

St. Mary's Home

Heart & Soul

A St. Mary's Home Miracle



While eating hot dogs one day with her cousins, Chandra Brown made a life changing decision, not only for herself but for her cousins, too. As the Executive Director of Lifelines Family Counseling, a sister United Way Agency, Chandra realized that she spent her week days coun-

Thomas moved in with Chandra and attended Murphy High School. In May 2007, he graduated and now attends Auburn University, where he plans to major in criminal justice.

"I want to be an FBI agent, so that I can make the world a better place by putting bad guys behind bars," and Thomas jokingly adds, "to rescue cats from trees." "I look forward to receiving a good education and having a good time at Auburn." Thomas says.

Chandra admits, "Rearing a teenage boy is hard. I couldn't teach him how to be a man. My dreams for him are to grow up to be a healthy, happy adult, a good father and a good husband."

seling people about the importance of family and that she needed to live what she taught.

Chandra recounts the day she made her decision, "Thomas sang 'Hakuna Matata' from The Lion King while we discussed he and his sister's futures. Thomas worried about with whom and where he would live after leaving St. Mary's Home. He began counting the number of places he had lived in his 15 years of life, and at that moment, I decided he would live with me."

In foster care since the age of 2, Thomas had lived 12 to 16 places before moving to St. Mary's Home. Chandra's decision would end his worries about where he would live next, and as she says, "Let him worry about normal childhood things."



In reflecting on his time at St. Mary's Home, Thomas notes, "I learned that there are people who want you to fail in life and there are people who want you to succeed. Everyone at St. Mary's Home wanted me to succeed."

Chandra adds, "The people at St. Mary's Home really care." Chandra credits the staff at St. Mary's Home with giving Thomas structure, discipline, ritual, tradition and consistency—all the things he needed to make a successful transition to Chandra's home and then to college.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE		
Letter from the Administrator	2	7
Inside This Issue	3	8-9
Seeking All Angels	3	10-11
2006 Donations	4-7	12
Leave a Legacy		7
SMH Happenings		8-9
Memorials & Honors		10-11
Foundation News		12
Wish List		12

St. Mary's Home, a non-profit agency, publishes Heart & Soul three times each year.

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St. Mary's Home

Our mission is to support and to educate destitute orphans and children abandoned, neglected, or abused by their parents or children whose parents are unwilling or unable to support or educate them.

LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Have you ever thought of yourself as a miracle? Not just because you are human and unique but because you also have the ability to perform miracles. I believe that is something that we all know, but for whatever reason, we do not fully believe.

I was reminded of this by one of my colleagues at Presbyterian Children's Home. One of the children who lived at Presbyterian Children's Home had been severely abused, and she talked with my colleague about God. The child asked that if God love her so much where was He when she cried out to Him for many nights over a period of years. The reply was simple; my colleague told her that God was directing her to where she now lived in safety. Where she now lived was made possible by caring people that loved her even though they did not know her. Strangers were the answer to a child's prayer just as many of you are and all can be an answer to a child's prayer.

The foundation of St. Mary's Home was laid 169 years ago. That foundation gives us (and you) the chance to be a miracle for some of the children who live with us today. Without you, St. Mary's Home would not be possible. All

of the resources we receive are the results of hard work and prayers of others. That is true whether it is government funds made possible by taxes or donations made possible by the human heart. It is one human reaching out to another.

With your help, St. Mary's Home can provide that miracle in the form of a safe place to live that is free from abuse.

Every day in America, four children die from abuse. Last year in Alabama, there were over 31,000 official reports of child abuse. Research tells us that this is only a percentage of children in need in our State that receive help. Many of those children are praying today for a miracle tomorrow. With your help, St. Mary's Home can provide that miracle in the form of a safe place to live that is free from abuse. With your help, we can let these children realize that they too are a miracle. Perhaps, one day, they will be a miracle for someone else. Maybe, we will be the ones who need the miracle from them.



Andy Wynne and Jill Chenoweth receive a donation from the members of Al Hassan Grotto.

Are you on the e-list?

In 2008, St. Mary's Home plans to create an e-newsletter to send to its friends and supporters. This will keep you informed about the happenings at SMH and help reduce mailing costs. If you'd like to subscribe, please send your email address to Jill Chenoweth at jillc@stmaryshomemobile.org.

