



FUNDING PROPOSAL

The Candlewood Foundation is seeking funding for their inaugural program - The Evergreen School - a Christian homeschool hybrid, where they will serve elementary-age children in their community.



INTRODUCTION



Understanding that the center of a child's formation is the family, Candlewood Foundation exists to provide educational opportunities that build faith and equip individuals with life skills, empowering them to have a meaningful impact in their communities.

At Candlewood Foundation, we believe the family should be the greatest influence of a child's formation and unfortunately, this is not what most children experience today.

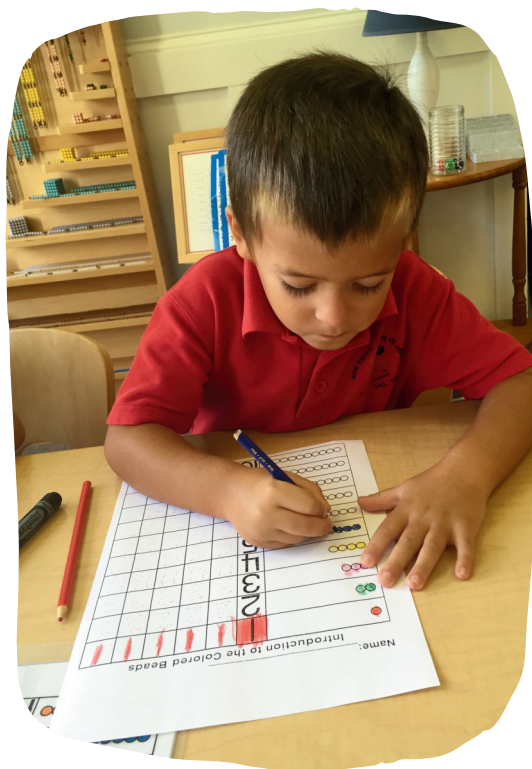
Children spend much of their childhood away from their parents in traditional educational institutions. To change that, we must provide a new model and give families more options. The Biblical worldview holds parents responsible for raising their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. The Church has subscribed to society's worldview, which fails them in this mission, by actively working against it.

At the Candlewood Foundation, we envision a future where individuals are empowered with the academic and life skills necessary to thrive and become self-sufficient. We will accomplish this through various programs.



WHY CANDLEWOOD FOUNDATION?

The American Psychological Association reports that 24% of children ages 5-11 have a mental health disorder. The American Academy of Pediatrics 2023 study states 14 million children annually are diagnosed with childhood obesity. The National Center for Educational Statistics reports 39% of Georgia 4th graders have a reading level below 3rd-grade level. These statistics are unacceptable. Conventional logic would lead us to believe that if the children are not scoring well they need more time in school; however, the opposite is true.



The average student in a traditional education model will spend 16,000 hours in school away from their families between the grades K-12. We believe there is an obvious connection between the mainstream education model and the many challenges children are facing today, and experts agree.

The local schooling options for children in our rural community are limited and the homeschooling community is growing, showing no sign of slowing down. Even with this growth, families feel underresourced and are looking for tangible support and encouragement.



- When parents have a greater understanding of their child's development, their parenting skills improve, their families flourish, and their children thrive.
- When children and adults understand the nutritional benefits of whole foods and learn how to raise and grow their own, obesity rates will decrease.
- When children are introduced to academic lessons in an environment that meets their individual needs in small, supportive groups, reading levels will rise.



The Candlewood Foundation aims to build programs that give parents better options to reclaim their God-given role in the lives of their children. We are ready, willing, and able to step in and make a difference in our community through the programs we offer, starting with **The Evergreen School.**

The Evergreen School is a comprehensive Christian homeschool hybrid program with resources to benefit the family and community, including:

- Homeschool enrichment classes
- Community classes for parents and the whole family
- Faith-based summer camps



MEET OUR TEAM

Our Board members are all professing Christians, active in local churches, and passionate about supporting families in their God-given roles.

Rachel Eve is a wife, mother, and visionary. She studied early childhood education at UNG, taught preschool, homeschools her four children, and is an active homesteader.



RACHEL & CORY EVE
Founders

Cory Eve is a Marine, business manager, and dedicated husband and father who is motivated to create safe spaces for children to learn and grow.

