Resource Center. Families drove through and picked up gifts, and received a goody bag from Cleveland-Cliffs. CHS Board of Director, Chuck Barton, arrived early in the day and worked for hours to prepare warm chili and cornbread for all the volunteers, which was so appreciated! The children were greeted at the cars by Santa, who was the CEO of Cleveland-Cliffs, himself, Chuck Childers! We appreciate our volunteers and donors for all they do for the children of McDowell County.



Coal Country Christmas

...In Parkersburg

By: Brooke Heck



Santa and his Elves were very busy at the Parkersburg location again this year. Once again due to the pandemic lingering on during another Holiday season, our staff found creative ways to serve our clients and community. This year was even busier than last year in providing gifts for families. We are thankful for the generous donations from those throughout the community and beyond.

Once again due to the pandemic we implemented our "Elf Line." Anyone in the community could call and request Christmas assistance. They were asked questions regarding what kinds of gifts they would like, ages of children in the home, etc... Let's say that it was a very busy time. Lisa Weaver and the Afterschool staff definitely went above and beyond to shop for these families, with assistance from other community based staff as well. We were grateful for the multitude of donations that allowed us to serve so many community members. We received donations from the Justice Riders, Toys for Tots, The National Guard and the United Way. We were able to provide 476 children with Christmas presents throughout the community, assisting 163 families in the process. Past and present We Can participants utilized the Elf Line. Last year we provided Christmas gifts for 467 children. These families were very thankful that we were able to provide Christmas assistance and some stated that there would not have been gifts without this assistance.



Once again we were the recipients of the Books A Million Christmas drive. Employee's of our local store in the Grand Central Mall would ask customers if they would like to make a purchase for Children's Home Society. We picked up the donations weekly over six weeks. This year we received 906 books, games, toys or other items from Books A Million with a value of \$8,534.09. These donations were shared across all programs and the community.

A local group called "Secret Santa" came through with a total of \$9,080 in cash donations. This donation was shared throughout the programs to provide gifts to clients in our programs.

...In Parkersburg Continued

The Mid-Town Family Resource Center provided gifts to 20 youth in the Afterschool Program with donations received at our community based office. They were excited to receive these gifts. Mike Beckett, an employee of McClinton Chevrolet adopted a family of 3 boys and spent \$500 on them, as this family had a great need at Christmas time. Heather and Chad Showen adopted 2 families from our program serving 6 youth. This family also had a great need.



Right From The Start (RFTS) provided all clients with a gift bag to all mothers in the program. Gifts were either purchased or obtained through donated items for 14 families with a total of 31 children. This program identified 6 families with food insecurity. Staff delivered large food boxes to these families. The boxes contained food to cover all meals on Christmas Day and Christmas Eve: ham, cookie dough, oil, butter, eggs, fresh salad ingredients, peanut butter, jelly, bread, cereals, toilet paper, laundry detergent, paper towels, cleaning items, Christmas scented air wicks and some other goodies.

Feel good story. On the day of food delivery to one mother she was at the hospital having her baby and she would not have to worry about food upon her return. She had recently moved and was having difficulty transferring her food assistance to the new county. She called her RFTS home visitor after she returned home from delivery and said how much it meant to her to receive the gift box and how much her RFTS worker meant to her.

Healthy Grandfamilies provided 20 families with gifts and food cards for Christmas. One grandmother stated that she was worried that she would not be able to feed her grandchildren without the generous gift of food. Another family sent a Christmas card thanking staff for bringing them food.



Parkersburg Permanency had a Christmas Drive Thru with Santa at City Park on December 16, 2021. Staff dressed as Mr. and Mrs. Claus and the families enjoyed the effort despite the weather being less than ideal. 22 families participated and received a ham and a poinsettia. Poinsettias were donated by Scots Landscaping. 68 children received gifts. Salvation Army was there with hot chocolate. Fairlawn Baptist Church donated pajamas and The Pizza Station hosted a Toy Drive for Christmas.

