

CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES FAMILY TIMES



VOLUME XLV ISSUE I

FEBRUARY 2022



GOD IS STILL GOOD

Do you recall how happy you were as you prepared to welcome 2021? As last year came to a close, were you surprised hearing others complain that 2021 was “bad, frustrating, challenging, unpredictable, etc.? The bottom line is, God is still good! I’m not denying that there may have been some challenges to overcome, but ultimately He saw us through, again. He is faithful!

Because of your prayers and support, CFS was able to work with over 139 moms and placed 9-babies for adoption with Christian families in 2021, and 1 eternal placement.

You provided the means for some moms to discover they could choose life and parent.

You provided some moms the emotional support and acceptance they couldn’t find from family or friends.

You provided some moms the chance to get their life back on track and rekindle their spiritual relationship with God.

Two examples come to my mind that I want you to consider.

Cathy* is a 27-year-old single mother of five. She had been working and caring for her young family. While the father of some of her children helped, he is now in prison. When Cathy discovered that she was pregnant, she came to the agonizing conclusion that she couldn’t

support another child at this time. Her family and friends all believed that she should parent this child in addition to the five she is already raising. When no one offered to help her, Cathy reached out to Christian Family Services.

You provided a caseworker to come along side Cathy. She received the emotional and non-judgmental support she needed to find peace with her decision to pursue an adoption plan. With Cathy’s commitment to give her baby life, she felt secure knowing that it would be in her baby’s best interest

Because of your prayers and support, CFS was able to work with over 139 moms and placed 9 babies for adoption with Christian families in 2021.

to be placed with a loving family for adoption. As her early January due date approached, Cathy prepared to choose the family to parent her child

Then, late in December, Cathy’s CFS caseworker got a call early in the morning. Medical staff had determined the baby had died. The CFS caseworker was with her almost the whole time in the hospital, waiting for her to deliver a stillborn baby. Can you imagine the emotional trauma this was for Cathy? Think what it meant for Cathy to have a listening ear and a caring shoulder to cry on during those agonizing hours?

The CFS caseworker you provided continues to work with Cathy in the difficult days that still lie ahead. You continue to help Cathy with the moral and emotional support that she needs as her family is still very negative and unloving towards her.

YOU do this because of your obedience to the Biblical passages dealing with our responsibility to the “fatherless,” which also includes the moms of unborn children.

* * * * *

Nichole* is a 39 year old single lady of Asian decent who has obtained US citizenship. She has both a Bachelor’s and Masters degree. She has also been a heroin addict for 9-years. Her fiancé died in her arms! Nichole has been homeless ever since and living in her car. She lost her part-time job. She discovered she was pregnant at about 7 months along. Not in a position to raise a baby, she contacted CFS to learn about adoption.

This mom had a lot of needs, but not the knowledge or ability to meet them. YOU provided a CFS caseworker to non-judgmentally come along side Nichole and begin walking her through this new journey. You provided the means for her to apply for Medicaid and food-stamps, find adequate housing, maintain her car and auto insurance so she could apply for other jobs.

Nicole went into early labor due to drug withdrawal symptoms. The baby was born at about 34 weeks and considered a premie. Other than being under weight and needing to be weaned from the drug dependency, he was a beautiful baby boy. After spending a couple of weeks in the NICU, Baby Boy was discharged to the loving adoptive family that you helped provide for him through CFS.

**names have been changed due to confidentiality*



Son In Mother’s Arms

Continued on page 3

FEBRUARY 2022

A YEAR IN REVIEW 2021

2021 FINALIZATIONS



Lily Esther 1/26/21
Tommy & Jocelyn

Lily Esther gets to share a last name with parents Tommy & Jocelyn.



Hazel Frances 2/9/21
Arthur & Chelsea (bro Sam)

Hazel Frances officially became the daughter of Arthur & Chelsea and sister of Samuel.



Brayden Micah 4/13/21
Sam & Sarah (Bro Charlie)

Brayden Micah's finalization was celebrated by parents Sam & Sarah and his big brother Charlie.



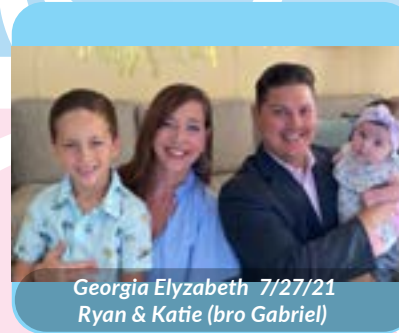
William Ryan 4/27/21
Drew & Callie

William Ryan relaxes in his mother's arms after he becomes the legal son of Callie & Drew.



