



Baptist Children's Home



One of our favorite days of the year is the day we pick up our children from Christian summer camp.

I love to meet our children's counselors and hear about what they have done during the week. They introduce me to their friends and tell me about the all the fun and challenging things they did.

Excitedly, the children tell me about things they learned and decisions they made in their faith.

Last year I visited the camp for their Friday closing service. Students shared testimonies of God's work in their lives during those short days. As I sat listening to the service, one of our children came over to me. He hugged me, cried, and hung on to me for several minutes. He shared that he desired to stand up more for Christ and his faith. Last year, the same young man placed his faith in the Lord at camp. What a joy to witness his recent baptism.

God has used summer camp to form spiritual inroads into the lives of our children. Many of the children in our homes make important decisions while at camp. Our houseparents and staff have the privilege of helping each child live out the decisions made at camp.

"At camp you meet people, play games, sit by each other, and at some activities people might pick you as a partner. You come to camp as strangers and you leave camp as friends." Kasor (right)

You make it possible for our children to attend Christian summer camps. Thank you for caring for our children. Please give to provide a camp experience for our children this year.

Thank you,

Jeff Oswald, Michigan Director

P.S. Your gift will help provide a memorable camp experience for our children.



Danielle loved summer camp, especially making new friends and experiencing new activities.



2018 “Family Time” - VBS Project Report

“It’s amazing for us! We never thought we would have furniture like this!” -Tu Aung, Director



“I am so happy because we now have a special place to gather with our friends.”
Yaw Win (Agape Home)

Our “Family Time” 2018 VBS Project targeted needs in our USA and Myanmar homes. Children from around the country raised more than \$16,000!

Another friend of the ministry donated new beautiful leather couches to our homes in the United States. Even with the wear and tear a house full of kids can dish out, all of this furniture should last a long time.

“You made real, something we dared not dream of.” That’s what one of the children in Tedim, Myanmar said in a thank you letter.

Myanmar

- **Family and dining room furniture** — Our Tedim home received teak tables, chairs, sofas, brand new pillows for every child, and a ping pong table with all the equipment. Tedim is a small city tucked back in the northern mountains, 4 ½ hours from the nearest large city, so delivery was an additional challenge.
- **Two family rooms** — Our VBS kids provided beautiful teak chairs, love seats, and coffee tables for the family rooms in our Agape Home in Myitkyina (Mit-CHEE-nah). They also purchased two bookshelves and two glass cabinets for each family room.



USA

- **Dining and living room furniture** — We were so grateful to receive enough leather sofas to fill several rooms. The furniture is beautiful, functional, and strong enough for lots of use! God also provided enough for us to purchase custom-built dining room chairs (pictured right and left). These chairs will last many years.



Thank you so much to every child and family who participated in our “Family Time” VBS Project!

This year’s VBS Project is “Tuck Me In.” Read more about it at www.baptistchildrenshome.org

Graduate

My Life Would Not be the Same

By: Precious

If my mom had not made the decision to place me in the care of Baptist Children's Home, my life would not be the same. I was placed into the hands of my forever family, the Lollis family. I was able to attend Elkhart Christian Academy (ECA) and develop a love for God and others.

While at school I participated in soccer, basketball, cheerleading and track. I also developed leadership skills through sports, responsibility through academics, and servitude through community and service projects. Without your support, I would not have been able to have a Christ-centered education, and I am so grateful. My future plans are to attend Indiana Wesleyan University this coming fall and major in Criminal Justice.

It has been a joy to have Precious living with us for the past 6 1/2 years. She has been involved in soccer, basketball, cheer, and track. We truly loved watching her compete. The relationships she has been able to develop with her teammates and coaches has helped her become the wonderful young lady that she is. We would especially like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the donors who made it possible for her to attend Elkhart Christian Academy.

Precious, you have grown in so many ways, and we are proud of the choices you have made and can't wait to see what God has in store for your future.

Allen and Tara Lollis, Precious' Foster Parents



Congratulations, Precious!

A Great Adventure

By: Daniel Oswald



Congratulations, Daniel!