Inside this Issue

In this issue of *Heart and Soul*, the cover story about Thomas gets at the heart and soul of what the staff and volunteers do and have done at St. Mary's Home daily for 169 years. We care for children who need a safe shelter, who need to know that someone cares, who need to know that God loves them, and who need to know the generosity of the human heart. The staff, volunteers and donors provide this for our children.

Every staff member, volunteer and donor has been the answer to children's prayers. Many wonderful people have donated their time, talent, and tithe to SMH so that we could answer the prayers of these children. The list of donors in 2006 tells the tale of generosity and kindness. Every gift of every amount helps SMH give our children hope for their future.

As Andy Wynne noted, we have the power to create miracles everyday. To all who have worked with and for St. Mary's Home, you have performed miracles in the children's lives, so that one day, they too can perform miracles.

With your continued support, we can provide miracles for children today and for another 169 years. You have the power to answer a child's prayer, to change a child's life, and to change our community. Thank you for all that you do for the children at St. Mary's Home. From the children and staff at SMH, we wish you and your family a blessed holiday season filled with God's grace and love.

Thank you.

Seeking All Angels

St. Mary's Home seeks Angels to partner with us in our mission to serve abused, abandoned and neglected children. We need:

20,000 Angels to donate \$100 annually

or

10,000 Angels to donate \$200 annually

or

5,000 Angels to donate \$400 annually

or

2,500 Angels to donate \$800 annually

or

2,000 Angels to donate \$1,000 annually

or

1,000 Angels to donate \$2,000 annually

or

500 Angels to donate \$4,000 annually

Please consider helping St. Mary's Home reach its goal of raising \$2,000,000 annually to provide a safe shelter for children who have suffered things no humans should endure.

Please use the enclosed envelope to make your pledge to St. Mary's Home Foundation or contact Jill Chenoweth at 251.344.7733 or jillc@stmaryshomemobile.org.

2006 Donations to St. Mary's Home



On behalf of the children at St. Mary's Home, thank you to all of the generous donors who supported SMH in 2006. Since government assistance only covers approximately 60% of the care for the children, we rely on the generosity of individuals, businesses, civic groups, churches and other funders to cover the remaining cost of caring for the children. Thank you to every one who help us make the children's lives better and their futures brighter.

\$100,000 or above

United Way of
Southwest Alabama

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Catholic Charities
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\$10,000 to \$49,999

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Leave a Legacy

Consider leaving a gift to St. Mary’s Home in your will. Provided is a sample bequest clause that you can give to your attorney to update your will to include St. Mary’s Home.

SAMPLE CLAUSE

ARTICLE VI

I give, devise, and bequeath the sum of \$_____ to St. Mary’s Home Foundation, Inc. of Mobile, Alabama.
This request is to be delivered in cash and not in kind and is unrestricted.

SMH Happenings

SAVE THE DATE – Saturday, September 6, 2008

St. Mary's Home 1st Annual Rally for the Children Tennis Tournament

Copeland-Cox Tennis Center in Mobile

World Team Tennis Format – 3.0, 3.5, and 4.0 Teams
Women's Singles • Men's Singles • Mixed Doubles
Women's Doubles • Men's Doubles



presented by



For more information about playing, serving as a sponsor, or serving as a volunteer, please contact Jill Chenoweth at 251.344.7733 or jillc@stmaryshomemobile.org.



You're Invited

Please plan to attend the St. Mary's Home Christmas Program featuring our children on **Tuesday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Chapel at St. Mary's Home followed by dessert and punch in the Blue Room. For more information, please contact Andrea Rehm at 251.344.7733 or arehm@stmaryshomemobile.org.



St. Mary's Home Receives AT&T Grant

The AT&T Foundation awarded St. Mary's Home one of its 2007 Excelerator Technology Grants. St. Mary's will receive \$5400 to develop an interactive website to recruit volunteers and donors; to inform the community about abuse, neglect and abandonment issues; and to provide staff training. Please look for our new website in 2008 – www.stmaryshomemobile.org – and for our 2008 e-newsletters.

Online in 2008
www.stmaryshomemobile.org

Food World's Boosterplus Program

St. Mary's Home is participating in Food World's Boosterplus Program. SMH can earn money every time you shop at Food World with a Bonus Card. Simply clip the form below and give to the cashier the next time you shop at Food World. You only have to bring the enrollment form one time. This will enroll you until the end of the program year. Food World will donate 1% of the total purchases accumulated by St. Mary's Home supporters. By signing up for the Boosterplus program, you help us raise money for the things the children need.

