

# Children's Home News

*2023 Christmas News*  
*In Programs and*  
*Communities Edition...*





## ...In Beckley

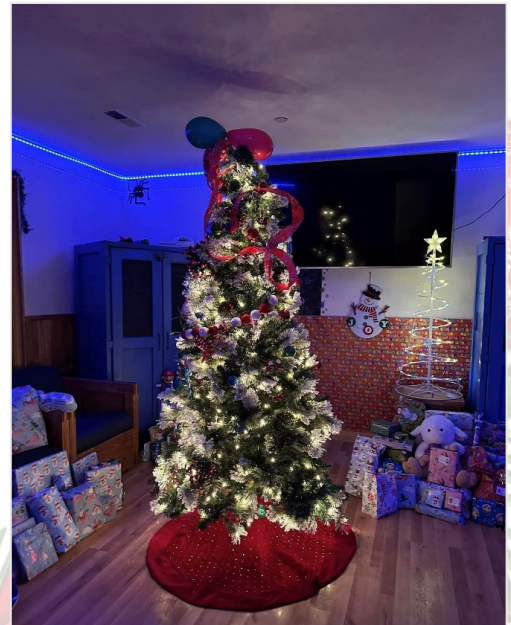
By: LaAmy'a Manley

This year at the Southern West Virginia Exceptional Youth Emergency Child Shelter (EYES), was a very special Christmas. Donations coming in all the way up until Christmas Eve, stockings overflowing, and we saw our 5 children laughing and shrieking with excitement. Sometimes, at EYES or another shelter, it could be their first Christmas ever. Our sponsors and donors surely do not disappoint with the outpouring of love for our shelter and we surely appreciate it.



Books-A-Million has done it again! Raising over \$7,000 worth of books and toys for our site. Our library is huge, and our hearts are full. Not to mention all the cool gifts community members donated to our cause. The Duff family did their annual Christmas Drive for our shelter getting the whole Glade Community to donate toys, clothing, and other items we can use at our shelter. These items usually help us all year long!

The Southern WV Exceptional Resource Center was able to help provide gloves, hats, coats (if needed), books, and toys to 20 needy families in Raleigh County. Southern WV Exceptional Resource Center is located in Beaver, WV and provides referral services, family and parental support, as well as provided need materials and items out of our resource closet. This is our first year operating and our first Christmas with the community. We hope to be able to double our families in the next year and look forward to creating new community relationships so we are better equipped to serve those in need with exceptionalities.





## ...In Charleston

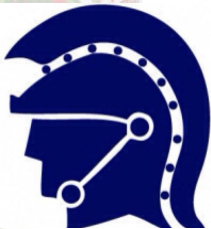
By: Amanda Williams

Thanks to many businesses, organizations, Children's Home Society board members and staff, the children at the Davis Child Shelter and in our foster care program were able to have a wonderful Christmas!

We would like to thank the Brother's Keepers for their gracious donations and the Golden Oldies who have been donating toys, clothing and hygiene products for close to twenty-years. These items were distributed to community members as well as to 9 children at the Davis Child Shelter and the 19 kids we serve in foster care.



## ...In Charleston Continued



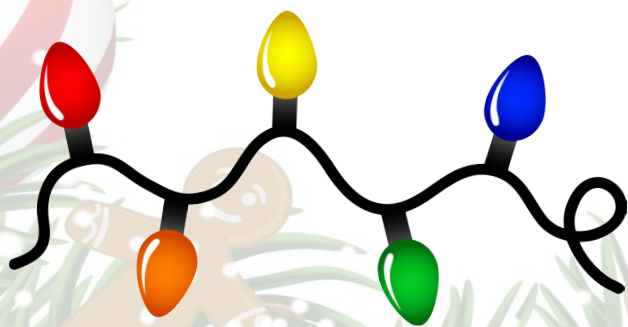
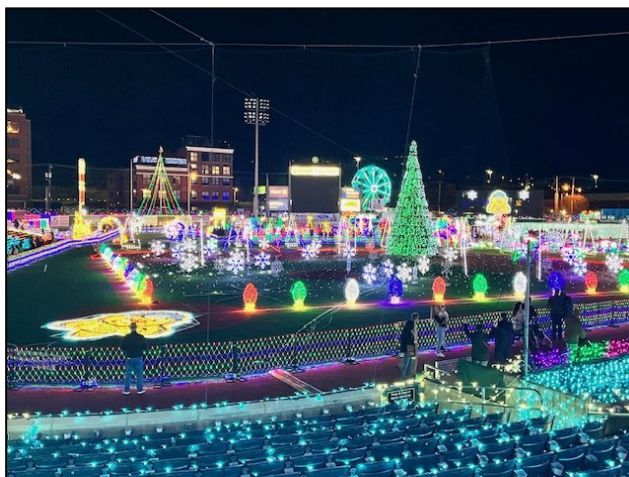
We would like to thank the Riverside High School Honor Society for purchasing gifts for the kids from their Christmas wish lists.

For the second year in a row, the 130th Airlift Wing medical group brought gifts to the shelter along with pizza for lunch. Mountain State Oral purchased gifts for the residents from their Christmas lists for the third year in a row as well as provided dinner for the shelter. A local 7- eleven dropped off gift bags full of items such as hygiene products, cups, games etc. for each child.



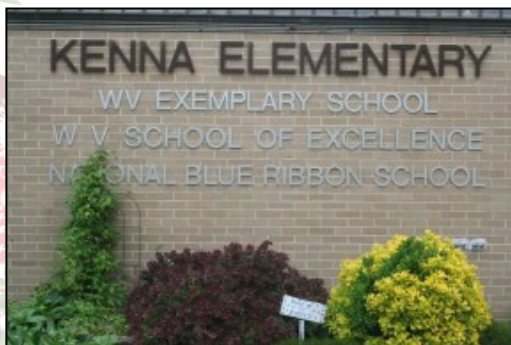
Anthony Lewis, a former West Virginia University football player, and the SugarBowl Foundation, donated gift cards to the Davis Child Shelter. Anthony and the Sugarbowl Foundation have been hosting a WVU watch party at the Buffalo Wild Wings in Cross Lanes for years, raising money for Christmas.

We would like to thank the Salango Law Firm for providing free tickets so the kids at the shelter could enjoy the Christmas Lights at the "Dirty Birds Light the Night" event at the GoMart Park in Charleston.



## ...In Charleston Continued

We would like to thank City National Bank and Natalie Shelton for their toy drive that benefits the kids we serve in foster care. Natalie has been organizing this toy drive for many years.



We would like to thank the children at Kenna Elementary for raising over \$100 for the Little Red Stocking Campaign. These funds were used to purchase toys and clothing for the kids in our foster care program. We would like to thank Leah Kersey, Kenna Elementary School Counselor, for organizing and allowing the children to participate.



## ...In Charleston Continued

To kick off Christmas break, Toni Erby, along with shelter staff, treated the kids to Graziano's pizza for lunch. Pictured is Toni and shelter administrative assistant, Judy Smith.



Children's Home Society board member, Lori Ray, treated children with a trip to Goodwill in which they were able to pick out gifts that she purchased for them. Afterwards, they enjoyed lunch at a local Mexican restaurant. She also gave each child a stocking filled with goodies. We are very appreciative of Lori's desire to spend time with our kids, not only at Christmas time, but year-round!

Children's Home Society board member, Marie Long, and her office at Suttle & Stalnaker donated hygiene products, books and clothing. Additionally, Marie's parents, Randy and Lynn donated KFC gift cards for the second year in a row! The kids love KFC.

The children enjoyed other fun activities this Christmas such as decorating cookies, making Christmas ornaments, decorating doors inside the shelter and attending the Charleston Christmas parade. The week of Christmas shelter staff and kids enjoyed a Christmas party with food, games, and a secret Santa gift exchange. Santa, one of his elves, and the Grinch were also in attendance at the party.



## ...In Charleston Continued

The Children's Home Society would like to thank Truist Bank and their employees for their support this Christmas Season. Truist employees, provided Christmas gifts to 192 children, spending \$19,200 statewide through their Lighthouse Project. 89 of those children were served from our Charleston office. Special thanks to Truist Executive Vice President, Patrick O'Malley, for thinking of the Children's Home Society this Holiday Season and creating 192 smiles on Christmas morning.



Thank you to Jennifer Freeman (Troop Leader) and the entire Girl Scout Troop 51307 for making handmade blankets that were distributed to families in the Charleston area.



## ...In Charleston Continued

For twenty-five years the Teamsters Local 175 has been providing toys, clothes, and food to the Children's Home Society to make sure hundreds upon hundreds of families are taken care of during the Christmas Holiday Season. This year they raised a record, \$60,000, to purchase toys, food, and clothes for families. Children's Home Society was able to help 3,077 families in Kanawha and Putnam County. Items were also given to our location in Huntington, to help families in Cabell County.

