

Bethany Christian Services



General Information

**Nonprofit
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Phone
Web Site
Facebook
Twitter
Email**

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Mission & Impact

Statements

Mission

We believe every child deserves to be safe, loved, and connected through family. Bethany is a national nonprofit that supports children and families with world-class social services, all designed to help families thrive. Eighty years ago, we began our work by serving a single child. Today, we work in more than 30 states. Our mission is to bring families together and help keep families together while creating optimum environments for children to thrive. We measure our success by the longevity of stability a child experiences, and our first priority is for a child to be cared for by its biological family. Our experience has shown that creating a community of support and encouragement for individuals who are struggling to parent has the greatest impact on the long-term success of the home environment. We focus efforts on identifying sources of support and encouragement in our clients' existing circles and providing short-term community for them while strategically inviting them to connect with individuals and programs to create long-term support.

Background

Nationally, Bethany Christian Services began in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1944. Our Middle Tennessee office opened in 1989 as a satellite of the Chattanooga office and became an independent office in 2003. There are over 75 independent Bethany locations nationwide. Our office serves 38 counties in Middle Tennessee. At Bethany we live out our mission, vision and values as we serve children and families through services focused on serving families and children in their home country, Refugee and Immigrant services focused on serving families and individuals, including migrant children when they arrive in the US, and finally we focus on children and families in the US through programs like pregnancy counseling, adoption services, foster care, and family preservation services like Safe Families for Children.

Impact

Bethany has supported 93 families through Safe Families for Children in calendar year 2023 with a total of 63 hostings. The program housed 168 children experiencing instability for an average of 28 days. Ninety-six percent of children returned to a parent, friend, or relative. SFFC welcomed 14 new family volunteers and maintained 42 family friends. In Nashville, Bethany served 158 unaccompanied minors in 2023. As of October 15th, 2024, Bethany has served 224 post-release cases.

Needs

Bethany Christian Services in the greater Nashville areas seeks to raise \$200,000 to promote family preservation. Bethany will prevent 80 children in the greater Nashville area from entering state custody through Safe Families for Children by recruiting and training 18 new volunteers to serve as host families for children. Additionally, Bethany will train 20 new foster parents to serve unaccompanied children in Nashville and Smyrna. Bethany will recruit 2 new board members from the Nashville area to provide oversight of our programs.

Statement from CEO/Executive Director

Bethany Christian Services is a leading national, Christian organization, with unmatched expertise in family preservation programs in the United States. At Bethany, we envision a world where every child is safe, loved, and connected. While well known as a premier adoption agency, we've also been at the forefront of the growing movement to improve long-term childhood outcomes by focusing on prevention and stabilization services. Whether a child is alone at the border, experiencing trauma at home, or watching their parents battle things like substance use or poverty, we are dedicated to keeping children safe and loved within their families of origin whenever possible. Because that's what's best for children. And since the day we opened our doors in 1944, we've always fought for what is best for children. Bethany has an extensive network of offices across the US to connect the right family with the right child. We also serve refugees globally, offering hope to those who've lost everything. Through your compassion, families fleeing crises are finding stability and hope again. It's our faith that motivates us. It's at the core of all we do. And it holds us to the highest standards. Because we know we are serving as the hands and feet of Jesus, we bring our best every day to make the biggest difference for the ones who need us the most.

Statement from Board Chair

The Bethany Board is positioned for incredible opportunity. Over the past year, our board and staff have strategically recruited top talent, leading to strengthening and new possibilities. The Bethany board is made up of high-level professionals from across the US who bring fresh energy, shared faith, renewed passion, and expertise to strengthen our mission. The Bethany board partners with our staff to strengthen the community's awareness of how we have evolved from the adoption-focused agency we once were, to the more robust child and family focused agency we are now. They ensure that Bethany stays true to our mission and to our Christian faith. This has opened doors and hearts, raising awareness of our broader services, ultimately growing our network of supporters and deepening engagement. The appointment of Keith Cureton as President and CEO marks an exciting chapter in our strengthening as an organization. Keith brings a wealth of professional experience from the corporate and nonprofit world, as well as lived experience serving at-risk youth. His leadership is focused on organizational health and Bethany's long-term health and impact. We are proud to be a part of this growing organization, dedicated to shaping a brighter future for the children and families we serve.

