

Building Families for Children

FY22 Annual Report



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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Building Families for Children,

Over the last few years, our world has changed in profound ways—some great, some tragic, many unforeseen, and, without a doubt, things will likely never return completely to the way they were. Throughout these changes, we have worked hard to ensure that our mission moves forward; that our initiatives and tools evolve to meet the varying needs of youth and families facing crisis situations. Has it been a challenge? Yes, but our work has felt meaningful in ways that truly matter more than ever before.

It takes a village to care for these children. We are so incredibly grateful to all the people who come together in support of those whom we serve: parents, social workers, churches, advocates, volunteers, friends, and guardians. We must never forget that our community is a fabric made up of individuals and families woven together. If we allow this fabric to fray, the entire community weakens.

The population we serve is a vulnerable one, with many inherent challenges stacked against them, and yet, they are a group who have strengths beyond most. It is our duty to stand up and reaffirm that the lives of the children and families we serve matter. To that end, we have put every ounce of our energy into ensuring they are afforded access to those things they need, have the advocacy they deserve to protect their rights, and amplify their voices.

To all who have supported us this year in our mission to make a real difference for children and families, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts and we thank you in advance for your continued support. As you all know, every penny counts and every penny makes a difference!

As it is stated in Romans 8:28, “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

Together, we are making a difference and we cannot do it without you!



Sincerely,

Cheri C. Sanzi
Executive Director
cheri@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Letter from the President of the Board of Trustees

Dear Friends of Building Families for Children,

For over 100 years, the ministry of Building Families for Children (previously Baptist Families) has served children and families in need as Jesus modeled for us. The staff, volunteers, and board of trustees demonstrate Christlike service out of love for our Savior and concern to care for others. Galatians 5:22-23 states, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” It is remarkable to see how the Building Families for Children community lives this out every day. Not only has our ministry provided thousands of children and families with love, physical, and emotional resources to get back on their feet, it has provided the spiritual and eternal focus by carrying out the Great Commission.

The Bible confirms the importance of caring for children in Psalm 127:3 because “children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him” and Ephesians 6:4 instructs us to “diligently teach the scriptures to our children.” As we prepare for the next 100 years through our strategic planning process, we are committed to witnessing and sharing the Love of Christ as Jesus modeled for us. What can be more glorious than knowing all who we serve will unite in Christ for eternity because of Building Families for Children ministry?

Inflation, COVID, and other demands have created challenges for nonprofits such as Building Families for Children. However, you have blessed Building Families for Children by your faithful prayer and giving of time and resources. As our partners and volunteers, we can remain strong advocates for Christ because of your generosity. Your gifts allow us to serve and share the love of Christ to hundreds of children and families each year. Thank you, and we prayerfully request you continue to support and grow the Building Families for Children ministry. Your generosity of partnering, referring, volunteering, and giving is the catalyst to serve Maryland’s most vulnerable children and families with an eternal focus. As we prepare for the next 100 years, we are assured that Building Families for Children is being driven by the Will of God as we aim to follow His direction to serve others as His Son, Jesus, served us.

As 1 Corinthians 13:7 says, “Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”



Sincerely,

Dr. Steven W. Burnett
President of the Board of Trustees
sburnett@mcdaniel.edu

Agency Overview

Building Families for Children is a faith-based nonprofit with a mission to “share the love of Christ by helping Maryland’s most vulnerable children thrive in families.” We believe that every child deserves to grow up in a safe, nurturing family. Since our founding in 1920, we’ve continued to provide services that make that a reality for many children in Maryland! We currently provide trauma-informed care through three programs: CHOSEN Treatment Foster Care, Safe Families for Children®, and Therapeutic Family Services.

Mission

To share the love of Christ
by helping Maryland's
most vulnerable children
thrive in families.



Vision

A safe, nurturing family
for every child.
A supportive, thriving community
for every family.

