



November 2024

MY FATHER'S ARROWS | [MyFathersArrows.org](http://MyFathersArrows.org)

## Thanks to you, Rose knows she's loved and part of the family!

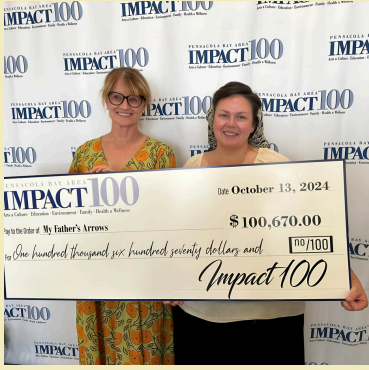
Rose was nine when both her older sister and father passed away in the same year. Going through the motions of life became too overwhelming and Rose came to MFA for almost a year.

Two years after a successful transition home, a series of ups and downs in life upended Rose's peace and her family reached out for help once again. When her mother called and asked if Rose could return to MFA, Rose was welcomed with open arms.

This time the transition to MFA was less intimidating and went more smoothly because Rose already knew that she would be safe at MFA and that she was loved by her MFA family.....and the horses!

When Rose arrived at MFA the first night she said, ***"I was upset when mom first told me, but I feel peaceful and I'm ready to jump in and get the work done."*** Thank you for helping to write of hope, peace, restoration and connection for so many like Rose through your partnership with MFA.





## Thank You IMPACT100

Please join us in thanking IMPACT100 Pensacola! We will be able to purchase the additional 'new to us' vans to transport kids safely to appointments and activities!

### Favorite Dishes

Cheesecake



Chicken Strips



Sushi w/ Salmon

Strawberry Pretzel Jello



Tiramisu

Banana Bread



## Bless a child with their favorite dish from home

Thanks to your generosity, we can give each child a little taste of home and provide a new tradition this Thanksgiving!



## Thanksgiving with a Twist

For many of the children at My Father's Arrows, what should be an exciting time filled with joy is actually one of the most stressful times of the year. That's right, I'm talking about the holidays!

Family disfunction, discombobulated routines, travel, and overstimulation are a recipe for disaster for children that have trauma surrounding family events.

With this in mind, we take a different approach to the holidays. In addition to attending school year round with smaller, shorter, breaks throughout the year, we pretty much adhere to our regular routine no matter what date is on the calendar. We do have celebrations, but in a less stimulating, more trauma informed style.



We also have traditions, but they are 'MFA Family Style'. During the week leading up to Thanksgiving, we ask each of the children to write down what their favorite holiday dish is from home as well as something they are thankful for. We purchase the ingredients and on Thanksgiving day we fix and serve EVERYONE'S favorite dish.....yes, all 40 of them!

As we eat our favorites, we reminisce about why we're thankful as we purposefully cultivate an attitude of gratitude in their beautiful souls.

# Volunteers Make our World go Round

During a month when thankfulness is on everyone's mind, we're especially grateful for all of the volunteers that use their God-given gifts to serve our children.

Mr. Pete is our beloved handy-man. He retired several years ago and now is literally on call to help MFA with everything from fixing washers and dryers to installing electrical fixtures, digging trenches, pouring concrete, and leading the charge in restoring a donated trailer home to house staff and guests.

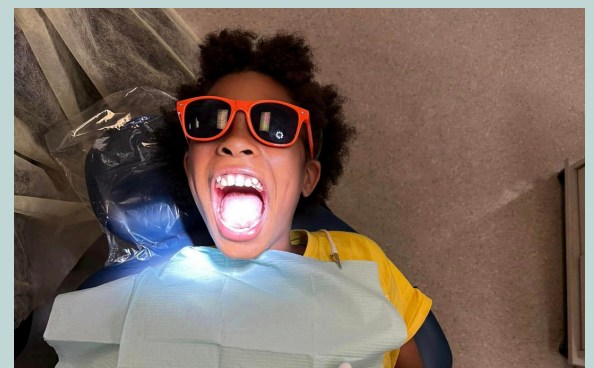
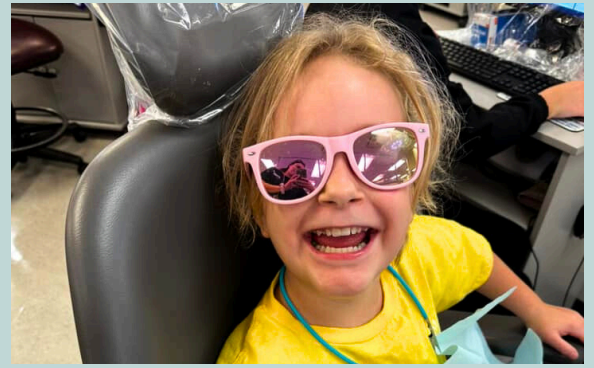
Then there is Fay, Tiffany, and Rilo that come out monthly to give haircuts, high fives, and smiles.

## Psalm 139:14

***I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.***

Speaking of smiles.....imagine transporting 30+ children all to the same dentist, on the same day to have checkups, xrays, and cleanings! It's a huge undertaking for the staff, but wow, the dentists and hygienists that give of their time, equipment, supplies, patience, and encouragement to our children! They are our heroes.

Do you have a gift or talent that you would like to share with our children at My Father's Arrows? Maybe art, music, technology, teaching, or nature walks are your passion. Thanks to volunteers like you, hurting children are able to see the many facets of Jesus through the gifts that He gives to each one of us. As it says in Psalm 139, we are each fearfully and wonderfully made and God's works ARE wonderful!



