



# FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends,

We are truly excited to be entering our 65th year at Boys Farm. In the spring of 1960 our founders, Pop and Mama Shealy answered God's calling to establish a Christian home for boys in need. Pop resigned his pastorship from his church, sold our home and used the proceeds to buy our original house and 72 acres to seed the Boys Farm ministry. They had a vision of what Boys Farm could be and FAITH that God would provide the fertilizer to make it grow.



From inception, our mission has been to provide for the physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs of our boys with the goal of influencing their lives so they become good Christian men, husbands, fathers and positive contributors to society. Unfortunately, when they arrive, most of our boys are behind one to three years in school.

Education has always been a mission critical feature of the Boys Farm experience going back to its beginning when Pop Shealy would tutor the boys in Faith Hall after school. Today, however, we find our boys are facing more and more challenges in the public school environment and culture. Given this situation and the importance we place on quality education, the Boys Farm Board of Directors enthusiastically elected to roll out our "Adventures in Academics Academy" program on January 1, 2025.

Adventures in Academics Academy represents a major expansion of our existing educational programs and our direct care services. This improves our ability to teach our boys respect for themselves and others, discipline, manners, how to dress, eat, play and behave in public and in church. We are excited about the Academy providing a healthy, structured environment where our children can receive intensive support services to help them get caught up and prepare them for a bright and successful future.

In closing I wanted to share with you a communication that Tim Raymond, our Funds
Development Director, recently sent me. It was a picture of the architectural drawings
of our gym which was built around 1975. On the drawing Pop Shealy had written "Class
Rooms" for one side of the gym. Pop's vision is still alive and well today, as we are now
planning to add those "Class Rooms" to the gym. I am sure he would say, "Praise the
Lord!"

I want to personally thank you again for your continued financial support and prayers which are enabling us to meet these challenges and to help this current generation of boys. As always, we promise to be good stewards of these funds.

May God bless you and your family for all that you do in helping us "build boys rather than mend men!"

Sincerely, Walter D. Shealy III Chairman



GAME ROOMS OR CLASS ROOMS



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#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

André L Jennings

## FROM THE

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

"For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations." Isaiah 61:11



Thanks to your prayers and support, Boys Farm has had another amazing year of growth and change. Our Reins of Hope program has already begun offering Christian counseling and will soon incorporate equine therapy. This has greatly improved the quality of care Boys Farm offers. One major addition to our ministry has been the transition to on-campus education. Being able to educate our kids right here on campus has opened up so many more opportunities for growth, stability and spiritual development for our children and we are already seeing a tremendous impact.

Our board of directors is passionate about finding the best ways to support our children and meet their needs. We began by hiring a Christian counselor to work with the children and train our houseparents in better support strategies, but we felt like we could do more. After much prayer and research, we partnered with Cyber Academy of South Carolina to bring their online charter curriculum to our campus. We hired four learning coaches to provide one-on-one support, so our students stay on track and succeed academically.

We've called this initiative our Adventures in Academics Academy which launched in January, and the response from the children and staff has been amazing. Smaller class sizes, individualized instruction and a Christ-centered environment have made a big difference.



Education at Boys Farm is now deeply connected to spiritual development. With daily family worship, on-campus devotions and chapel services during school, we continue to nurture both the minds and hearts of our kids, pointing them towards a hope-filled future grounded in faith.

That's where the real transformation happens — at the heart of Boys Farm. Our commitment to that transformation is rooted in our Christian values. We want to give each child the tools they need to succeed in life - the knowledge, the character, the confidence and the faith that will carry them forward. We are already seeing improved behavior, increased focus in class, and genuine excitement about learning which has drastically improved grades. In the first semester of our program, 70% of our children made the "B" honor roll - the first time for many!

Academic support and spiritual growth go hand in hand in helping our children become the image-bearers they are created to be. This means preparing them not just for graduation, but for a lifetime of purpose.

In Isaiah 61 we read a message of great hope for a new year. The prophet Isaiah speaks of a year that will be known as "the year of the Lord's favor". What a rich promise to comfort all of us as we sojourn here on earth! God's promise, which is fulfilled in Christ, is that He will bring good news to the poor, bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and comfort those who mourn and ultimately make an everlasting covenant with them.

As you continue to invest with us in the lives of the children that God has placed in our care, we pray that this message of hope will inspire the children to place their trust in the Lord and embrace the bright futures He has for them.

