

CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES FAMILY TIMES



VOLUME XLV ISSUE IV

WINTER 2023



As I struggle to write this, I am reminded that November is **National Adoption Awareness Month**. **National Adoption Day is Nov. 18th** and you can read an article later in this newsletter about that date. It's hard to believe that adoption seems to be less accepted today than ever before.

Adoptions have changed so much in the last 50 years-more so in the last 20. It's harder than ever to educate the public on adoption, the changes, and what it looks like now. There are potential benefits of adoption to all parties.

Now, all the focus is on the "fear" of young women losing the right to have an abortion. There is an urgency to abort! The Choice to abort happens without even considering what other options she may have.



The group with the highest increase in abortions comes from a Christian background. Christian families are encouraging their daughters to end an unplanned pregnancy. Why? Embarrassment? Concern over the loss of her education? Concern that a baby would cause a change in her career plans?

Why aren't we doing a better job so that church members have "all" the information they need about their choices? Churches are less open to allowing guest speakers to present adoption to the members. If a woman you worship with told you about her unplanned pregnancy, or that of someone she knows, how could you help her? Would you want to be a support and encouragement to her? Would you want her to know about adoption?

This year was CFS' 45th year of serving and helping expectant moms! CFS caseworkers have discussed pregnancy options with each client we have encountered. Well over 500 babies have loving Christian homes since CFS began. A more staggering thought is that CFS has counseled close to 10,000 or more women. *Women who chose* life for their child (parenting or adoption). Think about that. We know what God can do with "one" individual.



One person raised to be used by Him! Can you even imagine what He may have done and is doing with 10,000 raised in Godly home's?

If you support this ministry through *prayer*, please remember you are **going before the Father on behalf of these babies and their future, YOU are there**. You are helping God to have more warriors in His fight against evil. CFS covets your prayers daily for the moms who contact us! CFS requests your prayers for the staff that works tirelessly in this effort.

Continued pg 2

LOST FATHERS

a new fundraiser for CFS

Author Leigh Lincoln's new book series has been brewing in her heart for years. Each book will be written from the viewpoint of each person who is part of adoption: the Birth Father, the Birth Mother, the Adoptive Family and the Adoptee.

As an adoptee herself, Leigh explains how she finally took the leap and contacted her Birth Father. Leigh was adopted at a time when men were not informed that the child they may have fathered was to be adopted. Jerry calls this time period "the dark ages."

When Leigh shared her desire to write a series on adoption, she found that many people were not well informed. Some thought it "Old Fashioned" and did not believe people "did adoption" anymore. **Lost Father** was published on November 18, *World Adoption Day*. The first book in the series focuses on the Birth Father.

In addition to her desire to create an inspirational and uplifting story, Leigh also chose to partner with an adoption agency. Leigh reached out to Christian Family Services to develop an event for this special date. Plans are to plan an event next June for Birth Fathers.

A portion of the proceeds of *Lost Father* will be given to CFS.

[Click here to order](#)



WINTER 2023

Can We Get A Witness??

For each placement, witnesses are needed for paperwork. When a CFS caseworker needs to transport a bio mom home, CFS must find a witness!

More than once this year, Kim took CFS moms home from the hospital. This meant finding a witness so families could leave the hospital with their newborn.

CFS called on Becky Barclift for one local placement. Becky already gives of her time and talent as the CFS Bookkeeper. We were thankful she was available to assist Noah's parents as a witness.

When CFS staff serve moms and families near our remote locations, we first ask medical staff if they may serve as a witness. Staff protocol varies by hospital.

Thankfully, a nurse was able to serve as a witness for Annabelle's parents.



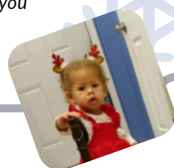
Hi Jerry!

Been thinking of you and everyone at CFS a lot as we approach our little one's second birthday :) It's actually been 2 years to the date that we first met her Birth Mom

We talk to her often, and she seems to be doing well. I know she has had some health issues recently, but our relationship is continuing to move forward in a positive way.

Love to you all. Feel nostalgic this time of year, and just thought I'd say... again.... Thank you

Love,
A CFS Mom



God continues to extend Mercy on *us all* in our humanness, as we often make poor choices and fall short. How much more should we be Merciful to these women who have been so influenced by a corrupt society?

