



FAMILY FOUNDATION FUND  
*Restoring Fatherhood*

## 2020 YEAR END REVIEW



### 2020 FATHER IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL *SonShine Farms TN*



We want to thank all of our SonShine Farm TN volunteers who have come out to help us on the third Saturday work day each month. It is a wonderful time to bring your family, corporate team, and mens group to join us in our community. There is always plenty of work for everyone and great opportunities to learn about organic gardening. Our volunteer 3rd Saturdays began in March and continue through November 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon concluding with a fellowship lunch.

We invite you to become a Produce with a Purpose Share Partner. Share Partners receive approximately 160 pounds of produce during the growing season from mid-June - October. This is a great way to eat healthy, support local farming and help restore fatherhood. Our zucchini bread and local honey are always favorites in the share box.

You may visit us at [SonShineFarmsTN.org](https://SonShineFarmsTN.org)  
or call 615.876.7170.

### SUMMER PROGRAM OVERVIEW

As always, God was present and powerful in the midst of FFF summer mentoring 2020. While the Covid chaos was wreaking havoc on every facet of our society, God's grace, mercy, and peace were present and sufficient for all that our FFF summer entailed. Over the entire 12 weeks of the summer program, not one of our sons or staff members were infected with Covid-19. And yes, we tested. While we did have a smaller Son Camp with ten sons, 85 percent of our programming was unaffected.

Thank you for praying, calling, and offering council as we navigated the unprecedented gravity of a global pandemic. In the midst of the darkness and despair in the world around us, you- our community showed up as salt and light. As the summer progressed, we were inundated with requests for help, prayer, and guidance navigating the cultural uncertainty with which we find ourselves in.

In the midst of this cultural match point the young men participating in the FFF were often contributing voices in the public and private spheres we volunteered and worked within. As such, they were often provided the opportunity to articulate complex feelings and thoughts across cultural and socioeconomic lines.



## 2021 WILL BE FAMILY FOUNDATIONS FUNDS 29<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

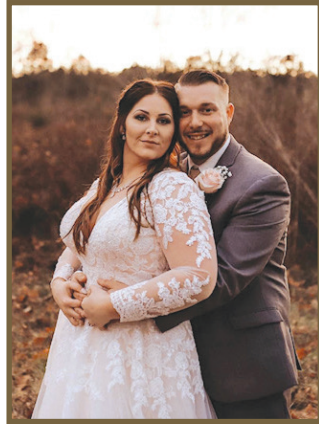
### ALUMNI FROM THE EARLY YEARS

#### B.J. BARNES

When Bill Allen heard about the FFF mentoring program, he contacted us about a young man who was a gifted baseball player in middle school at Lighthouse Christian School whose father was not able to be present in his life. That young man was B.J. Barnes. He lived with his mom (Lisa Barnes) and sister in Antioch, TN. During B.J.'s adolescent years, there were several occasions when Lisa would need to enlist the voice and authority of B.J.'s surrogate father, and that surrogate father was Bill Allen. The love, discipline and example Bill and his family displayed was transformational for young B.J.

B.J. completed the program in 2007 and today is an auto technician at Nelson Mazda. He and his wife Lori are the parents of two daughters Aravee, and Avella and are homeowners living in the Nashville area.

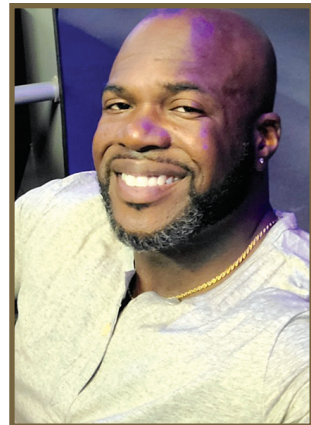
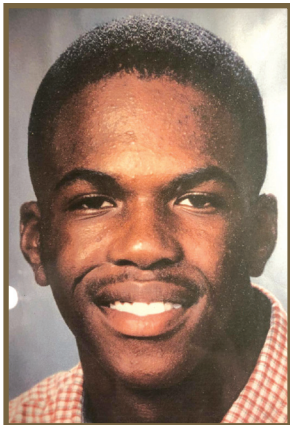
He has expressed his gratitude for the Family Foundation Fund mentoring program preparing him for his responsibilities as a husband and father B.J. shared, "it was the love and determination of his mother, the advocacy of his surrogate father, and life principles he learned as a FFF son, has resulted in a husband/father who is present and attentive to the care of his family."



#### MONTRELL TURNER

Diane Reynolds enrolled her son Montrell Turner into the Family Foundation Fund mentoring program in 1996, which was our "litmus test" for the FFF educational program. Until Montrel entered our program, all of the FFF sons attended public schools. One of the FFF board members was inspired to make the connection between Lighthouse Christian School (LCS) and the Cal Turner Family Foundation.

Montrel was the first FFF son to graduate from Lighthouse Christian School in May 2000. After graduation, he attended MTSU, after two



years at MTSU, he joined the U.S. Navy and served his country. While in the Navy, he completed his Bachelor's Degree from Ashford University.

He remained in the Navy five years, and after completion of his term moved back to Nashville and completed his Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from Bethel University.

Montrel and Jessica married in 2015, but unfortunately the marriage did not endure. He is currently employed for the Department of Veteran Affairs here in Nashville, TN.