Safe At Home facilitators were able to provide gifts to 23 clients in the program. Some were porch drop offs due to an increase in COVID cases around the Christmas Holiday and wanting to maintain safety. The families were grateful for the gifts and extra assistance. We are able to purchase one young man a bicycle as a means for him to get to work due to the family lacking transportation. He was very happy to receive the bicycle and not have to walk.



...In Parkersburg Continued

For the 2021 Christmas Season, Transitional Living served 19 youth and 3 children. Youth were provided with \$100 each for gifts and were asked by staff to provide a list of possible ideas. Five of our youth who were formerly in foster care, received additional gifts provided by a private community family. All youth were also provided with donated cell phone charging stations, pajama bottoms and socks which were generously donated by New Vision Telephone Pioneers. One of our youth reported that this was the first time at Christmas he had received more than one gift, and that he was excited to learn that the gifts he would be getting were things that he had asked for. That same youth also told staff that this was the best Christmas that he could remember ever having.



One young lady who is currently working on fixing up a vehicle so that she has transportation for work, was gifted with car seat covers and other miscellaneous car items to assist in her goals. When staff delivered the items to her she was overjoyed, and began to cry, saying that she finally felt a sense of hope that she might actually be able to reach her goal of having a nice, safe, reliable vehicle to get her from home to work. Some of the youth were also gifted Christmas trees for their apartments by various community members, and were very proud to be able to display them. One youth stated that having a Christmas tree of her own made the season seem normal and real for her for the first time in her life, and stated that the tree lights were very calming for her when she was feeling anxious or stressed about the holiday season.

Parents As Teachers served 16 families with a total of 21 children. Every child received pajamas, a book, and at least one toy. Several children received more than one toy based on need. A couple specific toys were purchased from the budget allocated but the rest were from the donated toys received at CHS. This year the donated toys were fantastic and very much appreciated by our families. Two teen moms also received pajamas. Based on parent educator's observations, one mom also received towels and washcloths.

Happy Holidays

...In Parkersburg Continued

Three families received food baskets for Christmas through the Mid-Town Family Resource Center:

Family 1: This year will be remembered especially as the year one of our parent educators provided the entire Christmas for one of her families. Kelly Franklin has a mom who was hospitalized briefly and was ill with COVID. Mom was unable to afford or shop for Christmas gifts for her daughter. Kelly obtained clothing sizes and a wish list from Mom and braved Walmart (Yes, braved. We all know what Walmart is like during December) to fulfill the list. Kelly also obtained several items from the list here at CHS through the donations received. (Again, many thanks, donators!) Mom contacted Kelly after Christmas. Kelly reported that Mom told her the provided items were exactly what she would have picked out herself. Mom reported that her daughter said that this Christmas morning was the best Christmas ever and that she must have been a really good girl.

Family 2: Received not only the traditional pajamas, books, toys but also a gift card to Kohl's for a 14-year-old daughter. The family had requested help with clothing for the daughter and a \$70.00 Kohl's gift card was provided. It was determined by the parent educator, Kelly Franklin, that the family shopped sale items at Kohl's and that a 14-year-old girl would rather pick out her own clothing. Kelly later heard from the Mom about how excited the daughter was. Mom was also very appreciative for the help received and sensitivity of the gift.

Family 3: Is having difficulty at this time due to Dad being on Hospice, Mom having a sudden heart attack and by-pass surgery, and family quarantining due to the health concerns. Mom has never asked for help before and was very hesitant to ask at this time. The family has many bills related to the recent medical travel (Pikeville KY due to no available beds in WV), appointments, and therapy sessions. Beverly Lopreste, who works with the family, determined a cash gift would be helpful. (Family also received pajama's, books, toys). Mom cried when she received \$500.00. Mom later reported she was able to buy a couple Christmas gifts for each child as well as pay towards her bills.