We would like to thank all the Local 175 members, their vendors and the local stores in the community where they purchased the items. We would also like to thank all the volunteers that helped unload two track trailers full of goodies.



### TEAMSTERS LOCAL 175

*We would like to thank all our supporters and volunteers that helped us make the Christmas season special for many children and families this year. From our two locations in Charleston, we were able to provide Christmas to 3,196 children and families this Holiday Season.*



## ...In Huntington

By: Diane Lucas

The Christmas spirit in Huntington began with our Jingle Bell Ball on December 2nd. This formal event, supported by local businesses and other CHS supporters, was attended by over 100 guests. The Ball included a delicious pasta dinner, and 25 decadent desserts, which were donated in order to raise additional funds from the, much anticipated, "dessert dash". A silent auction included many beautifully displayed gift baskets and themed groupings, all donated from individuals, entrepreneurs, and businesses throughout WV. The auction allowed guests to get a head start on their holiday shopping, while providing hope for the holidays to children and families in our community. Lively music, dancing, and cocktails made for a joyous celebration of the season. The Jingle Bell Ball was made possible through sponsorships from Dutch Miller Auto Group, APG Polytech, OVP Health, HD Media, ProSource, Blue Goose International, Pro Cutters Lawn and Landscaping, and Assured Partners, along with volunteers and support from Developmental Therapy Center, Recovery Point, and several Huntington Chamber of Commerce members.



## ...In Huntington Continued

On December 11th, the Cabell County Family Support Center hosted Cookies & Cocoa with Santa at the YMCA Renaissance Room. Children's faces lit up while talking with the Jolly Ole Fellow in-person, whispering their wish lists in hopes of a special visit from The Big Guy on Christmas Eve. St. Nick shared the spotlight with a motley crew of characters including his head Elf, lead Reindeer, Gingerbread Man, and the cynical, Mr. Grinch, who managed to behave himself, bringing giggles and holiday merriment to all the children. Families enjoyed this special time, creating ornaments and other crafts, eating pizza and decorating sugar cookies, while enjoying a warm cup of cocoa brimming with whipped cream, sprinkles, and every other topping imaginable.



## ...In Huntington Continued

As with last year, families were invited to visit Santa's Workshop 2023, hosted at Jan's House, to choose Christmas gifts for their children. In the days and weeks leading up to Christmas, over 280 families, including over 600 children, benefited from this outreach. This was made possible through the generosity of our community partners, and by those in attendance at the Jingle Bell Ball. In addition to gifts, each family was provided a holiday food box to help provide a family meal and enjoy quality time together.

The Huntington Permanency team was able to offer Our families great support and fun. At the beginning of December, we hosted an extended foster parent date night, where parents dropped off their kiddos for three hours and had the opportunity to Christmas shop, wrap, eat out or just relax at home. And we had the opportunity to spend extra time with all the kiddos we adore.

On December 15, Huntington Community Church was gracious enough to allow us to host our foster family Christmas Party in their fellowship hall. Nearly all of our active families attended the party. We had Rocco's lasagna and spaghetti, games and crafts, and a gift for each child and parent. Everyone appeared to have a great time, and it's always great to see our little foster family community come together.

Huntington received a confirmed date for their fourth official family adoption, and continue to work on a sibling set of three that will be adopted in the near future!

This 2023 Christmas season for SAH Region 2 program was an extremely busy yet fulfilling time of year. The Christmas season is a fun time to spend with our families where we can focus on the happy moments while continuing to assist them with any needs they may encounter. This year, we had the pleasure of serving 34 youth and families in the Kanawha, Cabell, Wayne, Putnam, Lincoln, and Mason counties.

All of our Safe at Home youth enjoyed their Christmas presents and opened them with excitement; however, Wraparound Facilitator Amy Long shares one story with a sixteen-year-old client that stood out the most for her.



## ...In Huntington Continued

"This 16-year-old young man received a pair of Timberland boots and a PlayStation gift card from the Safe at Home program. His eyes lit up when he opened the Timberland box and he looked at me with surprise and gratitude and said, "You got them". He put the boots on his feet immediately and proudly walked around his home. He smiled during my whole visit and thanked me when I left. He told me that he had never owned a pair of Timberlands and was only joking when he asked for them. I have never seen this young man smile so much.

The following week, we visited his JPO and she asked about his Christmas, he only listed the items that Safe at Home purchased as his gifts and his grandmother added that she had expected money that didn't come through leaving her unable to purchase gifts this year, news that I had not been made aware of until this moment. Safe at Home made a true difference in his Christmas as we continue to help make a difference in other ways for this young man and his grandmother."

*--Amy Long/Wraparound Facilitator*

In closing, the Holiday season for our Huntington programs made it possible for many children and families to experience the joy of Christmas. There is no other time like Christmas to inspire us to continue our mission.



## ...In Lewisburg

By: Mary Carr

The Lewisburg Community Based Site FELT the Christmas Magic in 2023. With hundreds of local donations and financial support from across the country, love and kindness poured in to our doors and our hearts. We never imagined we would hear from over 30 supporters from Lewisburg, Hinton, Rainelle Charleston and Terra Alta, West Virginia, to Georgia, Florida, Oregon and Washington State. Thanks to several local businesses, the Lewisburg Community Based Site was able to provide an unbelievable Christmas to over 230 children in 2023. These children include children in foster care, children who have been reunified with their biological parents, children being parented by their grandparents, young adults in our Independent Living program and multiple children in our local community whose parents were not able to provide for them this year.

## ...In Lewisburg Continued

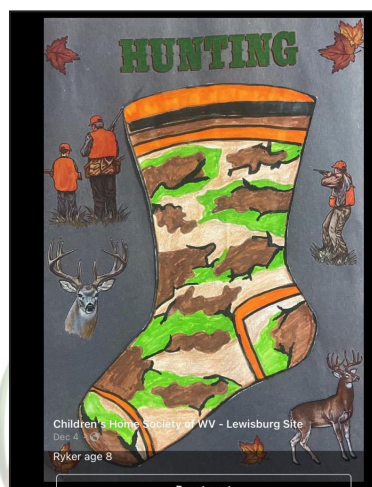


Special thank you's to Warner Music School, Truist Bank, Lewisburg United Methodist Church Preschool, The Greenbrier Valley Aquatic Center, Bethel Pentecostal Holiness Church, Love Child, Barnwood Living, Greenbrier East High School, Lewisburg Church of Christ, Ramp Holiness Church Women's Group and Toys for Tots, as well as multiple local community members, for helping us make

Our Little Red Stocking campaign hit an all time high in 2023, bringing in over \$36,500 through the selling of our stockings in local stores and donations to our campaign. In Greenbrier, Summers, Monroe and Pocahontas counties, we had 131 small businesses agree to sell our stockings this year. Among those businesses was ParMar store #186 in Caldwell who went above and beyond for children. The employees of this store held their own contest to sell the most stockings in their store, but they didn't stop there. They pulled their own resources together and stuffed over 40 stockings with goodies from toys to toothbrushes for us to give out to foster youth in our community.



The local Little Red Stocking Coloring Contest had 156 entries and our winner, Ryker Bradley, decorated a beautiful stocking that garnered 226 likes on our Facebook page. Thank you to Fathom Realty for sponsoring our coloring contest and providing Amazon gift cards to our winners! After the contest, the colored and decorated stockings were delivered to Lewisburg Healthcare Center as a special Christmas card for each of the residents. The enlarged version of our Little Red Stocking was featured at the West Virginia State Fair's drive through Christmas Light display this year as well.



## ...In Lewisburg Continued

Hinton's Hometown Christmas was extra special this year as we honored our sweet Ginger Snider while we sold Little Red Stockings, soup and baked goods at the event. Miss Ginger was a member of our local Advisory Council and one of our biggest supporters. We will all miss her dearly, but our memories of her and her love for our agency and its mission will live with us forever.



Our foster and adoptive families enjoyed an evening with Santa and a Polar Express themed Christmas Party at Lewisburg United Methodist Church. We wore our pajamas, drank hot chocolate and ate some yummy breakfast food while Santa, with the help of our local Walmart associates, passed out bikes, ride on toys, diapers, ear buds and more! Our very own Grinch, Janet Richmond (Director of Facilities Management) put smiles on all the children's faces and danced the night away with our little ones. The children also enjoyed face painting, crafts, cookie decorating, and games. Each child had a professional picture taken and provided to them free of cost by Butterfly Views Photography. This special night reminded us of how magical Christmas is through the eyes of a child.