Service Categories

Primary Category
Secondary Category
Tertiary Category

Human Services - Adoption
Religion- Related - Christianity

Areas Served

Davidson & all 38 counties in Middle Tennessee,

TN - Davidson,TN - Bedford,TN - Cannon,TN - Cheatham,TN - Clay,TN - Coffee,TN - Davidson,TN - DeKalb,TN - Dickson,TN - Fentress,TN - Giles,TN - Hickman,TN - Houston,TN - Humphreys,TN - Jackson,TN - Lawrence,TN - Lewis,TN - Lincoln,TN - Macon,TN - Marshall,TN - Maury,TN - Montgomery,TN - Moore,TN - Overton,TN - Perry,TN - Pickett,TN - Putnam,TN - Robertson,TN - Rutherford,TN - Smith,TN - Stewart,TN - Sumner,TN - Trousdale,TN - Van Buren,TN - Warren,TN - Wayne,TN - White,TN - Williamson,TN - Wilson

Programs

Domestic Adoption Program

Description

Bethany offers domestic adoption services in 38 Middle Tennessee counties. This program includes orientation, education, adoptive family assessments, adoption planning, networking opportunities, placement, post placement services and support, and finalization support. The goal of the domestic program is to find stable, Christian homes for children in need of families within the United States. This program provides birthparents with life-honoring options for their child while providing couples facing infertility with the opportunity to build their family. National statistics show that one in six couples struggle with infertility. It is estimated that roughly one third of these couples seeking treatment will not achieve pregnancy, yet they can become parents through this program.

Budget \$164,409.00

Birthparent Services

Description

Bethany provides services to birthfamilies in 38 Middle Tennessee counties. All services to birthfamilies are provided at no charge and are available indefinitely. This includes individual counseling, group counseling, mentoring, and placement services as needed. Bethany exists to minister to families experiencing unplanned pregnancies. For birthparents choosing to parent, Bethany facilitates stability through connections with appropriate community resources. This program provides an opportunity for birthfamilies to explore life-honoring options for their child. Each birthfamily served is given a survey to offer feedback and report benefits of services received.

Budget \$164,409.00

Safe Families

Description

This program offers a practical way to help children while their parents deal with a crisis. A unique feature is that it provides a safe alternative to placing vulnerable children in the custody of child welfare officials. Safe Families is a network of host families that provides a loving home where parents may temporarily and safely place their children in times of crisis. Host families serve purely out of a sense of compassion and receive no compensation. The average stay is 45 days. The goal of the program is to reunite children with their parent(s) in a home that is more stable and healthy. * Become a host family. * Provide a host family with diapers, formula, clothing, or Christmas presents. * Offer your professional services to a child and/or their family. * Provide transportation for parents' visits and for their children.* Volunteer in other ways to support the family in crisis.* Support this ministry with your financial donation.

Budget

Population Served Adolescents
/>Infants and Toddlers
/>Children and Youth (0 - 19 years)

Post Adoption Services

Description

When a child joins a family through adoption there may be different questions or challenges that come up. Families may need information about the impact adoption has on normal developmental stages, grief and loss

issues, or even how to deal with inappropriate questions from strangers. Parents also may need to know where they can get support, specialized intervention, or post adoption counseling services. At Bethany, we have been working with families for more than 65 years and know how important information and support are when helping families. Adoption support is also referred to as post-adoption services. While post-placement visits and reports are routine and required, some families find that questions arise well after the adoption has been finalized. Adoption support can range from information and referral, to education and support for search and reunion, to mentors or support groups, or even to clinical adoption counseling services.

Budget

Short Term Immigrant Foster Care

Description

Bethany's Transitional Foster Care programs offer on-site educational, cultural, language, religious observation, recreation, counseling, on-site nursing, and coordination of legal services for Unaccompanied Children (UC), typically ages 12 and under with the exception of sibling groups and/or children with mental health needs or learning disabilities, The UC Program is managed by the Office of Refugee Resettlement ("ORR") within the Administration for Children and Families ("ACF"), an operational division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS"). By law, HHS has custody of and must provide care for each UC until they are either reunified with a parent/sponsor or turn 18 years of age.

Budget \$800,000.00

Population Served Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx
Children and Youth (0 - 19 years)
Immigrant, Newcomers, Refugees

CEO/Executive Director/Board Comments

Numerous referrals for vulnerable families are coming in, but there are not enough host families and trained volunteers to meet the need in our Safe Families for Children ministry. We need more families willing to host children in their homes for an average of 6 weeks.

