

# connection AND restoration

MARCH 2025



## The Impact of Your Support: Providing a Safe Haven for Children

We witness the immense struggle parents face when making the decision to place their child in residential care. It is a choice no parent takes lightly—one filled with fear, uncertainty, and deep emotions. However, thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to provide a safe, loving environment where children receive the care they need, and parents find peace in their decision.

One family recently shared,

***“We were just coming off of weeks of our daughter being in and out of in-patient hospitals and we were emotionally exhausted and traumatized by the never-seeming-to-end crisis we were in.***

***We felt a great peace leaving our daughter at MFA.... we were reminded to sleep, rest, and to go on dates. The kindness and grace during that phone call further put us at ease knowing that our daughter was being cared for so that we could care for ourselves.”***

Families come to us during a crisis, realizing that their child’s needs surpass what they can provide at home. Whether due to behavioral

challenges, medical complexities, or unsafe environments, they are making a selfless choice to seek the best care for their child. Your support ensures that when they take this step, they are met with a warm, welcoming place that fosters healing and hope.

Through your generosity, we offer essential services—therapeutic care, specialized education, nutritious meals, and a faith-centered community that brings true transformation.

As one family reflected,

***“There’s so much we still have to heal from - bitterness, resentment, betrayal, broken trust - all of it.***

***It has been a hard journey for our family but one that has been totally necessary to bring us to the realization of what we truly need to heal—Jesus Christ.”***

Your support provides restoration and reconnection for children & families. Thank you for making this life-changing work possible.

# Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow!

We get to witness many beautiful moments of joy, but nothing quite compares to the pure excitement that filled our campus when snow fell in Florida—a true once-in-a-lifetime event!

For many of our children, this was their first time seeing snow, and boy did they get to see it! We received eight inches of snow!

At first, they watched in awe as the tiny flakes drifted from the sky, uncertain if it was real. But as the snow began to settle, their hesitation turned into uncontrollable excitement. Laughter echoed as they ran outside, catching flakes on their tongues, building snowmen, and even taking a sled ride behind a horse! Our horses were just as excited as the children to play in the snow.

For children who have faced so many hardships, this unexpected gift from God was a reminder of life's beauty and wonder.

Moments like these are precious because they allow our children to simply be

children—to experience joy, to feel carefree, and to be reminded that just like snowflakes, they are beautifully and wonderfully made, one of a kind works of art.

We made the most of it and even took two snow days; a first in MFA history! They were days filled with warmth, despite the cold. The staff also joined in the fun, making snow angels, having snow ball fights, and sharing hot chocolate afterward. For many of them, this was their first time seeing snow as well. The smiles on their faces were unforgettable.

This beautiful snowfall reminded us of the words in **Isaiah 1:18**: ***“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”*** Just as snow covers everything in a pure, white blanket, God's grace covers us completely, bringing renewal and hope.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to create these joyful memories.



# A Place of Safety, Growth, and Restoration

incredible transformation takes place when children step into an environment where they feel truly seen and truly safe. Many of the children who come into our care have faced hardships that no child should ever endure—abuse, neglect, trauma, and deep feelings of abandonment. Here, they find more than just shelter; they find security, love, and a place where healing begins.

Residential care provides the stability these children need to grow emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. Through counseling, education, and a structured, nurturing environment, they begin to understand their worth and potential. More importantly, they are introduced to the life-changing truth of God’s love and His power to restore. Healing doesn’t happen overnight, but with time, patience, and faith, we see children begin to trust again, to dream again, and to believe that their past does not define their future.

One young woman who has now left our program recently shared,

***“God places us exactly where we need to be at this moment – for a reason, a purpose, for our good, and for His glory. Hearing this truth was profoundly moving, and it reminded me of the many times you all shared similar words with me. Back then, I didn’t fully grasp or appreciate what you were trying to tell me. But now, looking back, those words have taken root in my heart.”***

Her words reflect the lasting impact of this ministry. Because of the love, patience, and wisdom poured into her, she now walks in confidence, knowing that God has a purpose for her life. This is the heart of what we do—offering children a path to healing, a foundation of faith, and a future filled with hope.



# Embracing New Beginnings

As we stand on the threshold of spring, we are reminded of the beauty of new beginnings. The cold and barrenness of winter are fading, giving way to warmth, growth, and the promise of brighter days ahead. At our children's home, we see spring as a powerful reflection of the hope and transformation that takes place in the lives of the children we serve.

Just as the earth awakens from its slumber, we witness children who have endured hardship step into a season of renewal. Many come to us carrying burdens of pain, fear, and uncertainty. But through love, support, and God's grace, they begin to bloom—rediscovering joy, trust, and the truth that they are deeply loved. We hold fast to the promise in **2 Corinthians 5:17**, ***“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”***

Spring also reminds us of the importance of nurturing and patience. Flowers do not bloom overnight, and neither does healing. It takes time, care, and faith to see growth. Some of the children in our care arrive with hearts that have been hardened by life's difficulties. But as they experience kindness, stability, and the unwavering love of Christ, they begin to open up—just as a flower opens its petals to the sun.

We see transformation in the small moments: a child laughing freely after months of silence, a student excelling in school for the first time, a teenager realizing their worth in God's eyes. These are the miracles of spring that happen year-round at our home. And they happen because of you—our faithful supporters. Your prayers, generosity, and dedication provide the resources needed to create an environment where these young lives can flourish.

As we enter this new season, let us be reminded of **Isaiah 43:19**, ***“Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.”*** God is always working, bringing life where there was once despair, making a way where there seemed to be none.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. Because of your support, children who once felt lost now have a future filled with hope. May this spring be a reminder to us all that with God, every season holds the promise of new beginnings.

Blessings,

*Sarah Ellis*

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



# Special Thanks

We are very thankful for the volunteers and special guests that take time to cook for us and bring special activities.

We would like to extend a big thank you to Richard Brown and his son Seth for grilling burgers, french fries, and ice cream for our Saturday dinner. Afterwards, they created balloon animals for all!



## 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.

- Toilet Paper
- Copy Paper
- Sliced Cheese
- Paper Towels
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Products
- Cotton Balls
- Q-Tips
- Chapstick
- Feminine Pads
- 13 Gal Trash Bags
- 33 Gal Trash Bags



**SCAN HERE**  
For more information:

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

## 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



**GIVE ONLINE!**  
Just point your phone's camera here:

<https://myfathersarrows.org/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. **We currently have openings for school volunteers.**

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 32566  
[myfathersarrows.org](http://myfathersarrows.org)  
 (850) 675-4403  
[myfathersarrowsinc.3392/](https://www.facebook.com/myfathersarrows)  
[facebook.com/myfathersarrows](https://www.facebook.com/myfathersarrows)

# THE arrow BULLETIN



## ACCREDITATIONS



**CORE**  
COALITION OF RESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE



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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.



**Benjamin I 16**  
March 22nd

## 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.

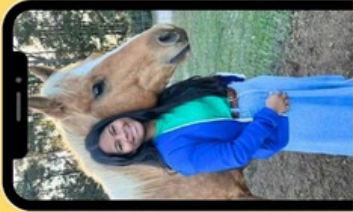
### GIVE ONLINE!

Just point your phone's camera here:



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

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

## 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 or call (850) 675-4403. Thank you for blessing our children with your legacy gift.

IN ORDER TO TRUST THE LORD AS YOUR SHEPHERD, YOU MUST KNOW HIM AS YOUR SAVIOR.

*Do you know Him?*

### I CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."

### ROMANS 10:9-10

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

