

Issue 16 | August 2021



SENTINEL

News & Updates from Methodist Family Health Foundation

[Visit our Website](#)

Help Our Students Get Back to School

Back to school can be a harrowing time for students, parents, and teachers alike. It can be even more worrisome when you don't always have all the supplies you need. The children and their families in our care at Methodist Family Health don't have the resources to purchase supplies for the beginning of the school year.

If you would like to help our kids have one less worry this year, would you contribute school supplies or funds to Methodist Family Health? See below for a complete list of needed supplies.

You can drop them off at the Methodist Family Health Foundation located at 1600 Aldersgate Rd., Suite 100 in Little Rock. Or, you can contact Christy McCreight at 501-

906-4201 or cmccreight@methodistfamily.org to arrange a drop-off day and time.

Maybe you don't have time to shop. You can either donate through our website at <https://www.methodistfamily.org/donate.html> and choose "school supplies" in the drop-down box, or shop from our supply list on Amazon.com <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/genericItemsPage/RTO68CDC1WK2>.

However you help, our students will benefit. Thank you for your generosity!



LET'S GET READY FOR SCHOOL!



WOULD YOU CONTRIBUTE THESE ITEMS FOR OUR STUDENTS?

- 1 INCH 3-RING BINDERS
- 2 INCH 3-RING BINDERS
- 3-PRONG FOLDERS WITH POCKETS
- COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS
- HAND-HELD PENCIL SHARPENERS
- PENCIL POUCHES
- PINK ERASERS
- BLACK SHARPIES
- YELLOW HIGHLIGHTERS
- GLUE STICKS
- BACKPACKS
- BLUNT-TIP SCISSORS
- PACKAGES OF:
 - MULTI-COLORED PENS
 - BLACK/BLUE/RED INK PENS
 - FINE TIP MARKERS
 - BROAD TIP MARKERS
 - COLORED PENCILS
 - CRAYONS
 - CONSTRUCTION PAPER
 - WIDE-RULED, LOOSE-LEAF PAPER
 - INDEX CARDS

PLEASE BRING BY YOUR DONATIONS ANYTIME BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY, AT 1600 ALDRSGATE ROAD, SUITE 100, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72205. FOR QUESTIONS, INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A DROP-OFF, CONTACT CHRISTY MCCREIGHT AT 501-906-4201 OR E-MAIL CMCCREIGHT@METHODISTFAMILY.ORG.

LIGHT BEARERS



Ritter Arnold



Ritter Arnold, Methodist Family Health/Methodist Foundation Board Member

Photo courtesy: Arkansas Research Alliance

By Dwain Hebda

What started as a project to rescue a failing chapel has turned into much larger answered prayers, as Methodist Health Foundation reached its capital campaign goals and will soon break ground on the Mike Millar Spiritual Life Center. The multipurpose facility will serve the mission of Methodist Family Health, a nonprofit mental and behavioral health and addiction treatment organization based in Little Rock.

Ritter Arnold, who sits on the boards of both Methodist Family Health and its fundraising arm the Methodist Family Foundation, said the project positions the organization for future demand.

“Ever since I’ve been on the board, we’ve never been concerned about running out of business, if you will, due to a lack of need,” said Ritter whose service to the organization runs three decades.

“All institutions, if they want to hang around, have to change and I think in the area where Methodist Family Health will need to continue to change is by continuing to improve facilities. This is especially true knowing the needs of children are in Arkansas and seeing those needs continue to grow.”

The new building will serve many purposes, including housing a new chapel. Reviving this symbol of the organization’s religious roots and guiding force was what started the group on this path to begin with.

“Methodist Family Health, as we call it today, is the old Methodist Children’s Home, which was an orphanage. I think it maybe goes back to 1902 or something like that,” Arnold said. “With any organization that is as old as this one is, you’re going to have facilities that have outlived their usefulness.”