Values

Christ Centered
Family Focused
Community Minded
Strengths Based
Integrated
Stewardship





CHOSEN TREATMENT FOSTER CARE

About CHOSEN

CHOSEN At a Glance:

Youth Served: 50

Youth Achieved Permanency Goals: 9 (2 moved to pre-adoptive homes, 6 Reunified, 1 moved into Independent Living Apartments)

Parents reporting a decrease in negative behaviors stemming from childhood trauma since placement: 53%

Parents reporting satisfaction with the difference they are making in the lives of the youth they have served: 81%



Through our Children of Special and Exceptional Need (CHOSEN) program, we provide family-based care for children in treatment foster care who, due to childhood trauma, require more than the basic care and support that regular foster care provides. We train foster parents to understand how trauma affects development and equip them with tools and support so the children who are the most likely to be placed in an institutional setting are able to grow and thrive in a family!

Studies show that many youth in foster care have poor long-term outcomes when compared with peers. They are more likely to drop out of school, become teen parents, and experience homelessness.

So what can be done to help our most vulnerable children? Our treatment model, extensive training and support for foster parents, advocacy for permanency, and preparation for independence are breaking the generational cycles of trauma, poverty, and isolation.

Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI) is the attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention we use to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children. While TBRI is based on years of attachment, sensory processing, and neuroscience research, the heartbeat of TBRI is connection.



Demographics:

Gender: 56% female, 44% male

Race/Ethnicity: 49% Black, 31% Caucasian, 11% Hispanic, 9% Multi-Racial

Average Age: 12 years old

Impact Story: CHOSEN Treatment Foster Care

Many of the youth in BFC's program are teens who are preparing for their next chapter, they may be attending college or moving into an Independent Living program.

While in the care of Ms. Anderson, her BFC treatment foster mom, Avery learned two important skillsets: independent living and self-advocacy. Ms. Anderson prides herself in teaching and motivating her youth to be independent. During the two years she was in foster care with BFC, Avery and Ms. Anderson worked on budgeting, saving money, washing dishes and clothes, keeping her personal space clean, among other things. It was crucial that Avery learned these skills as she would be living independently in the future. Avery also learned how to advocate for herself and her own needs. Prior to coming into care, Avery hardly spoke up for herself and allowed others to speak for her. Avery's team, especially Ms. Anderson, continuously supported and encouraged her to advocate for herself and the things she needed.

One of the ways Avery advocated for herself was during her college admissions process. Avery excelled academically and dreamed of attending an out-of-state university. She was accepted into several universities. However, during her decision process the Department of Social Services informed her that if she went out of state for school, she would no longer receive benefits or resources from the State of Maryland. Avery did not let this news stop her from following her dreams. With the help of her foster Mom, and Brianna, her BFC social worker, Avery submitted applications for every scholarship she could find.

"Avery was determined. She knew how to use her resources to make sure she set herself up for success," reported Avery's BFC social worker, Brianna. "She was so driven to achieve her dream of going to Ohio State University and we all knew she was going to get there somehow."

Avery received multiple scholarships and grants to cover her tuition, room and board, books, and other living expenses. She was awarded the Family Fellowship, which is sponsored by Together We Rise (now Foster Love) and Fund II Foundation. In addition to the financial funding of \$12,000 a year over five years, she was provided a laptop and iPad. Through the fellowship, Avery will also receive wrap-around family services to ensure that she will have housing for summer and winter breaks, when many dorms close. The fellowship also provides professional development and a mentorship program to ensure that she is prepared for the modern workforce when she graduates.

Avery is currently a freshman at her first choice school, The Ohio State University. We are so proud of her and know that this is just the beginning of a very bright future!



Story submitted by:

Brianna Jeffries
Treatment Social Worker - CHOSEN
brianna@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org



SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN® (SFFC)

Letter from the Safe Families for Children® Program Director

Dear Friends and Supporters of Safe Families,

This past year has been a different kind of year for Safe Families for Children® in Maryland. While our number of hostings for the year was down, God was still at work using us in other ways in Columbia and the surrounding areas. We witnessed God miraculously provide the funds for a single mom to purchase a car and a year of insurance coverage. We saw Him provide school supplies for over 371 children in Maryland through generous donations from Building Families supporters. We also witnessed God provide funds for Christmas gifts for over 32 children in Maryland through generous donors. Our volunteers came through, time and again, to provide the resources families needed as they were facing hardship.

We saw God at work in deep and meaningful ways in the lives of the families we served. One of our families connected with the church of their host family. They experienced God's grace through baptism in the church and they continue to attend the church.

