

A *Legacy* of Care

2007 Annual Report

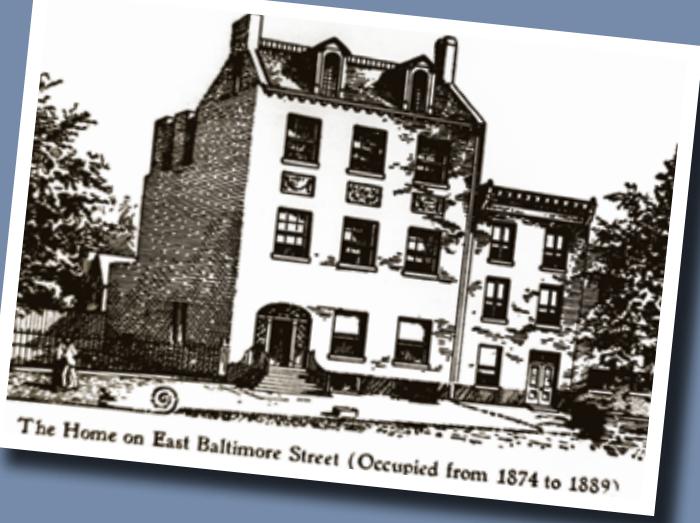
 **Board of Child Care**
of The United Methodist Church, Inc.



Who We are

The Board of Child Care is a nonprofit human services organization serving more than 1,500 children and their families each year throughout Maryland, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. Founded in 1874, the agency's programs encompass a continuum of care including:

- Residential care
- On-campus schools
- Day care and early education
- Foster care
- Child and family counseling
- Adoption
- Emergency shelters



Our Vision

To be a community of hope: providing an opportunity to heal, and a safe and caring environment for children, youth and families.



Caring through the *Generations*

For more than 130 years, the Board of Child Care has served children and families. Our humble beginnings go back to a single orphanage for girls that opened during the post-Civil War years in Baltimore. In the mid-1900s, that facility would later merge with a nearby home for boys and another orphanage in the District of Columbia to form the Board of Child Care, supported by the United Methodist Church.

We focus on our legacy of care in this report because it forms the core of what we do. The excellent care we provide children is a tradition. Our commitment to giving children strong foundations and hope for brighter futures has lasted generations. At the same

time, we have grown and changed as the world has changed and as a result our services are both regional and comprehensive. Along the way, we have matched this growth with responsibility, so that our agency is not only diverse but fiscally strong.

What are the results? Positive futures for children and youth. We have seen the children who grew up in Kelso Home for Girls, Strawbridge Home for Boys and Swartzell Methodist Home for Children thrive through the decades, and our youth today are following this legacy by leaving the Board of Child Care prepared to meet the world head on and live fulfilling lives.





President's message

We've come a long way since the days when providing care for children in need meant doling out "three hots and a cot"—three meals a day and a place to sleep.

Child welfare has become a professionalized, heavily regulated field. At the Board of Child Care, our lines of service include behavioral, clinical, recreational and spiritual. We demand high educational credentials of our staff and work to ensure ongoing professional development opportunities.

This evolution in child welfare has meant more comprehensive, quality care for our children. For our agency, maintaining that quality of care has been a constant challenge, but one that, historically, BCC has achieved, as you will read in this report. We have established a legacy of ensuring successful futures for children and families because we are a results-oriented agency that consistently meets and beats performance-based objectives. We are also blessed with dedicated agency leadership, staff, volunteers, the United Methodist Church and local social service programs that make it all happen for us.

In 2007, we continued to modify and improve our programming to meet social service program requirements. We also took extra

steps to again successfully earn EAGLE (Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence) accreditation through the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries. We were pleasantly surprised when the United Methodist Association awarded us an additional Best Practice Award for our plan to provide optimal wellness for children.

Any organization can pass an accreditation process, but the real value comes when an organization implements standards and adheres to regulations and best practice on a day-to-day basis. It also comes when we see former residents pay us a visit to tell us how they are doing. This past year, former residents stopped into my office to tell me about their successes in getting accepted into prestigious colleges and universities, holding down jobs while also raising children and going to school, and signing the lease and paying the rent on first apartments.