All enrolled families with children received Christmas Cookie Kits (Cookie dough, Christmas cookie cutters, frosting, sprinkles) and activities to do with children over the Christmas holiday.

Arthur N. Gustke Child Shelter



The kids of the Arthur N. Gustke Child Shelter enjoyed celebrating the holidays through December in many ways through the continued support of the community. The Knights of Columbus continued their annual support by providing \$1,000 of gifts to split between the residents for their Christmas morning gifts. The "Secret Santa" group of Parkersburg also donated money to go towards their Christmas morning gifts. Each kid had their own pile of gifts that were wrapped and prepared by their staff. Christmas morning the kids were all awake by 6:30am ready to open gifts.

...In Parkersburg Continued

Staff had their annual Christmas party for the kids at Emmanuel Baptist Church for the 6th year in a row. The church donates each youth a XL duffle bag and then with other donations from several others we filled the bags with items for each youth. Each was gifted new pillow, handmade pillow case, journals, art kits, games, blankets, wearable poncho, cards, hats and gloves, drawstring bags, hair brushes, make up, etc. The Wood County Bar Association donated \$1,000 worth of gifts and several members themselves bought gifts to add too. Local pastor Laura Foutty with Faith Fellowship brought a Christmas decorated trailer to sit outside our Christmas party for our youth and staff to be able to come out and get popcorn, snow cones and hot chocolate. They also gave each youth a goody bag of cookies.

Christmas Eve each child received their own gift of a holiday T-shirt, matching flannel pajama pants, FM radio, gel pens pack and ear buds. Our local shelter NP, Cathy Church reached out and donated Pizza Place pizza and tickets to the movie, Spiderman. Cathy also joined the group to the movie Christmas Eve.



Throughout December we had several groups reach out to provide recreation activities and opportunities for our youth. The Jaycee's of Parkersburg provided a December outing for our youth by renting J & M Bookstore room to have our own kind of "game night." They had board games and snacks provided and then rented the escape room for the kids and staff. Both groups got to the last clue, but neither group actually escaped. The full group enjoyed this outing. The Jaycee's also provided our shelter with tickets to the local Nutcracker performance. A \$400 check was donated by the Christ Lutheran Church Women Group for recreational activities: We were able to use this for tickets to The Christmas Carol at Ohio University performance series and renting out the Parkersburg Skate Country for a private party for our youth.



Congregation from Archers Chapel UMC in Sistersville WV & Tracy Mcklees (Patterson) provided the shelter with several exciting recreation opportunities in honor of her son Beau Allen Patterson. They provided us with 20 Skate Country free admission tickets, ten \$10 bowling gift cards, ten \$25 movie gift cards with a bonus of five \$10 concession cards for the movies and a gift card for \$150 for the Rage Room and each resident was blessed with a handmade blanket from Tracy. Tracy's continued support for the shelter each Christmas has been appreciated and her small congregation really gave big this year.

To end the Christmas update, our residents sent a care package to a lady that lives in a local assisted living facility. The youth spent 2 weeks painting crafts for her, making notes & drawings. Our youth were speaking about this lady as if they knew her and did a really good job with this project. We received videos of her opening her package and her appreciation was very sweet and the youth really enjoyed how happy their package made her.

As you can see, Parkesburg is a busy place around Christmas. We are honored to report that we served 691 youth in one way or another during the Holiday season. We are humbled by the community support that was received during this time and throughout the year. It is amazing that we are able to contribute back to the community at such a level. Ho Ho Ho!!!



...In Princeton

By: Lindsey Short



The WECAN Program received a grant from Volunteer WV for mentor appreciation in October. To show mentors how important they are not only to the program, but also the children they work with. We purchased a book memento titled, "I wrote a book about you" for the children to fill out for their mentors. Throughout November, the WECAN coordinator sat with each mentee during their monthly check-in and guided them in filling out the books. When filling them out, many mentees were excited to talk about and thank their mentors. One prompt stated, "One thing in our future I can't wait to make happen" and a mentee responded with "to let you see me graduate." Another prompt said, "I probably don't tell you this enough but the one thing I want you to always, always know is..." and the mentee said, "thank you for being in my life because when my grandma died I didn't feel loved and I just cried and cried until I stopped and just want to say thanks again for everything you do for me." One mentor stated that it was the most thoughtful and intentional gift that she had ever received and she would cherish it forever. These books were handed out to the mentors at the WECAN Christmas Party on December 16th.