As I reflect back on this past year, the words from **Philippians 4:19** resonate in my mind:

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

God is always at work and up to something good in our lives, and we will continue to testify of all His wondrous works!



Sincerely,

Kim Parsons
Program Director - Safe Families for Children®
kim@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

About Safe Families for Children®

SFFC At a Glance:

Children Hosted: 10 (628 nights total)

Average Length of Stay: 58 days

Referral Sources: 30% Community Agencies, 19% Department of Social Services, 19% Self-Referral, 15% Medical Facility, 4% Mental Health Services, 2% Churches, 12% Other

Primary Reason for Hosting: 40% Lack of Family Support, 20% Mental Health Crisis, 20% Substance Use/Abuse, 10% Homelessness, 10% Respite.



When crisis strikes, many of us rely on relatives and friends for support. For some parents, this is not an option, which leaves them vulnerable. Safe Families for Children® (SFFC) mobilizes a network of compassionate volunteers to circle around families in need. Host Family volunteers provide a safe, temporary home for children. This allows parents to focus on crisis situations, like homelessness, without worrying about losing parental custody. Family Friend and Family Coach volunteers provide an extra layer of support for both the Host Family and the parents receiving help. This Circle of Support provides the safety net many vulnerable families need to keep children out of the foster care system. Relationships formed through SFFC are long-term, so parents have someone to call if a crisis strikes again.

The key components of SFFC are:

Parents facing crisis situations voluntarily place children in our care.

Volunteers form a Circle of Support around families in need. Some host children while others help parents achieve stability.

Churches recruit and support volunteers, as well as refer families in need.

Community Partners provide additional services needed to help families achieve long-term stability.



Demographics:

Gender: 60% male, 40% female

Race/Ethnicity: 60% Caucasian, 30% African American, 10% Other

Average Age: 7



THERAPEUTIC FAMILY SERVICES (TFS)

About Therapeutic Family Services



TFS At a Glance:

Families Served: 9

Sessions Completed: 229

“The goal is to see the precious child that exists beneath the survival strategies and to let them know that we see them.”

- Dr. Karyn Purvis, co-creator of Trust-Based Relational Intervention®

Our therapists work with children of all ages and their caregivers to address emotional and behavioral difficulties resulting from trauma. We help families of all types (adoptive, foster, and biological) to connect, heal, and thrive together!

Childhood trauma makes a lasting impact on the brain, hindering a child’s ability to learn, grow, and form healthy attachments with others. Our therapists’ approach is based on the principles of **Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI)**, a holistic, attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children. Our therapists may also integrate other interventions and tools into treatment to best serve each client. In addition to TBRI, some of the other modalities our therapists use in treatment are:

Mindfulness

Theraplay

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)

Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT)

Caregivers are actively engaged in each therapy session. Both caregivers and children learn the TBRI principles and skills so they can use them at home and enjoy lasting, positive change in their relationships.

We're looking for additional therapists to join the TFS team so we can help more families on the journey to connection and healing.

Learn more online at: www.buildingfamiliesforchildren.org/employment

Financial Donors

\$10,000-\$20,000

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous (4)
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Ely

CHURCHES

Lake Shore Baptist Church

\$5,000 - \$9,999

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous (3)
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Adornetto
Mr. C. Ray Mann
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh P. McCormick, III
Estate of Ms. Juanita C. Rogers
Mr. Duane Wilson

CHURCHES

LifePoint Church

\$2,500 - \$4,999

INDIVIDUALS

Mr. and Mrs. Jason Float
Mr. and Mrs. Willem Folkerts
Dr. Louis and Dr. Carol Owens
Ms. Alexandra S. Patchan
Ms. Nancy Singleton
Mrs. Jane Ann Welch

CHURCHES

Covenant Fellowship
First Baptist Church of Beltsville
Grace Community Church
Long Green Baptist Church

ORGANIZATIONS

Becton, Dickinson and Company

\$1,000 - \$2,499

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous (1)
Ms. Julia Brancato
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Childs, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Curlin
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Farace
Mr. John Glennon
Mr. Blake Langford
Mr. Nadar and Ms. Packiyathan
Mr. Arthur T. Queen
Ms. Shirley Schrier
Mr. Michael Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Thibault
Mr. Mark Widmeyer
Mrs. Lois S. Wilson