Even if alumni admit life is proving challenging for them, what is important is that they still seek us out for advice and support and they know we will give it to them. Life for them at the Board of Child Care was much more than just a warm, safe place to eat and sleep. We became their family and they remember.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas L. Curcio".

Thomas L. Curcio
President and CEO

Chairman's message

The year 2007 was very productive for the Board of Child Care's Board of Directors. This was due in part to the demands of the Board being greater than ever. Just as the programs and services offered by BCC have greatly changed over 133 years, so have the duties of the Board.

Today, the role of the Board members involves more than just having a say in BCC's programming. We also set policy and advocate on behalf of BCC within the community. Just as BCC must undergo more scrutiny in today's child welfare climate, so must BCC's leadership, meaning it is vitally important that we do our job effectively.

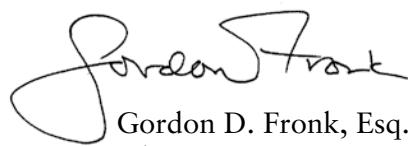
BCC's Board rose to meet these challenges this past year. Among our activities, the Board began implementing the new Covenant relationship agreement, successfully negotiated with the Baltimore-Washington Conference in 2006, to ensure all parts of the Covenant are in place by 2010. The Board also made a significant programming decision to expand residential and emergency shelter services to the Eastern Shore. We

hope to break ground on this project in 2008 to better meet the needs of children and youth in an area of the state that has traditionally lacked resources.

As an additional development, the Board and the Trustees of both Kelso Home for Girls and Strawbridge Home for Boys decided to merge both Kelso and Strawbridge Trusts' assets into the Board of Child Care Endowment, a move that we believe will strengthen these assets long into the future.

We concluded fiscal year 2007 by welcoming four new board members to our ranks whose strong community and civic ties will broaden the outreach of the agency's leadership, and further strengthen the presence of BCC beyond our facilities. Expect to hear more from these new leaders in 2008.

I want to thank the Board for their continued dedication and service on behalf of children and families. We follow a long tradition of active Board engagement and every member has done his or her part to maintain and build upon this legacy.



Gordon D. Fronk, Esq.
Chairman



Administration

Thomas L. Curcio, MSW, MSS
President and CEO

Sharon P. Kistler, MSW
Associate Executive Director

Susan G. Larson, MD
Medical Director

James E. Buckey, MBA, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Susan E. Pascale, MSW
Assistant Executive Director for District of Columbia Operations

Brian K. Hall, MSW
Assistant Executive Director for West Virginia Operations

Kelly Berger, LGSW
Director of Admissions

Angela Chambers, MS
Director of Education

Lisa Bryant, MED
**Director of Early Childhood Education,
Tide Point**

From *Humble* beginnings...

The Board of Child Care's heritage is comprised of people who cared and continue to care about children. Rev. Thomas Kelso, Mr. George W. Swartzell and Mr. and Mrs. George Albaugh laid the foundations of what would one day become the Board of Child Care when they recognized the needs of less advantaged children within their communities for a safe, caring, healthy and nurturing environment.