If you are a *financial supporter* of CFS, I want you to know this is life sustaining for the moms we encounter. Your generous heart provides for women who find themselves in desperate situations. Your support may provide her a safe place to sleep at night. She may have one or more other young innocent children who she is unable to adequately provide for. **YOU are there.** Whether it is

assistance in helping her apply for the subsidy programs and medicaid that are available, or assisting with groceries, transportation to prenatal appointments, emotional support, **YOU are there.**

The CFS staff is fully dedicated to continue reaching out and being the Lord's conduit in extending **HIS** mercy, love, and support to these women and their babies in their greatest time of need and vulnerability.

Because of your prayers, *financial support and time volunteered*, **YOU** are the ones that God has chosen to work through. **THANK YOU!**

Jerry

CHRISTMAS CORNER



PLACEMENTS AND FINALIZATIONS



Maverick Rene is dressed for success-and officially the son of *Samuel & Rachael* after their meeting with the judge! June 13, 2023



Annabelle Grace is lovely head to toes (Bow to Pink shoes) as she poses with her forever parents, *Keith and Elizabeth* after finalization. June 13, 2023



Harley Grace was welcomed into the family of *Eddy & Bekah* in time to dress up for Halloween! Children are *Edén, Harley, Caleb* and *Malachi*. October 9, 2023



Camden Edward became the first child of *Casey & Deborah*. November 12, 2023

NO DRIVE THRU?

CFS has a long standing tradition following a baby's discharge from the hospital. We like to join the new adoptive family as they take their newborn to their car.

Timing of his hospital discharge kept CFS staff from joining Noah and his parents to their car. Why? Jerry needed to take custody of Emma for her placement.

Jerry met Emma's prospective adoptive parents at the CFS office. Together, they met a state foster mom to pick up Emma. Where did they meet? How about a place that is in every town from Gainesville to Jacksonville?



PHOTO OF COUPLE'S "First look" at Emma Grace by mom, Callie, and dad, Drew.



PHOTO OF FAMILY AT WALGREENS

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

IN MEMORY OF

James Hayes

Ron Putnal

Carl Jacobsen

Linda Jacobsen

Annie Ruth Jacobsen

Linda Jacobsen

Lois Morrow

Kit Mason

Fay Schartel

The Sutherland Family

Nancy Young

Mervin Long

Doug & Deborah Lawson

Florence Long

Heather Turney

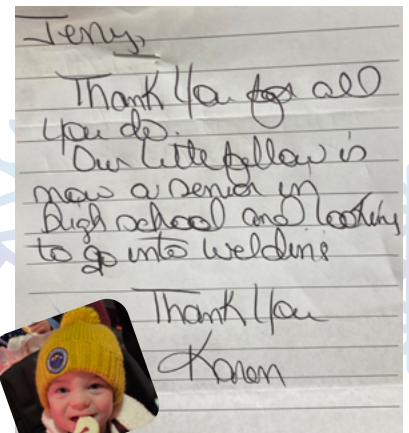
Linda Jacobsen

Richard Whitehead

Carolyn Harrell

Martha Whitehead

Carolyn Harrell



❄️ BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG CAMPAIGN WRAP-UP ❄️

Florida's Maricamp Road Church of Christ and Mississippi's West President Street Church of Christ help Baby Bottle Campaigns for CFS this year. Thank you to the to the volunteers who promoted the event, made sure the bottles were ready, and the bulletin boards were decorated for the event. Donors, we appreciate your continued support of this ministry.

CFS BENEFITS FROM GAME DAY PARKING

a fundraiser during UF Home Football Games

This major fundraiser continues to be a blessing to CFS. This event was hosted and manned by CampusView Church.

However, this fundraiser is not only about the funds.

Each Game Day the lot can hold up to 300 vehicles, representing at least 600 people. Each vehicle receives a "Baby of the Day" card so patrons are aware of the ministry of Christian Family Services and how parking funds benefits the ministry.

Many patrons are Believers, so we provide fliers in areas frequented by parkers. We make sure to offer CFS fliers, as well as Abortion Recovery, the Choose Life License Plate program, Safe Haven and other related non-profits. Our hope

is this information will return to their home communities and benefit those in need of such services.



OTHER WAYS TO DONATE TO CFS...



[Click Here To Donate](#)

CFS is grateful for the generosity of the 72 volunteers from CampusView Church who gave 443 hours on the parking lot!

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Staff

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

Board of Directors

Jimmie Brunson
Jackie Collins
Sherri Daume
Holly Garvey
Ramon Osejo
Rick Worley

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

Info@cfsfl.org 352-378-6202 (Gainesville) | 850-893-9983 (Tallahassee) | 904-268-9670 (Jacksonville) | 352-351-9994 (Ocala)

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