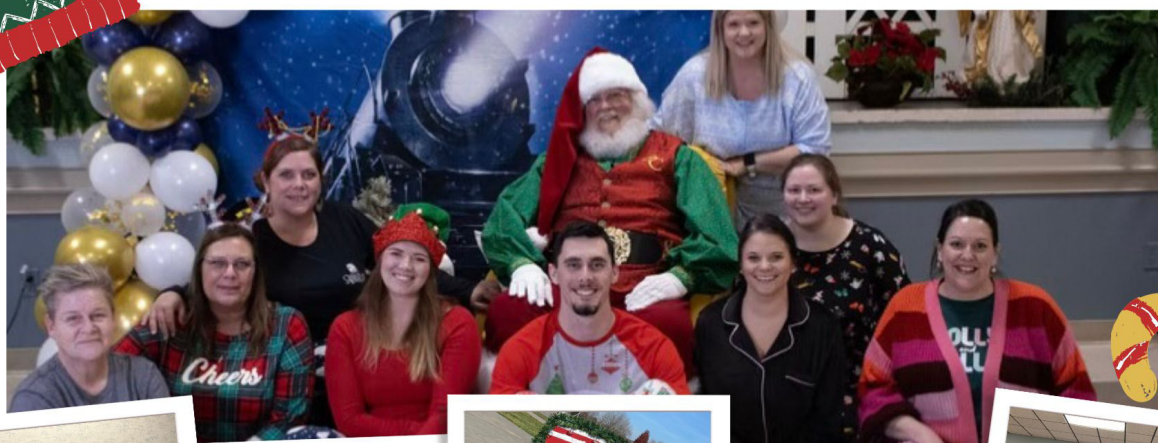
While we will hang up our Christmas hats for a few months and rest our reindeer until next year, we look forward to continuing to serve families in our community and keeping the magic of Children's Home Society alive for children throughout 2024.

*"Christmas Magic is silent. You don't hear it – You feel it, you know it, you believe it"*

*– Kevin Alan Milne*

...In Lewisburg Continued

*Merry Christmas*

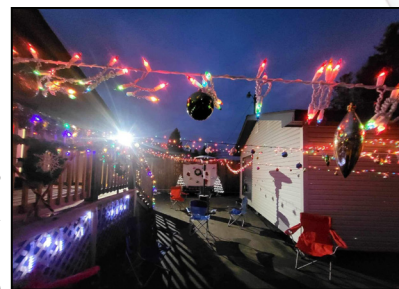




# The Greenbrier Valley Children's Home

By: Jennifer Sams

Christmas is a time for joy, hope, and celebration, and for the youth at The Greenbrier Valley Children's Home (GVCH), celebrating Christmas can be a particularly special experience. When one of our 16-year-old females stated she hadn't experienced Christmas in 4 years, we knew we had to make this Christmas extra special. GVCH kicked off our annual celebration with a second-year tradition of The Twelve Days of Christmas. GVCH employees brought some of their own family traditions to share with our 11 kiddos, as we wanted to make Christmas feel like they were at home. Our kids got to enjoy activities such as making ornaments, baking cookies, driving around to look at lights, watching Christmas movies, and even a gift exchange amongst each other thanks to Becky and Lowell Bennett. Our staff worked for hours to set up a winter wonderland for the children. The laughter filled the air as they roasted marshmallows while enjoying all the Christmas decorations set up by staff.



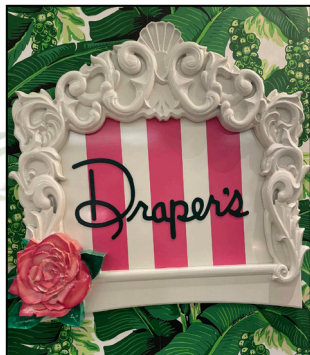
As always, Christmas would not be what it is without the help of our community. Freedom Jeepin showed up two days before Christmas with a Jeep load of toys and clothes for all of our kids. The children enjoyed looking at all the Jeeps as well as talking to people in the community. They ended the evening with a late-night Christmas movie. The kids got to sleep in Christmas Eve but woke up to a table full of food provided by the Mt. Pleasant Ladies Group from Fincastle, Va. It has become a yearly tradition for these ladies to provide a complete Christmas Eve brunch for the shelter.



We knew we wanted Christmas to be something the children would never forget, and shift supervisor, Jason Phipps did not disappoint. Jason spent hours putting together boxes to resemble The Nut Cracker. When the kids entered the rec room on Christmas morning, they found a life-size personalized Nut Cracker with all their gifts inside. This was truly a moment they will never forget. Children enjoyed the tradition of Chinese for lunch, followed up with a trip to the theater, thanks to an anonymous member of the community.

## ...Greenbrier Valley Children's Home Continued

The fun continued when local advisory member, Susan Sharp Campbell donated gift certificates for lunch at Draper's at The Greenbrier. This was a real special outing as our residents got to get dressed up in their Sunday best and enjoy a tour of The Greenbrier that was completely decorated for Christmas. Several of our residents stated this was the best outing they have ever been on.



At the forefront of all we do, we knew we needed to give back to those in need. With the help of Freedom Jeepin, we were able to sponsor 6 children in the community who needed Christmas. We helped a few children through community in schools who lacked a few gifts. One of our local Elementary Schools, Crichton Elementary often sees families who struggle to provide basic necessities. We teamed up with Books by William to help provide clothing to countless children at the school. We also helped provide food for a family in desperate need. Days after Christmas, a local family lost their home in a house fire. GVCH stepped in immediately and purchased clothing and food for the family. We were able to utilize our extra Christmas donations to provide a pair of shoes and gifts for each of the family members.



# ...Greenbrier Valley Children's Home Continued

## Special Thanks to the following for making Christmas so special at GVCH

- Cindy and Tom Vance and Vance Storage Depot
- Smoot Investment
- Greenbrier Valley Church of The Nazarene
- Invenergy & Beech Ridge Energy
- Quinwood Church of the True Living God
- New Prospect Baptist Church
- Barnwood Living
- Mt. Pleasant Ladies Group out of Fincastle Va.
- Kurt and Kathi Hoffman
- Aubrina Mumford
- Rupert CEOs
- Books by William
- Greenbrier Motors
- Meadow River Garden Club
- Rupert Women's Club
- Jessica Neff
- Cliff and Renee Gibson
- Freedom Jeepin
- Donna Cadle
- Greenbrier Ave Church of God
- Susan Sharp Campbell
- Beck and Lowell Bennett
- Kendra Taylor
- Steve and Nadine Redden
- Donald Davis Toy Fund
- Sunshine Graphics
- Jennifer Wickline and Jerry Murphy
- Jimmy Vance & Bobby Neff Photography
- Sherri Ramirez
- Martha Kendrick
- JD Tire & Auto Repair
- Smoot Baptist Church
- PR & Linda Dimascio
- Tammy Bowels Raines Law Office
- Sheila Allen
- Andrew Bailes and Orient Hill Freewill Baptist Church
- Bob Foster and Mary Lebb
- Some very special anonymous donors

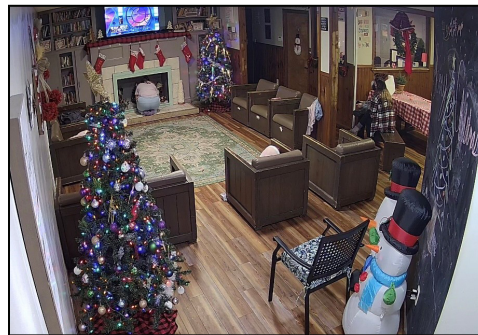


## ...In Logan

By: Amanda Runyon

### June Montgomery Harless Children's Home

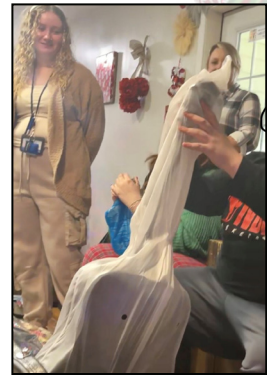
Our 10 kiddos at the June Montgomery Harless Children's Home (JMHS) was blessed once again this 2023 Christmas season by the kindness of several individuals, community members, businesses, and churches. Our kids enjoyed getting the shelter ready for Christmas by putting up decorations inside and also decorating two Christmas trees. Decorating the Christmas trees at the shelter is always a special time since some residents have never had the chance to do that before spending Christmas at JMHS. The kids participated in several fun activities at the shelter such as decorating ugly Christmas sweater cookies, a karaoke contest, and a Gingerbread House contest. They also went on a hay ride at Christmas in the Park where they enjoyed hot chocolate and snacks while experiencing the beautiful sights of Christmas lights. On Christmas Eve our they had a pizza party courtesy of Giovannis in Logan.



The children had a blast at the yearly Christmas party at the Buck Harless Center hosted by Pam Surber and members of several churches in Mingo County. They enjoyed pizza, games, music, and Christmas gifts. Each child received a 3 piece luggage set, a \$10 McDonald's gift card, \$100 Walmart gift card, a Bible, and candy.

## ...In Logan Continued

There was so much excitement on Christmas day as most of our kids said they had never received Christmas gifts before and they couldn't wait to unwrap all their presents! One child in particular received his first Fender guitar which was the only gift he asked for and he was speechless while opening it. Several staff had tears in their eyes while seeing how happy and surprised he was to receive this gift. It was such a memorable moment.