“We had a chapel that had been built, I think, in 1952, and it was literally starting to fall apart. The walls were separating, I think it had some asbestos and it was just time for it to be replaced. As discussions went on, we said, ‘You know, we really need a new multi-purpose building to serve not only as a chapel but for offices and a new intake center for our clients.’ We really didn’t have a good, centralized intake facility or location.

“When children and their families are going through the intake process, it can be a very scary, unsettling time for children who are going into a treatment facility. They need surroundings that make them feel as comfortable as they can possibly feel. I think also, it offers reassurances to parents to see modern, up-to-date facilities. That was really the instigation of this new Family Life Center.”

The need for the new structure may have been obvious but the Foundation’s ability to raise more than \$4.3 million to get it built was more in question, especially when pandemic conditions restricted the normal course of fundraising.

“When you’re asking people for large financial commitments, it’s typically not a one-meeting ask,” Arnold said. “It’s not something that comes after a five-minute visit. You typically have to identify prospects, explain to them what you want to do, find out whether they’re interested, and then get them to make a commitment. Of course, that was much harder to do when we could not do that face-to-face.”

Still, the campaign reached its goal in mid-2021, less than three years after the campaign kicked off. Arnold credited the accomplishment to a compelling story and the empathy of people across Arkansas for kids and families in difficult situations.

“There are a lot of us who had two parents, were raised in good families and we got through childhood without any major challenges,” he said. “But there are a lot of kids, unfortunately, who weren’t given that path. The children need training and help to make it in the world.”

“I think an awful lot of people consider themselves to have been very blessed in their individual situations and they wish the same thing for others. They hope that with the right help, young people who may be going through challenging times can still have a bright future in front of them.”

LATEST NEWS 
& EVENTS

Cornerstone United Methodist Church Donates Toys, Games to Methodist Behavioral Hospital



Christi Crawford, minister to youth, children and families at Cornerstone United Methodist Church in Jonesboro, and her helpers deliver a donation of toys and games to the children at our Methodist Behavioral Hospital in Maumelle.





Cornerstone United Methodist Church members play games and interact with the children at Methodist Behavioral Hospital in Maumelle.

Pictured: Christi Crawford, minister to youth, children and families, at

Cornerstone United Methodist Church, and her helpers



Pastor Don Nolley Donates Piano for New Center



Retired United Methodist Pastor Don Nolley of Little Rock, a supporter of Methodist Family Health and Methodist Family Health Foundation, has graciously donated his beautiful Baldwin piano to Methodist Family Health. Rev. Nolley and his two children, Kimberly Nolley-Johnson and David Nolley, are donating the piano in memory of Carol Ann Nolley, their beloved wife and mother.

The Baldwin piano will be homed in the new Methodist Family Health Mike Millar Spiritual Life Center. The piano will be enjoyed and loved by the Methodist Family Health staff and children in the care of Methodist Family Health. Many thanks to Rev. Nolley and his children for their generosity, support and dedication.

Mike Millar Spiritual Life Center Virtual Groundbreaking Set for October 12



Because of the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases in Arkansas, Methodist Family Health (MFH) will host its groundbreaking at 10:30 a.m. at 2002 S. Fillmore St. in Little Rock on Tuesday, October 12 virtually.

Construction of our newest facility is expected to begin in October. The Mike Millar Spiritual Life Center will take approximately nine months to complete, and the dedication of the Center will be held later in 2022. The new center will replace the original chapel on Methodist Family Health's oldest campus, the Methodist Children's Home, in Little Rock.

In October 2020, the Mabee Foundation awarded a challenge grant of \$950,000 to Methodist Family Health for the construction of the Mike Millar Spiritual Life Center. This challenge grant to the Methodist Family Health Foundation for completion of the new Center stipulated the Foundation raise the total project cost of \$4,256,175 by October 13, 2021. The challenge was met in July 2021, and a total \$4,259,671.72 has been raised for the Center.