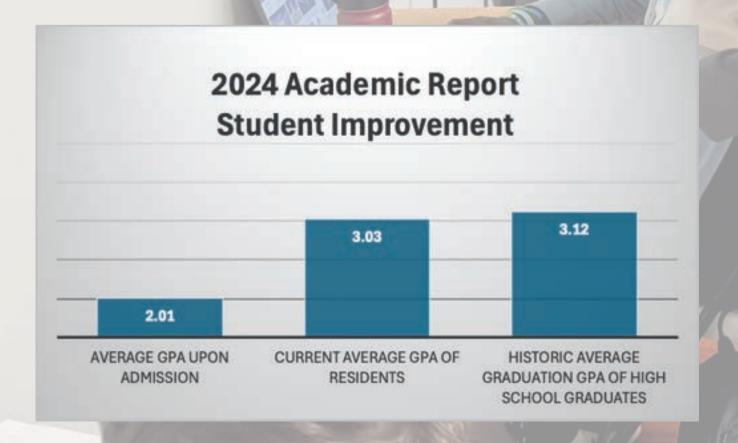


## **Unlocking Future Success**

Adventures in Academics CONTINUES the track record of success in 2024 with an average GPA of 3.03, improved attendance, and decreased behavioral issues in school.

Boys Farm is proud to announce that 2025 welcomes Adventures in Academics Academy – providing remote public education through Cyber Academy of South Carolina, facilitated by full-time Learning Coaches.

With smaller class sizes, more intensive support systems, improved environment and safety, and increased opportunity for career exploration, Adventures in Academics Academy is providing the best available opportunity for our students to unlock the potential of their future.





Adventures in Academics is TRANSFORMING MINDS & LIVES and unlocking a BRIGHT FUTURE!

Over 80% of Boys Farm students are failing one or more classes upon admission, and either have been held back a grade or at risk of being held back a grade.

Frequent school transfers, disruptions in education due to placement changes, and potential trauma experienced by children can contribute to lower academic performance.

On average, 40% of our students made the Boys Farm Honor Roll in the 2023–2024 School Year, with a "B" average in their core classes.