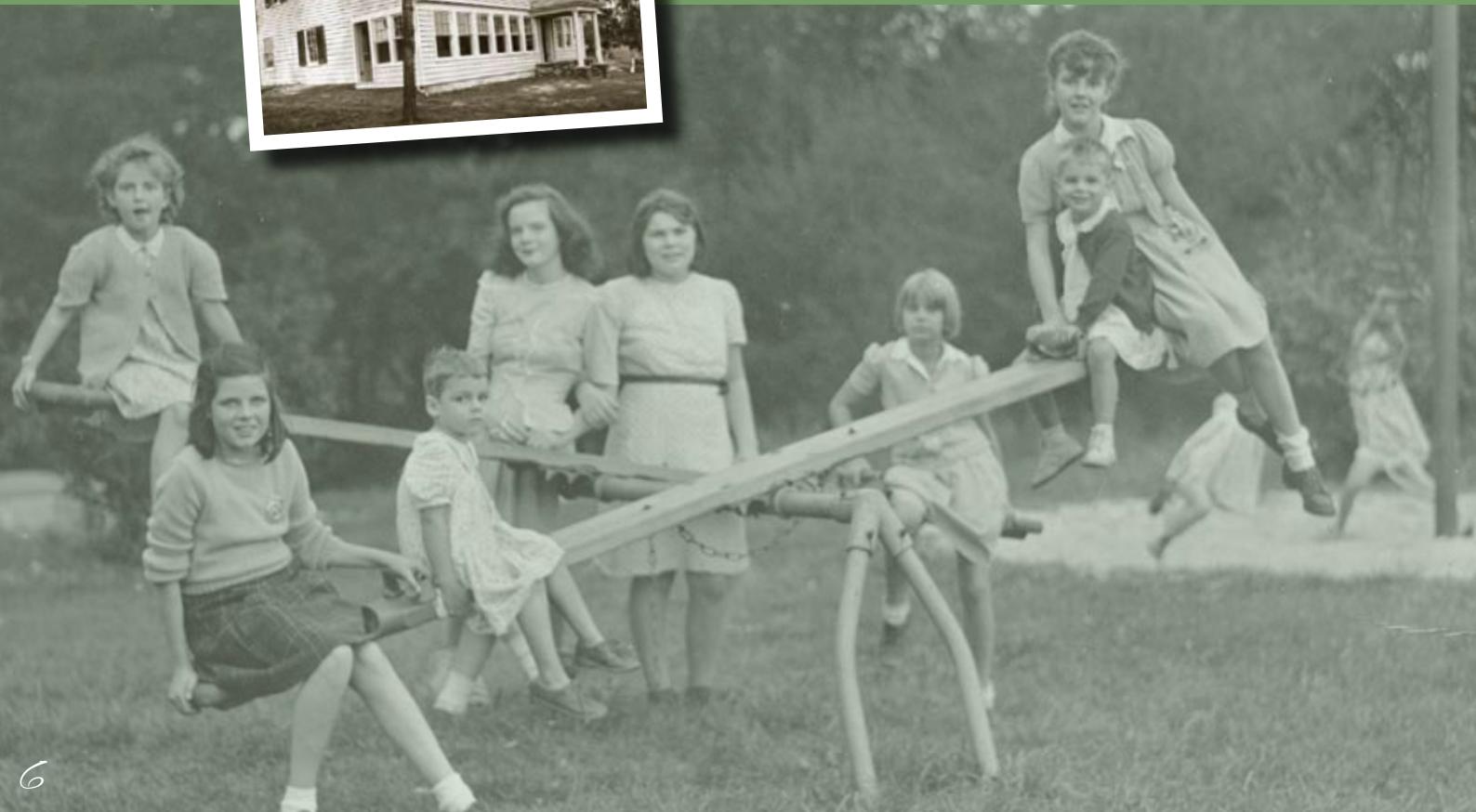
When Rev. Kelso, an Irish immigrant and successful Baltimore merchant, heard of a young Methodist widow who wanted to place her baby in a Methodist orphanage and none existed, he bought a house in Baltimore and opened it in January 1874 as the Kelso Home for Orphans.

The need for a children's home in Washington, DC, became apparent in 1907 when a child was left at the Deaconess Home. Mr. George W. Swartzell's caring

philanthropy enabled the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church to open the Swartzell Methodist Home for Children in 1912.

In 1922, Mr. and Mrs. George Albaugh's grandchildren were orphaned. Realizing the plight of orphaned children, they donated the 318 acre Manro Farm to build the Strawbridge Home for Boys. Recognizing the Albaugh's gift, Bishop William F. McDowell wrote, "Was there ever anything finer all round than this Strawbridge Home for Boys..."

By the mid-1900s, the decreasing number of orphans and the need to work with families led to the creation of the Board of Child Care in June 1943. Its duties were to manage and oversee the operation of the three children's homes within the Baltimore Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Eventually all three homes administratively merged into the Board of Child Care.



to comprehensive Services...