Montrel attributes his faith and ability to overcome difficult situations to the principles he learned as a FFF son. "Never allow a mistake or misstep to define you. Always pray, believe and trust God in all things. Men are held responsible for the status of their households."



#### RICKIE MCDOWELL SR.

On Friday November 20th, I was honored to speak at the Life Celebration of Rickie McDowell Sr., affectionately known as "Big Rickie." Big Rickie completed his life journey with a wonderful celebration held at Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church. As I listened to friends and relatives speak about his life there was a recurring expression of his love, care for people, protection, and care for his family.

I met Big Rickie in 2014 when he approached me about his son Rickie Jr. becoming a Family Foundation Fund son. He said to me "Mr. Kirk, Coach Victor Wharton told me about your mentoring program and how the lives of young men growing up without a father are transformed and I want to know if you would accept me and my son into the FFF mentoring program? I am a father but I don't know anything about fathering and I don't want my son to have to experience the life I have lived. I was in prison for eleven years and have lived my life on the streets. I want to be there for my son. I just don't know anything about being a father." I took his request to the heavenly FATHER and the Most High's response was to father both he and his son, Rickie Jr."

Rickie Jr. graduated high school in 2019, unsure of what to do with his life, prayed and sought counsel with his father and I, and decided to pursue a career of armed service. However, in order to enlist in the U.S. Air Force he needed to lose forty pounds. By perseverance and dedication, today he is an Airman stationed in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Big Rickie would always refer to me as Papa Onnie, and I would always refer to him as son. His spirit has returned home to be with the FATHER, yet his legacy of humility, love and care for people will live on through his son, Rickie T. McDowell, Jr., United States Airman.

#### COLORADO

The backdrop for Enrichment 2020 was the "Centennial State" due to Covid-19. We thought it best to structure our Enrichment around the outdoors and stateside, and it did not disappoint.

Over the course of our tenure in Colorado, the sons completed a nine mile hike with a 2,700 elevation gain in Rocky Mountain National Park





(with bears.) We also hiked a short three mile loop in Garden of The Gods and Papa O summited Pikes Peak at 71 years young (in a car.)

As far as the eyes could see, we saw the awesome power and majesty of God's creation on display, be it the Cameron Peak Fire or the mountains of Breckenridge, God showed out when he made Colorado.

Thank you for all of the recommendations and insider tips. We would like to give a special shout out to Mallory C. Thanks to her Denver intel, the sons had the opportunity to stretch their collective pallets with exquisite and eclectic dining adventures.



*I.F. was hosted by Mark McFerran at his home in February 2020*

## INTENTIONAL FATHERHOOD

How many of us understand that the characteristics of the human soul (defined: our mind, will, and emotions) comes directly through the bloodline of our earthly father. God the Father of mankind only fathered two souls: one being the soul of his first son, Adam (Eve's soul came out of Adam), the other one being his only "begotten Son" Yeshua (Jesus.) Romans 3:23 states "for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Therefore, Yeshua's soul could not come from the bloodline of the tribe of Judah, even though it is prophesied in the Bible that he would come from the family of Judah. Neither Adam or Jesus had earthly biological fathers. Yeshua (Jesus) earthly body could come from the womb of a woman; his soul came directly from his heavenly father who is perfect and holy.

Through the Intentional Fatherhood series, men come together for a weekend, Thursday evening through Saturday morning, to abide in FATHER'S presence and to gain understanding concerning the mysteries and responsibilities of fatherhood. Some questions to ponder...

**Why did God place the beard/mustache on the man and not the woman?**

**Why is it that the man's voice changes significantly at puberty but the woman's very little?**

**Why does 1 Corinthians 11:7, apostle Paul states that the man is the glory of God and the woman is the glory of man?**

**Why is the community of family essential for spiritual maturity?**

**What does it mean to spiritually cover the souls of your family?**

**When men lack the understanding of spiritually covering their families, the family is left vulnerable to the spiritual forces of darkness. Why?**

**Why did Yeshua (Jesus) mandate from the cross that John cover his mother? (John 19:26-27)**

**IF YOU HAVE A DESIRE TO INCREASE YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND HELP TO RESTORE FATHERHOOD**

**PLEASE CONTACT US AT**

<https://familyfoundationfund.org/intentional-fatherhood>

## Thank You

Thank you to all of our Family Foundation Fund family for your faithful prayers and support during this season of global uncertainty. We chose not to host our annual fundraiser in 2020,

WE ARE GRATEFUL and trusted the FATHER for HIS faithfulness. Our annual contributions were up about 15%. Our combined total volunteer hours donated to the organization were 3100 hours. We are grateful for our corporate partners for their sponsorship and allowing our FFF sons to intern and mentor in their corporate environments.

Blessings to you and your families. The year 2021 will require unwavering faith in the face of dire circumstances, but do not fear because perfect love cast out all fear. 2 Timothy 1:7, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Hebrews 12: 26-29, "At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens..." The words once more indicate the removal of what can be shaken, will be shaken. Created things will be shaken. Systems will fall. Kingdoms will fail. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,"for our God is a consuming fire."

The Family Foundation Fund is a 501-C3 tax exempt organization and all gifts are tax deductible.

Our website is FamilyFoundationFund.org.

Our financial profile is posted on Giving Matters at givingmatters.com. If you would like to designate your gift through United Way our designation number is 2228.