Our kids received many gifts including new shoes, clothes, hygiene products, air pods, art supplies, jewelry, candy, gift cards, basketballs, footballs, a new basketball rim, etc. Christmas gifts for the children at JMHS were made possible by many sponsors such as individuals in the community through the Upper Room Ministries Christmas program, David Hager Photography, West Logan Christian Academy, Walgreens, JMHS staff, and CHS Board of Director and American's Got Talent winner, Landau Eugene Murphy Jr..



## ...In Martinsburg

### MARTINSBURG SITE-2023 CHRISTMAS REPORT

By: Ami Sirbaugh

*Season Greetings,  
Our site had a terrific December. We were shown an amazing amount of support by our community for our Children during the Holiday Season. We cannot begin to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our community members, local businesses, and supporters who helped make this time of year so special. Please enjoy our Christmas Report for the 2023 Holiday Season.*



### *Martinsburg Staff Holiday Party*

Our season kicked off with our Monarch Family Support Center for Berkeley County and our Honey Bee Family Support Center for Jefferson County providing giving trees for community members. Throughout the month of December, in Partnership with our PIP teams, staff kept the tree stocked with warm hats, gloves, and scarves in adult and child size for those in need



## ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

...In Martinsburg Continued

*December 2, 2023*

Our annual Breakfast with Santa event was very successful. We had 73 children and 58 adults in attendance from all of our programs. The breakfast also included staff and their families as well as some of our local advisory members. Staff participated by dressing up as elves and other characters for the children to enjoy and take pictures with. We provided gifts and stuffed animals to all of the children while they visited with Santa. Pownall's Bistro provided the buffet style breakfast. All children left with smiling faces!



*CHS Staff photo at the breakfast*



*Alex & Chasa with Snoopy Display donated by Macy's. 25 ft. Snoopy's were given to us to provide to our children at Christmas.*



*Local Advisory Council Members, Kim and Deb*



*The character crew for the Breakfast*

...In Martinsburg Continued



Gift wrap volunteers from local banks take a break from gift wrapping to help staff prepare for math tutoring session with a client



*Every year the office transforms into a gift wrapping station as the community comes in to have their gifts wrapped for a donation. This year we raised \$1958.00 Staff and Volunteers wrap beautiful gifts!.*

# Annual Holiday Gift Wrap Fundraiser



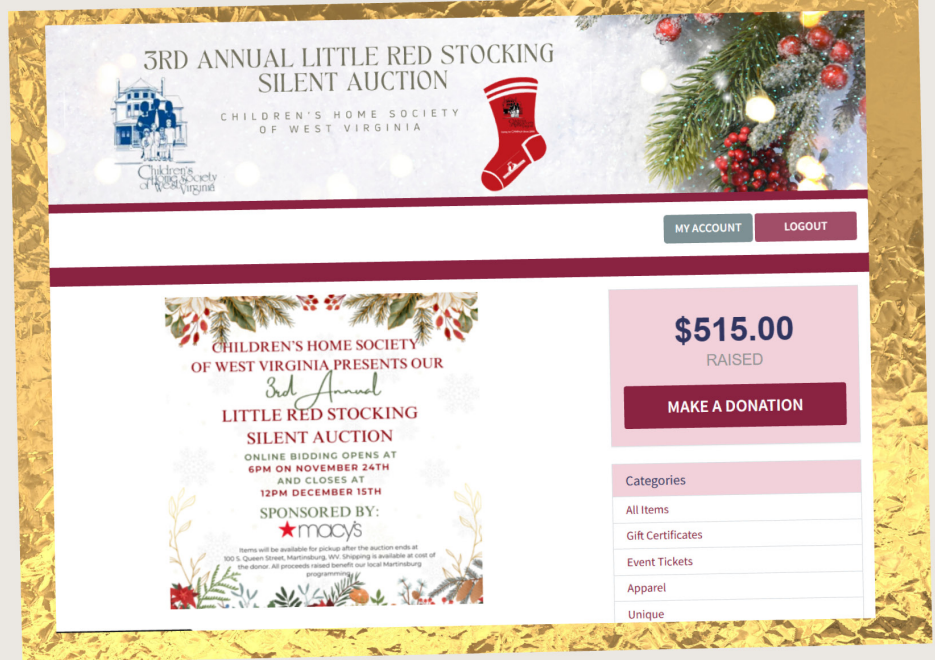
LAC member Tracy Regalia and her mother volunteering to gift wrap!



Gift wrap volunteer and CHS Board Member Kristie Hadley volunteering their time to wrap gifts

# 3rd Annual Little Red Stocking Silent Auction \$515.00

...In Martinsburg Continued



This year the Little Red Stocking Silent Auction was sponsored by Macy's. Macy's donated 9 baskets/items for the auction that contained designer products and lovely items for Christmas gifts including cologne sets, perfume, and kids toys. In addition to those items, the Brannan family donated Capitals tickets, The Apollo Theater donated season tickets, and Peace Makers quilting guild donated a lap blanket.



Jenna Orsini, Monarch FSC Director, was awarded "Santa's Helper" of the year award for her organization and coordination of overseeing Christmas assistance for over 140 clients in the Monarch Family Support Center. Jenna was also in charge of our Little Red Stocking Campaign!



Christina Starr, permanency home finder was awarded "Santa's Helper" of the year award this year for her diligence in logging, sorting, and organizing every single donation that came in for Christmas this year! Whew, if she never sees another toy or excel spreadsheet again she may be happy!

## ...In Martinsburg Continued

### LITTLE RED STOCKING FUNDRAISER

*The 2023 Little Red Stocking Campaign had 62 Small Business Participants, with 10 being new partners! CHS Martinsburg Site raised \$8383 at the time of writing this report, we are still waiting for our largest partner and two others to complete their accounting for this year's campaign! We look forward to this campaign each year! We are grateful for the opportunity to network with new small businesses and value the continued support from our established partners!*



Aaron Sales and Lease  
Advocate Insurance Group  
Apple Lounge  
Ave's Lock and Key  
Bank of Charles Town- 9 locations  
Berkeley Plaza Theatre 7  
Bob's Carry Out  
BroadLane Station  
Bushel n'a' Peck  
Coast Guard Martinsburg  
CMA's Toyota  
Dairy Queen- 5 locations  
Doris Deli  
Dry Dock  
Grade Station Road  
Jakkis 1  
Jakkis Too  
Jakkis Station Grill  
Jakkis Marlow Station  
Ladder House Bar and Grill  
Oakwood BBQ  
Orioles Club  
Orr's Farm Market  
Orsini's  
Palace Lounge  
Penny Mart  
Reed's Pharmacy- 3 locations  
ROCS- 14 locations  
Tito's Pizza  
United Bank- 6 locations



COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO SUPPORT  
OUR CHILDREN

*Holiday 2023*

The Martinsburg Site received a tremendous amount of support from the local community to provide holiday gifts for over 250 children across our local programming including our Monarch Family Support Center, Honey Bee Family Support Center, Foster Care program, Victoria's House Child Advocacy Center, Safe at Home, and several community children not being served currently but needed last minute support. We are immensely grateful for the outpouring of love and generosity this season. We posted our Wishlist for several clients on Amazon and would like to thank all of those who sent items to our office from that list for our children. Thank you to Debbie G., Nancy Siegle, Tabatha and Ella Physioc, Rutkowski Family, Grandchildren of Debby Drust, The Elks Lodge 778 and Rebecca Crouse for adopting children for Christmas this year. We are also thankful for Books a Million who held their annual toy and book drive for our site and collected over \$6700 worth of books and toys for us to distribute to our clients. Thank you to PetSmart who donated countless stuffed animals to our site as well during their annual stuffed animal drive at their store in The Commons. Thank you also to all of the businesses and individuals showcased on the next two pages who hosted toy drives to donate to our site. The 2023 holiday season was magical, and it is all because of the tremendous support we have from our community.

*Thank  
you!*

The staff at Martinsburg,

Ami, Megan, Tiffany, Jenna, Toni, Kait, Taylor, Debby, Marissa, Adriana, Sunny, Chasa, Teresa, Mary Ann, Beverly, Christina, DD, Maureen, Shanna, Christine, Alex, Emily, Briana, Amanda, Nicole, Amber, and Leah

# CMA Toyota provides bicycles for 142 kids

*4 Weeks  
2 Wheels  
1 Happy Holiday*



CMA Toyota, a Little Red Stocking partner launched their 2nd Annual Bicycle Campaign during our Little Red Stocking campaign, only this year they outdid themselves. Their customers and staff donated 124 bicycles and provided a \$5,000 contribution to purchase 18 more so every child on our Christmas List had two wheels under the tree! The remaining fund went into the Little Red Stocking Fund.



*astounding*

Children in our Permanency Program, Family Support Centers, Safe at Home Wraparound Program, and Child Advocacy Center received bicycles this holiday season.