"In addition to the Elaine and Bishop Kenneth Hicks Chapel, this center will include a multipurpose space, welcome center for the campus, and administrative space for our Methodist Children's Home administrators," said Carolyn McCone, CFRE, executive director of the Methodist Family Health Foundation. "We also will include an outdoor labyrinth, new landscaping, and enhanced parking to complement the center."

Each week, the children and families on the Fillmore Campus can participate in spiritual services and Bible studies, including communion, in the Center's chapel. United Methodist Church groups throughout the state generously and continually volunteer to serve at MFH, providing worship experiences like music, devotionals, vacation bible school, and other spirituality services. With a new reverent space for worship and spiritual learning, our kids will continue to connect with the community and feed their spirits in a place where they feel love, peace, and hope for their futures.

Our new Center will offer our best first impression to families and visitors. The facility will also provide space for community partners to meet for neighborhood association meetings and community education. In fact, MFH is proud to be a part of the Fair Park neighborhood in Little Rock for more than 50 years, and we look forward to even more community involvement.

Just as the chapel constructed almost 70 years ago played a key role in the lives of our children and families, the opening of this new Center will continue the care of the whole person – mentally, behaviorally, emotionally and spiritually.



Methodist Family Health Foundation Reports Grants Achieved in 2020-2021

Last fiscal year was a great year in grant support for Methodist Family Health.

More than \$237,000 was received in support of various programs within our complete continuum of care. Funding was received from the following:

- **Arkansas Arts Council**
- **Arkansas Economic Development Commission**
- **Charles A. Frueauff Foundation, Inc.**
- **Christ of the Hills United Methodist Church**
- **Marion and Miriam Rose Trust**
- **Roy & Christine Sturgis Charitable and Educational Trust**
- **The Magale Foundation, Inc.**
- **The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas**
- **The Starr Foundation**
- **W. P. Sturgis Foundation**

Methodist Family Health Foundation Seeks Donations for Compassion Fund Through Virtual Southern Silks Stakes Event



Most of us don't think about whether we have clean clothes, much less if we have more than one set to wear during the week. Sometimes, the children and teens in our care come to us with only the clothes they are wearing. Other times, they may come to us without shoes or even underwear.

Methodist Family Health Foundation has a special, donor-funded account called the Compassion Fund, which helps provide for immediate needs a child or family in our care may have or for items that could enhance their therapeutic care. The Compassion Fund is the special appeal for this year's virtual Southern Silks Stakes.

This fund is utilized by Methodist Family Health therapists and staff throughout our continuum of care for special client needs, which may not be covered by other funding.

The primary areas of needs funded are:

- Family needs, such as gas, food or monetary gift cards to support our client's therapy, in direct correlation to Methodist Family Health services;
- Non-reimbursed needs, such as eye/dental appointments, eyeglasses, contacts, dental implants, etc.;
- Unfunded necessity items, such as a specific-size undergarment, clothing, or shoes; and
- Special therapy needs, such as motivators, art supplies, sand trays, weighted blankets, etc.

Requests are often supplemented by items from the Foundation's Get Up and Give donation closet. This helps to stretch the Compassion Fund dollars and often provides additional needed assistance to the client.

Some of the requests funded through the MFH Foundation Compassion Fund are:

Clothing

- Shoes, underwear, and socks; and
- Nice pants and shoes for high school graduation.

Special therapeutic needs

- Weighted blanket to reduce anxiety;
- At-home therapeutic games to use in individual, family, and group therapy; and
- Art therapy items for use at home.

Material needs not clothing

- Air mattress and bedding for a student attending our Little Rock Day Treatment program. This young man was falling asleep in class because he could not sleep at night. We learned his bed at home was infested with bed bugs, and his mother couldn't afford a new mattress. The child's grades and attitude improved;
- A bus pass for six months for an Arkansas CARES graduate to get back and forth to work;
- A large computer monitor and keyboard for a handicapped client to use during virtual schooling;
- A therapeutic group home client made All-State Choir and was invited to attend Honor Choir Camp at Harding University, and our Compassion Fund was used for his fee to attend;
- One of our clients took band during the school year and learned to play the flute. She wanted to continue practicing during the summer, but she could not afford to purchase one. Through the Compassion Fund, she was able to purchase a flute, and her grades and therapy process improved; and
- A client made a sports team at school and needed special shoes and items, for which donations from the Compassion Fund were able to provide.

