



Fort Smith Boys Home

Est. 1978 • Changing Lives • Building Futures

2024 May-June-July-August Newsletter

Edition #25

OUR NEWBOARD/TRAINING ROOM

PATIENCE IS SOMETHING THAT WE TALK TO THE BOYS IN OUR CARE ABOUT DAILY,



HOWEVER, AS AN ADULT IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO HAVE IT WHEN NEEDED! WE ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT OUR ADDITIONAL NEW LOCATION WHICH WILL SPLIT UP AGES AND HONESTLY MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR BOTH BOYS AND STAFF. WE ARE READY "NOW" TO BE OPEN, BUT WE REMIND OURSELVES EVERYDAY IT TAKES TIME TO COMPLETE THE REMODEL SAFELY AND CORRECTLY. OUR GOAL POST HAS MOVED A COUPLE OF TIMES AND THE OPENING DATE IS NOW LOOKING AT THE SECOND SEMESTER OF SCHOOL IN JANUARY 2025! AGAIN, NOT SOON ENOUGH BUT WE ARE COMMITTED TO GETTING EVERYTHING AS PERFECT AS POSSIBLE HOWEVER, THAT WORD "PATIENCE" KEEPS POPPING UP!



Anyone interested in donating please contact: 479-769-5624 or boysshelterdirector@gmail.com

Fort Smith Boy's Home Board Members 2024

Marty Clark - President
Beverly Elam
Matt Marshall

Scott Phillips - VP
Shannon Kellerher
James McMillan

Gaines Woods
Bryan Merry
Andy Rauser

SPOTLIGHT ON 2024

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Alexander Family

Marcy Ball

Chris Ball

Mike Bass

Dave Brugger

Amanda Brown

Lindsey Cherry

Ameila Cherry

Brandi Cherry

Jack Cassingham

Mac Donovan

David Donovan

Beverly Elam

Jason Edmonson

Samantha Fleharty

Jessica Gordon

Sheena Garrard

Larry Hall

David Hale & Family

Tate Jarrad

Shannon Kellerher

Jolean Long & Family

Lance Logston & Family

Crystal Lougin

Bryan Merry

Lisa Myers

Stephanie Nugent

Myhanh Nguyen

Tim Regan

Megan Stearman

Desiree Fontaine-Arizmedni

James Ball

Kail Ball

Tyler Belk

David Burrell & Family

Thomas Ceola

Matt Cherry

Marty Clark

Spencer Christian

Edward Donovan

Karen Donovan

Larry & Lynette Denton

Kevin Epperson

Shea Foldvary

Anthony Finney & Family

Linda Graig

Mayra Gonzales

Chris Holmes & Family

Adam Jarrad

Roxanne Jester

Ryan Kaundart

Chris Loudon

Ashley Latimer

Jason Mendez

James McMillan

Fred Nauke

Rob Nugent

Andy Rauser

Angie Ruth

Jessica Strawser



Michael Ceola

Stephanie Ceola

Audrey Cherry

Gina Clark

Hunter Comer

Katie Donovan

Eddie Donovan

Mary Digger

Krista England

Clint Fleharty

Wade Gordon

William Gilland

Imani Gomez

Regan Heppner

Abby Jarrad

John Kellerher

Wyatt Kaundart & Family

Mitzy Little

Natosha Lowrey

Matt Marshall

Alicia McConnel

Pat Notle

Bobby Needham & Family

Bianca Rauser

Felicia Smith

Keley Simpson

Beth Solomon	Laurie Spriner	Kirk Snipes
Catlin Sammons	Sam Sicard & Family	Wayne Templeton
Tyler Williams	Gaines Woods	John Weisenfels
Holly Weisenfels	Reggie Weinberg	Judy Weinberg
Alan Wright	Destiny Warner	Reggie Wenberg & Family
Tyler Williams	Congressman Steve Womack	

BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

ABC Supply	ABC Consignment	ACME Chemical
Alpha Packaging	A to Z Alma	ABB
AB Electric	Atlas Co.	Arrowhead Supply
Automation Engineering	Basin Hotel	Breeden Dodge
Bumper to Bumper	Bricktown	Crescent Hotel
Come Get U Some	Car Corner	Cheddars
Choctaw Casino	CJS	Cheap Sleep
Chambers Bank	DHS Sebastian Co.	Dave's Heating & Air
FSPS	FSPD	Floyd Traylor Honda
Gonzalez Auto Repair	Ground Effects Lawn	Home Depot
Harry Robinson Buick	Jody's Muffler	Longhorn Steakhouse
La Huerta	Lowes	Maxey Signs
Now & Then Shoppe	Meadors Lumber	O'Rileys
Petco	Petree Construction	Platinum Distribution
Pasta Grill Breakfast Club	Sherry's She Shed	Southern Tire Mart
Tile Craft Construction	United Way River Valley	Walk Ons
Western Sizzlin	Sam's Club Fort Smith	

CHURCHES-CIVIC GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

Aces Coalition	Antioch	Davis Foundation
Evans Foundation	FS Food Bank	FSPD
FSPS	FSPS Service Center	Grace Church
Hennessy Foundation	Haven Heights Church	Kiwanis Club
Masonic Lodge	Noon Civic Club	Oak Cliff Baptist
Optimist Club	Parker Center	Razorback Foundation
Rye Hill Baptist	Spirit 106.3	United Way
Walter O Caldwell Foundation	Women's Shelter	1st Presbyterian Church
7th Day Church of God	Hand 2 Hand Foundation	

Importantly, supporters lists start over every year. However, if you have graciously supported and donated to The Boy's Home and have not been recognized, my apologies for the oversight. We also understand that supporters are not looking for recognition, but YOU deserve it!

