



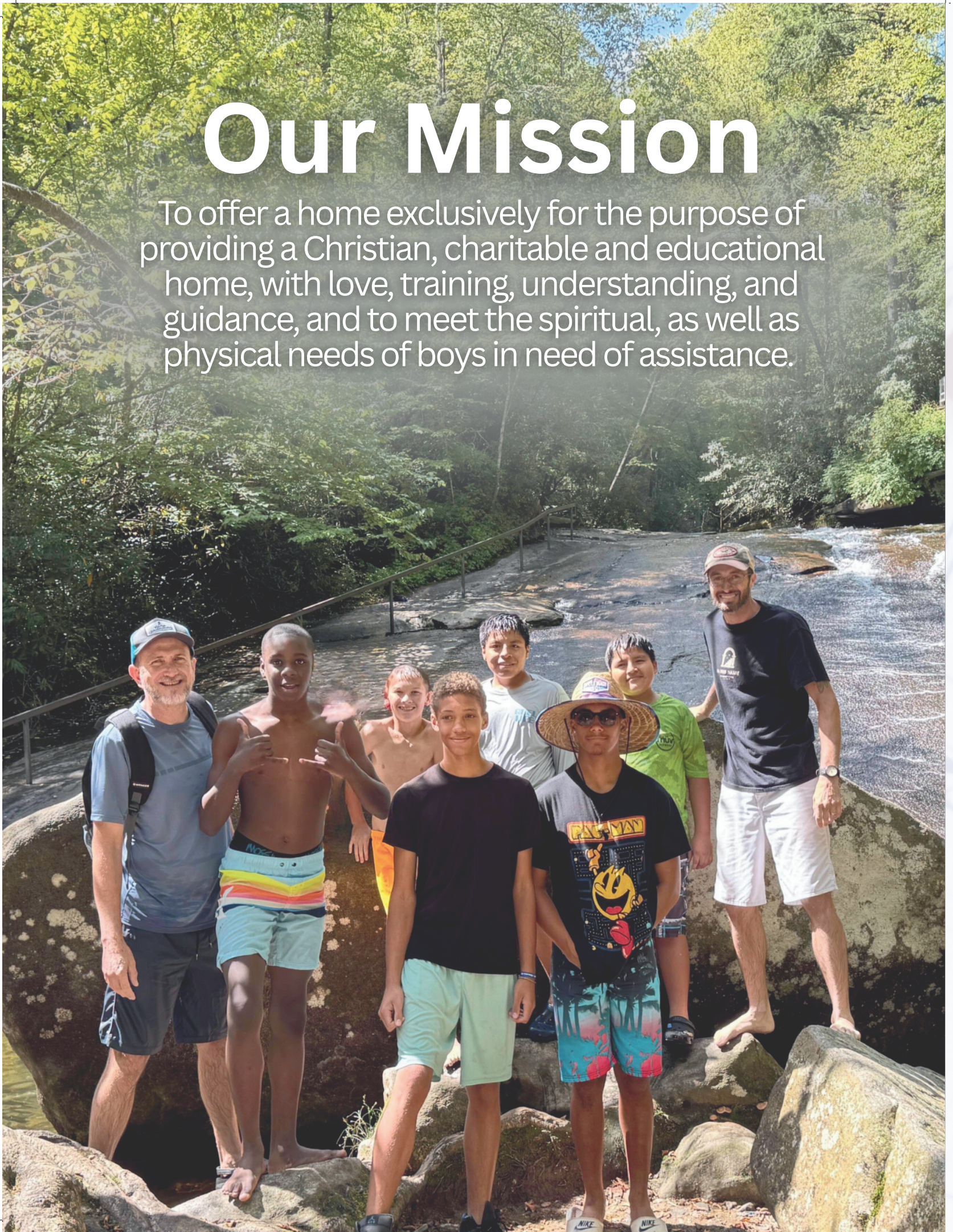
2026 Annual Profile

The Heart of the Matter



Our Mission

To offer a home exclusively for the purpose of providing a Christian, charitable and educational home, with love, training, understanding, and guidance, and to meet the spiritual, as well as physical needs of boys in need of assistance.



