



Celebrate 135 years of history in three minutes. Watch Baptist Children's Homes' mini-documentary narrated by the ministry's executive leader Michael C. Blackwell. Scan the QR code or visit [www.bchnc.org/bch\\_strong](http://www.bchnc.org/bch_strong)



**The Thomasville Orphanage was born in a time of adversity.** The Civil War had ended only 20 years earlier. It was 1885 and this Orphanage — this citadel of hope — greeted the first child on a blustery November afternoon.

In the intervening years, the Orphanage has weathered the winds of adversity and came out on the other side stronger, resilient, determined. We've been isolated before. The flu pandemic of 1918 — isolation and death among children. The polio quarantine of the early 1950's — isolation and death among children.

Each time, the Orphanage did **RISE**. Each time the Orphanage did **SURVIVE**. Each time the Orphanage did **THRIVE**.

The strength of the Orphanage came from God's guidance and the sacrifice of women and men who gave of themselves to the "least of these" — the most vulnerable.

Children grew up to be adults. They survived two world wars, The Great Depression, Vietnam, 9/11 and now Coronavirus.

This place — this sacred, holy ground — was **founded on faith, built on love**. It is what sustained us when we were the Orphanage — the Orphanage at Mills Home in Thomasville, the Orphanage at Kennedy Home in Kinston.

It's what sustains us now as the **Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina (BCH)** — **many ministries to the Glory of God, beating with one heart.**

The dream of our founder, John Mills, lives on! The legacy of the first child in care, Mary Presson, lives on! Winds of adversity still blow strong, but we will not be defeated, and neither will you.

**WE ARE BCH STRONG!** We will rise. We are on Holy Ground. Sacred space. We shall **not** be moved.

**Strong now. Strong then. Strong FOREVER.**

**MICHAEL C. BLACKWELL**  
 President/CEO, Baptist Children's Homes



## BCH perseveres despite pandemic

In March 2020, **Baptist Children's Homes (BCH)** entered an unprecedented time navigating life during the pandemic. Immediately, BCH president/CEO Michael C. Blackwell stepped to the front to assure friends, residents and staff members that just as BCH has in other times overcome great challenges, BCH would persevere and come through this time stronger than ever.

Fortunately, many safety protocols to protect the BCH family at facilities around the state had long been in place. Because of the ministry's readiness and the quick response in implementing even more precautions, BCH effectively has remained safe during the past 10 months. As soon as public schools were closed, BCH's staff members embraced "Stay Home...Stay Safe." Cottage parents added to their daily roles serving as teachers, activity directors, and guidance counselors. Cottage parents helped the children succeed online using remote learning.

Despite the fact that many North Carolina Baptist churches faced their own challenges, they did not forget BCH. Their strong giving and support brought BCH through a tough year.

## Ministry marks 135th anniversary

The year 2020 marked the anniversary of BCH which was established November 11, 1885. The theme for the year is "Founded on faith...Built on love." Although celebration gatherings were canceled due to the pandemic, the anniversary was highlighted through the writing of a new BCH history book by Dr. Blackwell that will be available in the first quarter of 2021. Dr. Blackwell also led in the creation of a mini documentary that recounts the past while celebrating God's faithfulness as BCH continues its mission today. The three-minute video documentary is scripted and narrated by Dr. Blackwell leading viewers through BCH's storied history. The video, titled "Founded on faith...Built on love," is a message of resolve, strength and faith, and can be viewed at [bchnc.org/bch\\_strong](http://bchnc.org/bch_strong).

## BCH acquires adoption organization

At the September 15 meeting, BCH Trustees took historic action adding a new, key component to BCH's comprehensive array of services. The 135-year-old nonprofit assumed ownership of **Christian Adoption Services (CAS)** giving BCH the ability to aid families with domestic and international adoptions.

BCH and CAS were already working together through an official partnership that was established in July 2019. Taking action and adding CAS was a natural step forward. Having both ministries allows a child to be placed in the option that will best serve his or her needs.

"Boys and girls need to be cared for by dedicated families who can give them the love and protection they deserve," says Blackwell. "Bringing in the proven expertise of Christian Adoption Services expands our ability to offer children hope."

BCH operates locations throughout North Carolina as well as two cottages for orphans in Guatemala with a third being built. Because of the acquisition, BCH now has a presence in South Carolina through CAS offices in Spartanburg and Conway.

## Church foster/adoption partnerships with BCH continue to grow

The number of churches partnering with BCH to impact the lives of children in their communities through foster care and adoption is growing. BCH staff members provide training and licensing classes to couples, who desire to become foster parents, at participating churches. BCH helps churches to provide ongoing ministry, practical support and community for the couples and the children they foster and/or adopt. Many of these boys and girls, who have been removed from their families by their county's Department of Social Services, not only need caring homes but have never heard the Gospel.

BCH filmed a foster/adopt breakout session, which debuted as a part of the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Baptist State Convention of NC. Along with the video, BCH launched a new

[bchfosteradopt.org](http://bchfosteradopt.org) website to provide information to churches and couples praying about being involved with foster care and adoption.