Growing up in the group home has taught me invaluable lessons in both character and relationships. I have siblings, but I have also have BCH brothers and sisters who helped form me into who I am today.

The atmosphere in the group homes taught me many things that other kids would never have the chance to experience. Without the strong exposure to other cultures, I definitely would have a smaller world view and not be as prepared to go out on my own. The group home has been a huge part of the first 18 years of my life, and I will always remember and cherish the long-lasting memories made. My future plans are to attend Cedarville University and study Civil Engineering.

Daniel, your past has been filled with success, and your future seems a great adventure. We are very proud of you, and we pray you continue to excel in the areas God has gifted you.

I Corinthians 13 is a great measure of success. We hope you realize our greatest moments of parental pride come when you live out I Corinthians

13:4-6. We can honestly say that Ill John 1:4 sums it up by saying, "I have no greater joy that to hear that my children walk in truth." Thank you for bringing us so much joy!

Jeff and Rayna Oswald (Jeff is our Michigan Director, and Rayna is a Family Case Manager in Michigan)



Ravathi Turns to God

In the middle of India, a child turns from idols to Christ through a story of His grace. Ravathi was born into a Hindu family and had a very difficult childhood. Her mother has serious mental health issues, and her father is a poor, unskilled day laborer.

Several years ago her mom deserted the family. This left her father looking for help to care for his child. Thankfully, he heard about our Hebron Home. Even though he is Hindu, he knew that our Christian home was the best place for Ravathi.

When Ravathi came into care, she knew nothing about Jesus. Through our houseparents' discipleship and prayer and by attending church each week, she learned about all Jesus had done for her.

Ravathi decided to place her trust in Jesus Christ. Once in awhile she visits her father, but she stands for her faith, and no longer worships Hindu gods with him. Please pray for her spiritual development and that her father may find the Lord.



Ravathi, age 13

Our Mission in Myanmar

Myanmar is an extremely poor Buddhist country. The average annual income of a Burmese person is \$1,140, which means many families are in desperate poverty. **Without assistance, an orphaned or disadvantaged child in Myanmar faces a future of uncertainty.** BCH comes alongside church partners of like faith to help relieve this terrible situation.



Agape Home, Myanmar

With our partners and your support, we provide loving, Christian care for over 120 children in Myanmar in four group homes. Some of our children go from wondering where their next meal will come from, to choosing what they will study in college.

However, the greatest change in our children's lives is the decision most make to follow Jesus. We are excited to share with you some astounding stories of how God has provided for His children in the most dire of situations.

We look forward to continuing our mission to care for orphaned, needy, and disadvantaged children of Myanmar.

God Brings Boys to Christ

In a small village in Myanmar, two boys lived a life that was full of tragedies. Naw San and La Sam lived in a village that was in the cross-fire of internal conflicts. In 2014, a mortar exploded near their house, killing their mother and brother.

After this devastating loss, their father began to drink heavily as a coping mechanism for his pain. His drinking worsened and sadly late last year he committed suicide. Naw San and La Sam were orphaned. These two boys had relatives near by, but they were simply too poor to care for them. **Church leaders in the area heard about their tragic story and brought the boys to our Agape Home.**



Naw San and La Sam with Bill Brittain

Before they came into care they were distraught about all that had happened in their lives, but the peace, love, and stability of our home was just what the two boys needed. **Naw San and La Sam are now two very joyful children.** They love to play with the other children in our home and feel welcome to be part of a family again. The boys like being in their new home, as it has helped them to forget about the old, sad memories and to create new, happy ones. While in our care, Naw San has placed his faith in Jesus Christ! It is amazing to see how God can save lives, even in the worst of situations.



Pan, Thu, Kyaw, and Tun with Bill

God's Grace Triumphs over Drug Addiction

At BCH we are always amazed to see how our children minister to each other in our homes, and this story from our Hope Home is a shining example of that. Pan, Thu, and Kyaw lived in an area known for growing poppies and having a high instance of drug use. These siblings do not have a father, and their mother was not capable of caring for them. They needed to be rescued from this dangerous area in which they lived.

