



Fall 2024

Dear Friends of Covenant Children's Home

Since my last update in the late spring/early summer, we at Covenant Children's Home (CCH) have been hard at work preparing for children to arrive at our homes. We began with hiring a new Executive Director, Emerson Bolton II, a man of faith who has a special heart for the needs of children in crisis. A family man and father of 3 boys, he knows firsthand what children face in today's world.

In late summer, we brought back a very special couple to serve as full-time 24/7 houseparents, Curt and Mary Ellen Simmons, and they are now fine tuning and readying our homes for children. They and their canine assistant bring a seasoned approach to helping our kids to develop the skills necessary to become all God intends them to be.

We are seeking further staffing to round out our staff team and need to serve the kids we are soon expecting. If you look around and see our hurting world, and want to join us on this mission, please read on and support us. If you think you might be interested in volunteering contact via this website or call us to express that interest. It will take many hands to meet the growing needs of those we serve.

Remember, we are committing ourselves to a more focused group of kids, sibling groups. Only homes like ours can help keep brothers and sisters, who number 4-6 together and keep them together to prevent additional trauma to them. Traditional foster homes can rarely take in more than 1-3 children. So that's where we at CCH can contribute. Please join us in this venture and become a partner with Covenant today.

God Bless!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Riley Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Riley Smith, Chairman Board of Directors



Spring 2024

**Dear Friends of Covenant Children's Home,**

All organizations from time to time, have to regroup and redirect to make sure they are accomplishing their mission. This is that time for Covenant Children's Home. We have a growing new Board of Directors (6 on board, with more to come) all of whom are committed to serving the needs of foster children in our area of Florida.

I personally stand strongly behind meeting a very challenging group of underserved children, namely sibling groups and our board agrees. Furthermore, the agency with whom we contract, are 100% behind this initiative. Imagine you are being separated from your parents, but now your brothers and sisters, simply because there aren't enough places capable of accepting such families and serving such kids, especially if they have 3 or more brothers or sisters. It is simply not acceptable to place them in multiple homes, when there are homes like Covenant capable of meeting this need.

As our plans unfold we will doing regular updates to keep those who have supported us over our first 15 years, and all who are concerned with our kids going forward. As steps are taken, we will keep you informed. We ask for your prayers and continued support so we can truly change young people's lives. James 1 calls the caring for widows and orphans true religion, and as a Christian home that is what we will be about.

God Bless!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Riley Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Riley Smith, Chairman Board of Directors