Life Transformation

Dear Friends,

This spring will mark the 66th anniversary of Boys Farm. In the spring of 1960 my parents, known to all the boys, staff, friends and supporters as Pop and Mom Shealy, followed the Lord's calling to create a Christian, residential home for boys in need. To answer that calling Pop resigned his position as the pastor of an inner-city church in Greenville. Then they sold their home and bought 72 acres with one old house and a small dilapidated barn. In just over 30 days after buying the property God sent a father with seven children, including a six-month-old baby desperately needing a loving and caring home. And so began the mission and story of Boys Farm. Mom & Pop were truly home missionaries, as have been those who followed and served at Boys Farm over these many years.

In the beginning they established our mission to provide for the physical, educational, emotional and the spiritual needs of our boys. The challenges they faced in those early years were daunting with limited personnel, one house with major deferred maintenance issues, one station wagon, one dog and with limited outside funding. As a result, they could not take a salary for the first seven years of the home's existence. In spite of these challenges, Mom and Pop were excited and passionate about the new ministry and parenting these boys in an effort to make a difference in their lives.

Often we stand in awe of the sacrifice that my parents, Pop and Mama Shealy, made to step out in faith and begin this ministry. They had faith and prayed every day that God would give them strength and the resources to meet the challenges that lay ahead. Pop clearly had a plan and they faithfully worked the plan and God provided for their needs. He provided many faithful and passionate servants and the future leadership to continue building this ministry. He also provided many generous supporters and resources for which we are eternally grateful.

I want to thank our staff, past and present. You are truly making an impact, and I know the Lord and my parents are proud of the way you have carried on this mission. This year I want to recognize and thank two special members of our current staff who have the longest tenured employment at Boys Farm.

Patti Branham is celebrating her 17th anniversary as the Office Manager at Boys Farm. Her dedication, commitment and love for the boys is clearly apparent to all who come in contact with her.

Andre Jennings, our Executive Director, is celebrating his 16th anniversary. Andre's ministry to children started even before Boys Farm, serving as the director of a children's home in Brazil for 12 years. After graduating from University of Georgia, he became a county agent in Georgia for three years. His prior experience along with his love of the Lord, family and every child has made him an outstanding leader of our ministry.

Their passion faithfully honors the vision and legacy of those who came before them.

I also want to recognize three of our alumni. It has been my great pleasure to watch boys like Mickey Crowe, Jon Wooten, and Chris Creel, who have grown up at Boys Farm and come back to serve in this ministry. Mickey Crowe, the oldest and my roommate in the 1960's, has a lifetime legacy of giving back to Boys Farm in so many different ways, including serving on the Board of Directors and heading our Alumni Association. Jon is celebrating 13 years of giving back to the ministry. Chris Creel, another faithful alum, has just this year joined our Advisory Board to help the efforts.

These are just a few of the stories where Boys Farm's influence has produced glowing results where our boys became good Christian men, husbands, fathers and positive contributors to society.

In closing, I want to say thank you to each of you who has stood with Boys Farm in prayer, and who has provided tangible and financial support. You are a critical part of this tremendous transformation story and of your support is changing lives! As always, we promise to be good stewards of these funds and to invest them wisely in our continuing efforts to build boys rather than mend men.

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

Sincerely,
Walter D. Shealy III
Board Chairman



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Mrs. Celia S Shealy**

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

André L Jennings

The Heart of the Matter

“We will not hide them from their children but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.” Psalm 78:4

We are blessed to be entering another year—our 66th year of ministry! It is a joy to serve the Lord. As we begin this year, which is also my 16th year at Boys Farm, I am still amazed and overwhelmed at how faithful God has been to us.

