




THE CHURCH CONNECTION GRANDFATHER HOME FOR CHILDREN

Share Your Stories!

Grandfather Home will be celebrating its Centennial beginning in May of 2013. One of the things the Church Relations Committee wants to offer is an on-line devotional highlighting stories about person's experiences with Grandfather Home. **We would like to invite you to participate in this effort by sharing your stories about your connection to Grandfather Home and what that has meant to your faith.** We welcome stories from alumni and former residents, former and current staff, volunteers, supporting churches, Grandparents' Club members, anyone for whom this ministry is or has been important.

The guidelines and forms for devotional submissions are on the website along with several sample devotionals. We will accept hard copies of devotionals but electronic submissions would make editing easier. We would like to collect enough stories to enable us to post a new story at least twice a week for the 16 months of the Centennial celebrations. The deadline for your submissions is December 31, 2012. We want to have the entire year's content completed and ready for publishing to the website by April 1, 2013. Please submit your stories ASAP to allow plenty of time for final editing. We look forward to reading your stories! Thank you.



Centennial Devotional Project

We would like to invite people with a wide range of connections to Grandfather Home for Children to write a brief devotional for use on our website during the Centennial Celebration. How often we can change the devotionals stories on the website will be dependent on how many responses we get. We want to have our full 16 months of devotionals edited and ready to go by May of 2013, the official start of our Centennial Celebration.

We are inviting interested persons to briefly share a story about your connection to Grandfather Home or an incident of special importance to you relating to Grandfather Home. When sharing your experience please include what happened, when it happened, what you learned and how it related to your faith. You may submit more than one devotional story. We welcome submissions from:

- Current and former staff
- Current and former residents/alumni
- Key agency leaders
- Care Workers/Counselors/treatment professionals/CHCWs/foster parents
- Trustees
- Churches
- Donors

We ask that you limit your story to one double spaced typed page in length. Please include a scripture reference to go with your story and any prayer request you would like to include. A photo of either yourself or the event you are recounting would be welcome. Submitting your story electronically would speed our editing process however hard copies are welcome. See the attached form for a guideline. Sample devotionals and additional copies of this form are available on our website <http://www.grandfatherhome.org>. Please send your completed devotional to Mae D. Weed below December 31, 2012. Thank you for your participation.

Mae D. Weed
Mae D. Weed
Grandfather Home for Children
PO Box 98
Banner Elk, NC 28604
828 260-7584
m.weed@grandfatherhome.org

Grandfather Home for Children Centennial Devotional:

Your Name _____

Your Contact Information: (mailing address, phone #, e-mail address) _____

Your role with Grandfather Home (staff, trustee, foster parent, foster child, resident child, alumni, etc): _____

Scripture that relates to your story? _____

Briefly share your story. (Please limit to one typed page double spaced)

Prayer: _____

Please send us a photo to use with your story
(If your Grandfather Home for Children has permission to use the content of my story and any photos I send with it in print materials or on the website for the promotion of Grandfather Home.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send devotionals to: Mae D. Weed, PO Box 98, Banner Elk, NC 28604 or, m.weed@grandfatherhome.org
Submission Deadline 12/31/12

Devotional forms are available on the website or contact Mae Weed to have one sent to you.

The Child Now Before Us

Jamie, age 15, came to Campbell Cottage on Grandfather Home's Banner Elk campus about 7 months ago. Campbell Cottage is a fully secured facility for the most traumatized children we serve. When Jamie arrived he was extremely hyperactive and deliberately did everything he could to disrupt everyone around him. He would constantly wander aimlessly around the large central room in Campbell Cottage and make repetitive nonsense sounds accompanied by almost convulsive movements. He would not come and sit in the circle during group meetings. Instead he would climb inside one of the large movable storage boxes and almost close the lid on himself. He would stay there listening for a short time then be off wandering and making noises to himself. He was often very antagonist toward the other children.

Today, Jamie is like a different child! He learned that he could trust the staff around him and that they really cared about him. His compulsive defensive behaviors are now under control. He joins in group meetings and participates in discussions. He has a brilliant mind. He constantly surprises us by how much he knows and the thoughtful questions he asks. He loves to read and draw and has a good singing voice.



Jamie is fascinated by the Wildlife Rehabilitation presentation at Campbell Cottage.

Jamie recently "stepped down" to Harris Cottage because of his tremendous improvement. The children in Harris Cottage have the freedom to move around the campus, eat in the dining hall and attend classes at Grandfather Academy. It was initially a difficult transition for Jamie because Campbell Cottage and its staff had become "home." However, he quickly learned that his new care givers could also be trusted. He is doing very well and moving toward the day when he can be reunited with his family. Remember Jamie in your prayers as he continues to grow and heal.

Please keep all our children in your prayers!

A Wonderful Memorial



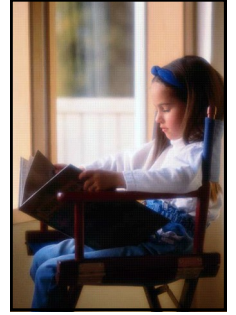
Bob and Jane Snyder have been long time supporters of the Grandfather Home for Children ministry. He recently wrote to Grandfather Home, "We go back to the days when it was an orphanage and we had children visit us for the holidays." Although our ministry has changed over the years, the Snyder's support of our ministry has not. Sadly, Jane passed away in

October 2011 after an extended illness. Bob wrote to let us know that in lieu of flowers, he asked that memorial gifts be sent to Grandfather Home. He saw this as tribute to Jane's life and as "helping to restore the lives of children." We thank Bob and his family for their dedication to Grandfather Home and for thinking of others during this time of loss.

The Snyders are only one example of many people who have honored Grandfather Home in this special way. These gifts help remember the life of loved ones by creating a hopeful future for our children. Honor gifts can also be made for birthdays, anniversaries, or other special occasions. Thank you!

A 90 Books for 90 Years Party!

Emily Beardon heard Mae's heartfelt presentation about Grandfather Home when she visited the Avondale Presbyterian Church in December 2011. Emily's daughters called Grandfather Home to ask if they could honor their mother's 90th birthday in a special way. They said, "Emily really didn't need 'things' but we knew her friends would want to bring something! So when invitations went out we asked that birthday gifts for our mother be children's books that would then be donated, in our mother's honor, to Grandfather Home." Emily pursued a career in elementary education and later specialized in reading. These literary gifts seemed like a fitting way to honor their mother and to help others.



Over 260 books were received at the party. They will be distributed to the children served by Grandfather Home. Lynne Phifer and Mary Martin, her daughters, are grateful for the generous outpouring of friends and family. They said, "These books will bring adventure, discovery, and enjoyment to the lives of many children. Knowing this is a gift back to the whole family."

Dates to Remember:

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| February 2012 | Centennial Devotional Forms available on-line |
| March 23, 2012 | Easter Basket Deadline |
| April 6, 2012 | Circle of Courage, Noon |
| April 8, 2012 | Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30am |
| May 4, 2012 | Circle of Courage, Noon |
| June 2012 | Centennial Hymn Competition forms available on-line |

Grandfather Home for Children

PO Box 98
Banner Elk, NC 28604
828-898-5465

www.grandfatherhome.org

(Click on "Connect" tab for church information)

Mae D. Weed, Director of Church Relations
828-260-7584

m.weed@grandfatherhome.org

Easter Basket Drive

Grandfather Home needs over 300 Easter baskets for the children we serve. If your church wants to help contact Mae Weed.



A Sunday School class at First Presbyterian Church, Boone, made Easter baskets for the children at Grandfather Home.