# Director's Corner

As we enjoy this change of season, we reflect on the many blessings that surround us. Harvest time reminds us of the abundance in our lives and the importance of teaching our children about gratitude. Just as farmers gather their crops, we gather our hearts to appreciate the gifts we've been given—family, friends, and a nurturing community that supports our mission. In these moments we learn to recognize the hand of God in our lives and to express our thanks for His unending love and provision.

This year, we are especially grateful that God kept us safe during recent hurricanes that impacted the southeast. As we witness the devastation in our region, we are reminded of the importance of holding our loved ones in prayer and extending our compassion to those affected. Teaching our children the value of empathy and action during such times is a vital part of their growth, helping them grow servant hearts for others.

In our Thanksgiving and Feast activities, we will engage the children in lessons on gratitude, encouraging them to reflect on what they are thankful for while fostering a heart for service. Through crafts, discussions, and shared meals, we aim to instill in them a sense of appreciation for both the big and small blessings in life.

As we celebrate, let us remember to pray for the hurting and look for ways to share our blessings. Together, let's teach our children that gratitude is not just a feeling but a call to action, one that encourages us to give back and lift each other up in times of need.

Blessings  
*Sarah Ellis*  
**Sarah Ellis**  
Executive Director  
My Father's Arrows



## Ways to Give

Did you know that you can make MFA a beneficiary of your life insurance, IRA, or 401K policy? In addition, you can assist with:

- Financial Donations
- Everyday Needs
- Vehicle Program
- Wills, Estates, & Planned Gifts



Crafts | Door Prizes | Cookies | Hot Chocolate

DEC 06 2024 *Christmas Program*

Gates Open @ 6:00 p.m. | Program Begins @ 6:30 p.m.

**FOR MORE INFO & TO RSVP**  
DENEEN | 850.918.9093  
SUSTAIN@MYFATHERSARROWS.ORG  
MYFATHERSARROWS.ORG  
4025 COUNTY ROAD 178 JAY, FL 32565

*carols by Walnut Hill Mennonite Youth*

 MY FATHER'S ARROWS



## IMMEDIATE NEEDS

You can help with the most pressing needs at MFA. Shop using this helpful list of daily needs. Then drop off or ship the items to our location.

- Laundry Pods
- Copy Paper
- Garbage Bags
- Eggs
- Girls / Boys Socks
- Craft Supplies
- Conditioner
- Fresh Fruit / Veggies



[myfathersarrows.org/everyday\\_needs/](https://myfathersarrows.org/everyday_needs/)

## VEHICLE PROGRAM

Donating your car, truck, boat, ATV or other vehicle is a great way to meet the extensive transportation needs that we have at My Father's Arrows. The vehicle is used on the farm, donated to an aged out youth, or sold to help support our ministry. We even offer to take care of all the small repairs and will pickup the vehicle for free!

Please call (850)675-4403 to discuss the options to get involved.

## STAFF NEEDS

A good team of staff members is critical to continuing the ministry at MFA and giving children the stability and security they need to thrive.

Please contact us via email at [info@myfathersarrows.org](mailto:info@myfathersarrows.org) or call us at (850) 675-4403 for our most recent openings.

## WAYS TO CONNECT

- 4025 County Road 178 Jay, FL 32565
- [myfathersarrows.org](https://myfathersarrows.org)
- (850) 675-4403
- [myfathersarrowsinc.3392/](https://www.instagram.com/myfathersarrowsinc.3392/)
- [facebook.com/myfathersarrows](https://facebook.com/myfathersarrows)

# THE arrow BULLETIN

## ACCREDITATIONS



# CORE

COALITION OF RESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE



THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN CHILD CARING AGENCIES



NAPS National Association of Private Schools

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# LET'S CELEBRATE!

Join us in praying over this child on her birthday, that God would be real to her and that she would find peace, hope, and their future in Him.



**Berenice | 14  
November 7th**

## BLESS A CHILD ON THEIR BIRTHDAY

Join our Birthday team and sponsor a child's birthday with a \$25 donation. This donation makes it possible for us to take a child on an individual shopping trip and invest not only in a special gift, but also in them as an individual.

### GIVE ONLINE!

Just point your phone's camera here:



[myfathersarrows.org/donate/](http://myfathersarrows.org/donate/)

# IT STARTS WITH YOU

As the chaos in the world continues to grow, are you confident about your future? God has so many wonderful things for you! You can ask Jesus to come into your heart and change your life forever.

There is only one way to succeed in life and it's by walking with Jesus.



## CONFESS

1 John 1:9 it says that if we confess our sins, Jesus is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

## REPENT

Repent and turn away from our sins like it tells us in Acts 2:38.

## BELIEVE

Acts 16:31 says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

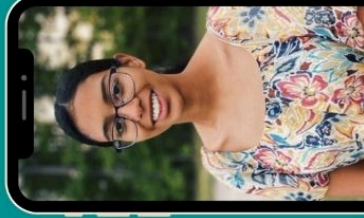
**ONE CONVERSATION  
BETWEEN YOU AND  
JESUS CAN CHANGE  
EVERYTHING!**

## ESTATE PLANNING

Did you know that you can make MFA a beneficiary of your life insurance, IRA, or 401K policy? Our legacy has your name on it! Provide a child a secure, stable avenue out of their desperate situation through your legacy gift to My Father's Arrows.

To help in this way, please contact our Executive Director, Sarah Ellis, directly [by\\_email](mailto:by_email) or call (850) 675-4403. Thank you for blessing our children with your legacy gift.

## STAY IN THE LOOP



Be among the first to receive updates about the children, prayer requests, photos, special events and more.

**SCAN HERE**  
to sign up  
for our emails:



[myfathersarrows.org/email-sign-up/](http://myfathersarrows.org/email-sign-up/)