Our micro school with Cyber Academy has been a great success. It has helped raise our children’s academic standards. We have seen better grades, better behavior, and more motivation to do well. Of course, life still has challenges, and we face them every day, as it is part of God’s plan for our growth and sanctification. But even through these challenges, God keeps showing us His goodness and mercy.

Reins of Hope program is also growing and doing well. The weekly Christian counseling and the chances to learn horsemanship and take part in therapeutic activities with our Equine Specialist have made a real difference in the lives of our students. As we continue to grow this program, we hope to someday open it to other children in our community so they can benefit too.



Our houseparents and support staff are also doing wonderful work. It can be hard to lay down your life every day and show the love of Christ to children who may not have seen it before, but this modeling of the Christian life is what we are called to do. Our houseparents have been called to this ministry, and they are a blessing to both me and the children we serve.

I love how Psalm 78 begins with, “Give ear, O my people...” as the writer starts to remember the Lord’s blessings; He wants to ensure his audience doesn’t miss an important message. In verse 4 he says that he will not hide these things from his children. As the Psalm continues, he tells of all the amazing things God has done since bringing Israel out of Egypt. In verse 7, he reveals his intent with a clear challenge for his audience: “so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God but keep his commandments.”

It can be easy to forget all the good things God has done in our lives when we are focused on daily struggles. Too often we focus on the short term and not on the big picture. God has been faithful in the past, and He will continue to be faithful to those who set their hope in Him. We are very thankful for your prayers and support. Please join us as we continue to set our hope in God for a blessed new year.

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministry!



André Jennings
Executive Director



2026 Calendar of Events

Founders Day

April 12th

Boys Farm Golf Benefit

June 4th

WILDS Summer Camp

June 15th - 20th

Fishing with Hank Parker

June 24th

Garden City Chapel Retreat

July 12th - 17th

Newberry Fall Festival

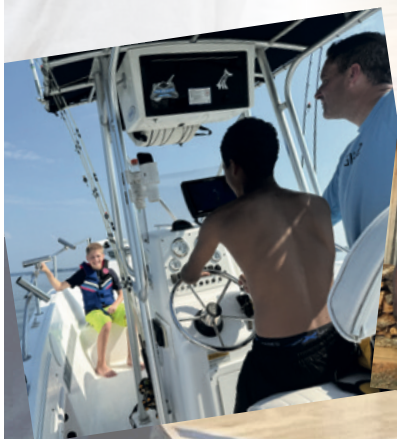
October 10th

Catherine Dixon Volunteer Day

November 7th

Boys Farm & Newberry Toy Run

December 12th

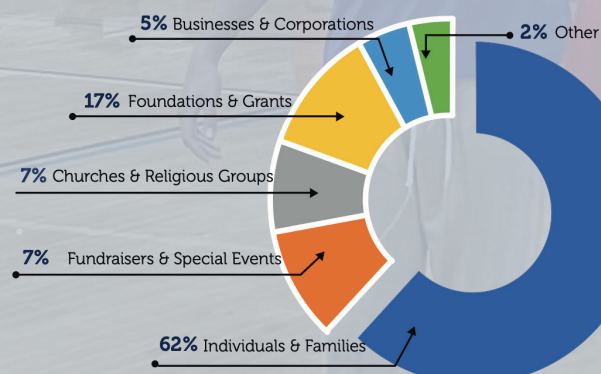


Faith and Family First - Biblical Stewardship

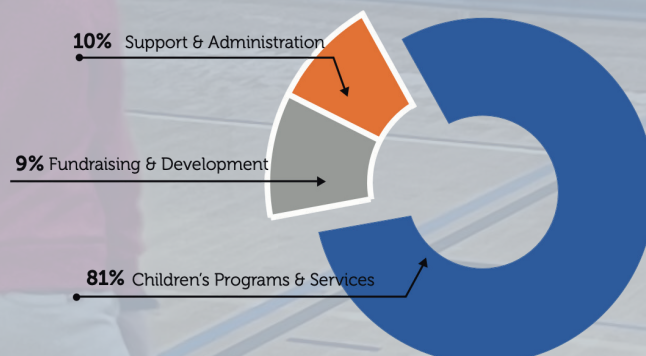
Each aspect of every program from Adventures in Academics to Reins of Hope, and from Character and Responsibility Programs to Pathways to Independence, is focused on excellent care in a Biblical Gospel centered environment.