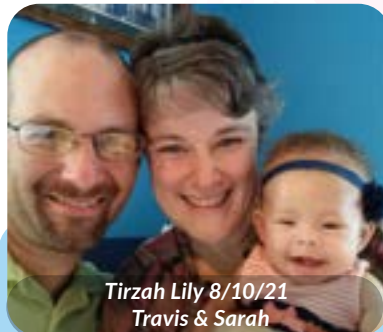
Evan Matthew 5/25
Matthew & Bethany

Evan Matthew joins parents Matthew & Bethany for a photo after his adoption was finalized.



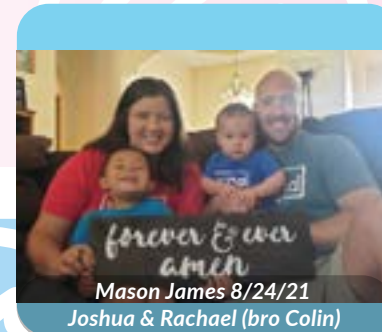
Georgia Elyzabeth 7/27/21
Ryan & Katie (bro Gabriel)

Georgia Elyzabeth is welcomed into the family of Kate & Ryan, and big brother Gabe.



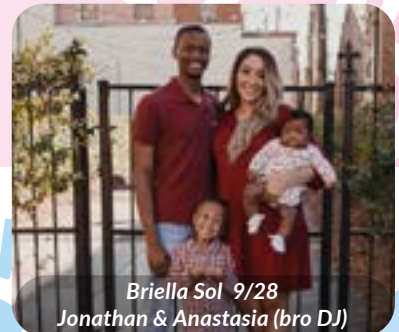
Tirzah Lily 8/10/21
Travis & Sarah

Tirzah Lily joins parents Travis & Sarah in a smile following her day in court!



Mason James 8/24/21
Joshua & Rachael (bro Colin)

Mason James is held by his dad after he officially became the son of Rachael & Joshua, and the brother of Colin!



Briella Sol 9/28
Jonathan & Anastasia (bro DJ)

Briella Sol seems cozy in her mother's arms following her finalization. Congrats to Jonathan & Anastasia and DJ!



Mylah Joy 11/9
Ethan & Lauren (bro Graham)

Mylah Joy is happy to share a last name with her family - Ethan & Lauren and Graham.



Waylon Michael 12/14/21
Michael & Brittney (sis Addy & Lucy)

Waylon Michael and his family are happy to make him their official son and brother. Waylon was welcomed to his family by Michael & Brittney, and Addy and Lucy.

GOD IS STILL GOOD

Continued

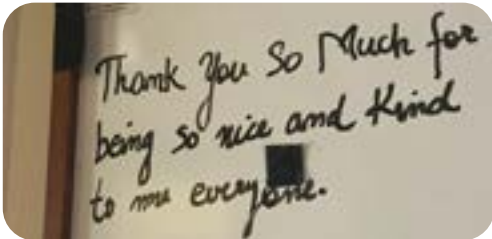
**names have been changed due to confidentiality*

The caseworker that YOU provided was able to be with Nicole each step of the way; she was able to leave the hospital and immediately enter a drug program. YOU are providing caseworkers to help her get her life on the right track. She has been "clean" now for several weeks because of you. She has a job, too! Please keep her in your prayers.

These are just two recent examples of YOUR love in action, changing lives. This is the mission that CFS is called to provide to moms, babies and Christian families desiring to be used by God. YOUR prayers and support are a blessing to these moms and babies.

Our prayer is that the Lord blesses you in the coming year as you continue to be a blessing to those less fortunate, to the unloved, to the fatherless, through the ministry of Christian Family Services.

Jerry



Nicole's note to Hospital Staff

RECENTLY APPROVED

Two new members join the CFS Board of Directors

*Sherri Daume
Ramon Osejo*

Details in the next newsletter

RECENT FINALIZATIONS



Briella Sol - Jonathan & Anastasia zoomed to court to give Briella Sol their last name. DJ became her big brother!

*Finalized on
9/28/2021*



Mylah Joy - Ethan & Lauren officially added daughter Mylah to their family, and Graham welcomed his little sister.

*Finalized on
11/9/2021*



Waylon Michael - Michael & Brittney was the last CFS Finalization of the year, officially making Waylon part of their family, and making Addie and Lucy big sisters!

*Finalized on
12/14/2021*



DONATION HIGHLIGHTS

1) Each year, Heartcare Imaging, Inc., selects a charity to donate to. The company randomly selects a few of their employees who choose a worthy cause.

Natasha (Tasha) Dockery was one of the Heartcare employees selected to direct a donation in 2021. She did not want to choose a big organization. Tasha turned to Jackie Collins to ask if she knew of a small charity who could use funds, to which Jackie replied "Yes! CFS - I'm on the Board and I know they can use it!"

Earlier in the fall, Jackie had connected Tasha's middle school age daughter, Kahvay, with CFS. She was in need of volunteer hours for a school requirement, and CFS benefitted from her talents in the office! Thank you Heartcare imaging, Inc., and most of all Tasha, for pointing her workplace to CFS, and for allowing Kahvay to assist staff in our office.