OUR CORPORATE PARTNER AND FRIEND....



It's important to the Boy's Home to acknowledge all the support and help we get from GERDAU Corporation, but also the individuals who give their time, efforts and financial support to our program. Cleaning supplies, towels, trash bags, floor cleaner, toilet paper, mops, rubber gloves and much more! GERDAU also contributes financially to our yearly fundraisers and each year gives the boy's a HUGE CHRISTMAS DINNER and gift cards for the boy's. True story: Last year, prior to getting the gift cards, I stated that we would buy the boy's clothes and other needed items. I was told, no, let the boy's buy anything they want! GREAT ADVICE AND THE BOYS LOVED IT!

GERDAU employees volunteer for our fundraisers and facilitate tours for local Fire Departments and the GERDAU STEEL PLANT as well. The plant tour is a real eye opener for the boy's and frankly the staff as well. It's hot and looks to be difficult work but also very technical and exceptionally professional.



Spotlight on : First National Bank



One of the many things we are proud of about Fort Smith and the River Valley is the Business Leaders in our Community.

First National Bank of Fort Smith was organized February 29, 1872, as "The National Bank of Western Arkansas. In 1888, First National Bank built its first bank building, a modest two-story brick building at South Sixth and Garrison.



Photo of the Original First National Bank

A few years into the 20th century President Samuel McCloud plans for the tallest building in Fort Smith to replace the old bank. The landmark eight-story First National Bank building opened January 31, 1910. First National Bank remains our largest financial institution and the second oldest bank in Arkansas.

At this time I want to personally THANK First National Bank of Fort Smith and the leadership of Mr. Sam Sicard for the generous GIFT donation of \$100,000 to our expansion project! The remodel costs are substantial and this GIFT will make a huge impact towards our fundraising goals. Importantly, First National Bank of Fort Smith has been a pillar in the community. They have continually supported other Non-Profit Organizations and made a huge difference in Fort Smith and the River Valley.

Quoting, Mr. Sicard after a generous donation to the Boys and Girls Club;

"We have to recognize that this community has been very generous to us and we need to reciprocate to show our gratitude. We've been blessed with a financial situation where we are able to give back to the community, and that's what we want to do."

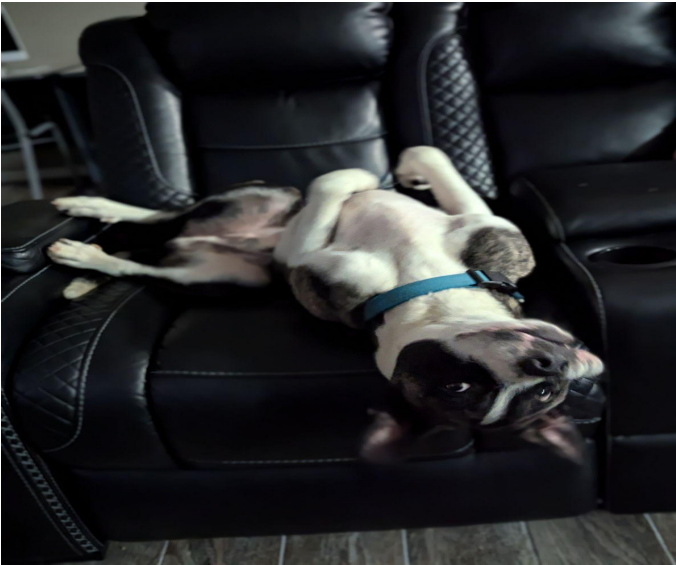
Spotlight on: Chevy

12 Reasons Why Kids Need a Dog



1. Health: Studies in Finland have shown that babies who are around dogs in their first year of life, have less general illnesses. Such children also have fewer respiratory tract infections and ear infections, than those who don't have pets.

2. Social Skills: Owning a pet will also **enhance your child's self esteem** and social skills. This is one of the most beneficial reasons why kids need a dog.



3. Reading Skills: Most children will happily play games with the family pet dog, but did you know they can be a great reading buddy too.

4. Stress: Having a pet dog helps to **decrease those stress levels**, even in children. Their pet dog is a trusted friend they can talk to, and stroke, and pooch will sit and listen.

5. Exercise: Children with dogs tend to **get more exercise** than children with no dogs, especially if they go on the

walks as well. This is one of the most beneficial reasons why kids need a dog nowadays. With all of the video games and television that children are exposed to, a pet gives them a good reason to get up, get outside and move around.

