

Winter 2024

Dear Friends of Covenant Children's Home.

As 2024 rushes to a close, we at Covenant Children's Home (CCH) are about to open a new chapter. We have just completed final inspections the week before Christmas and expect kids in residence starting in January if all goes smoothly.

The best part of a New Year is the anticipation of all that is possible. CCH will begin a special focus on sibling groups, as a "Large Foster Care Home" under current Florida guidelines. That means, children placed in care with us will not have to face separation from their brothers and sisters as well as their parents. This unfortunately happens all too often, because there are few places who can take larger families.

This has always been a part of our mission to help kids heal and overcome whatever they are dealing with. We continue to emphasize providing a healthy natural environment where they can heal and grow. Because we are a Christian home, supported by those who know the Lord, we know HE can heal all wounds. We will soon actively seek volunteers to help provide educational and tutoring support, recreational opportunities and activities and whatever it takes to restore "normalcy" for kids who often feel anything but.

Recently, a donor helped us to start a hydroponic garden, which is already producing plants that will soon net us strawberries and green beans. Once spring arrives, we will expand what we grow. Gardening is a great way to introduce kids who may have never seen how things are grown, how fresh fruits and vegetables start as seeds, turn into plants, and finally generate edible goodies without a lot of chemicals. Plus they taste so much better.

Join us as we grow in new ways to respond to the needs of our newest kids. Let me extend a thank you to all CCH friends, especially our long-term supporters. There's always room for more. Year-end giving can be beneficial to us both. Check out our website, drop us an email and let us know what you are interested in doing. Help us provide healing and hope to the next generation.

Wishing you the Best of Holidays, a Bright New Year and God Bless!

FRiley Smith

Riley Smith, Chr.