**The Baptist Children’s Village**

**2016 Annual Report**

**Rory Lee, Executive Director**

Over the past 12 years, The Baptist Children’s Village has placed a significant emphasis on the use of the Safe Track Program with each child we are privileged to serve in the BCV residential program. The four areas of the Program are Spiritual Growth, Academic Achievement, Family Values and Emotional Stability. The result of this on-going emphasis is clearly seen in the 2016 comments found in the annual Baptist Children’s Village Continuous Quality Improvement Report from those who are directly served by the BCV ministry.

In the survey of children residing at The Baptist Children’s Village, the statement, “BCV staff helps me grow in my relationship with God”, was affirmed by the residents by rating the statement as a 3.69 on a 4.0 scale. This statement on the survey checks for the resident’s thoughts on Spiritual Growth. The Academic Achievement statement, “BCV staff encourage me to make the best grades I can”, was affirmed by 3.58 on a 4.0 scale. The Family Values statement, “I feel safe at The BCV”, was affirmed with a 3.46 on a 4.0 scale. The Emotional Stability statement, “I can talk openly with my Counselor or Case Manager”, rated 3.42 on a 4.0 scale.

Comments from the families of the children served also show recognition of the specific points of emphasis during their children’s stay at The Baptist Children’s Village. One parent stated, “I feel that while being professional; they are also caring and provide for the needs of the kids in a family setting. They are loving Christians but also provide structure and responsibilities in a well-rounded environment. The staff is great!” Another parent simple said, “You have a great program.”

Comments are also gathered from the families involved in the Dorcas Program. Some of those comments are: “I believe the program is extremely helpful. They worked with my family and really renewed hope that we had lost.”; “This program is so helpful and gave so much encouragement in reaching goals as well as the reminders of faith and our purpose. Thank you Dorcas!!” and “I thank God for the Dorcas Program and the case manager who was there for me and my family. He really was a blessing to us.”

The Annual Report reveals the thoughts of individuals who have been direct recipients of the services offered by The Baptist Children’s Village. Their comments and answers to survey question provide information that points the BCV staff to those areas where improvements are needed and areas where successes have come.

A special thank you goes to all who have prayed, volunteered and given to help make the services offered by The Baptist Children’s Village possible. Through the Cooperative Program of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, The Baptist Children’s Village received 14.40 percent of its operating budget this past year. An additional 40.55 percent of the budget came from churches giving over and above their gifts through the Cooperative Program.

During the past year, Mississippi Baptists directly served 234 children through The Baptist Children’s Village ministry and hundreds of other children and their families in indirect ministries of the BCV. We are grateful for the support of Mississippi Baptists for this ministry to children and their families.