If you would like make it possible for more children and our families in our care receive the necessities to help them become stable and grow, please contribute to Methodist Family Health Foundation for the Compassion Fund in any of the following ways:

ONLINE at <https://www.methodistfamily.org/donate.html> (choose Compassion Fund from dropdown box)

TEXT SILKS to (501) 881-2258

MAIL a check made payable to Methodist Family Health Foundation, P.O. Box 56050, Little Rock, Arkansas 72215. Please note "Southern Silks" in the memo field

PAYPAL ONLINE - Search for Methodist Family Health Foundation

CALL Christy McCreight at (501) 906-4201.

Nine Students Benefit from Methodist Family Health Foundation Scholarship Fund



Currently, there are nine former clients of Methodist Family Health who are attending college this fall semester on scholarship from Methodist Family Health Foundation. The total for these nine scholarships equals \$35,650. Three of these nine are first-time applicants.

From spring 2016 through fall 2021, Methodist Family Health has awarded **\$331,328** in scholarships to former Methodist Family Health clients. Here are a few of the stories from our scholarship recipients:

- The applicant was a six-year-old at the time her mother was going through Arkansas CARES. Because both the applicant and her mother were residents of a Methodist Family Health residential program, the applicant was eligible for and awarded a scholarship from Methodist Family Health Foundation.
- A second applicant originally applied for scholarship assistance starting in 2012 shortly after completing Arkansas CARES. She was a single mother of three young boys and working part-time in the kitchen at Methodist Family Health Residential Treatment Center in Little Rock. After earning an associate degree from Pulaski Technical College, she enrolled at the University of Central Arkansas where she pursued a degree in accounting, graduating in 2019 and going on to earn her master's degree in accounting. Her oldest son, who was nine at the time she went through Arkansas CARES, is now entering his freshman year at Arkansas Technical College in Russellville on a scholarship from Methodist Family Health Foundation.
- A third applicant is working on her PhD in chemistry, which is being made possible by a Methodist Family Health Foundation scholarship.



What is Your Legacy?

If you view your will as one last act of love in your life's story, it takes on a very different hue.

Unique as your life is, you will not only pass property to the individuals you choose, but it can also provide a way to make a gift to reflect your life's meaning.

Email Carolyn McCone

Constant Contact

A will is the easiest way to leave a gift to Methodist Family Health Foundation and be certain it will make a significant, positive difference.

For information about how to include Methodist Family Health in your will, contact Carolyn McCone, CFRE, executive director of the Methodist Family Health Foundation, at 501-906-4202 or CMcCone@MethodistFamily.org.

The logo features the word "Southern" in a purple script font at the top. Below it, the word "Silks" is written in a large, dark green, serif font. A purple ribbon banner with a 3D effect is positioned across the bottom of the "Silks" text, containing the word "STAKES" in white, bold, uppercase letters. The entire graphic is set against a white background with green vertical bars on either side.

Southern Silks STAKES

BENEFITING
Methodist Family Health

Saddle Up - VIRTUALLY - for
Southern Silks Stakes

Presented by: Gill Ragon Owen, P.A.

Ride to the Rescue of Children and Families in Arkansas - VIRTUALLY 8th Annual Southern Silks Stakes Benefits Methodist Family Health throughout Arkansas

Methodist Family Health will saddle up - VIRTUALLY! - to help raise funds to rebuild the lives of Arkansas children and families. Southern Silks Stakes, the organization's signature fundraiser, is set for 6 p.m. online at MethodistFamily.org/Southern-Silks.html, on our [Facebook](#) page or [YouTube channel](#) on Sat., Sept. 18, 2021.