ST. MARY_S HOME



Catholic Middle Schools' Yard Sales Benefit SMH

Last year, Annette Carwie organized a yard sale with the St. Ignatius Middle School students to benefit the Foundation. The yard sale successfully raised \$1583.08 last year. Melinda Seiter, the Giving Circles Chair, came up with the idea to include more Catholic Middle Schools and for the schools to hold the yard sales on the same day. On October 27, 2007, Corpus Christi, St. Ignatius and St. Mary middle school students held their yard sales. St. Ignatius broke their goal of \$2000 by raising \$2301. Corpus Christi, in their first year, raised \$1100. St. Mary School raised \$300 their first year. Thanks to the principals, teachers, staff, parents and children who gave of their time, talent and donations to make this event a huge success. Special thanks to Annette Carwie at St. Ignatius, to Lisa Finnorn at Corpus Christi, and to Angie Gaillard at St. Mary. Ladies, you did a great job organizing the items, volunteers and students.



Andy Wynne with students from Corpus Christi.



St. Mary's Home Gets a Facelift

Thanks to Murray Driskell at Canvas Products for giving St. Mary's Home a much needed facelift. Canvas Products donated the beautiful awnings that provide shelter for the children during inclement weather as they get into and out of vehicles.



Spring Hill College volunteers sell programs at the LGPA Mitchell Company Tournament of Champions. Thanks to the Mitchell Company and RAYCOM Sports, SMH received \$2262.41 from the program sales.



Wanda Gilmore, Bruno Events Team, sold items at the Tournament of Champions to benefit SMH. Bruno's donated \$578.00 to SMH from the sales.

Memorials & Honors—WINTER 2007

St. Mary's Home supporters make memorial and honor gifts of loved ones, friends or business associates. Family members often suggest gifts to St. Mary's Home in lieu of sending flowers to memorial or funeral services. Frequently, donors make memorial and honor gifts on holidays such as Christmas to honor their beloved, friends or business associates. Memorial and honor gifts provide a remembrance of loved ones while supporting the mission of St. Mary's Home.

The following 3 groups of children asked their guests to make donations to SMH in lieu of giving them birthday gifts. SMH greatly appreciates these young ladies' and gentlemen's civic leadership. Many people donated cash or toys, so we do not have the complete list of donors, but thanks to all who helped these children celebrate their birthdays by helping us help our children.

In honor of Sidney McAleer, Patricia Herring, Adelaide Bell

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Dr. & Mrs. David Harris
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Mr. & Mrs. Pat McAleer
Dr. Ann Pond
Mr. & Mrs. John Sheldon

In honor of Chandler & Katherine Lersch's 8th birthday

Mr. & Mrs. Leon Herring
Mr. & Mrs. Mike McAleer

In honor of Ann Murray Farrell's, Virginia Hannahan's, Drew Merriweather's, Stephen Russ's, & Cecilia Woodford's 7th birthday

Dr. Maureen Baldy & John Williams
Helen Lacy Black & William T. King, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Deighton
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Mr. & Mrs. John Robinson, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Wetzel
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Woodford

In honor of

Matthew, Will & Ellie Aronson
Mr. & Mrs. David Conrad

In memory of Ruby Barnett
Jill Chenoweth

Dr. & Mrs. Michael Chenoweth

In memory of Elizabeth Roe Barrett
Ms. Anne Fetorazzi

In memory of Judy Bendel
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne
Mr. & Mrs. William Wynne

In memory of

Mr. & Mrs. A.G. Booker, Sr.
Ms. Bonnie Gilbert

In memory of Edward P. Carney
Ms. Loretta Clayton

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Dr. & Mrs. Michael Chenoweth
Jill Chenoweth
M. Sean Chenoweth

In memory of J. Everett Cobb

John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In memory of David Christopher Coley
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In memory of David R. Coley, III
Ms. Joan Coley

In honor of Stephen & Sydney Conrad
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In memory of Kate Courtney
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In memory of Claire Eileen Crowley
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In memory of Father Frank Donnellan
Ms. Martha Duncan
Ms. Andrea Rehm
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Glen Douglas
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**In memory of Teresa Dumas'
Parents & Brother**
Teresa Dumas

In memory of Charlie Egbert
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Braswell

**In memory of
Alice Hall Blasingame Engwall**
Mr. & Mrs. Emil Graf

In memory of Joseph M. Flynn
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Weinacker