CHURCHES

Bethel Korean Presbyterian Church
Chapelgate Presbyterian Church
Colonial Baptist Church
Emmanuel Baptist Church of Gambrills
Jessup Baptist Church
Mt. Airy Baptist Church
Redland Baptist Church
South Columbia Baptist Church

ORGANIZATIONS

APL Federal Credit Union
The Benevity Community Impact Fund

\$500 - \$999

INDIVIDUALS

Mrs. Tania Alvarez-Kemper
Dr. Steve Burnett
Ms. Linda Callahan
Dr. and Mrs. Larry Cheng
Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Clark, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne F. Francischetti

Financial Donors

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Mrs. Monlisa L. Smith-Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Shaun Smithson
Ms. Nancy L. Beck
Mr. Charles Zeitler

CHURCHES

Bethany Church, Columbia
Calverton Baptist Church
Colesville Baptist Church
Elvaton Baptist Church
First Baptist Church of Suitland
Glen Burnie Baptist Church
Loch Raven Baptist Church

ORGANIZATIONS

Pledgeling Foundation

\$100 - \$499

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Mr. and Mrs. Erik Apahnis
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Ms. Dorothy E. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Balsamo
Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Bennett
Mr. and Mrs. Larry A. Bohn
Ms. Elizabeth Boteler
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Esters
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Mr. Thomas Ferraro
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Gara
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Ms. Sarah Powell
Mr. Dave Rees
Mr. Tom and Mrs. Katy Sappington
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Trigger
Ms. Lydia Vickery
Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Weiss
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Wiseman
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce W. Woodford

CHURCHES

Carsins Run Baptist Church
Cockeysville Baptist Church
Inner Light Family Ministry
White Plains Baptist Church

ORGANIZATIONS

Amazon Smile
American Chemistry Council
Lisa M. Ott, LCSW-C, LLC
Network for Good
United Way of Central Maryland

Financial Donors

Up to \$99

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous (1)
Mr. Robert L. Bates
Ms. Faith Booker
Mr. Damon Boughamer
Ms. Belle Chu
Ms. Laura Cooney
Mr. and Mrs. Freddie W. Elliott
Ms. Dana P. Falkenstine
Jesse Feldman
Ms. Catherine Fields
Ms. Keisha Foster
Mrs. Kimberlee Glinka
Mrs. Elnora Holmes
Mr. and Mrs. Masahiro Iwata
Mikal McCartney
Ms. Melissa Mohip
Ms. Denise Morgan
Ms. Analiza Pesebre
Mr. Zachary Piercy
Ms. Kathryn Richter
Mr. Will Riney
Ms. Rhonda Schum
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stumme
Mrs. Lucy J. Yutzy

CHURCHES

Glenn Dale Baptist Church

ORGANIZATIONS

Frontstream
Lambda Gamma Zeta
TRUIST

Grants



Howard County Community Service Partnership
\$32,836



Community Foundation of Howard County
\$7500



ROAD FORWARD
RESPECT | OPPORTUNITY | ACHIEVEMENT | DIVERSITY



Enterprise Holdings Road Forward
\$3000

Thank you to our donors and grantors for your ongoing support and generosity!

Financials

Assets

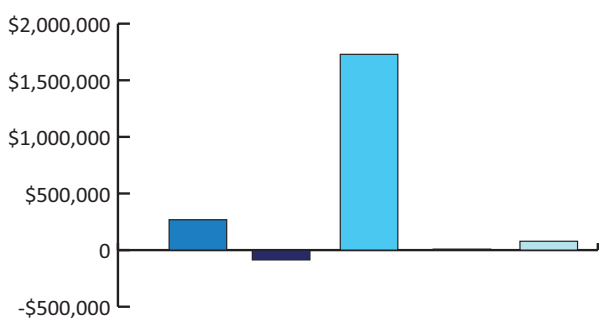
Cash.....	\$	233,181
Investments.....		710,298
Accounts Receivable.....		127,204
Prepaid Expenses.....		37,658
Furniture and Equipment, Net.....		<u>27,542</u>
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$	<u><u>1,135,883</u></u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