The children we serve remain at the heart of our faithful focus, and they always come first as over 81% of every gift still goes directly to programs that help make an eternally transformational impact.

SOURCE OF FUNDS



USE OF FUNDS



The Heart of Hope and Healing



Finding Healing, Becoming a Healer - Joseph Howell

In addition to living out a life of faith, currently helping lead worship at Crossroads in Irmo, Joe is in pursuit of his PhD as a researcher for the grant-funded AWAKE-STEM program at the University of South Carolina. Not only a licensed school counselor and nationally certified counselor/therapist, Joe also remains an active part of Boys Farm life and is a tremendous encouragement to those who are now healing and growing in the same ways he did.

Fertile Soil

Boys Farm was fertile soil for my soul to grow and connect with the purposes that God had given me. Things such as intellectual curiosity, relational connection, and worship were fostered during my time. These were things that I would not have discovered if it weren't for being at the Farm, and God, through the Farm, has also cultivated a spirit of hope in my heart towards helping others who struggle mentally and emotionally. This has led me to pursue my PhD in Counselor Education.

Boys Farm encouraged me to explore different hobbies and interests, but also laid the foundation for a heart of worship in my life. Because of this, I am blessed to lead worship for my local church and for a worship group called Generate, which serves young adults.

I'm so thankful for Boys Farm, its role in God's kingdom, its alignment with God's will, and that it is the vehicle God uses to change lives.

Joe Howell - EDS NCC



New Mercies, New Dreams - Messiah

Celebrating his 18th birthday this year, Messiah has grown tremendously during his time at Boys Farm, not only in his faith but also in his character, his relationships, and his academics. The measure of success always boils down to this: understanding and accepting that you are loved and cared for, and that there is a bright hope and a future. His eyes are growing more and more fixed on that future by the day, and we are humbled to walk this journey with him.



Poured Into, Pouring Out - Jon Wooten

Realizing the impact that Boys Farm had on his own life, Jon not only set out to build a life and family that honored the Lord and reflected what he learned, but also has surrendered his life to serve in the same way he was served. With his amazing wife Megan by his side, Jon not only is now a father to two incredible children with one more on the way, but we also are celebrating 14 years of Jon giving back to the next generation at Boys Farm as one of our incredible staff members.

Excitement Caught, Excitement Spread - Michael Saulen

When Michael recognized the essence of what the heart of Boys Farm is, it was contagious. That excitement never faded in his life and we celebrate this year with him as he faithfully gives back as the Marketing Director with our incredible friends at Garden City Chapel. We can hear him enthusiastically saying "But wait, there's MORE!". Congratulations to Michael and Lainey SAULEN, newlyweds as of this February! We couldn't be more excited about the work the LORD will continue to do in this amazing young man's life.





Taking Hope by the Reins

New in 2026 - Boys Farm Reins of Hope Program Phase 2 commences, coupling Christian Counseling and Therapeutic Horsemanship Services.

Join us on Founders Day for an official ribbon cutting and celebration on April 12th, 2026!

Welcome Elizabeth Baize

A Texan by birth, Elizabeth is a tremendously talented and experienced program coordinator who has helped develop and manage Christian equestrian programs throughout North America.

Her heart for Horsemanship and serving others has been a blessing to the Reins of Hope Program.



Far Beyond Horsemanship

Reins of Hope teaches children essential life skills through hands-on interaction with horses. Confidence, self-esteem, responsibility, and patience are learned through grooming, leading, and teamwork. Children also gain emotional regulation, improve problem-solving, gain a deeper understanding of trust and social skills, and learn how to build strong relationships instinctively through activities they are naturally excited to participate in.

