

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings,
I would like to first give thanks for seeing a new year. 2015 was a year of many changes for me in my personal life as well as within the Brantwood family. The new year is here and with it comes new challenges. Although the challenges are new, we know that the solution to overcome them will always remain the same. We will continue to trust God to see us through as he has proven to do so many times before.

I would like to say thank you to all of our supporters and our Christmas sponsors that made Christmas a wonderful experience for our children. It was a joy to see the smiles on the children's faces as they opened their gifts on Christmas morning. It would not have been possible without so many wonderful supporters. It is truly a blessing to see so many people open up their hearts to make a child's Christmas special.

Lastly, I ask for your continued support for our Home. We want to make 2016 the best year ever and we cannot do it without you. Help us to keep the smiles on the kid's faces throughout the year with your love and undying support. The assistance you give now will allow each child to be strong enough to stand on their own in the future and be the support that someone else might need. Thank you for all that you do for our children.

Sincerely,

Gerald Jones

gjones@brantwoodchildrenshome.org

Board of Directors:

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The BRANTWOOD

Brag



TO CREATE, GROW, AND PROTECT OUR VALUABLE ASSETS

Warren Averett CPAs and Advisors hosted its annual Thanksgiving Silent Auction. Again, they graciously decided that Brantwood would be the recipient of those efforts.

The auction kicked-off with a breakfast on November 18th and was scheduled to end on Thanksgiving, but participation was so great, the auction stayed open a few additional days to allow everyone the chance to participate.

Participants had the opportunity to win gift cards from delicious eateries around town such as Long Horn, Sa Za's, Chappy's Deli, and Peppertree Steaks and Wine. Other auction items ranged

from free photography sessions, teeth whitening sessions, and YMCA memberships.

They were kind enough to deliver their donation to us right before Christmas so that we could use it for any last minutes items and gifts that we needed for the children prior to the holiday.

Warren Averett is the region's largest and most resourceful accounting, tax, and advisory firm whose mission is to help its clients make the most of opportunities to create, grow, and protect value. They were also named one of Business Alabama's Best Companies for Which to Work in 2015.



COMMITTED TO MORE THAN OUR SAFETY

Thank you to Lt. Warren House and his men at Fire Station #6 for visiting our home. He has challenged his firemen to personally get involved with Brantwood.

In 2014, we had one child left who still had items not marked off his Christmas list. Fire Station #6 came to the rescue by contributing of their own treasure to ensure that this child had treasures for the holiday season.

This newly-passed year, Christmas was quickly approaching and we did not have a sponsor to provide the Christmas stocking items for our kids and again they rose to the challenge personally donating to make that happen. Their consideration and love for our home shows that they are committed to more than our safety.

Not only do we appreciate their financial support, but our kids (and adults alike) love exploring the firetrucks during their visit.



I WOULD LOVE TO SUPPORT BRANTWOOD CHILDREN'S HOME IN FEBRUARY 2016

Enclosed is my gift of: \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Ways to Give a Gift

Donate online: www.brantwoodchildrenshome.org

Enclosed is my check made payable to:
Brantwood Children's Home

Please charge my credit card:

Expiration Date: ___/___ Security Code: _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Did you know we send the Brag and other periodic updates via email? We'd love to communicate you with electronically. Please ensure we have your contact information by completing all the fields above.



Our 6 passenger van has put us down making it impossible to transport all of our children at the same time. If you can help, please call us.

BRANTWOOD'S EXTREME MAKEOVER

Brantwood alumni, Tay Ferguson and Marcus Webster are exemplifying the old expression that it is better to pay it forward.

More than 15 years ago, when they were residents of Brantwood, they would not have dreamt of being able to give back in the ways in which they are now able. At the time, the thoughts of having a career, having a family, and being able to give back were not even figments of their imaginations. Now having achieved successful careers (they both are with the Montgomery Police Department) and starting beautiful families, they have made it a point to give back to the children of Brantwood whenever they can.

They, along with the entire Alumni Committee, have invested of their time,

talent, and treasure in various ways the past year. Their most recent adventure was making over The Cottage. They were preparing to split the expenses. They enlisted the help of their friends at American Company.

When owners, Johnny Plemmons and Shane McDaniels came for what Tay and Marcus thought was going to be estimate, Shane and Johnny kindly said that they would donate their services to the home for only the cost of paint. When they went to purchase the paint at Sherwin Williams and told the great folks over there what the project was, they too donated the paint for the project.

Thank you to our alumni, American Company, and to Sherwin Williams for being the change you want to see in the world.



BRANTWOOD WELCOMES SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN MERRILL



Alabama's Secretary of State John Harold Merrill visited our campus on Tuesday, January 19th. During his visit, he toured our facilities, spoke with our children about determination against the odds, and even left them with posters for each of the rooms.

Merrill was elected with 65% of the vote and carried 53 of Alabama's 67 counties.

Prior to taking the office of Secretary of State, he was elected to the State House of Representatives. He has also served as the

Secretary/Treasurer of the House Republican Caucus.

Merrill has been married to the former Cindy Benford for thirty years. They have two children, Brooks and Allie Grace.

We also send our regards to Kayla Fernon, who is Merrill's Press Secretary. Fernon accompanied Merrill on his trip to our campus, but was not unfamiliar of our home during the trip. Fernon became acquainted through her church, The Church of the Highlands. Thanks to Kayla for helping to facilitate this visit.

THE LOVE RUN 5K

We will host our 4th annual Love Run 5k on February 13, 2016. The race will begin at Paterson Field, wind its way through downtown and end with a celebration on Brantwood's campus.

If you've not had the pleasure of meeting our children, they will be lining the hill of our driveway cheering on the race participants as they near the finish line. All proceeds from the race will go towards the food, clothing, and shelter of our children. Our goal is \$15,000 and we are currently 60% there thanks to our generous sponsors to the race.

There will be door prizes, goodie bags, and a light breakfast provided. All that for just \$25 registration. Registration can be found in the *In the News* section of our webpage at www.brantwoodchildrenshome.org or at www.active.com. Return paper registrations to our address or via email to Krystal at kfloyd@brantwoodchildrenshome.org.

All You Need is Love

Love Run
Presented By
Beasley Allen

February 13th
8:30 a.m.
Paterson Field

Thank you for those that help to provide Christmas presents for our children. We also want to thank those that gave a gift during our *Give a Gift* campaign.

Because of your kindness, we were able to reach our end of year goals. For those that weren't able to give, we thank you for your continued prayers for our home and children. We dedicate the following poem to all of you from the children of Brantwood.

Thank You for Your Kindness

Thank you for your kindness,
It meant so much to me.
You care so much about me,
This is clear to see.
When I think of special,
I always think of you,
And the lovely gifts you give,
And the thoughtful things you do.
Your essence in my life,
Is the best gift you can give,
Our friendship will go on,
For as long as we both live.
Thank You.

Thank you

...to some of our special partners!



and.....

Best Glass Company
Mt. Olive Baptist Church
Alabama Power Foundation