**In memory of
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas A. Ford, Sr.**
Mr. Mike Ford

In memory of Buddy Gaillard
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In memory of Richebourg Gaillard
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Geppert
Dr. & Mrs. A. Jeffrey Zieman

In memory of Raymond Globetti
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Gregory Globetti

In honor of Carole Greene

Doug, Renea, Laura Hampton, Douglas, & Sarah Frances Greene

In honor of Joe Gottstine

Terri, Billy, Sam, & Will Magruder

In memory of Chris Haddox

John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In honor of Paul Hagerty

Ms. JoAnne Johnson

In memory of

Mrs. J. Max (Mary Frances) Harrison

Mr. & Mrs. Emil Graf
Mr. & Mrs. G. Hallett McDonough
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Rowan
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Sims
Dr. & Mrs. Claude Warren

In memory of Joan Huettemann

Ms. Mary Gilmore

In honor of Lucas Hufnagel

Mr. & Mrs. David Conrad

In memory of Helen Hutson

Mr. & Mrs. William Wynne

In memory of Morgan Devenice Ikner

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Green

In memory of

Mr. & Mrs. Jessie W. Jackson, Sr.
Ms. Bonnie Gilbert

In memory of Bill Jernigan

Mr. & Mrs. Jason Veasey

In honor of Marie Jernigan

Mr. & Mrs. Jason Veasey

In memory of David Keesee

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Woodford

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. John Kintz

Michael, Shay, Jeffrey & Rachel Kintz

In memory of Peggy Kuykendall

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Baker

In memory of Matthew M. Laws, Jr.

Mrs. Grace N. Laws Rehm Noble

In memory of Patsy O'Neill Lenaghan

Dr. & Mrs. J. M. O'Neill

In memory of Miss Liz

Elizabeth Mae Tower Pettaway
employed by St. Mary's Home
from 1971 to 2005.



In memory of Shir-Lee Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Gritter

In memory of Virginia Louden
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Henry

In memory of Mrs. Rancey Luce (Nani)
Miss Corinna McClelland
Miss Elizabeth McClelland

In honor of Mr. Rancey Luce
Miss Corinna McClelland
Miss Elizabeth McClelland

In memory of George Mahoney
Dr. & Mrs. Jerry Bush
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Coffey
Mr. & Mrs. Willard Foster
Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Hrabe
Ms. Susan Lursen
Mr. & Mrs. William McGlasson
Mobile Women's Duplicate Bridge Club
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Nichols

In honor of Dorothy Malchow
Ms. Karen Hamilton

In memory of Jean Marx
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. John McClelland
Miss Corinna McClelland
Miss Elizabeth McClelland

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Buddy McDade
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Rand

In memory of Ruth Thira Cazalas Moore
Ms. Sylvia Warren

In memory of William Joseph Moore, Sr.
Ms. Sylvia Warren

In memory of Dr. Donald C. Mosley, Jr.
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Woodford

In memory of Noah Moss
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Cumbie

In memory of Dr. John Mostellar
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In memory of Herbert Noletto
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Tim Brown

In memory of Felton Owens
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne

In memory of Ida Parkman
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Sheridan

In memory of Wiley Parkman
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Sheridan

In memory of Mac Patrick
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In honor of Rosemary Primeaux
Ms. Margie Casey

In memory of Mr. M. F. Primeaux
Ms. Rosemary Primeaux

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Pond
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sanders

In memory of Janet Rehm Potter
Ms. Kay Rehm

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Tony Rand's grandson, Brandon
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Rand

In honor of Andrea Rehm
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rouse

In memory of Bobby Rehm
Ms. Kay Rehm

In memory of Charles L. Rehm, Jr.
Mrs. Grace Rehm Noble
Ms. Kay Rehm

In memory of Eddie Rehm
Ms. Emily Rehm
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Rehm
Mr. Gary Rehm, Jr.
Ms. Kay Rehm

In memory of Jane Schear-Richards
John K. (Robbie) & Lynn B. Robinson

In memory of Kenneth Robicheaux
Mr. & Mrs. John Tew

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Edward Russ
Doug, Renea, Laura Hampton, Douglas, & Sarah Frances Greene

In honor of Drama Saint
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Veasey

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. John Saint
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Veasey

In memory of Marion Griser & George Fred Schmol
Pat Cannon

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Sharpe
Michael, Shay, Jeffrey & Rachel Kintz

In honor of Stella Sharpe
Michael, Shay, Jeffrey & Rachel Kintz

In memory of Morris Sheridan
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Sheridan

In memory of Margo Mostellar Sullivan
Dr. & Mrs. J.M. O'Neill
Dr. Francis W. Sullivan

In honor of Annie & Frank Summersell
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Clay
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Costello
Ms. Elizabeth String

In memory of Jim Summersell
Jill Chenoweth
Dr. & Mrs. James Harrison
Mr. & Mrs. M. Kenny Muscat
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne

In memory of Barbara McDonough Sykes
Mr. Ernest Sykes

In memory of Doris Vergie Tait
Mr. & Mrs. Donald H. Tucker, Jr.