The Power of Transformation



Battles Won, New Battles Begun - Dylan Wade, Jamar Padgett, Tanner Thurber

Many of our graduates find satisfaction, fulfillment, structure, and purpose in serving their country, and this can also be a tremendous way to continue their education. "Proud" doesn't seem to rise to the occasion when we think about the ways that many of our boys have matured and risen up to be a protector, defender, and serviceman, fighting a new battle of their own choosing for the good of others.

Lessons Learned

My time at Boys Farm was great! At first I struggled but that's because I didn't see what God had lined up for me and had no idea the valuable lessons I would learn through the guidance there. I learned how to be a man who is honest and truthful, and I learned how to work hard and be humble.

Thanks to my life at the farm I was able to have the discipline and courage to join the army and I'm grateful to all the house parents I had along the way teaching me those lessons. Eleven years of great parenting and Godly leadership is something I'll always be grateful for.

*SPC Dylan Wade
U.S. Army 525th MP BN*



Supporting Families, Sharing Hope - Landon

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11



Boys Farm is a wonderful place that has helped our grandson, Landon, and our family by giving us hope when we felt nowhere else to turn to. We've watched Landon grow in so many ways, having a relationship with Jesus, learning forgiveness, and true love. We've watched him turn anger and disappointment into understanding, hope, and patience for himself and others.

Bringing Landon to Boys Farm was the most painful decision we ever made, out of love. The team that work with these boys are so wonderful. They truly take the time to let these boys know that they truly see them. Every time I'm at the farm, I'm filled with hope; for Landon's future joy, for the family and the brothers to Landon that they have become, and the love that I see through every person that shares with these boys - not just Landon.

It has erased the pain in my heart and given me so much joy to know that they have probably as much love for Landon as I do. They have so many activities that they do. Summers are full of camp, amusement parks, ball games, and the list goes on and on.

Thank you, Boys Farm, for filling in where we couldn't. You are truly turning Landon from that little boy into a respectable young man.

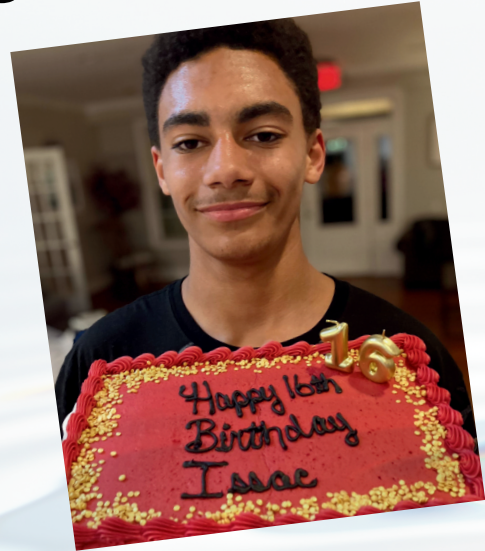
Gary and Jean Gibson



Standing on Giants



*Every
Life
You
Pour
INTO*



*Sends
OUT
Ripples*



*With
ETERNAL
Impact*



We stand on the shoulders of giants — visionary donors whose legacy gifts have protected vulnerable children, provided stability in crisis, and opened doors to hope. Their bequests built the foundation that enables us to create profound, lasting life transformations today.



Join our Guardian Society and become one of those giants whose quiet, enduring generosity continues to ripple outward—forever changing lives.

We would be honored to discuss how your values can live on and continue transforming lives as a Boys Farm Guardian.



Your legacy gift can do the same. By including the Guardian Society in your will or estate plans—whether a percentage, specific bequest, or other planned gift—you ensure future generations experience broken cycles of hardship, despair replaced with dignity, and potential unlocked for years to come.





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United Way of the Midlands Partner Agency

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