

# **The Baptist Children's Village**

**Annual Report 2020**

**Sean A. Milner, Executive Director**

The Baptist Children's Village ("BCV") exists to take the good news of Jesus Christ to at-risk children and families. Every decision we make, action we take, people we hire, program we begin, and service we offer is, or should be, determined by this one seemingly simple purpose. Why? Because the BCV understands and acknowledges that it is in Jesus that we find true love, hope, healing, compassion and restoration. Most importantly, in Jesus we find the answer to all of mankind's greatest need, to be reconciled to Almighty God.

God works through His people. Our purpose may seem simple, but it takes special people who are called by God to achieve it. I continue to be amazed and inspired by the passion, fearlessness and humility of the staff of the BCV. During the global pandemic known as COVID-19 the BCV staff are unwavering in their mission to take the gospel of Jesus to at-risk children and families. And, God is unwavering in His faithfulness and grace.

The BCV has expanded its ministries in residential child care by placing children on every campus. The BCV now has children on every one of its seven campuses. Moreover, since March 16, 2020, the BCV has increased its direct care staff by eight. That's right, while the world is "locking down", God is calling His people into His service and they are responding. Praise be to God.

Please know that the BCV is serving responsibly during the pandemic. The campuses are being provided with gloves and masks and COVID protocols are in place. Unfortunately, we have stopped taking children during this time, and comings and goings from campuses are very limited. But, we understand that an important part of serving the children in our care is making sure that our staff and current children are safe and well. We all look forward to when we can open up to receive children again.

God's blessings are not limited to our residential child care program. Our family support program, Dorcas, was blessed to hire one of the eight new employees as a case manager. Dorcas direct care workers were also very committed to serving during the COVID-19 crisis. The case managers performed digital meetings to serve the families in need of help.

The total number of children and adults served by your residential childcare ministry and your in-home family support ministry in 2019 was 452. That is 57 children in your residential child care and 243 children and 152 adults in your in-home family support ministry. You provided children with 175 medical appointments, 61 psychiatric appointments, 40 eye doctor visits, 120 dental appointments, 3 emergency room visits, and 1 hospitalization. Five of your residents made a profession of faith, one child rededicated his/her life to Christ and six children were baptized. Remember, the BCV's numbers herein are from 2019. We like to present the

number of those served on a calendar year basis. So, the numbers we report are from the previous year.

The support team, formerly known as the administrative staff, didn't slow down either. We have begun an exciting process of evaluating our efforts and asking, "is what we are doing and how we are doing it the best way to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to at-risk children and families?" If not, "how can we do it better?"

It is, indeed, an exciting time to be a part of the effort to take the good news of Jesus to at-risk children and families. I am extremely grateful that you are a part of this effort known as The Baptist Children's Village.



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