...In Martinsburg Continued

# Incredible Community Donates for Children



*Advocate Insurance Group Donation*



*Apollo Theatre Toy Drive*



*Becky Horis, friend of CHS Donation*



*Wrecking Crew Motorcycle Club Toy Drive*



*Hollywood Casino & Slots Toy Drive*



*MHS Student Leadership Drive*



*Mountain View Animal Emergency Toy Drive*



*Eastern Panhandle Board of Relator stockings for teens*



*Girl Scouts Nations Capital Troop Drive*



*Berkeley County Emergency Communications Drive*



*Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce Drive*



*Logoplaste donated \$7000 worth of gifts for our teens in foster care*



*Airborne Church Donation Drive*



*St. Joseph's Parish Donation Drive*



## ...In Morgantown

By: Abby Miller

Morgantown CHS had numerous people/organizations help us this Christmas! Cathryn Boster from State Farm Insurance hosted a Toy Drive for us that began on October 21st and ended on December 31st. In addition to the gifts that were received from the toy drive, Cathryn also raised \$740 in donations for us, which we were able to use for stocking stuffers for our Independent Living kids. In addition to the Toy Drive, Cathryn planned for the whole month of December that if someone called her for a Quote, CHS would get \$5 for each quote, so with that we raised \$105.

Andrea Bennett from Unicare planned a gift wrapping day for her and some of her staff, and they came to our office on December 7th and wrapped gifts for our foster children and Independent Living clients. It was wonderful because Andrea (Andi) previously worked for Children's Home Society and stated that it is still her favorite, so she wanted to help in any way that she could!

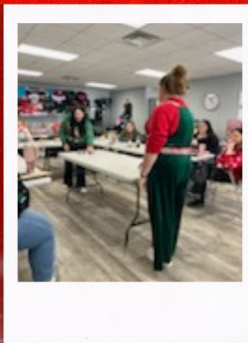
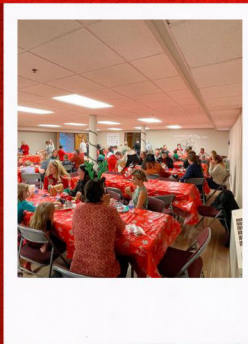
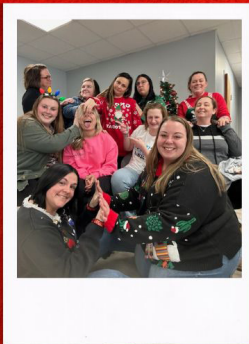


We also received an abundance of toys from Missy Tennant from ACE Hardware! We used these toys for our foster children as well. With the donations from Missy and from the Toy Drive from Cathryn Boster, we were able to give all of our foster children plus biological kids 2-3 toys each this year. We had our Christmas party on December 17th, which was planned by Quota again this year. They take care of all of the food, drinks, and activities for the kids. With the help from them, we had our biggest Christmas party yet! At our party we had around 30 kids and 7 IL clients.



## ...In Morgantown Continued

The Morgantown staff would like to thank everyone who donated and volunteered their time to help us make Christmas fun and exciting for many kids in our community.





## ...In Northfork

By: Lindsey Short

In Northfork this year, the 6th annual Coal Country Christmas Event, in partnership with Cleveland Cliffs Incorporated, raised \$80,000 to serve youth in McDowell County with Christmas gifts. Over the years, this event has generously assisted hundreds of children and families struggling throughout the holidays. This event served community members, healthy grandfamilies, and WECAN families, overall serving 370 children and 165 families.

A Christmas tent was set up outside for families to walk through while Cleveland Cliffs' employees and partners loaded vehicles with presents. Santa handed out candy canes and gift bags, while Olaf posed for photos with the children. Each child was offered a polaroid photo to take home including themselves and Olaf. They also wrote letters to Santa, either hand delivering them, or placing them in the mailbox for him to receive at the end of the night. A hot chocolate and coffee bar was also set up, to spread warmth and a little extra Christmas joy to those throughout the evening.



Children's Home Society Staff around the state worked tirelessly to help finalize wrapping for the upcoming Northfork Christmas event. Their excitement was palpable, and their help greatly appreciated.



Deliverance Temple Church was instrumental in the preparations of the event. Coal Country Christmas workers individually shop for, wrap, and bag presents for families. This year, Deliverance Temple allowed Children's Home Society to utilize their space for wrapping parties and storing gifts and participated in wrapping parties themselves. They also personally transported the gifts to the Northfork office and assisted with organizing them in numerical order.



## ...In Northfork Continued

This event could not have been made possible without Cleveland Cliffs Inc. and their passion for helping children in McDowell County. We also graciously thank our additional donors for the event, and their hearts for serving others. At the end of the night, one child wrote a thank you letter to Santa stating, "thank you for the gifts, our family has struggled this year", truly sharing how all the efforts made by staff and partners truly encompass Christmas magic and the spirit of giving.



Other donations throughout the season include \$300 from Crozer Baptist Church, and \$200 from Lovely Zion Church. Young Men for Christ Ministries also donated full Christmas meals, which included turkey and ham, for each family in the Healthy Grandfamilies program. The Herndon Family travelled from North Carolina to deliver resource goods such as blankets, socks, and hygiene products which will be utilized in the resource closet. The Forever Families Resource Center is extremely grateful for all of the partnerships and volunteers that make the work in McDowell County possible.





## ...In Parkersburg

By: Jodi Null

### *Arthur N. Gustke Child Shelter*

The continued community support in Parkersburg helped the children at the Arthur N. Gustke Child Shelter in many ways have a fun filled December. We received continued support from the congregation from Archers Chapel UMC in Sistersville WV and Tracy Patterson and they provided the shelter with Walmart gift cards, \$200 towards rec activities for their week off school, and the blankets she makes and donates yearly in honor and memory of Tracy's son Beau Patterson. The Justice Riders group stepped up again and had several toy drives in the area for Children Home Society and they arrived at the shelter with the Grinch even, with a stand up football arcade game for the shelter.



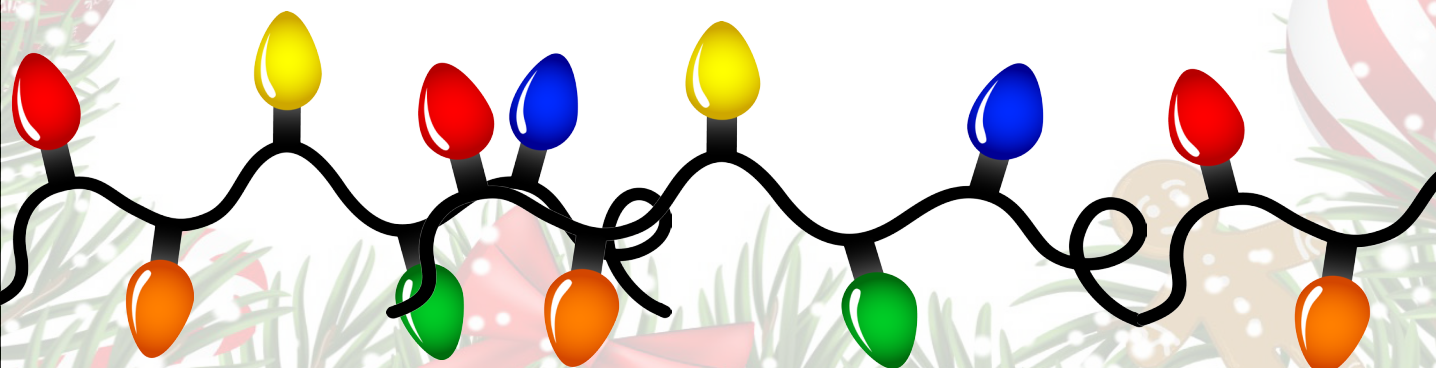
The women's club of Parkersburg is wanting to build a close relationship with the shelter and started talking about future projects. For Christmas, they provided gift bags filled with portable FM radios, hygiene products, notebooks, pillows, and pillow cases. Lois Meadows provided each youth with their school sweatshirt, slippers, and stuffed animal and snack goodies that we provided to the youth on Christmas Eve. She continues to donate Pizza once a month. Lois was able to get a local arcade: The Scohy Bros' Flashback Arcade to allow us to come on a Sunday to have the arcade to ourselves.

## ...In Parkersburg Continued

Christmas Eve we also had matching T-shirts made by staff and donated by Peggy Somerville with matching PJ bottoms. Our annual Christmas party for the kids at Emmanuel Baptist Church fellowship hall was successful with the food, games and the XL duffle bag the church provides filled with gifts. Their Christmas Party food was provided by Jan Ashwell and Kathi Alfred and it was fun getting food from eight different local restaurants so the kids got their favorites and even got to try new foods. This party is special as we make it a fun time where we focus on the 7 youth in the shelter, it is enjoyable watching them enjoy yummy food, playing fun games and receiving their XL duffle bag donated by Emmanuel Baptist filled with gifts. The gifts that filled the duffle bags were donated by many community members including: Vickie Yench and North Hills/Brentwood neighborhood members who have brought a truck load for multiple years in a row, Shelley Galland, Whitney Miller, Deanna Montgomery, Susan Berry, Chris, Angi Smith, Pam Ferrell, Sarah Strucla, Shawna Cozzens, Cole Linder and Lubeck Community Baptist Church, and a couple anonymous donators from the Amazon Wish list. We had baked goods made by Lexi Knotts and Whitney Miller. Phi Delta Kapa, Red Greer, and the Santa Squad donated two sets of stockings, one set was given to kids as they left early in December, the other one was given on Christmas Eve.