## Greater Vision expands to Eastern NC

The **Bob and Carolyn Tucker Greater Vision Outreach Ministry** added a new location. Just as the initial outreach began at Mills Home in Thomasville, BCH's original location, the new Greater Vision was established at Kennedy Home in Kinston, BCH's second location. Many community families found themselves in financial crisis because of the impact of COVID-19. Greater Vision Thomasville and Greater Vision Kinston were able to provide necessities to offset their needs. **Both locations impacted 152,770 lives through the following ways:**

- Meals Served: 152,550
- 77 families (220 household members) served by the self-sufficiency program
- 83 partnering agencies who distribute items to additional individuals and families in crisis through their own networks

## NCBAM aids isolated aging adults

Providentially, **North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry's (NCBAM)** "One Hope" outreach, which addresses isolation among seniors, was in place shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic began. In March of 2020, as older adults were encouraged to isolate themselves, calls to NCBAM's Hope Line increased 923%. NCBAM met the demand by adding two lines and weekend service. In June, the Hope Line implemented an outbound Friendly Call Service. NCBAM produced printed and audio versions of daily devotions for overcoming loneliness, began a bilingual outreach, and established a new website: [onehopeNCBAM.org](http://onehopeNCBAM.org). NCBAM also heightened its Servant Care outreach to retired Baptist ministers and their spouses or surviving spouses.

NCBAM was quick to provide virtual solutions for seniors as well as senior-adult leaders. Its State Leadership Conference was live-streamed and followed by

three regional virtual events. The ministry produced 20 videos to engage seniors with fall-prevention exercises, and offered numerous online workshops for Hope Line volunteers and the general public.

## NC Baptist ride raises record amount

The annual "Ride to Clyde" on October 10 raised just more than \$90,000 for BCH. It is a record total for the event that celebrated its fifth anniversary.

An abbreviated ride was held due to COVID-19. The ride, organized by the **Baptist State Convention of North Carolina**, normally has bikers travel from the coast to Broyhill Home in the mountains.

Cheers broke out from the riders gathered outside Rich Fork Baptist Church in Thomasville when an original total of \$75,000 was announced. Later, after riders had departed, more contributions were tallied bringing the total to \$90,564. "Ride to Clyde" has now generated in excess of \$275,000 for BCH through the event's five years.

## BCH expands digital programming

Dr. Blackwell has expanded BCH's digital communication programming by adding regular audio and video programs.

The former journalist, broadcaster, and pastor is channeling his expertise, insights and humor into his national award-winning podcast "It's a Family Matter" and the popular video "A Good Word" programs which alternate and are made public every Monday.

"A Good Word" has brought encouragement to viewers for the past two years. The short messages are viewed by BCH friends and staff members from around the state and put a joyful spin on Blackwell's CEO title by presenting himself as "Chief Encouragement Officer." All episodes are found on his YouTube playlist [bchnc.org/goodword](http://bchnc.org/goodword).

Dr. Blackwell's podcasts, which feature interviews with a variety of relationship and parenting experts, are available through all mobile podcast apps. An archive of his podcasts can be accessed by going to [bchblog.org/podcast](http://bchblog.org/podcast).

## Leadership

**Dr. Michael C. Blackwell**

President/Chief Executive Officer

**Keith Henry**

Chief Operating Officer

**Brenda Gray**

Executive Vice President  
Development & Communications

**Sam Barefoot**

Senior Vice President

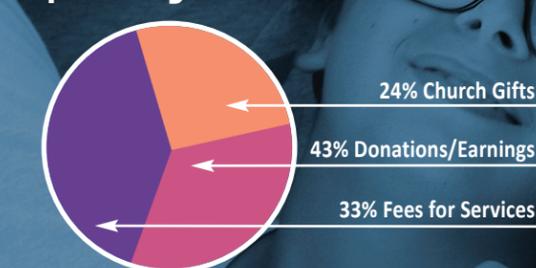
**Bond Kiser**

Vice President  
Staff Engagement & Compliance

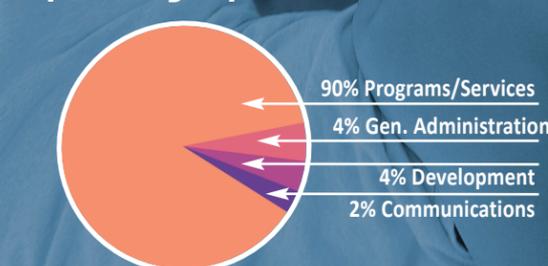
**Bill Chaisson**

Treasurer

## Operating Revenues



## Operating Expenses



## Trustees

**Wayne Adams, Jr.** – Carthage

**Pam Annas** – Hudson

**William "Bill" Boddie** – Rocky Mount

**Bobby Boyd** – Conover

**John Cashwell** – Concord

**Connie Coble** – Raleigh

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**Dana Dixon** – Garner

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**Jim Jacumin** – Connelly Springs

**Jerry Jordan** – Oakboro

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**Sandy Saunders** – Fayetteville

**Elaine Scarborough** – Polkton

**David Smith** – Lenoir

**Gary Stanley** – Dobson

**Steve Strickland** – Pembroke

**Bobby Tucker** – Kannapolis

**Eric Vernon** – Sanford

**Sterling Wall** – Lexington

**Chris Watkins** – Durham

**Jay Westmoreland** – Fort Mill

## Outreach Numbers 2020

### Children & Family Services

Children Served	Families Served
956	909
Days of Care	
106,645	

### Evangelism & Outreach

Lives Impacted
20,458

### Developmental Disabilities Ministry

Residents & Families Served
52

### Greater Vision Outreach Ministry

Lives Impacted
152,770

\*See previous page for breakdown of service numbers

### North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry

Clients Served	Call Center & One Hope Calls
6,205	13,650

### Decisions for Christ

107



Main : [bchfamily.org](http://bchfamily.org) | Stories : [bchblog.org](http://bchblog.org)  
 Foster & Adoption: [bchfosteradopt.org](http://bchfosteradopt.org)  
 Annual Offering : [bchoffering.org](http://bchoffering.org)  
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