On December 16th, the Mercer County WECAN Program hosted their annual Christmas event. Lifeline Church in Princeton began shopping for each child individually in November, purchased a dinner for the event, and provided their facility for the program to hold the event. Immanuel Baptist Church in Princeton also sponsored three families and donated canned goods as well. The evening started with a catered dinner from Cracker Barrel. All family members and mentors were invited, and throughout the night the children played basketball and completed winter crafts. Santa made an appearance and the children were ecstatic as they took photos with him using a Polaroid camera. They were able to take the photo home as a souvenir. The coordinator set aside one gift per child and mentor to hand out during the event. After the coordinator distributed presents, the Grinch made his debut to steal their gifts back. After laughs (and some screams), the children took photos with the Grinch. At the end of the night, the WECAN volunteers loaded the gifts into cars for them to open on Christmas Day. All children in the home were served through the event, and it was a wonderful experience together. Mentors, parents and children alike all thanked the volunteers saying they had a great evening.



...In Princeton Continued

Foster Care staff gathered together at Applebee's on December 18th for the pancake breakfast event. Employees served breakfast to their foster families and distributed gifts. The Sacred Heart Catholic Church Youth Group donated gifts picked out for each child. The Salvation Army and Highland Fellowship Church also donated toys to supplement those gifts. After finishing their meal, children sat with Santa for photos, received a sweet treat from him, and picked out a present from the toy bin. We have missed getting to spend time together with our families and were thankful to be back in person for our pancake breakfast this year.

A special shout out to Books-A-Million for donating multiple totes of books and toys to us again this year! We also want to thank Amy's House of Hope for donating non-perishable food items, and Coat of Arms for donating a Christmas meal for one of our families.



...In Romney

By: Sally Johnson

The year of 2021 has again been a difficult one for everyone who has been dealing the continuation of the pandemic. In spite of this difficult year, the Romney site has been so extraordinarily blessed again during this 2021 Christmas season. We cannot thank our community partners enough for their caring and compassion even when it's been such a hard year.

We were able to provide Christmas for a total of 110 children in the Mineral and Hampshire County area. Because of wonderful volunteers in our community, our very active advisory council and staff, 77 children ages new born to teenagers were able to feel loved and cared about during the Christmas season in Mineral County and we were able to provide Christmas for 33 children in Hampshire County. We were able to provide Christmas hams to our healthy grandfamilies. CHS wishes to thank the following individuals and groups for their participation in the 2021 Angel Tree Project in both Hampshire and Mineral Counties:



Jessica Amoruso, Craig and Crystal Armentrout and family, Jamie and Laura Biser, Jim and Judy Biser, Mike and Peggy Biser, Burlington Café, Judy Butts, Colby and Bethany Chapell, Sherry Coleman, Dr. James and Dinah Courier, Jay and Laura Courier, Randy and Samantha Crites, Anton and Sallie Daub, Dawnview Nursing Home, Shelly Dawson, Tony and Marie Delsignore, the Desantis family, Angela Devlin Parill and family, Bruce and Michelle Devine, Frank and LuAnn Durst and family, Christian and Kelsey Ernst, First Rate Plumbing, Pam Francis, Joel and Skylar Franz, Skip and Shirley Hackworth, Tammy Helmick, Rick and Wendy High and family, Gini and Sally Johnson, Gary and Libby Kalbaugh, Sheila Keister, staff at Knippenburg Insurance, the Lear family, Life Science Club at Potomac State College, Linda Marsh, Tessa McBride, Lina McDonald, Dale and Amanda Miller, Terri Morris, Jeremy and Kim Musser, Jonathan and Melissa Nelson, Jane O'Donnell, Alonna Ray, Rees Chapel United Methodist Church, Tom and Ruth Rowan, Romney Ruritan Club, David and Denise Shreve, Heidi Schmidt, Cline and Susan Slaubaugh, Debbie Stair, Sonya Stanislawsyk, Dan and Lakyn Strietbeck, Maury and Marie Sutphin, Randy and Dolly Swick, the Taylor family, Trinity Family Health Care, Melanie Watts, George and Donna Wilkinson, Randy and Robin Wright, and Laura Yost

