

## The Baptist Children's Village Annual Report 2025 Sean A. Milner, Executive Director

The Baptist Children's Village (BCV) is proud and most fortunate to be an official agency of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The BCV is one of the ministries of every Mississippi Baptist church. The BCV is Mississippi Baptists' response to God's call to take the gospel of Christ to at-risk children and families in Mississippi.

For the past several years, God has been opening doors and helping us answer the question your Executive Director Sean Milner began asking - "where are the children in crisis we may be missing in Mississippi, and how can we reach them?" This question resulted in careful research and interviews by your BCV leadership team with many people including youth court judges, law enforcement, and child care advocates across Mississippi.

With all glory to our Heavenly Father, we continue to rejoice at our recently announced BCV Continuum of Care. This overarching program consists of six individual ministries connecting care for children from birth and beyond.

The BCV Continuum of Care is comprised of six programs:

- Residential Child Caring Program offers a loving, stable home for children in need at our four campuses located across the state.
- Independent Living Program prepares young adults to step confidently into their futures whether through college, trade schools, or the working world.
- Residential Family Care Program helps families heal and rebuild together by providing a safe home for single mothers and their children.
- In-Home Family Support Program works to keep families together.
- Youth Detention Intervention Program offers a second chance to at-risk youth.
- Family Resource Referral Program connects families to vital resources offering a pathway to stability.

You will be thrilled to know 46 children came to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior ministry wide this past year. In addition to providing food, shelter, community, and education, you provided 472 medical appointments, 50 eye exams, and 176 dental appointments. The case managers you employ had 1,588 interactions with the children and 1,526 contacts and interactions with the parents/guardians of the children.

Your six Continuum of Care ministries of the BCV are paid for by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the Baptist Churches, and people who give generously so that the gospel of Christ can be taken to at-risk children and families. The BCV does not receive any money from the state of Mississippi or the federal government in exchange for the service and ministries we provide. The BCV is licensed by the state of Mississippi so that it can minister to children in the state's custody, but the BCV does not accept any money from the state for children they place in our care. The BCV is an evangelical arm of every Baptist church in Mississippi. Baptist churches have been sharing the gospel of Christ with children and families through the BCV for 128 years. The BCV continues to look for ways to reach at-risk children and families.

On behalf of the hundreds of children and families we serve, thank you for partnering with us to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with hurting children and families. Please pray for your BCV as we seek what more God would call us to do for His glory and His Kingdom. May God bless you and the churches you represent.