



Many thanks to the following groups for giving their time, funds, and resources to our kids.

♥ Jennifer Withrow from Perdue Farms donated 25 roasters.



♥ Essex Homes provided dinner and gifts for our kids.

♥ Mt. Mourne Church of God donated gifts for the residents.



♥ Crossway Community Church hosted snacks, Christmas music, and a white elephant gift exchange.



♥ Robby Stanley with Discovery Place taught the residents about the science behind catapults. Each resident then built their own catapult.



♥ Wallace Church of God donated money as a Christmas gift to all residents and staff.

♥ Phil's Deli delivered gifts for the residents.



♥ David Cooper spent time playing basketball with our boys in Magnolia Cottage.

♥ Ashley & Steven Spoon and their family took our residents shopping at Concord Mills. Each resident received \$100 to spend.



♥ Rising Saints shared their testimonies with the residents and provided ice cream and a prayer doll for each resident.



Needs List

Laundry Products

Clorox 2 (bleach for colors)

Household Cleaning Items

Glass Top Stove Cleaner
Dishwasher Detergent
Glass Cleaner
Bathroom Cleaner
Clorox Wipes
Disinfectant Spray

Trash Bags

13 gal. tall kitchen bags
33 & 39-gal. trash bags

Toiletries & Personal Items

Feminine Napkins
Men's Body Wash
Women's Body Wash
Shampoo & Conditioner
Hand Lotion
Size 4 Diapers
Tissues
Pampers brand diapers & wipes

Special Needs

Light bulbs
Shower liners
Gas Mix for Weed-Eater
.95 Weed-Eater String

School Supplies

Composition Notebooks
Black Pens
Scotch Tape

Alert! Alert! Alert!

Canned food (not commercial size), dressings, condiments, spices, etc. This offsets the food expense in the cottages.

Gift cards are always a great blessing! We can use them for a variety of things, such as clothes, toiletries, personal items, school supplies, etc.

Contact Us

OUR HOME Church of God Children's

Home of NC
3485 Orphanage Cir
Concord, NC 28027
(704) 788-1164
home@coqch.org



OUR NEWS

From Resident to NASCAR Pit Crew

In early November 2016 I was contacted by Jessica Ruffin, Senior Coordinator of NASCAR Digital Media. Jessica writes for NASCAR.com and was doing an article about Charles Browne, a former resident of the Church of God Children's Home. She requested a meeting to get some background information on Charles for her article. I appreciate Jessica allowing me to share parts of this story with you, but I encourage you to go to http://www.nascar.com/en_us/news-media/articles/2016/12/23/kyle-busch-charles-browne-relationship-pizza-party-dover.html to read the entire story. It

will bless you to read about this special young man and the positive influence an individual can have on another by simply spending some time with them.

Shortly after Charles arrived at Our Home in 2006, Kyle Busch, the 2015 NASCAR Sprint Cup champion, hosted a party for our residents. Charles attended to enjoy the pizza and meet Kyle. They hit it off and a relationship began that had a lasting influence on Charles. He began following Kyle's career and became interested in NASCAR. Charles gathered a collection of memorabilia that became very special to him.

After leaving Our Home, Charles became a very good athlete and was hoping to attend college on a football scholarship until he was injured in high school. The foster family he had lived with for eight years encouraged him to find something else that he loved to do. That was easy for Charles; he loved NASCAR. Because of his love for sports and a desire to remain physically fit, he met someone at a gym who opened the door for him to pursue his dream of a career in NASCAR.

Charles' dream to work in NASCAR

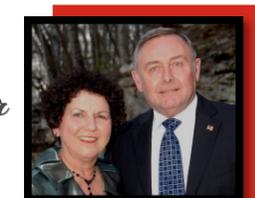
has become a reality. Jessica wrote, "After one visit (to the Xcalibur Pit School), Browne 'fell in love' and enrolled in January 4, 2016." According to Jessica, "He is traveling to the race track every week and pitting for multiple teams in the XFINITY, Camping World Truck, and ARCA series races."

Charles reconnected with Kyle Busch on pit road at Dover International Speedway in October 2015. I would not be surprised to hear some day that Charles Browne is part of Kyle's pit crew, a celebrity race car driver who took the time to invest in a young resident at the Church of God Children's Home.

We are so thankful for those individuals, churches, and businesses who invest in the future of children. God only knows the impact of your time, donations, and prayers. Our prayer is that God will bless you for your efforts and bless those who receive your love.

Mike & Gwen

Walker



BECOME A PARTNER

- 120 Club:** \$10 per month
- Sponsor a Child:** \$25 per month. Receive a picture of a child, limited information and ability to correspond with him/her.
- Sponsor a Teen Mother/Baby:** \$50 per month. Receive a picture, limited information and the ability to correspond with the mother.
- Sponsor a Cottage:** \$100 per month. Receive information about a cottage in a monthly letter from the house parents. Correspond with and visit your cottage.



goodbye ♡

Helen Keller once said, "So long as the memory of certain beloved friends lives in my heart, I shall say that life is good."

For the staff and residents at Our Home, life is good because of our friend, Larry Christian. For the past fourteen years we have known Mr. Larry in a professional capacity as case manager, assistant director, and training facilitator. Yet those austere titles lack the warmth, truth, and depth of how our hearts have known him, as friend, counselor, confidante, and servant. His deeds here can be described by the job titles assigned to him, but his effect on those who have known him are best described by what they have felt when around him: kindness, generosity, joy, gentleness, firmness when needed, and grace when it was needed even more. When once

asked his goal in working with children, he noted his desire "to see them grow in spirit, knowledge, and emotional well-being." And they have.

Father Time's hourglass has run out far too quickly on Mr. Larry's season as a staff member at Our Home, but time will never run out on him as a member of Our Family. The wind has shifted and his course is now set in a new direction, one that leaves us saddened as we say goodbye, yet also all the better for having known him. As we wish Mr. Larry Godspeed, we are reminded of the words of T.S. Eliot, "To make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from." The end to Mr. Larry's time with us is but the starting point for those in his future who will recall their memories of him



SATURDAY, APRIL 29

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA RIDERS

Kickstands up at 10:00 am
Meet at McDonald's, Lillington, NC
102 W. Cornelius Harnett Blvd
Intersection of Hwy 401 & Hwy 210

Contact

Pastor Hollis Fedrick 910 797-5823
Pastor Phil Clark 919 525-4547
pastorphil336@gmail.com

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA RIDERS

Kickstands up at 10:00 am
Meet at Lincoln Church of God
1435 Riverview Road Lincolnton, NC

Contact

Danny Houser 704 913-5307
houserd12@gmail.com

Tour the campus and meet the residents, followed by a cook-out at 1:00 pm. Sponsors of the ride suggest pastors consider receiving an offering the Sunday before the ride to present to Our Home.

Last Call



If your church or organization still has shoes that need to be picked up please let us know as soon as possible. We have collected shoes from several sites across the state and we do not want anyone to be missed. Call us at 704 788-1164 to make arrangements for your shoes to be included in the final count. We hope to announce the results of the fundraiser in our newsletter soon. Thanks again to everyone who collected or donated shoes to raise money for our kids.



A few months ago we shared our 1983 Chevy truck was having health issues. This truck is very important to us as it is used regularly for moving supplies and equipment as well as for landscaping projects. A volunteer has offered to fix the truck with no charge. However, we still need to purchase the parts. The cost for all needed parts totals \$800. We sincerely appreciate anyone who desires to help us fund this repair.