Overall, we were able to take care and celebrate 3 youth that left the shelter in December. Christmas Day gifts were provided by three main contributors. One was anonymous who came by the shelter with a very positive and uplifting conversation wanting to help and gifted us with \$3,000 towards Christmas. House Calls Hospice sponsored 6 youth with their wish lists. Lindsey Green sponsored two of our youth with their wish lists. Our generous donors provided our kids with McDonalds and Chinese take-out for the Christmas holiday. Arthur N Gustke Child shelter was also provided with a \$1,000 grant from the Robert E. Fouss Memorial Fund with Parkersburg Area Community Foundation. This was to provide each kid with two pairs of shoes, one for December and one for Christmas Day. The kids received their Crocs that they all wanted and then they got their wish list item shoes for Christmas morning.

We are thankful for the community support for the entire month of December making new positive memories for these residents while they are with us.



## ...In Parkersburg Continued



Right From the Start program provided food for Christmas Day for 8 families. Groceries included turkey, chicken or ham, potatoes, apples, oranges, cookie dough, green bean casserole supplies, eggs, cereal, pancake mix and syrup, onions, butter, bread, hot cocoa, rolls, gravy, applesauce, etc. Six additional families were given pajamas, clothing, toys, wrapping paper and gift bags.

Every infant and sibling in our Right from the Start program were given age-appropriate books. Every mother participating in the program was given a candle and chocolates. Approximately 50 families recieved gifts. (Some families have mothers and infants as clients).

Once again, this year, the home visitors spent considerable donated time and effort to make sure that these items were picked up and delivered to their families.

Parents as Teachers (PAT) started the month of December with a wonderful event at the Grand Central Mall. We held a successful Roll & Read with activities centered around the book "Santa and the Goodnight Train" and had over 30 families in attendance.



The PAT program introduced Pat, the Elf on the Shelf to our Facebook group. Everyone enjoyed seeing the daily posts.



## ...In Parkersburg Continued

Through donations and funding by the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV), we provided all families with the following:

A book for every child in the family, along with a new pair of pajamas. Each enrolled child received a new, developmentally appropriate toy. All families received gift cards to local restaurant and to purchase groceries. Our Parents for Teachers Program (PAT) provided Christmas help to 22 enrolled families and provided books and pajamas to 36 children, including siblings or other children in the home who are not enrolled in PAT.

One enrolled family received additional support due to having additional children in the home that were too old to receive assistance through Toys for Tots. We provided her with gift cards to cover taking the children to a matinee movie and Kroger, along with a gift card to order pizza. The mother expressed her gratitude over and over again and so appreciated the additional help that she would never had asked for.

The Permanency program was gifted \$2,500 to provide Christmas to children and families through the PM Real Estate Company's (PMC) annual Spirit of Giving fund. Other donors included Books a Million, Scots Landscaping, Truist Banks, and several donors donated to the Thirty-One Tote Drive organized and led by CHS staff Kim Conrad. With these funds and donations our Permanency Staff were able to shop for over 50 children and provide a Christmas Party at the First Baptist Church of Williamstown for these children and their foster families. Every child received a gift, book, and pajamas. We were also able to provide hams and poinsettias to our foster families who were present which totaled 17 families. Our families were very thankful for these provisions and the children were especially excited to see and hear Mr. Claus read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas at the Christmas Party along with his sidekick Buddy the Elf.



## ...In Parkersburg Continued

For the 2023 Christmas Season, our Independent Living (IL) and Transitional Living (TL) programs served 29 youth and 9 children. The Independent Living program assisted 8 youth, who were in foster care or came directly out of state's custody. This year our community was exceptionally generous to our programs. Youth and their families were adopted by multiple individuals and businesses. Highmark West Virginia provided stockings, presents, and gift cards for 8 youth and 2 children. Stockings and gifts from Truist Bank, Red Greer's Santa Squad, Donna Kay Thompson, Rose Hughes and family, Michelle Graziani and family, and Telma Poole were provided to 28 youth. Joga Bonito Soccer Academy generously donated new sports equipment to be divided between the programs at our site. Our youth were very excited to receive their gifts, several of them stated that they were overwhelmed by the kindness of the community, and that this was one of the best Christmas seasons they had ever had. One young lady said she didn't expect to get any gifts this year but loved everything that she received and felt very blessed to know that so many people out there thought that she mattered. Food baskets were also provided to youth who requested them this year. For those who did not request a food basket, a family style community Christmas dinner was provided in partnership with the Circles campaign of the Mid-Ohio Valley.



We provided gifts for 5 Grandfamilies with a total of 13 grand children and also provided a Christmas meal to a Grandfamily of six which included ham and sides.

The MidTown Family Support Center held a Caregiver's Day Out on December 9th, where 6 kids were served breakfast and lunch, created crafts, played games and watched a Christmas show.



## ...In Parkersburg Continued

We had a lovely Christmas party on December 19th with our Afterschool Families, where we set up a Taco Bar and served cookies. Parents and children created Cookie Mix in a Jar to take home. 25 children received a gift bag and stocking filled with a treat bag, hot chocolate mix, snacks, gloves, socks and a small gift. Their gift bags also included a board game or individual toy, stuffed animal and books. And our Safe at Home program provided families with gift cards that would help provide Christmas for the kids.



### The Mid-Family Support Center's Christmas assistance data:

- Total Households: 105
- Total Children: 282
- Ages 12 and Under: 374
- Ages 13 and Up (Teens): 80

#### **Family Type (# of children)**

- Birth Family: 226 children
- Kinship: 1 Children
- Adopted: 3 children
- Grandfamily: 9 children
- Grand Parents: 44 children (Grandparents who do not have custody of children, but wanted to get a gift for the grandchild(ren))
- 31 Households also received Christmas help in 2023.
- Christmas Food Boxes were distributed to 6 After School families and two Food Pantry clients.
- We helped 5 After school parents with Christmas by purchasing gifts for 9 children.



## ...In Princeton

By: Jenna Miller

Children's Home Society's Princeton Site was blessed with a magnificent Christmas for 2023; the kindness and helping hands of many community partners, contributors and donors ensured that CHS families and children experienced a merry and bright Christmas. Through the kindheartedness of the agency's many partners, over 110 children from the Princeton site's programs were served for Christmas.



One of the Agency's long-standing partners, Lifeline Church, facilitated a Christmas giveaway for the Permanency and WE CAN Program children and their siblings. Via an individualized but anonymous Christmas List, congregation members were able to purchase 'wish list' items for each of the 100 children enrolled in the give-away. Throughout the month of November and early December, WE CAN and Permanency Staff collected gifts brought to the church.

On December 15th, the Princeton site hosted our Annual Christmas Party for our WE CAN and Foster/Adoptive Families. Over 100 families and children attended the party, and enjoyed Christmas Dinner and Hot Chocolate Bar, which was also donated by Lifeline Church. Families also enjoyed crafts, such as ornament making and cookie decorating, sponsored by the 'Eat Cake' Foundation. As the evening closed, children were given one gift to open at the party. One little girl, after writing Santa a letter just an hour before asking for a makeup, opened a make-up set at the party- she smiled wide, jumped up and gave Santa a very tight and joy-filled hug. To finish the evening, families took Polaroid pictures with Santa and Olaf, and were sent home with 'Santa Bags' filled to the brim with items purchased by the church for each child. Every child left with a big smile and a sense of Christmas joy.



## ...In Princeton Continued

Truist and First Community Banks both played a heavy hand in serving children in need this Christmas. Truist purchased gifts for 11 foster children, buying items written on wish-lists by the children themselves. When picking up the donation from the bank, CHS staff were amazed the generosity shown was unparalleled, and completely filled a staff members car from trunk-to-front-seat with Christmas gifts.

Meanwhile, First Community Bank shopped for one of the WE CAN Program's most needy families. Program staff usually brings groceries to this family monthly, but not in December. Members of the bank shopped for a plethora of groceries to stock the family's cabinets, and purchased bags upon bags stuffed to the brim with new clothes, shoes, hygiene items, warm coats, new backpacks, and toys. The children were elated, and the family was grateful to have food to enjoy a Christmas Dinner together.



Members of the Kee Street Church- a long-standing and overwhelmingly generous partner of The Society- purchased entire Christmas meals stocked with ham and 'all-the-fixin's' for three WE CAN families. This long-standing friendship, facilitated by Ruth Bailey herself, has been an ongoing blessing to WE CAN and Foster families, as the church continues to meet and survey the needs of agency children and families. Many bellies were full on Christmas day thanks to this group of individuals.

