

Residential Homes



EMBRACE
ALABAMA KIDS

Babies First – Mobile

The Babies First Home provides residential group care for teen mothers and their children. We provide teen mothers who have experienced neglect, abuse, and abandonment with stability that leads to growth in emotional, spiritual, and social intelligence. We have expanded to include The Parent Education Support Program which provides individualized services to increase the bond between the mother and child, promote growth and development, and prevent abuse and neglect. The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and the Alabama Children's Trust Fund partially fund The Parent Education Support Program.

Settlement Home – Headland

The Settlement Home provides a caring home environment for teen boys from across Alabama who can no longer live with their biological parents. Our youth care staff members provide healthy and nurturing home environments and meet each teen where he is on the emotional and behavioral spectrum to develop trust and love. Youth are provided support to achieve successful completion of high school or a training program and are encouraged to participate in normal teen experiences through athletics and other community and worship activities.

Mary Ellen's Hearth – Montgomery

We help mothers and their children experiencing homelessness transition to an independent and safe environment where they are able to live successful, purpose-filled lives. In addition to providing women with housing and resources (financial literacy, parenting, cooking, and nutrition, etc.) that empower them to move past the adversity they face, we also help them heal by surrounding them with positive opportunities.

Transitional and Independent Living – Headland and Tuscaloosa

This program provides an apartment setting for youth leaving a foster care or residential setting who may not have fully developed the living skills necessary to flourish on their own. The program provides an opportunity for youth to gain independent living skills without yet carrying the full weight of independence.

Overton Home – Birmingham

This is a specialized home, run in partnership with Glenwood, Inc., for autistic children whose parents are faced with overwhelming challenges in caring for them. The teens living in the home often find it difficult to relate through interpersonal relationships. Despite the adversity they face, this tailored and consistent home environment helps them take emotional and behavioral steps forward as they grow into young adults.

Higher Education – Tuscaloosa and Florence

The goal of our Higher Education Homes is to cultivate academic, spiritual, and social development in the individuals living in the homes. We provide students who were in foster care or alternative living situations with stable, loving environments where they can receive the resources and assistance they need to grow into successful young adults. Our staff members play an integral role in the lives of students as they mature into adulthood and pursue college degrees.

- **Tuscaloosa Area:** University of Alabama, Shelton State Community College, Stillman College
- **Florence Area:** University of North Alabama, Northwest Shoals Community College

We continue to answer God's call to provide homes, healing, and hope to even more of Alabama's children in need.

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Community Ministries

Foster Care – Tuscaloosa, Andalusia, and Dothan

Embrace Alabama Kids works to keep biological families together. When that is not possible our foster care teams work with caring foster families who open their hearts and homes to kids in need. Our team recruits, trains, and supports foster families to provide a range of foster homes:

- Traditional Foster Care for neglected and abused children
- Therapeutic Foster Care for children ages 5 and up with a mental health diagnosis impacting their ability to function and a qualified assessment
- Foster Care with Enhanced Services for medically complex children or children with other specialized needs
- Enhanced Sibling Group Foster Care for large sibling groups in the same foster home

Family Preservation – Andalusia, Dothan, and Tuscaloosa

This intensive in-home service provides support and intervention to families either at risk of having their children removed from the home or in the process of reunification with their children who have been in foster care to ensure a safe transition for the whole family. The goal is to equip the families with the skills necessary to handle challenges in a healthy way and provide safe, loving homes. Our staff members collaborate with the family at risk and the Department of Human Resources to develop a family-specific intervention plan.

School Readiness and Parenting Support – Andalusia and Dothan

The Parent Education and Support Programs were developed to meet the needs of parents in order to help them take active roles in their children's learning and prepare them for kindergarten. Our evidence-based school readiness program equips parents with tools and education through home visits, screenings, free books, and hands-on activities.

Andalusia area: This program is a Parents as Teachers Affiliate and is open to families in Covington County with babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. It is made possible by the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education.

- **Dothan area:** Parenting support is provided in Houston, Henry, Dale, Barbour, and Geneva counties and is made possible by funding through The Daniel Foundation. This program equips children and families with school readiness and positive parenting.

“For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

-Jeremiah 29:11