

The Baptist Children's Village & Family Ministries

Annual Report

2025

Sean A. Milner, Executive Director

Your Baptist Children's Village & Family Ministries (BCV&FM) exists as part of the Mississippi Southern Baptist Church to take the good news of Jesus Christ to at-risk children and families. We do this by providing them with hope and a strong foundation for their future. This mission is accomplished through three (3) nonresidential ministries and three (3) residential ministries. Your nonresidential ministries are 1) In-Home Family Support Program (IHFSP); 2) Youth Detention Intervention Program (YDIP) and 3) Resource and Referral Program (RRP). Your residential ministries are 1) Residential Family Program (RFP); 2) Independent Living Program (ILP); and 3) Residential Child Caring Program (RCCP). This is your "continuum of care".

Nonresidential Programs

Your In-Home Family Support Program (IHFSP) works to strengthen families in our state through the work of our case managers. Our case managers are full of good works and perform many acts of charity. They go into the homes and strengthen the families so they can stay together and not be disrupted. They teach parenting and home-making skills. They diagnose and address harmful patterns and inadequate abilities. In 2025 you ministered to 356 children from 129 families in all 82 counties.

Your Youth Detention Intervention Program (YDIP) works with the local church in areas with a youth detention facility. YDIP provides the local churches with support, curriculum, guidance training, and administration inside the youth detention facilities. Fifty-six (56) volunteers from the local churches engaged 1,430 detained youth in five (5) Mississippi youth detention facilities. One hundred forty-eight detainees made professions of faith.

Your Resource and Referral Program (RRP) helps pastors, social service agencies, families and laity who run into issues they may not know how to handle. They can call us for assistance and we provide guidance, advice, and service to all that we can. If we cannot help them, we stay with them until we get them to someone who can.

Residential Programs

Through your Residential Family Program (RFP) families are able to stay together as they get back on their feet. The mothers attend financial literacy classes and receive cooking lessons. Program staff seek to encourage the women to visualize a better future, set goals, and create a stable family environment with generational success. You ministered to 11 children and 6 mothers and families in 2025. One (1) resident made a profession of faith. All residents receive training to learn to be self-reliant as they raise their families.

Many young people in your Independent Living Program (ILP) are coming out of the foster care system needing help to become independent adults who are not dependent on government assistance. In 2025 you provided a home, education and the necessities of life to nine (9) youths. All residents have jobs, and all but one resident is enrolled in secondary education. All residents receive training and planning to succeed on their own.

You have seven campuses in your Residential Child Caring Program (RCCP) across the state of Mississippi. You received and ministered to sixty-one (61) children. Professions of Faith were made by

eleven (11) children. Houseparent missionaries are the heroes of this ministry. Please pray to the Lord of the harvest for these heroic laborers.

One hundred percent (100%) of the children and families that you served were impacted with the gospel of Christ, and nine (9) made professions of faith in Christ. In addition to providing food, shelter, community, and education, you provided 252 medical appointments, 49 eye exams, and 120 dental appointments. The case managers you employ had 1245 interactions with the children and 1394 contacts and interactions with the parents/guardians of the children. Remember, to minister to the children you must minister to the children's families. You do so through BCV&FM Case Managers.

The service and ministries of the BCV&FM 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&FM 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&FM is licensed by the state of Mississippi so that it can minister to children in the state's custody, but the BCV&FM does not accept any money from the state for children they place in our care.

The BCV&FM 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&FM for 128 years. The BCV&FM continues to look for ways to reach at-risk children and families. The BCV&FM is currently looking throughout Mississippi and asking, "Where are they?" and, "How can we reach them?" Do you know where they are? Can you introduce us to them? Homeless moms and homeless dads are struggling. Children are being released from the state system with no skills, education, or place to go. Please pray for your BCV&FM as we seek what more God would call us to do for His glory and His Kingdom.