This Christmas was not only the year of fulfilling wishes for toys and filling bellies with scrumptious meals- but it was also the year of getting literature into the hands of program children. Books-A-Million, for the fifth year, donated hundreds of books, fidgets and toys to the agency- which will lend to our February Book Fair Event, where each child will pick several books to take home, read and enjoy.



Boy Scouts of America additionally contributed to this cause, holding a book drive for youth in Foster Care and WE CAN. They brought multiple boxes of books for youth to enjoy this Christmas Season.



## ...In Romney

By: Sally Johnson

The Romney site has been so blessed during this 2023 Christmas season. No words come to mind that can truly express our appreciation for the kindness and generosity of our community partners. First of all, we were able to provide Christmas for a total of 131 children in the Mineral and Hampshire County area. Because of wonderful volunteers in our community, our very active advisory council and staff, 79 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 52 children in Hampshire County. We were able to provide Christmas dinners to two grand families in Mineral County. CHS thanks Mineral County United Way for funding the gifts and dinners for the two grand families! CHS also wishes to thank the following individuals and groups for their participation in the 2023 Angel Tree Project in both Hampshire and Mineral Counties:

*Burlington Café, Judy Butts, Craig and Crystal Armentrout and family, Colby and Bethany Chapell, Jay and Laura Courier, Veronica Crites, Dawnview Nursing Home, Mark and Vicky Delsignore, Tony and Marie Delsignore, EA Hawse, First Rate Plumbing, Christian and Kelsey Ernst, Pam Francis, Skip and Shirley Hackworth, Hampshire Wellness Center, Rick and Wendy High and family, Gary and Libby Kalbaugh, Knippenberg Insurance, Gini and Sally Johnson, Joyce Lamphier, Living Word Fellowship, Linda Marsh, Lina McDonald, Terri Morris, Amy Pancake, Romney Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Tom and Ruth Rowan, Romney Rotary Club, Romney Ruritan Club, Veronica Spurling, Sanja Stanislawczyk, Dan and Lakyn Strietbeck and family, Randy and Dolly Swick, Walmart employees, and George and Donna Wilkinson and family.*



Thank you each so much for your kindness and generosity during the 2023 Christmas season! We look forward to working with each of you again in 2024.



## ...In Romney Continued

Our foster children and those biological children of our foster families enjoyed a wonderful Christmas party. The party was again held at the WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind auditorium. We give a very special thank you to Hampshire County United Way for funding the party foods, paper products and decorations. We also thank Colby Chapell for ensuring that Santa made an appearance and thanks to the WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind for donating the auditorium. A great time was held by all.

Danville Community Baptist Church WMU in Rawlings, MD graciously kicked off the season with a Holiday party hosted for our 7 shelter youth at the Church fellowship hall on December 2, 2023. The kids received many gifts, wonderful food but most of all they learned that there are very generous folks who truly care about them. Some of the members of the WMU enjoyed playing games with our youth and this was enjoyed by all who attended. We send many thanks to the members of this Church for their continued kindness and generosity.

On November 10, 2023, CHS held our Little Red Stocking kick-off event at Burlington Café and provided agency materials to the customs of Burlington Café. We thank Shelley Everett, her staff, the customers and community for their support.



On December 10, 2023, Keyser Walmart in association with the Mineral County Sheriff's Department, held our first annual "Shop With A Hero" event whereby our shelter youth were able to go shopping for Christmas with law enforcement. Keyser Walmart then provided lunch for our youth and our staff. Our kiddos really enjoyed themselves. Walmart and the Sheriff's Department raised \$2000.00 for the youth to be able to spend. This will now be an annual event.



On December 14, 2023, American Woodmark employees from Cumberland, MD, Winchester, VA and Moorefield, WV conducted a donation drive for the shelter and permanency programs. These branches plan to continue this event annually. On December 16, 2023, members of the Bloomery Presbyterian Church did Christmas caroling with our shelter youth.

## ...In Romney Continued

Augusta Christ Community Church, Bloomery Presbyterian Church, Covenant Baptist Church, Faith Mission Church, First Baptist Church of Romney, Little Capon Baptist Church, Capon Bridge UMW, Danville Community Baptist Church Hope Christian Church, Zion Church of Christ were only ten of many organizations that provided a wonderful Christmas for our residents at our shelter in 2023. Capon Bridge UMW made a very generous monetary donation, Faith Mission Church made two very generous cash donations in addition games, puzzles and ten gift cards. The First Baptist Church of Romney donated 10 gift cards. The Augusta Church of Christ donated bags with a pillow and blanket and gift cards. Bloomery Presbyterian Church made a very generous donation of 16 stockings filled with personal hygiene items, hats, gloves, gift cards. Covenant Baptist Church donated the Christmas meal for our shelter youth and staff! Community Quilts of Hampshire County donated new bed toppers for shelter youth. They were just beautiful! Lighthouse Assembly of God donated Christmas gifts and toys. Zion Church of Christ held a fall harvest and donated 1960.00 to our shelter for Christmas gifts. Christ Community Church donated nine 50.00 Walmart gift cards. We thank each of you so much for your kindness and generosity. We are always so grateful for community support.

Our 2023 Little Red Stocking campaign exploded this year. Burlington Café raised 7800.00, followed by Arthur Mart who raised 7279.00 and in third place was Rio General Store in Rio, WV, raised over \$4200.00! Each of these stores and their top salespeople will receive trophies and plaques to say thank you for all they did during this campaign. 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, Bank of Romney, L&M Market and Marloy Trucking

### In Baker, WV:

Corner Mart

### In Berkeley Springs, WV:

J&S Pawn Shop

### In Bloomery, WV:

WEPCO

### In Buchannon, WV:

Buchannon Tobacco & Vape 1 and 2

### In Burlington, WV:

Burlington Café, Burlington General Store;  
New Leaf Greenhouse; Shoemaker Forestry;  
Shoey's Trucking

### In Canaan Valley WV:

Grant County Bank

### In Capon Bridge, WV:

Bank of Romney; FNB Bank; Jill's Barber Shop

### In Clarksburg, WV

Clarksburg Tobacco and Vape; J&S Pawn

### In Cresaptown, MD:

Pit N Go, Shooters, Tips and Toes Too;



# ...In Romney Continued

## In Culpeper, VA:

Merchants Grocery

## In Cumberland, MD:

*Kline's Restaurant, Knippenberg Insurance, Lisa Lancaster, Progressive Physical Therapy*

## In Davis, WV:

Davis Tobacco and Vape, Grant County Bank

## In Fort Ashby, WV:

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

## In Franklin, MD

*Basagic Funeral Home*

## In Frostburg, WV:

J&S Pawn Shop

## In Glenville, WV:

Glenville Tobacco and Vape

## In Lexington, KY:

Mettiki Coal of WV and National Christian Foundation

## In Maysville, WV:

*Galen's Country Store*

## In Martinsburg, WV:

J&S Pawn

## In McCoole, MD

*Best Price Market (Par Mar)*

## In Moorefield, WV:

*American Woodmark Foundation, Burger King, Grant County Bank, Fox's Pizza, Main Event, Morrefield Tobacco and Vape I & II, Mullin's 1847 Restaurant, O'Neill's Restaurant, O'Neill's Restaurant, PCB, R. Thomas CPA, South Branch Inn, South Fork Pharmacy, Walters and Heisman*

## In Morgantown WV:

J&S Pawn Shop

## In Hagerstown:

J&S Pawn

## In Keyser, WV:

*American Legion Post 41, Burger King, Gini Johnson and Sally Johnson, D & B Thrift, Fox's Pizza, Good As New Thrift Shop, Grant County Bank, Hair Depot, J&S Pawn Shop, Keyser Inn, Keyser Tobacco and Vape I and II, Linda Marsh, Markwood Funeral Home, Mary Helmick, MCT, Inc, M&S Repair, Moose Lodge 662, Nancy Hanks, Nu View Video Store, The Loyal Order of the Orioles, Potomac Heights Apartments, Pulmonary Associates, Queen's Point Coffee, Reed's Drug Store, Royal Restaurant, Timbrook Ford and Wayne's Meats*



## In Mt. Jackson, VA:

*Hoitzman Oil Corporation*

## In Mount Storm, WV:

A.L.L. Construction, Dominion Energy

## In New Creek, WV:

*In-Style Hair Salon, Knobley Mountain Auctions, Knobley Farms*

## In Oakland MD:

J&S Pawn Shop, Par Mar

## In Old Fields, WV:

*Old Fields Country Store*

## In Paw Paw, WV:

American Legion, Liberty Station

## ...In Romney Continued

### In Petersburg, WV:

*All Ours Towing; Arthur Mart, Dairy Queen, Family Traditions Restaurant, Fox's Pizza, Grant County Bank, Petersburg Tobacco and Vape, Spirit of Life Church, Tri-County Tire*