Bible college students from our partner's school in Yangon learned about these children and helped arrange to bring them into our home where they were safe. Our home is in a different location than their tribal group. The children could not speak or understand the language, and school was starting soon. Thankfully, God had already placed Tun, another boy in our care, in our Hope Home. He was from their tribal area, and his parents are drug addicts. It was not safe for him to stay in his home area.

Tun worked diligently with the three children to teach them the new language. All three of them had a basic understanding of the the new language by the start of school, thanks to Tun. **It is another sign of God's faithfulness. All four of these children have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, and they love their new family. Praise God!**

Stories like these would not be possible without your support. This reminds me of 1 Corinthians 12:14 when it says, "For in fact the body is not one member but many." Faithful Christians like you coming together is what gives these children a home. **Thank you so much for giving generously to our ministry, and please keep us in your prayers.**

Honor, Memorial, and Estate Gifts

Thank you to many friends for providing a special gift "in memory" or "in honor" of a loved one or friend.
Gifts from January 1, 2019 — April 30, 2019.

In Honor of:

Scott Kigar

Anglesey Industries, Inc.

Saritha Nedunuru

Akhil Nedunuru

In Memory of:

Herbert and Vivion Alexander

Joan Alexander

Mary Arcuri

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brittain

Rev. John Barcus

Mr. and Mrs. Don Mills

Charles Barham

Clara Ward

Dot Bellman

Bourbon Bible Church

Carolyn Boyd

Lisa Chapman

Rodney and Marie Hall

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hively

Richard and Anne Simon

Robert and Carolyn Washburn

Wanda Rose Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kaufman

Barbara Coker

Diana Dwyer

Eddie Craig

Kirkmeyer Electric

Larry Davis

Norma Simpson

Rock Enis

Robyn Walters

Jim Ferguson

Mrs. James Ferguson

Barry Fillans, Sr and Barry Fillans, Jr.

Marianne Fillans

Esther Gabhart

Betty Eldridge

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Funk

Kelly Grieger

Gary and Doreen Gudeman

Brenda Hadley

Donald and Susan Holmes

Harold and Carol Johnson

Scott and Kathy Leman

Mike and Debbie Roemer

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell and Joy Smith

Kay Vanderley

Callie Wyatt

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Wyatt

Claude Givens

Robin McLaughlin

Judy Haines

Superstition Lookout Quilters

Norman Carl Hall

Mrs. Alene Green

Elmer Paul Heetland

Anonymous

Kenneth Clifford Helms

Bryan Memorial / Adam McLaurin

Barbara Johnson

Margaret Nimon

Frances Jones

Margaret Nimon

Al Koning

Marilyn Boukma

Lisa Chapman

Mr. and Mrs. David Van Strien

Virginia Zywicke

Betty Rose Latta

Renee Maiorano

Betty Jo Leach

Joseph Graman

Reverend Jack May

Leslie Garey

Emily Joyner Newell

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Carpenter

Mick Newman

Margaret Nimon

Wanda Robertson

Faith Family Farms

Mr. and Mrs. Mark McCarty

David and Cheryl Mills

Tim and Barbara Powers

Zadie Gaffey, Rob, Steve, and kids

Montine Samples

Carole Atwell

Noel Shier

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shier

Shirley Green Tharpe

Katy Richter

Terry White

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Gurski

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kreamsreiter

Marilynn Palmer

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Wischmeyer

Bike-A-Thon 2019

"Would you consider joining us at one of our events to cheer us on? If biking is not your forte, join us for a walk or just to see our riders in action. You can find locations and dates for our events on our website at www.baptistchildrenshome.org/bike.