6. Specialist Abilities: Some dogs train more easily, to become specialist companions for children born with certain conditions. Such a **dog makes a great difference to the lives of children with autism**, blindness or deafness. Dogs make great loyal companions, and it helps these children develop more confidence.

7. Empathy: Pets, especially dogs, are a great way for your child to learn how to be empathic to others. They learn to read the body language of their dog's needs. Picking up on pooch's emotions, means they will know when he is fretting.

8. Patience and Determination: If your child is watching you [train your puppy](#), they will soon realize that good behavior doesn't just happen. It takes time to develop, along with a good deal of patience. This can help a child identify with their own behavior, learning that certain things are unacceptable.

9. Companionship: One major advantage of owning a dog is the companionship they provide. This can be a crucial element for a child, as they grow up side by side. An only child may even see the dog as their sibling, building upon a special relationship together.

10. Body Language: A child with a pet dog will grow up to learn more about social cues. Whilst a dog cannot communicate through spoken language, children and pets have an understanding of each other.

11. Family Bonding: Dogs are pack animals by nature, so it's not surprising that they may see their human family as their pack. It's much the same for a child growing up. Humans are social creatures too.

12. Non-Judgemental: It's never too late to introduce a pet dog into the family. In an older child, it will help facilitate a non-judgemental friendship. Crucial to children growing up in a world of social media.



Chery...
"I love it at the
Boys Home, you
wouldn't believe how
much food 12 boys
drop!"

Annual Car / Truck / Jeep Show!



This is a BIG DEAL for the Boy's Home! Without question the show is a solid fundraiser for our program but is also a time of fun for staff and boys! Each year we get bigger and more importantly, better! Cars, Trucks, Jeeps and Rat Rods are all welcomed! Without question people attend for the show, but our Silent Auction continues to be a BIG HIT and we always have something for all ages.

**Fort Smith Boys Home
Annual Silent Auction and
Car Show**



September 14, 2024
Ben Geren Storm Shelter

50/50 Raffle 1 for \$3 2 for \$5 3 for \$7 4 for \$9 5 for \$10	TOP 40 AWARDS: • Best Interior • Best Paint • Best Engine • Best in Show • Top 2 Rat Rods • Top 2 Modified Jeeps • Top 2 Original Jeeps	ENTRY FEE \$25 or \$20 for pre-registration 
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REGISTRATION 8AM TO 10AM - MUSIC - FOOD AND DRINKS -
AWARDS AT NOON - SILENT AUCTION AFTER

8375 S Zero St, Fort Smith, Ar • 479.769.5624 •
479.646.2819 • boysshelterdirector@gmail.com

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Any questions please call: **479-646-2819 or 479-769-5624 or email:**
[**boysshelterdirector@gmail.com**](mailto:boysshelterdirector@gmail.com)

Message from the Executive Director...



*I can't stop smiling and talking about our **NEW BUILDING!** It's more than just a building, it's an opportunity to help foster children, which is our **MISSION!** Our new building will enable us to separate ages (15-18) and (11-14). These kids all have problems, but they are different problems. Separating them will honestly help us, and the youth in our care...*

*I have to admit the remodel process is much more involved than I had considered or could have imagined. While the building gives all the square footage we could hope for, tearing down walls, building them back, flooring, electric and plumbing work is extensive. While the cost will be higher than first considered, it's worth it to get it right and done the way we want it. However, considering the cost involved we are actively looking for donations and contributions to make this dream a reality. At this time I want to personally **THANK** First National Bank of Fort Smith and the leadership of Mr. Sam Sicard for the generous **GIFT** donation of \$100,000 to this new building expansion project! Words cannot describe what this type of donation means to our program. Also, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the rest of our supporters who give yearly, monthly, and weekly to the Boy's Home. Without the continued efforts and charitable giving by our supporters, the Boy's Home would struggle. Many of "**The People**" I am talking about don't want to be recognized, so respectfully will not be, but you know who you are and are probably helping others in the community as we speak....*

THANK YOU FROM THE STAFF AND BOYS!

Eddie Donovan

How Can You Help? Complete and mail this form today.

If you would like to be involved financially in supporting the Boy's Home, please complete the following form.

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

City, State, Zip: _____ **Phone:** _____

Levels of Friendship

_____ **\$25**
_____ **\$50**
_____ **\$75**
_____ **\$100**
_____ **\$250**
_____ **\$500**

Please send your support to:

The Boy's Home, Inc.
5904 South Zero
Fort Smith, AR 72903
479-646-2819 Office

The Home certainly has business and grant support which goes a long way in making us successful. However, the individual and local support makes all the difference. Many supporters are tireless, weekly cooking meals, giving financial support and volunteering anyway needed. That support is very meaningful but also motivates the staff in many ways, most notably by understanding and seeing the difference we make in the lives of children who need it the most!

The Boy's Home, Inc. is a tax exempt 501C3 non-profit organization.

Our Tax Exempt number is 51-017284.

Importantly, with our New Building purchase, support is more important than ever! Any support you can provide is invaluable and appreciated. Anyone interested, we would love to give you a tour of the Boy's Home and discuss our future plans with you!

To become a supporter, contact us:

Email: boysshelterdirector@gmail.com

Website: www.fsboyshome.org