## 2025 Calendar of Events

**Founders' Day** April 27th

**Last Day of School** May 23rd

**Golf Touranment**June 3rd

**Summer Camp**June 15th - 21st

**Fishing with Hank Parker** June TBA

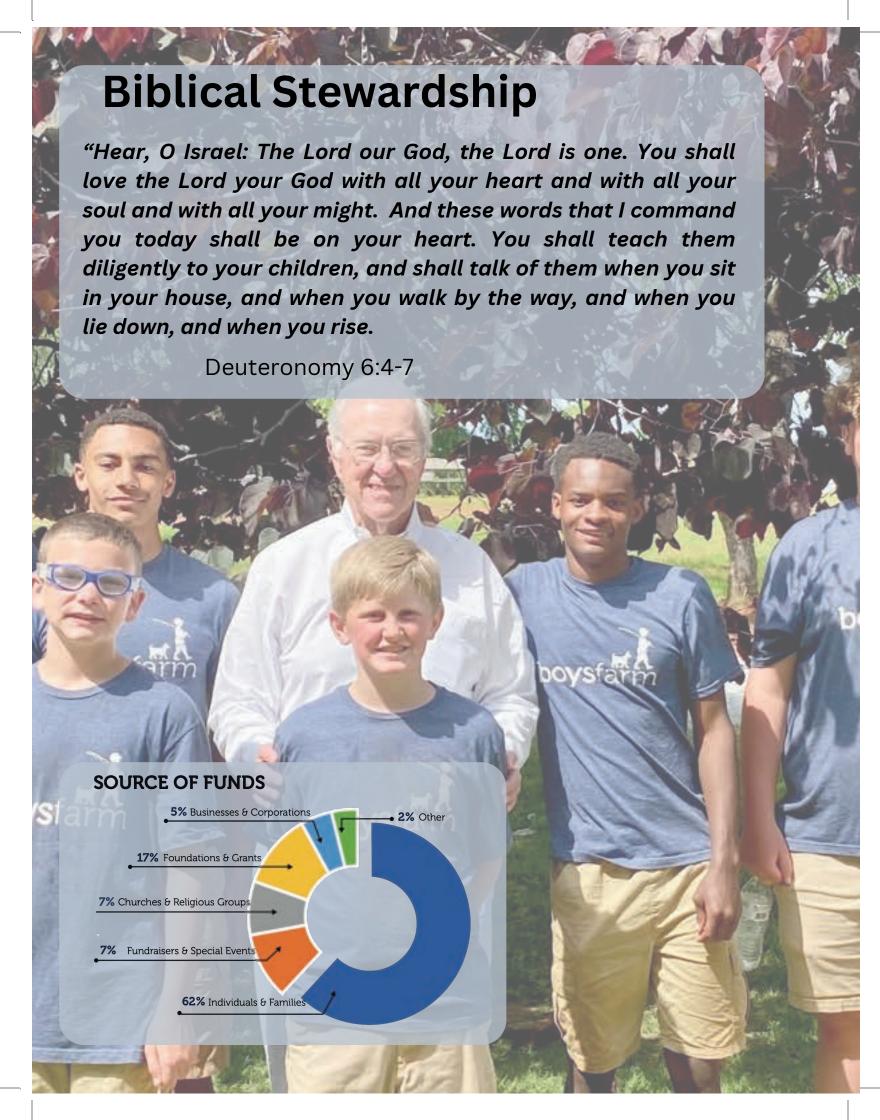
**Garden City Retreat**July 13th – 18th

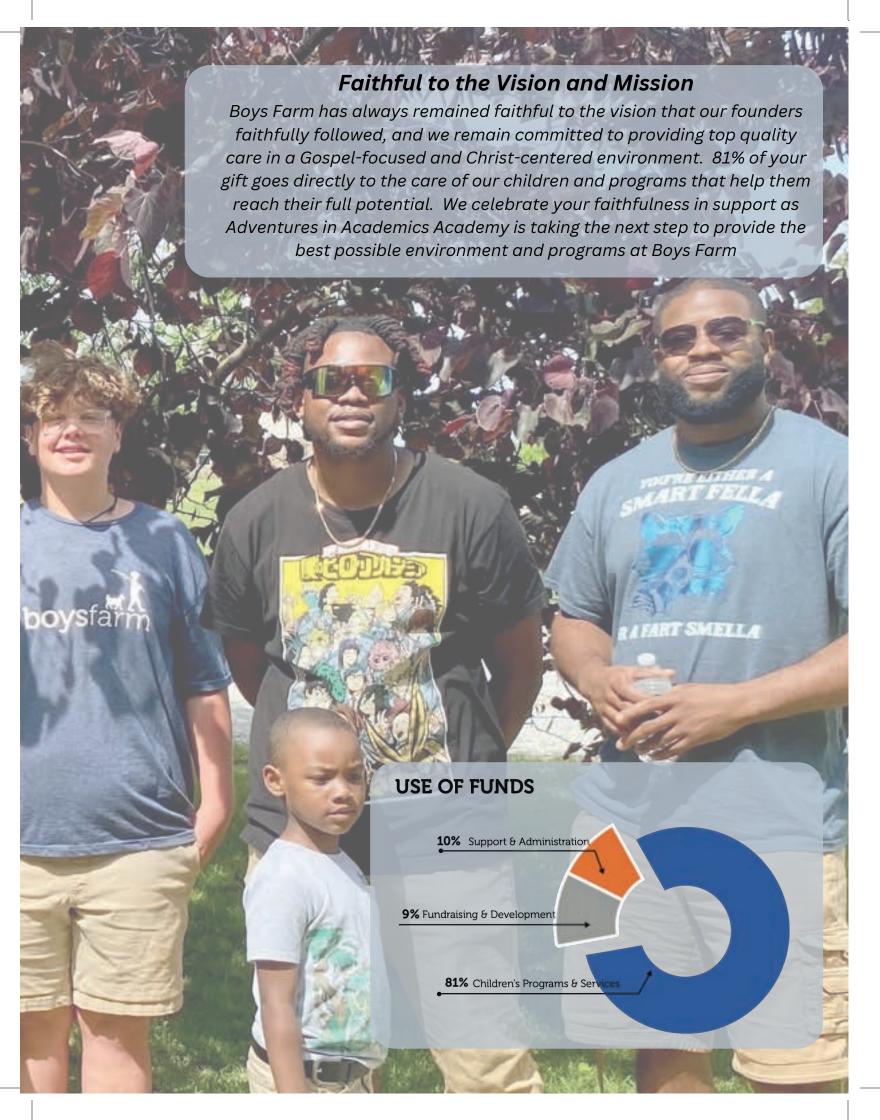
Newberry Fall Festival October 18th

Catherine Dixon Volunteer Day
November 1st









## **Continuing Our Journey**

When I first came to Boys Farm, I was at least 2-3 grades behind due to dropping out of school on more than one occasion and vision issues (that were corrected by the Lion's Club) resulting in a true sense of failure and shame. I loved to read leven while squinting with one eye) and spent a lot of time in the library, now known as the Learning Center. There were encyclopedias, old copies of National Geographic and other magazines. My favorite was Readers Digest which expanded my world in so many ways. We all attended public school since there were no other options at the time.