Governance

Board Chair
Company Affiliation
Term
Email

Jessica Kolbinsky
Bethany Christian Services
January 2020 to December 2024
jessicakolbinsky@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Name	Affiliation	Status
Virginia Britto		Voting
Brandon Burton		Voting
Jessica Kolbinsky		Voting
Laura-Valentine Lock		Voting
Jeremy Mehaffey		Voting
Renee Miller		Voting
Teresa Ray		Voting

Board Demographics - Ethnicity

African American/Black 0

Asian American/Pacific Islander	1
Caucasian	4
Hispanic/Latino	0
Native American/American Indian	0
Other	0

Board Demographics - Gender

Male	2
Female	5
Unspecified	0

Governance

Board Term Lengths	3.00
Board Term Limits	3
Board Meeting Attendance	80%
Does the Organization have written Board Selection Criteria?	Yes
Does the Organization have a Written Conflict of Interest Policy?	Yes
Percentage Making Monetary Contributions	100%
Percentage Of Board Members Making In Kind Contributions	0%
Does the Board include Client Representation?	No
Number of Full Board Meetings Annually	6

Standing Committees

Community Outreach / Community Relations
Development / Fund Raising
Executive

Risk Provisions

Accident and Injury Coverage
Life Insurance
Medical Health Insurance
Professional Liability
Workers Compensation and Employers' Liability

Management

Executive Director
Email
Term Start

Mrs. Amy Scott
ascott@bethany.org
October 2019

Amy's Experience: As an adoptee and the domestic and international adoption specialist and post-adoption support specialist, Amy Scott knows that adoption is a lifelong journey and strives to support families throughout their journey. Amy has been employed with us since 2007. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1997 and a master's in marriage and family therapy in 2007. She has received specialized training in Trust Based Relational Intervention. Amy resides in North Georgia with her husband and three daughters.

Staff

Number of Full Time Staff	2
Number of Part Time Staff	8
Volunteers	21

Contractors
Staff Retention Rate

0
80%

Plans & Policies

Fundraising Plan? Under Development
Strategic Plan? Yes
Years Strategic Plan Considers 3
When Strategic Plan Adopted? December 2016
Management Succession Plan? No
Policy and Procedures Plan? Yes
Nondiscrimination Policy? Yes
Whistle Blower Policy?
Document Destruction Policy?

Formal Evaluations

Is there a formal evaluation for...		Frequency
CEO/Executive Director	Yes	Annually
Senior Management	Yes	Annually
Non-Management	Yes	Annually

Affiliations

Affiliation	Year
ANE (Association of Nonprofit Executives)	2003
CABLE	2005
Center for Nonprofit Management Excellence Network	2004
Child Welfare League - Accredited Member	2003
North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)	2003

Financials

Financials

Fiscal Year Start
01/01/2024
Fiscal Year End
12/31/2024
Projected Revenue
\$5,270,117.00
Projected Expenses
\$5,221,044.00

Detailed Financials

Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Total Revenue	\$181,454,782.00	\$167,777,897.00	\$140,608,572.00
Total Expenses	\$177,116,363.00	\$166,213,752.00	\$143,766,562.00
Revenue Less Expense	\$4,338,419.00	\$1,564,145.00	(\$3,157,990.00)

Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Federal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - State	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Local	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Government - Unspecified	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,641,200.00
Individual Contributions	\$7,829,896.00	\$11,512,301.00	\$9,709,403.00
Indirect Public Support	\$78,457.00	\$57,838.00	\$126,008.00
Earned Revenue	\$173,240,984.00	\$155,840,512.00	\$128,369,453.00
Investment Income, Net of Losses	\$66,258.00	\$56,156.00	\$45,661.00
Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Events	\$199,094.00	\$247,751.00	\$75,344.00
Revenue In-Kind	\$40,093.00	\$63,339.00	\$641,478.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Expense Allocation

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Program Expense	\$155,158,355.00	\$145,681,267.00	\$124,765,320.00
Administrative Expense	\$21,077,325.00	\$19,835,951.00	\$17,710,349.00
Fundraising Expense	\$880,683.00	\$696,534.00	\$1,290,893.00
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	102%	101%	98%
Program Expense/Total Expenses	88%	88%	87%
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	0%	0%	1%

Top Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Program Revenue - \$173,240,984.00	Program Revenue - \$155,840,512.00	Program Revenue - \$128,369,453.00
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Contributions, Gifts, and Grants - \$7,829,896.00	Contributions, Gifts, and Grants - \$11,512,301.00	Contributions, Gifts, Grants - \$9,709,403.00
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Fundraising Events - \$199,094.00	Fundraising Events - \$247,751.00	Government Grants - \$1,641,200.00

Assets and Liabilities

Fiscal Year	2023	2022	2021
Total Assets	\$47,178,200.00	\$39,424,987.00	\$34,955,669.00
Current Assets	\$32,386,789.00	\$22,743,415.00	\$17,357,809.00
Long-Term Liabilities	\$1,470,000.00	\$1,470,000.00	\$1,470,000.00
Current Liabilities	\$23,663,866.00	\$20,249,072.00	\$17,343,899.00
Total Net Assets	\$22,044,334.00	\$17,705,915.00	\$16,141,770.00

Endowment Info

Do you have an endowment?

No

Capital Campaign Info

Currently in a Capital Campaign?

No

Solicitation Permit Info

State Charitable Solicitations Permit

Yes