



# CHRISTIAN FAMILY & CHILDREN'S CENTER

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Dear Friends of the Center,

I just want to thank you for your past support of the Center. Your prayers and gifts make a significant difference! We have been so blessed over the last 36 years in ministry and we give all the praise and glory to the Lord for providing for our needs through many generous donors.

It is a privilege to serve families through the Center's many programs. Every day the teachers at Champion Christian School (CCS) and Preschool share a living faith as well as high quality academics integrated with Biblical principles with their students.

Every week people find help in the work of the counseling program. From developing ways to deal with depression or anxiety, working on difficult family or marriage issues, or helping kids work on the problems of life, lives are changed through this program.

Our community coach bus trips, blood drives, continuing education classes (CEUs), and the annual music festival called Alloutpraise, all bring together people from different geographic areas, different churches and denominations, and many different age groups.

Two years ago we launched a \$750,000+ three phased capital campaign. Thanks to donations from foundations, businesses, and individuals (both cash and volunteer labor), the campaign is successfully completed! What a huge step forward! The new early education/fine arts addition at the North Campus in Donegal was constructed, our remaining mortgage debt was retired, and the South Campus in Indian Head got a new metal roof. Existing carpeting has been replaced and painting was refreshed in many of the rooms in our buildings. We prayerfully continue to press on to expand our early education programs, Champion Christian School and Christian Counseling Services, and are looking into new work with senior citizens.

As you count your blessings this year we pray that you would consider a gift to the Center to partner with us in our continuing mission of educating, equipping, and engaging the world for Christ.

Enclosed is an envelope and response card that outlines some suggested Center needs if you want to designate your gift.

**Where needed most.** Help towards general operating expenses is greatly appreciated. This allows us to pay our bills, payroll and respond to ongoing needs.

The **Amanda Wingrove Memorial Financial Aid Fund** is to help families in need to afford a Christian education at Champion Christian School. Amanda was our financial aid director for 15 years before she passed away last year from a battle with Lymphoma. She helped so many families in her role and we wanted to honor her memory by establishing a fund to help students with special financial aid. 75% of our student body receives some type of financial aid in order to be able to attend CCS.

***“Educating, Equipping, and Engaging the World for Christ”***

Many clients are getting professional, Biblically based help through the Center's **Christian Counseling Services**. Some of these clients are unable to pay the full fee and are in need of financial aid. Designated donations to the counseling program will cover those expenses.

**Public policy awareness.** In his work as Co-Coordinator of our state Council for American Private Education (PACAPE), Merle has been traveling to Harrisburg as well as Washington, D.C to share with our legislators about the need to preserve religious freedoms and tell the story of how that directly affects us here at the Center. He has been instrumental in organizing Christian Schools in Maryland, New Jersey, and New York and is working to expand to additional states. Resources are needed to help this endeavor. Some travel expenses are covered, but none of his time or extra work is covered. If you are passionate about Christians standing in the gap for our religious freedoms you may want to give to this aspect of our ministry.

**Projects at the Harr Athletic Field** (North Campus in Donegal) have been ongoing. Fencing around the soccer field has been put up but more is needed. The wooden stairs from the parking lot down to the field need replaced with concrete steps. When resources are available, plans are in place to put in a walking track, improve the bleacher area, build a pavilion, and create a softball/baseball field.

May God bless you all in this special season remembering Jesus- the greatest Gift of all!

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Barbara A. Skinner, Development Director