Growing up seeing two brothers repeatedly in jail, and after droppoing out of junior high myself, I told my mother that I wanted to stay at Boys Farm and finish school. Her response? If I did, I would be turning my back on her and the family. But that was not the case at all. I had a secret desire that with an education, I could get a good job and buy my mother a nice trailer and pay her bills as she got older. As I write this, I have four years of college, some graduate work and a great work ethic due to Mom and Pop Shealy's influence. I grew up with a different outlook that meant all the difference.

In school, we were often perceived by society as damaged goods and many of us were ashamed of our clothing, our family's reputation and our inability to make good grades. Some of our learning challenges were due to lack of nutrition, abuse, neglect and our parent's struggling with their own issues. We are so grateful for the many dedicated teachers and administrators in the public school system and appreciate the fact that they are oftentimes overwhelmed by the challenges they face especially in today's environment. They seldom have the luxury of providing individualized support to a child struggling to read or do simple math. Over the years, Boys Farm's Adventures in Academics Program has helped to bridge the gap and provide tremendous support to children struggling in their academics.

This year, Boys Farm has begun offering K-12 remote public education on campus to provide the children we serve every opportunity to succeed. This includes providing smaller class sizes and more individualized instruction than is possible in the traditional school system. Our children now have the benefit of a safe, biblical learning environment and excellent educational support that is fueling their learning growth. I can honestly say that one of the keys to my life has been acquiring an education, and we know that this new endeavor will further our ongoing mission of "building boys rather than mending men".

I am personally grateful for your support as we embark on this exciting new journey!

Mickey Crowe Boys Farm Alumni



## Investing in the Future

There are numerous tax-deductible ways to be part of our story as you support the ongoing work of Boys Farm and invest in the future of young lives.

### Gifting Stock and Real Estate

Boys Farm has various options that may be income tax beneficial to you, including donating stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and real estate





### **Guardian Society**

The Boys Farm Guardian Society is a noble group of benevolent individuals who commit to leave a Legacy or Bequest to Boys Farm to provide for the needs of at-risk youth and leaving a living legacy

### Founders' Park Legacy Brick

Create a lasting legacy and become a part of Boys Farm history by purchasing a personalized engraved Legacy Brick for Founders' Park.





## **Boys Farm Beef**

Support local farm-to-table and let Boys Farm fill your freezer with hormone and antibiotic free grass fed, grain finished Angus beef.

### **Boys Farm Growth Endowment**

Setting our sights on future sustainability, this fund was created to provide for long-term planning that Boys Farm may continue to provide a safe and secure environment for decades to come.



Boys Farm remains debt free and receives no federal funding, thanks to your faithful support! Thank you for continuing to impact lives through your generosity. If you are interested in participating in any of these unique opportunities and would like more information, please contact us.



NOW SEEKING GOSPEL FOCUSED INDIVIDUALS AND COUPLES TO JOIN US IN THIS MISSION!

Providing Structure

From Houseparents living in a single-family home with up to 8 boys providing daily care, training, and structure to Learning Coaches and support staff, there are many opportunities to serve.

Offering Hope

Daily discipleship in a servant-leadership role helps children to hear, see, and experience the Gospel continually. We hold out the hope of the promise the Lord offers of a bright and fruitful future.

Changing Lives

The mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual support provided by houseparents and staff help to change the trajectory of children in crisis, giving them every opportunity to succeed. Scan me

## CONTACT US O LEARN MORE

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www.boysfarm.org



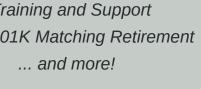


@boysfarminc



## Boys Farm Offers:

- Competitive Salary
- Fully Paid Living Expenses
- Training and Support
- 401K Matching Retirement







Boys Farm, Inc. PO Box 713 6655 SC Highway 34/121 Newberry, SC 29108

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SC Department of Social Services
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

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