LIABILITIES		Liabilities
Accounts Payable.....	\$	73,436
Accrued Salaries and Benefits.....		51,622
Deferred revenue.....		<u>700</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	\$	<u><u>125,758</u></u>
NET ASSETS		Net Assets
Without donor restrictions.....	\$	868,569
With donor restrictions.....		<u>141,556</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS.....	\$	<u><u>1,010,125</u></u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS.....	\$	<u><u>1,135,883</u></u>

Revenue

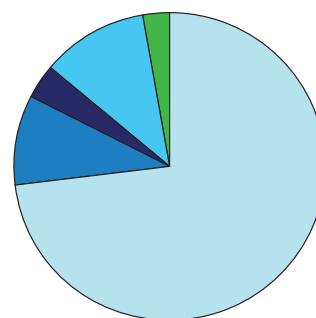
Total Revenue: \$1,997,465



Net Assets Released from Restriction: \$78,154 (3.91%)
Rental Income and Other: \$8,409 (.42%)
Program Service Fees: \$1,729,222 (86.57%)
Investment Income, Net: (\$86,689) (-4.33%)
Contributions: \$268,369 (13.43%)

Expenses

Total Expenses: \$2,104,027



CHOSEN Treatment Foster Care: \$1,540,425 (73.21%)
Fundraising \$56,060: (2.67%)
Management and General: \$232,349 (11.04%)
Therapeutic Family Services: \$78,691 (3.74%)
Safe Families for Children: \$196,502 (9.34%)

Current Board and Staff

Staff



Cheri Sanzi, MSOD

Executive Director
cheri@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Tricia Sakles, LCPC

Deputy Director
tricia@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Tia Blue-Owens, LCSW-C

Program Director, CHOSEN
tia@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Kim Parsons, M.Ed.

Program Director, Safe Families
kim@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Kristen Carrasco

Marketing Director
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Julie Rankin

Operations Administrator
juliel@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Tara Anderson

Family Support Coordinator, Safe Families
tara@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Judy Garrett

Office Manager
judy@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Brianna Jeffries, LMSW

Treatment Social Worker, CHOSEN
brianna@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Tracy Lane, LMSW

Recruitment & Certification Manager, CHOSEN
tracy@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Dawn Simon, LBSW

Intake Coordinator, CHOSEN
dawn@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

Board of Trustees

Dr. Steve Burnett

President

Mr. Jeff Shusterman

Vice President

Mr. Stew Eidel

Treasurer

Ms. Trina Harvey

Ms. Darla Trigger

Join our Team!

Is the Lord calling you to work with kids and families from hard places? If so, consider joining the Building Families team.

Please visit the employment section of our website to view available positions.

www.buildingfamiliesforchildren/employment

Join our Board of Trustees

Ready to Make a Lasting Impact?

BFC is looking for dedicated, passionate, effective community leaders who are ready to further serve their communities by joining our Board of Trustees. Serving on the board is a rewarding opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love not only in word, but also "with actions and in trust" (1 John 3:18). Your time and expertise will make a lasting impact on the lives of children and families facing crisis.

If you are interested in exploring board membership, please contact Board President Dr. Steven Burnett at: sburnett@mcdaniel.edu



Key Responsibilities

The BFC Board of Trustees plays an essential role in fulfilling the agency's mission. Some of the key responsibilities include:

- Determining how the organization carries out its mission.
- Establishing policies that ensure BFC continues to provide services that effectively meet the needs of the community and best practices are followed.
- Acquiring and allocating resources to support vital services.
- Assuring effective stewardship of the Agency's assets and finances.

Qualities & Characteristics of our Board Members

BFC seeks board members who are passionate about the organization's mission, vision and values, reflect the demographics and/or represent the interests of the community BFC serves, and meet the following criteria:

- Relevant governance, business, or other professional experience.
- Familiarity with and access to community leaders, political representatives, and other relevant local organizations.
- Willing to fundraise and connect the agency with other resources.
- Christians who align with the agency's Statement of Faith.

Commitment



Board members are elected for three-year terms. During that time, board members are committed to:

- Attending at least three of four general board meetings annually.
- Serving on at least one committee.
- Making an annual financial donation to the agency commensurate with one's ability.



Building Families for Children, Inc.
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Columbia MD 21046

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www.buildingfamiliesforchildren.org

 [buildingfamiliesforchildren](https://www.facebook.com/buildingfamiliesforchildren)
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