Thank you each so much for your kindness and generosity during the 2021 Christmas season. We look forward to working with each of you again in 2022. Many thanks to Mary Helmick and Sherry Pancake for your help and leadership with the Mineral County Angel Tree project and thanks to Patty Estill for your leadership through Eastern Action in Romney for your leadership with the Hampshire County Angel Tree Project.



Because of the generosity of PAR MAR in Randolph, Mineral, Hardy and Pendleton Counties, we were able to provide a nice Christmas for several needy children from those counties again this year. We thank PAR MAR for allowing us the opportunity to provide Christmas presents to these precious children. Our Romney site was able to provide a bright Christmas for a total of 187 children this year in Mineral, Hampshire, Hardy, Morgan, Grant and Pendleton Counties, our foster children, shelter youth from counties all over the state of West Virginia. We could not have done so without our community partners. We cannot thank each of you enough for your kindness and generosity.

...In Romney Continued

Bloomery Presbyterian Church, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Christ Community Church, Danville Community Baptist Church, Faith Mission Church, First Baptist Church of Romney, Little Capon Baptist Church, Capon Bridge UMW, Christ Community Church, Hope Christian Church, Our Lady of Grace Church, and Zion Church of Christ were only twelve of many organizations that provided a wonderful Christmas for our kids at the shelter. Bloomery Presbyterian Church made a very generous monetary donation and 15 stockings filled with goodies, Capon Bridge UMW made a very generous monetary donation. Christ Community Church donated ten \$50 Wal-Mart gift cards and twenty McDonald's gift cards. The Danville Community Baptist Church provided a monetary donation. Faith Mission Church made a very generous cash donation in addition games, puzzles and ten gift cards. The First Baptist Church of Romney donated 10 Wal-Mart gift cards and a very generous monetary donation. Hope Christian Church donated bags with a pillow and blanket and gift cards. Our Lady of Grace Church donated clothing and made two very generous monetary contributions. Zion Church of Christ hosted a fall festival and donated \$1600 for the kids Christmas.



We would like to thank Mrs. Grapes for again donating a live Christmas tree and a case of apples for our shelter. You are so very kind and generous. We wish to thank the Romney Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for providing a delicious Christmas dinner for our shelter residents and staff. We thank Chad Hott and his family for providing Christmas gifts and delicious hot chocolate for our shelter youth. We thank A Plus Heating and Air and George Wysor, Jr., for making a very generous monetary donation for our shelter kids. Karlie DiBenedetto and Shyane Tawney from Petersburg made bracelets and sold them at sporting events for \$1.00 each. These children then donated all \$300 they raised to our kids. This is just wonderful, when children help children. Our local American Legion Ladies Auxillary donated 10 backpacks with personal hygiene items and gifts for our shelter youth. Lindsay Miller donated gifts and pizza for our shelter youth for Christmas Eve dinner. Kim Huff generously donated art supplies for our shelter youth.



Katrina Feaster donated ten \$20 gift cards. The General Federation of Women-Romney made a very generous monetary donation. The Keyser American Legion donated space for us to hold our very successful foster care Christmas party this year. We were not able to hold one last year so this party was very special for our families and our staff. Colby Chapell donated his time to make sure that Santa made an appearance at the party. The third grade class at John J. Cornwell Elementary School provided backpacks with gifts for our shelter and foster care youth as well. We are so grateful for the outpouring of kindness and generosity shown by our local community.