Please pray as we raise support for Baptist Children's Home and get our bikes ready for the big event. Your prayers for a safe and smooth event are so important. Thank you for your encouragement and motivation to help us pedal on! We hope you will join us for Bike-A-Thon 2019!" —Craig Freyenberger, Bike-a-thon Coordinator



A Letter from Maude



I live at the Baptist Children's Home. Your generosity helps keep the staff and residents safe and healthy. Thanks for serving others and paying attention to both physical and spiritual needs. I will always remember that I have people like you in the world who love and care about me. **This is the first time in my life I have lived in a home without worrying about what I am going to eat for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, because I always have food on the table to eat.**

I feel blessed and grateful to be a part of BCH because I am now learning how to use proper grammar; it's getting better and better. **With your help, I am getting closer to Christ. I am thankful for the opportunity to go to my first camp.** It was a lot of fun, I loved it, and it was a great place for me to strengthen my relationship with Christ. The staff there is awesome, and they help kids build confidence. Not a lot of children have the opportunity to be a part of BCH, which is a

life-changing organization. Thanks for making it possible for our houseparents to love on us and take care of us.

Safe Families Continues to Make a Positive Impact

Our Safe Families for Children ministry provides short term, emergency homes for children. The children are voluntarily placed with our loving host families from local churches. BCH is the implementor of this program in Northern Indiana. Last year we assisted in the placement of nearly 70 children. Here are two stories of how Christian families are making a positive impact through this wonderful program.

Karen, a single mom with two small children was left homeless. With nowhere to turn, they were forced to sleep in a car. She learned about Safe Families through the local YWCA. She was so relieved to place her two children with one of our host families.

Her children have been in our care for three weeks. Karen has worked hard in the meantime to secure a job, find

housing, and acquire day care for her children. The family will soon be back together and ready to start a new and better life. Over the phone, Karen told one of our staff, "I just love that host mom." Our host families are incredible and have made a difference in not only the children's lives, but also the lives of their parents.



Karen's daughter



Amanda's baby

Amanda lives in a domestic violence shelter and has no home. She has a young baby, but domestic violence shelters can be a poor environment in which to raise a child. Thankfully, she heard about Safe Families. She contacted our office, and we quickly found a host family willing to care for her baby for an indefinite period of time. When speaking about her host family, Amanda said, **"I am so appreciative of their kindness."** Thanks to so many willing Christians, we can make a positive impact on people from all walks of life. By giving to the Baptist Children's Home, you make these stories possible. Thank you so much!



Mung Aung and his fiancée. (The spear signifies the agreement for them to marry)

An Answer to Prayer!

During our recent trip to Myanmar, we were looking forward to seeing Mung Aung. He is one of our capable and loving care-givers in our Agape Home. He himself was an orphaned child and grew up in that very home, and he is now in his early 30's. He has earned Bachelor's degrees in Bible and Psychology. We are very proud of him and how dedicated he is to the children in his care. When we (Bill and Kathy Brittain) visited the Agape Home in 2017, Mung Aung had a special prayer request for us. **He asked us to pray that he would find a godly wife who would be happy to serve the children with him.**

Telling Mung Aung's story and his prayer request became a part of our mission as we shared it with churches across America.

Fast forward to March 2019 in Myanmar. When we arrived in Mung Aung's city, we assumed we would see him at the home. The leaders had surprising news for us. Mung Aung was away to meet with his girlfriend's family to ask them if he could marry her.

In Myanmar, to ask for a women's hand, one must have representatives from both families meet to negotiate a dowry. Mung Aung was orphaned and had no biological family to represent him.

Thankfully he is a part of another family: the Lord's. The church acted as his representative and helped to get him his girl. Mung Aung has found his bride! Thank you all so much for praying for Mung Aung; you will always hold a special place in his heart.



The Hope Home Garden

Our Hope Home in Myanmar is full of laughter and love. One of the highlights of the home is the children's garden. They are very proud of their garden, and in it they grow a lot of different greens and vegetables.



Baptist Children's Home Wishlist:

- Commercial, zero turn riding mower: \$12,000
- Commercial shelving for office: \$500
- Bike helmets (adult sizes)
- Grocery gift cards (Aldi, Meijer, etc.)
- Size 3-6 diapers, pull-ups, diaper wipes
- Funding for bedding and mattresses for our VBS 2019 "Tuck Me In" project

Myanmar Needs:

- Laptop computer: \$500
- Mosquito nets for children's beds: \$200
- Pressure cooker: \$165
- Rice cooker: \$140
- New flooring, roof, paint, etc. for home in Yangon. Contact us for more information and for other project ideas!