### In Phillipi:

*Phillipi Tobacco and Vape*

### In Piedmont, WV:

*Duckies Bar and Grill*

### In Ridgeley, WV:

*J&S Pawn Shop, William Shuck Jr. Memorial, Ridgeley Distributors, S&S Electric*

### In Shanks, WV:

*Bank of Romney, Slaneville Ruritan Club*

### In Springfield, WV:

*Springfield Sunoco*

### In Weirton, WV

*Weirton Smoke Ship*

### In Rio:

*North River Ruritan Club, Rio General Store, Travis Haines, LLC*

### In Romney, WV:

*Bank of Romney, Burger King, Buettner Tires, Carrie's Visions of Beauty, Cruise Thru Drive Thru, Eastern Building Supply, FNB Bank, Hampshire County Library, Italian Touch, Lambert's Drug Store, , Lost Mountain BBQ, Main Street Grill, McKee Funeral Home, Mt. Top Restaurant, Northern Eagle, Pulmonary Associates, Romney Brew Station, Romney Diner, South Branch Inn, Spring Valley Market*

### In Weston, WV:

*Weston Tobacco and Vape I & II*

### In Westernport, MD:

*Fair Price Market, Fox's Pizza, Westernport Tobacco and Vape*

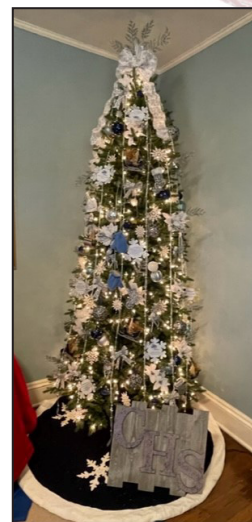
This 2023 Little Red Stocking campaign was HUGELY successful, the best one ever for the Romney site. In addition to thanking all of our Little Red Stocking partners, we wish to thank our communities for purchasing our stockings and making special donations. The campaign would not have been so successful without the community support. We look forward to working with each of you again in the 2024 campaign!

We wish you  
a Blessed  
New Year!



## ...In Summersville

By: Stormy Murphy



Summersville Permanency Office had a wonderful Christmas season again this year. We started off by decorating a CHS Christmas Tree at the Dr. Flavius Brown House, also known as Brown Oaks, which is located in the downtown district of Summersville. The historic home was built by Dr. Flavius H. Brown, Sr. in 1923 and is now owned by the City of Summersville.

Wayne Smith and his crew with the Chemical Valley Crawlers went above and beyond yet again to provide for less fortunate children in our community. This year was the 4th Annual Chemical Valley Crawlers Swiss-Mass ride. The Chemical Valley Crawlers provided 18 foster children and 14 other children from local schools with Christmas presents. As always, we are truly grateful for the generosity of the Chemical Valley Crawlers and the fact that they chose to partner with us. In addition to those 32 children, Summersville's CHS office reached out to some individuals and our wonderful landlords who reached out to other community members and Anderson Accounting to ensure that another 20 children in the community had gifts under their trees! We are so blessed to be surrounded by such amazing people!



## ...In Summersville Continued

Jordan Chapel United Methodist Church has also been a huge part of our “extended family.” They allow us to use their facility for our monthly Foster Parent Support Groups and once again provided all of our families and children with gift bags filled with pajamas and other goodies. They helped purchase food for our Christmas dinner and several wonderful ladies came to serve food and clean up afterward. Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by again this year to say hello and spend some quality time with our kids and families. Thanks to the generous heart of a lady who wanted to share some Christmas cheer and the enthusiastic support of one of our faithful local advisory board members, we were able to set up a “Christmas Store” for all of the kiddos where they could “shop” for gifts (free of charge, of course) for their siblings, parents, and foster parents. Several of our local advisory board members and their families volunteered their time to help the kids shop and wrap their gifts. Again, we are truly blessed with some wonderful folks.



Truist Bank members shopped for and provided some awesome gifts for 10 of our children in care as part of their Lighthouse Project this year! From what I heard, they had as much fun shopping as the kids did opening!

In an attempt to pay it forward and support others doing wonderful things in our community, some of Summersville's CHS staff helped local law enforcement officers and first responders bring holiday cheer to over 200 needy children in the area by serving pizza, snacks, and drinks to the kiddos before sending them off on their shopping adventure. It was an honor to be part of this marvelous event.



*Kathleen and John Faltis Child Shelter  
in Summerville*

Christmas can be a difficult holiday for many people, for many reasons. As you can imagine, residing in a child shelter during the holidays can be extra hard. We do our best to help our kids feel loved and cared for as we help them celebrate. This year has been so full and fun, and we couldn't have done it without our amazing staff and community.

Thank you to everyone who made this magical Christmas possible for all of our 10 kids. Community members and organizations, teachers, local businesses and churches, Faltis staff and families, and so many more. We truly appreciate the work, time, donations, gifts, and funds that were given. Every little thing has made this Christmas so special.

## *Kids Making Gingerbread Houses*



## *Gingerbread Fun*

## ...Faltis Shelter Continued

We would like to thank the following for your support around the Holiday Season:

- Tyler Knight Constuction Co.
- Becky's Bargain Barn
- Jeff & Terri Bishop
- Gassaway Baptist Church
- Bright Horizons (Nicholas County Sheltered Workshop)
- Open Doors
- Allison Leggett
- Shepherd's Bible Chapel
- St. Luke's United Methodist Church
- Craigsville Community Christmas Store
- Craigsville Senior Citizens
- Alderson Baptist Church





## ...In Wheeling

By: Kara Huff

Christmas was just the most wonderful time of year in Wheeling as we were blessed with another holiday season for Our Families and children we serve. Every day, our staff never loses the motivation to continuously advocate for the children in our foster care and adoption permanency program.

Christmas would not be as memorable without the generosity of our many donors. We simply could not have a happy holiday without all of our donor's support.



We have had an annual Amazon Registry in lieu of an angel tree ever since the COVID-19 pandemic and it continues to be a success every year.

We had two Holiday Wish Lists on Amazon and almost all 214 items were bought for 32 children.

Not only does this wish list help the children in our permanency program, but families and children in our local communities, as well. Another triumphant year of smiling children on Christmas morning.

Special thank you to the Church of Christ in Proctor, WV (Nikki Stevens) and to every single person who purchased from the registry to ensure that our children had a Merry Christmas.

We even caught Santa himself delivering packages to our office!



## ...In Wheeling Continued

Wheeling held our second Christmas party since the pandemic. The First Christian Church in Wheeling (right next door) provided the space. We had four foster families and 13 children in attendance. We had a bean bag toss and Christmas bowling. Children were also able to write a letter to Santa and their Christmas wish list (as they ate Christmas cookies of course!) and put it in the mailbox to mail to the North Pole. Special appearance by Santa himself. He heard each child's wish and gave each child their own special holiday teddy bear.



A special thank you to Amanda White during the holiday season! She organized a Buddy Drive through Scentsy and all of our children in care were able to receive either a Scentsy Buddy or Buddy Clip for their back packs!



Wheeling is incredibly thankful for all of the donors this holiday season who helped ensure that each child had a smile on their faces Christmas Day. We truly could not have done it without each and every one of the donors and we are forever grateful for your continued support.

Stay tuned! We are confident and determined for continued growth for Wheeling in 2024!

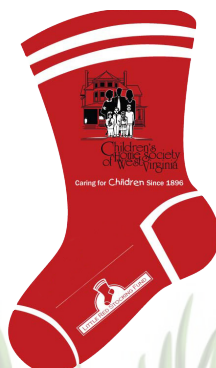
# 2023 Little Red Stocking Campaign

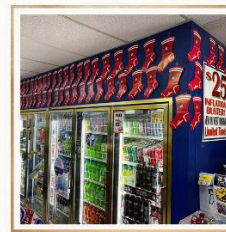
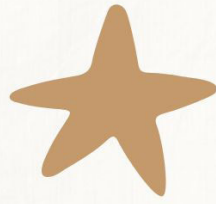
Children's Home Society would like to thank all the small businesses and schools that participated in making the 2023 Little Red Stocking Campaign a huge success. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to our Little Red Stocking Campaign by sending in contributions from our Annual Christmas Appeal Card.



The Children's Home Society would like to send a huge THANK YOU, to the Oil Marketers and Grocers Association and their members.

Gomart, our longest corporate partner, dating back to 2004, raised \$19,829. Mini Giants in Parkersburg raised \$500. We would like to thank ROCS and Par Mar for their continued support of the campaign. Total funds raised by ROCS and Par Mar will be announced at a later date.





2023

# LITTLE RED STOCKING CAMPAIGN

# Children's Home Society of West Virginia



1422 Kanawha BLVD., East  
P.O. Box 2942  
Charleston, WV 25330

304.346.0795  
[childhswv.org](http://childhswv.org)



Children's Home Society of WV



ChsofWV



Children's Home Society of WV