...In Romney Continued

Our 2021 Little Red Stocking campaign was huge success. Rio Liberty Station in Rio, WV, raised the most money this year, having raised \$10,415. Patterson Creek Liberty Station in Petersburg, WV, came in second place, having raised \$2976. Burger King in Keyser, WV raised \$1,471, coming in third place. Each of these stores and their top salespeople will receive trophies and plaques to say thank you for all they did during this campaign. A Plus Heating and Air made a sizable donation to the campaign again this year.



In addition to these businesses, please see the list of all partners in this campaign. We really appreciate everyone's efforts to help us raise money and awareness of the services we provide to our local children. Many thanks to the following businesses, organizations and individuals who helped to make this campaign so successful:

In Augusta, WV:

El Centro Mexican Restaurant, McKee Funeral Home, L&M Market and White Oak Consignment Shop

In Canaan Valley WV:
Grant County Bank

In Baker, WV:

Corner Mart

In Capon Bridge, WV:
A Plus Heating and Air, FNB Bank; Jill's Barber Shop

In Berkeley Springs, WV:

J&S Pawn Shop

In Cresaptown, MD:

Pit N Go, Shooters, Tips and Toes Too

In Bloomery, WV:

The Smokin' Market



In Burlington, WV:

Burlington Café, Burlington General Store

In Cumberland, MD:

Kline's Restaurant, Knippenberg Insurance, Wendy's Restaurant, Pit N Go, Super 8 Hotel

In Davis, WV:

Grant County Bank

In Keyser, WV:

Burger King, Sally Johnson and Gini Johnson, D&B Thrift, Fox's Pizza, Grant County Bank, Hair Depot, Mary Helmick, J&S Pawn Shop, Keyser Inn, Linda Marsh, Markwood Funeral Home, Nu View Video Store, Pulmonary Associates, Queen's Point Coffee, Royal Restaurant, Oriole Club, Potomac Heights Apartments, State Farm Insurance, Tractor Supply

In Fort Ashby, WV:

FNB Bank, Wayne's Meats, Gain's Service Station, Fort Ashby VFW

In Frostburg, WV:

J&S Pawn Shop

...In Romney Continued

In Lexington, KY:
Hunt Brothers Pizza

In Lonaconing, MD
Pit N Go

In Maysville, WV:
Galen's Country Store

In Martinsburg, WV:
J&S Pawn

In Moorefield, WV:
Baby Blue Smoke Pit Barbecue,
Grant County Bank, Main Event,
O'Neill's Restaurant, South Branch
Station, South Fork Pharmacy, Main Event
Summit Bank

In Petersburg, WV:
Basagic Funeral Home, Bright Cycle, Central
Tie, Dairy Queen, Family Traditions Restaurant,
Grant County Bank, Grove Street Station,
Heritage Hearing Aid, Mike's Auto Sales,
Patterson Creek Creek Liberty Station, Schaffer
Funeral Home, Tri County Collision

In Piedmont, WV:
Duckies Bar and Grill



In Pottstown, PA:
Seneca Distribution

In Springfield, WV:
Bank of Romney, Springfield Sunoco

In Westernport, MD:
Fair Price Market, Fox's Pizza, NovaCare

In Morgantown WV:
J&S Pawn Shop

In Mt. Jackson, VA:
Hoitzman Oil Corporation

In New Creek, WV:
In-Style Hair Salon

In Oakland MD:
J&S Pawn Shop

In Old Fields, WV:
Old Fields Country Store

In Paw Paw, WV:
American Legion, Paw Paw Country Store

In Ridgeley, WV:
J&S Pawn Shop

In Rio:
Rio General Store

In Romney, WV:
Bank of Romney, Burger King,
Carrie's Visions of Beauty, Cruise Thru
Drive Thru, Eastern Building Supply,
FNB Bank, Hampshire County Library,
Italian Touch, Lambert's Pharmacy,
Main Street Grill, McKee Funeral Home,
Northern Eagle, Pulmonary Associates,
Shaffer Funeral Home, South Branch Inn

In Winchester, VA:
Jo Gail's Country Cookin'



This 2021 Little Red Stocking campaign was extremely successful. In addition to thanking all of our LRS partners, we wish to thank our communities for purchasing our stockings. The campaign would not have been so successful without community support. We look forward to working with each of you again in the 2022 campaign.