Christina Stigile is a wife, mother, entrepreneur, and homesteader with 13+ years proven experience bringing complex visions to life. She is committed to providing resources for families in her community to thrive. Christina holds a B.S. In Communications from the University of South Florida.



CHRISTINA STIGILE
Vice President

Christine Munn is an educator who homeschooled her now adult children in their formative years. She holds a B.S. in Bible/Christian education and credentials in Montessori education ages birth to six. She has founded and directed schools in 3 states and is an experienced homeschool teacher.



CHRISTINE MUNN
Secretary



THE EVERGREEN SCHOOL

Opening August 12, 2025,

The Evergreen School is a Christian homeschool hybrid program where students learn fundamental pillars: Bible, Reading, Writing and Math— while developing essential life skills that will serve them throughout their lives. Children freely explore, move, and learn in a natural, dynamic setting. With access to the Candlewood Acres farm, our students will grow food, tend to farm animals, and learn valuable trades that cultivate both practical skills and a sense of responsibility - and have lots of fun while doing it!



Ages

K - 5th grade

Days/Hours

Tuesday - Thursday
9:00am - 3:00pm

Location

Eve Family Property
S. Lumpkin County, GA

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

MORNING

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:45 AM	Carpool
9:00 AM	Worship & Bible Academic Centers Morning Snack Group Time
12:00 PM	Lunch

AFTERNOON

TIME	ACTIVITY
1:00 PM	Life Skills Homesteading Special Projects
2:45 PM	Clean Up & Cool Down Afternoon Snack Daily Review
3:00 PM	Carpool



THE EVERGREEN SCHOOL

We strongly believe that children are designed by God to be active learners. Their natural curiosity and sense of wonder cannot be fully realized sitting in a classroom all day with their peers. We understand that children do not all learn at the same pace or in the same way. Education should not be focused on producing conformity but should encourage individuality. For young children, play is a critical part of learning.

At the Evergreen School, children will thrive as they learn together in our one-room schoolhouse and outside on the farm. Like a family, we will have children of mixed ages learning together naturally. Mastery of a subject is much more important than a pre-determined schedule for advancement. Executive functioning skills, including time management, organization, and problem solving, are acquired by facing challenges and working towards a goal. Farm life is a perfect laboratory for children to advance in these skills as they learn to grow food, care for animals, and help maintain the farm.



FONDA LONDON
Lead Teacher

Our lead teacher, Fonda London, is not only a highly qualified teacher, but has successfully homeschooled her own children for eight years. She graduated from UNG with a Physical Education degree and holds certifications in K-5th and special education. Like all our Board members, she and her family are active homesteaders.



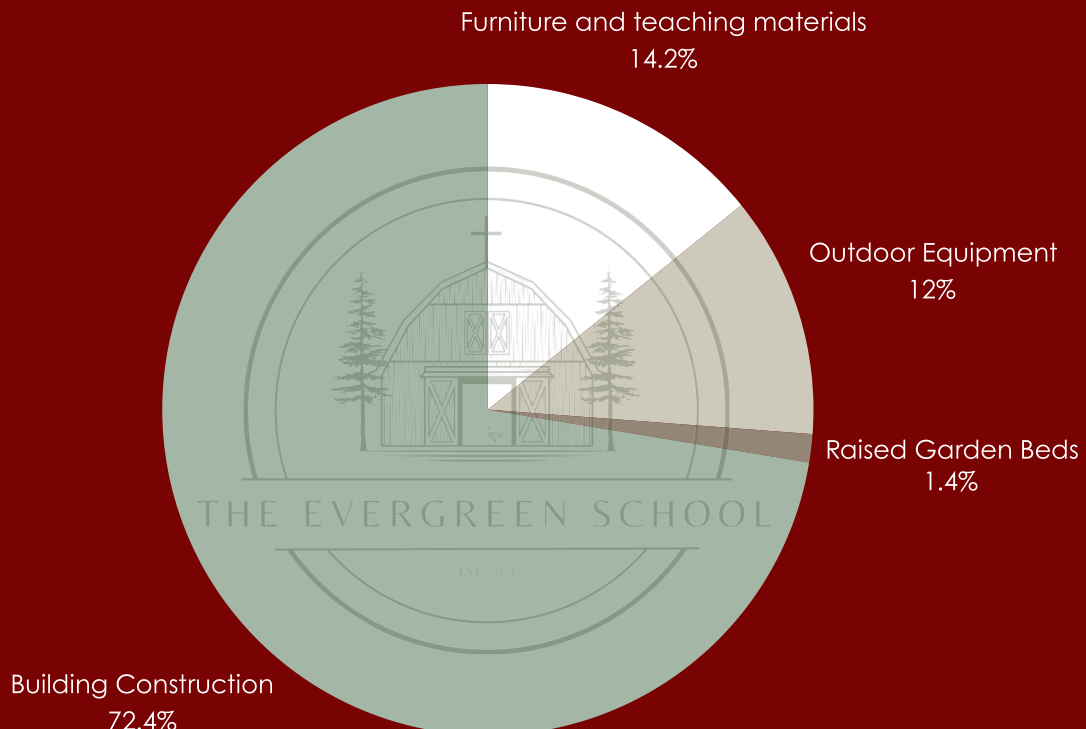
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