In memory of Mrs. Jessie Dawson Terry
Mr. & Mrs. M. Kenny Muscat

In memory of Lois Todd
Mr. & Mrs. Chandler Lunceford

In memory of Curtis Tubb
Ms. Mary Gilmore

Donate now
in memory or honor
of loved ones, friends
or business associates
for Christmas.

SMH will send a
letter acknowledging
your gift before
Christmas.

In honor of Texie Veasey
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Veasey

In memory of Dr. Gaylord T. Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Weinacker
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Weinacker

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Delores Willcox
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Veasey

In honor of Sarah Wilder
Mr. & Mrs. W. Ramsey Stuart, III

In honor of Hallie Wynne
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne
Mr. & Mrs. William Wynne

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. George W. Yarborough
Ms. Barbara Corte

In honor of the St. Mary's Home Board of Directors
Jill Chenoweth
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne

In honor of the Saint Mary's Home Foundation Board of Directors
Jill Chenoweth
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wynne



Foundation News

If you have never experienced the true meaning of Christmas, then you have never visited St. Mary's Home during the holidays. The holidays present a busy time at St. Mary's Home. Many of the donations we receive come in at the end of the year. The staff and I feel overwhelmed by the generosity of the people in our community. Many individuals and groups purchase Christmas gifts and host parties for our children. Many donors make their annual donations at the end of the year. The kindness of the community really reflects the true meaning of Christmas.

For those of us who work at St. Mary's Home, we have the advantage of witnessing the Christmas spirit throughout the year. One donor's child, who turned 4 this year, donated all but 4 of his birthday gifts to our children for their birthdays. His sister held a joint birthday party with some of her friends and asked that attendees donate money and gifts to SMH in lieu of bringing them gifts. Several children have done the same thing in the past 2 years. A group of boys from St. Ignatius School held a lemonade stand to benefit St. Mary's Home on one of their days off from school.

These children acted out of kindness and acted selflessly to help their fellow children in need. They acted in the spirit of Christmas.

Because of the kindness and graciousness of the community, the children at St. Mary's Home experience the love of Christ. The community has answered the prayers of children in need for 169 years. Without you, we could not provide a safe shelter for the children who have experienced abuse, neglect and abandonment. Thank you for providing the spirit of Christmas to all at St. Mary's Home throughout the year.

The children and staff at St. Mary's Home wish you and all you love a very merry Christmas and happy New Year filled with God's grace and love.

Thank you!

Jill Chenoweth
Executive Director
Saint Mary's Home Foundation

For more information about what you can do to help SMH, please contact Jill Chenoweth at 251-344-7733 or jillc@stmaryshomemobile.org.



Wish List

This year, St. Mary's Home celebrates its 169th Anniversary. During this year, our agency plans to return to its roots. We began as an agency founded by a dedicated group of women who saw a need and filled it. As a community agency, St. Mary's Home wants to strengthen its connection to the Alabama community which has supported this agency for 169 years. Currently, the needs of our children outweigh the amount we receive from our funding sources. In order to increase and expand our services, we need

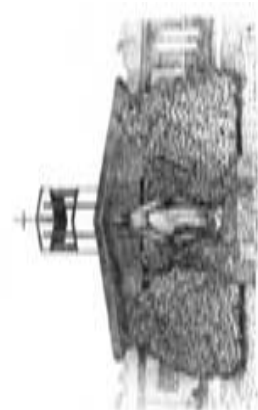
your help. *Together, we can shape the future—one child at a time.* Please see our wish list:

1. **Invitations to speak to civic and church groups.**
2. **Donors to tithe to St. Mary's Home.**
3. **Foster families for children who no longer need the services of St. Mary's Home.**
4. **Ambassadors to serve as political voices for the children of Alabama, especially those at St. Mary's Home.**

Please contact Jill Chenoweth at 251-344-7733 or jillc@stmaryshomemobile.org about how you can help us help our children.

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