2) When you choose CFS as your AmazonSmile charity, we receive a 0.5% donation from your eligible purchases, at no cost to you! In 2021, CFS received \$618 while you shopped.

Donate products to Christian Family Services' AmazonSmile Charity Lists of items we need right now. Simply browse, order, and enjoy giving.



3) The U.S. Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Program provided two draws to assist CFS with payroll.



RECENT PLACEMENTS



Jacob Carlos (9/30/21) meets forever parents Don & Carla as they open gifts from donors for new families. Jacob will meet his older brothers, Donald & Alexander, when he arrives home.



Reid Lawrence (11/12/21) is welcomed by first time parents Alex and Kacy to become a family of three!



Amia Heavenly (12/2/2021) While Jasmine worked with Amia's mother, medical staff discovered the child had died in utero.

OTHER WAYS TO DONATE TO CFS...



2021 PLACEMENTS



William Ryan 1/13/21



Georgia Elyzabeth 4/26/21



Tirzah Lily 4/30



Mason James 5/21/21



Briella Sol 6/24/21



Mylah Joy 7/30



Waylon Michael 8/19/21



Jacob Carlos 9/30



Reid Lawrence 11/12



Amilia Heavenly 12/02/21

IN 2021...

- 9 CFS Families received a placement,
- 1 Stillborn (*eternal placement*)
- 3 Safe Haven Babies (*little or no info on their birth parents*)
- 28 Average Age of Birth Mothers who placed
- 30 Average Age of Birth Fathers
- 60% Of CFS Birth Mothers had other children
- 40% Of CFS Birth Mothers had significant financial need
- 50% Of CFS Birth Mothers were unemployed
- 20% Of CFS Birth Mothers were full time students
- 10% Of CFS Birth Mothers were employed

OCTOBER-DECEMBER
IN MEMORY OF

Haskell Arrington
Chip & Carole Oglesby

Kathy Barnett
Anonymous

Carol Beaver
Carl & Melissa Vinson

Francis Booth
Anonymous

Joe Davis
Anonymous

Sharon Carter
Edward & Karen Oliver

Sue Connor
Anonymous

Ellin Hill
*Ron & Cynthia Poole
Carl & Melissa Vinson*

Jim Hollingsworth
*Joan Spainhower
WoodmenLife, Chapter 2
Bob & Fran Poppell*

Lynwood Holley
Carl & Melissa Vinson

Annie Ruth Jacobsen
Linda Jacobsen

Leo Jamieson
Anonymous

Whip Jones
Bob & Fran Poppell

Thelma Kellett
*Connie Agee
Joe Frank & Sandra Duncan*

Roberta Means
Anonymous

Carlos Miller
*Bert & Jeannie Thomas
Marcia Roberts*

Michelle Ogletree
James & Zimmie Harris

Lynn Peck
Robin Chambers

Don Price
*Mark & Sue Apple
Max Blanks
Jimmie & Barbara Brunson
Raymond & Renee Cloutier
Dave & Chris Dillard
Lynn & Sally Dixon
Steve & Janet Fryman
Don & Laura Hall
Jim & Sondra Hester
Ramon & Janice Osejo
Drew & Kristi Robinson
Irv Simmons
Ann B. Smithson
Quinn Waters*

Nancy Putnal
Anonymous

Larry Ray
Joyce Price

Rita Regan
*Tom & Jo Brown
Irs Elaine Johnson*

Edna Reavis
Charles & Elaine Reavis



Pam Rosenbury
Anonymous

John Smithson
Joyce Price

Bob Spainhower
Joan Spainhower

Buddy Stewart
Anonymous

Phyllis Thornton
*Mary Ellen Callens
Michael Thornton*

Heather Lea Turney
Linda Jacobsen

Lanelle Waters
Quinn Waters

Eva West
Anonymous

**Richard & Martha
Whitehead**
Bob & Carolyn Harrel

John Zylinski
Inez Brooker

HONORARIUM

Bill Barnett
Tom & Jo Brown

Jerry Callens
Pat Hogan

Linda Jacobsen
Bob & Fran Poppell

Michael & Brittney Yoder
Levi & Gloria Yoder

Staff

Jerry D.Callens, Exec. Director & Caseworker
Donna L. Brooker, Ministry Assistant
Jasmine Pierce, Caseworker
Becky Barclift, Bookkeeper
Katy Horton, Social Medial & Graphic Design
John & Charlotte JeBailey, Cradle Care

Board of Directors

Jimmie Brunson
Jackie Collins
Sherri Daume
Ramon Osejo
Fran Poppell
Rick Worley

Newsletter Deisgned by

khortondesigns@gmail.com

Christian Family Services • A Christian Alternative 2720 S.W. 2nd Ave • Gainesville, FL 32607 • 352.378.6202

Info@cfs.org

Toll-free: 800.226.2367

Fax: 352.378.6205

CHRISTIANFAMILYSERVICES.COM