THE EVERGREEN SCHOOL STARTUP BUDGET

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION One-room schoolhouse, bathroom, kitchen	\$181,000
CLASSROOM FURNISHINGS AND TEACHING MATERIALS Tables, chairs, books, etc.	\$35,500
OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT Fencing, animal pens, tools	\$30,000
GARDEN Lumber, soil, seeds	\$3,500

Total Investment Opportunity:

\$250,000





LEVELS OF GIVING

Partnering Through Purposeful Giving

At Candlewood Foundation, we believe every gift has the power to bring our vision to life. By showing you exactly how each contribution moves the mission forward, we invite you to become an active participant in shaping a brighter future through the work of The Candlewood Foundation.

LEVELS	AMOUNT
HARVEST CIRCLE Join our circle of visionary supporters. Your leadership gift sustains and expands CF's mission, helping us plant deep roots in our community and shape future generations through family-focused, farm-enriched education.	\$10,000
HOMESTEAD HERO Fuel our mission to keep the family at the heart of education. This level directly supports staff, curriculum development, family engagement programs, and experiential learning that bridges home and school.	\$5,000
FARM FRIEND Empower immersive farm-based education by supporting animal enrichment programs, fencing, and student-led farm projects that foster leadership and teamwork.	\$2,500
GARDEN GUARDIAN Your gift helps cultivate outdoor learning spaces and edible gardens where students discover the glory of God's creation, nutrition, and patience through planting and harvesting.	\$1,000
BARNYARD BOOSTER Help our students get hands-on with farm life! This level contributes to animal care, feed, and farm maintenance--essential for teaching responsibility and stewardship.	\$500
MUSTARD SEED SOWER Support the roots of a well-rounded education. Your gift helps provide classroom supplies, farm tools, and nature-based learning materials that spark curiosity in every child.	\$250



IRS Determination Letter



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government Entities
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

CANDLEWOOD FOUNDATION INC
180 CANDLEWOOD DR
DAHLONEGA, GA 30533

Date:
01/15/2025
Employer ID number:
33-2425557
Person to contact:
Name: S. Baker
ID number: 1747331
Telephone: 877-829-5500
Accounting period ending:
December 31
Public charity status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:
Yes
Effective date of exemption:
November 25, 2024
Contribution deductibility:
Yes
Addendum applies:
No
DLN:
26053407004035

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities.

Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements



We believe strong families raise strong children and those children will shape the future of our society. If you share in this vision, we invite you to partner with us. Our dream of supporting families to raise God-fearing children who experience and know what is good, beautiful, and true is possible, but we can't do this alone; we need you. Your financial support will make a direct impact in the lives of children, their families, and our communities.

We are grateful for your gift, our families thank you, and the children thank you.



Phone Number
(770) 718-7269



Email Address
info@candlewoodacres.com



Website
www.candlewoodacres.com



Ways to Give

Checks payable to
Candlewood Foundation Inc

P.O. Box 1361 Dawsonville Hwy
Dawsonville, GA 30534

Zelle ID: info@candlewoodacres.com