This virtual soiree includes a celebrity color commentator, a fabulous online auction, and much, much more.

For more information, contact Jamie Griffith, Foundation project manager, at JGriffith@MethodistFamily.org or 501-906-4209.



Support Methodist Family Health Foundation

Your donation helps the Arkansas children and their families in our care. Will you give today to those in our care who are abandoned, abused, neglected and suffering psychiatric, behavioral, emotional and spiritual issues? Here are easy ways to give:

- **Text GIVE** to 501-881-2258 to initiate a donation you can easily manage on the go.
- Donate **Online** now using our secure online donation form.
- **Call** 501-906-4201 to make a secure contribution with your debit or credit card.
- **Mail** your cash or check donation to:
 - Methodist Family Health Foundation
 - P.O. Box 56050
 - Little Rock, AR 72215-6050.
- **PayPal** app. To donate via PayPal.com, click [here](#).
- **Venmo** app. To donate via Venmo.com, click [here](#).

Methodist Family Health SENTINEL a publication of the [Methodist Family Health Foundation](#)

Carolyn McCone, CFRE, Executive Director
Amanda Smith, Director of Development
Kelli Reep, APR, Director of Communications
Jamie Griffith, Foundation Project Manager
Christy McCreight, Office Manager and Volunteer Coordinator

1600 Aldersgate Road
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-906-4201

The Sentinel is published 12 times a year.

For more information, contact:

Kelli Reep, editor
501-906-4210 and kreep@methodistfamily.org

Photos provided by: Methodist Family Health staff and volunteers © Methodist Family Health Foundation

Methodist Family Health is the management company of:

- Methodist Children's Home
- Methodist Behavioral Hospital
- Methodist Counseling Clinics
- Arkansas CARES

FOLLOW US at:

- [Facebook.com/methodistfamilyhealth@MethodistFamily](https://www.facebook.com/methodistfamilyhealth@MethodistFamily)
- [Instagram.com/methodistfamilyhealth](https://www.instagram.com/methodistfamilyhealth)
- [Twitter.com/MethodistFamily](https://twitter.com/MethodistFamily)
- [YouTube.com/MethodistFamilyHealth](https://www.youtube.com/MethodistFamilyHealth)

Methodist Family Health Board of Directors

Chairperson Bill Mann, Little Rock
Ritter Arnold, Marked Tree
Scott Beardsley, Paron
Harry Clerget, Little Rock
Dr. Charles Clogston, Little Rock
Russ Hannah, Jonesboro
Betty L. Hanson, Little Rock
Rev. Nathan Kilbourne, Sherwood
Rev. Michael Mattox, Rogers
Rev. C.E. McAdoo, Little Rock
Judge Robert McCallum, Hot Springs
W.A. McCormick, Little Rock
Bishop Gary Mueller, Little Rock
Jamilyn Noble, North Little Rock
Rev. Jim Polk, Little Rock
Neill Sloan, Lake Village
Don Weaver, Conway

Methodist Family Health Foundation Board of Directors

Chairperson Jan Green, Little Rock
Ritter Arnold, Marked Tree
Linda Barnes, Little Rock
Misty Baugh, Little Rock
Laura Borg, Little Rock
Ray Dillon, Little Rock
Jim Duckett, Little Rock
Pam Gadberry, Little Rock
Clay Gordon, Little Rock
Marci Hall, Little Rock
Karla Hilburn, Little Rock
Arita Jewart, Little Rock
Becky Kossover, Little Rock
Rev. Annie Lankford, Little Rock
Sherry Rowbotham, Little Rock
Max Sharp, Little Rock
Neill Sloan, Lake Village
Bill Spivey, Little Rock
Cleifton Vaughan, Little Rock, emeritus
Don Weaver, Conway

**The mission of Methodist Family Health is
to give the best possible care**

to those who may need our help.

Methodist Family Health | 1600 Aldersgate Road, Little Rock, AR 72205

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by kreep@methodistfamily.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!