...In Summersville

By: Naomi Russell & Tamra Barnett



The children at the Kathleen and John Faltis Child Shelter in Summersville had a very good Christmas in 2021. The citizens of Nicholas and surrounding counties were very generous.

Several residents and businesses in Nicholas and surrounding counties donated many supplies for the children. Donations included: hygiene products, blankets, clothing, board games, card games, books, crafts and lots of candy and cookies.

We would like to thank the following businesses for donating to make the children's Christmas a memorable one: The Ansted Knights of Pythias donated \$3,000 for Christmas gifts; the Punisher Black Bear Motorcycle Club donated \$1,000 for gifts; the Cottle Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias donated \$1,000; the Nicholas County Community Foundation donated \$1,000; and the Spruce Grove Community Church donated \$500 for gifts for the children. Several others donated snacks, games, board games, blankets, and miscellaneous items for the children for Christmas.



The Summersville Permanency office would like to thank the following for making Christmas special for the many kids we serve: Jordan's Chapel; Wayne Smith with Chemical Valley Crawlers; Aniston Hornsby; Reagan Swagger and Katherine Wood.

Items donated ranged from monetary donations to pajamas, multiple Christmas presents consisting of toys and clothes, welcome boxes, socks and baby clothes.



...In Wheeling

By: Kara Huff



Christmas is a time of joy, laughter, hope, and love. Even though Christmas still looked different in 2021, the Wheeling site was still able to spread Christmas cheer to Our Families and children we serve thanks to the generosity of our community and many donors.

Last year, we had an Amazon Registry in lieu of an angel tree. We never imagined that all 225 items would have been purchased. It was so successful, we thought we would try again this year. Instead of a registry, we made Holiday Wish Lists on Amazon. We had 'tags' on the three wish lists so buyers could see the age and gender when they were purchasing.

This year, 431 items were bought for 38 children.

We would like to thank ALL of those who purchased from the wish list. There were so many donors and we are so very appreciative and blessed to have the amount of support we have during the holidays. We couldn't have made our children and family's Christmas extra special without each and every one of you.

A special thank you to the Church of Christ in Proctor, WV (Nikki Stevens), Steptoe and Johnson PLLC, and CHS Board of Director, Melissa Grimes, with helping to make sure that every child's wish came true. There sure were a lot of happy faces on Christmas Day!



Even though it's one of the busiest times of year for Wheeling, the Christmas season was a wonderful time for our families and children. We are all excited to see what 2022 has in store for Wheeling and are hopeful for continued growth of our Permanency Program.



2021 Little Red Stocking Campaign

Children's Home Society would like to thank all the small businesses and schools that participated in making the 2021 Little Red Stocking Campaign a huge success. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to our first Little Red Stocking Facebook Fundraiser.



The Children's Home Society would like to send a very special THANK YOU, to the Oil Marketers and Grocers Association and their members. Gomart participated in the Little Red Stocking campaign raising \$19,347. ROCS also participated raising \$6,773.29. CHS partnered with Par Mar for their Wednesday Wish Giving Campaign that raised \$8,948.41. Our staff provided close to \$9,000 worth of toys to hundreds of children statewide. OMEGA members combined raised \$35,068.70 statewide for West Virginia's children this holiday season.

Children's Home Society of West Virginia

1422 Kanawha Blvd., East
P.O. Box 2942
Charleston, WV 25330
304.346.0795
childhswv.org



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