In 1960, the Board of Child Care dug its roots into 22 acres on Gaither Road in Baltimore, serving children and families out of eight buildings. Forty-seven years later, BCC's main campus has grown to 26 buildings and services have expanded elsewhere in Maryland, as well as in West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Today, BCC provides much more than a home for children in need. Services have expanded to include children's families and the outside community who take advantage of BCC's treatment foster care program, adoption services, day care facilities, mental health services and a nonpublic school.

Life for children and youth participating in BCC's campus programming is well-rounded and engaging. The children and youth living in the residential care, emergency shelter care and semi-independent living programs benefit from BCC's clinical services, educational services, medical services, spiritual development and therapeutic recreation. The staff serving the children and youth are highly trained, committed professionals who provide round-the-clock care and one-on-one support.



and *Positive* results, then...

Dr. Bill Bruce has many “great memories” of growing up in both Swartzell Methodist Home for Children and Strawbridge Home for Boys. “It was a very big family,” he recalls.

In 1938, when his mother became ill and could no longer care for Bill or his brother Bob, she left them in the care of Swartzell. Bill was 4 and his brother 2. The boys would spend their childhoods at Swartzell and then their teen years at Strawbridge.

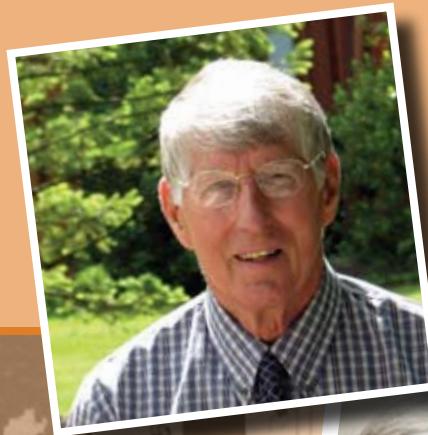
“I think the home offered us a good training,” Bill says. “It gave us excellent spiritual direction and we had many opportunities to participate in sports, which later became really my life. I think probably the fondest memory was the opportunity of being with a group of boys.”

After graduating from Sykesville High School, Bill went off to serve in the Korean War. When he returned, he took advantage of the GI bill and pursued a college education, graduating with a bachelor’s degree from Western Maryland College.

He spent the bulk of his career—34 years—as a physical education and biology teacher, primarily in the public school system. He later earned a doctorate degree in exercise physiology and education administration from Ohio State University.

Today he lives in the Eldersburg, Maryland, area with his wife of 50 years, with whom he has three children.

“I definitely think it was a blessing I ended up placed in the home...because we had the structure, we had the spiritual development, we had the requirement of follow through,” Bill says. “It encouraged me to the point I’ve now attended 10 different colleges and universities and never been kicked out of any of them. The home definitely inspired me to be competitive and to perform.”



...and now.

After four years of living on the Board of Child Care's Baltimore campus, 17-year-old Jeremiah is excited about moving on to another campus—the campus of North Carolina State University, where he plans to study engineering.

Jeremiah worked hard to land a spot at the school, earning a 3.5 cumulative grade point average while also playing for the high school football and basketball teams and BCC's basketball team, as well as holding down a job at Panera Bread. Jeremiah credits his success with simply paying attention in class, but when he first arrived at the Board of Child Care at the age of 13, he was at a significant disadvantage academically, having never attended a day of school in his life.

Through one-on-one instruction with a teacher at the Hagerstown Group Home where he initially resided, he quickly brought himself up to speed and entered school for the first time as an eighth grader. Describing the experience of going to school, Jeremiah recalls, "I was open to everything. I was willing to accept what the new experience would be like."

Jeremiah credits BCC with helping him handle his busy school and sports schedule. "[BCC] really

helped me stay focused in high school. If I had a problem with something...I could access staff and they could help me. When I was applying for schools, the staff helped me stay on track and on time with the deadlines and application process." Staff also accompanied him on college visits, including his visit to Raleigh, North Carolina, which was the deciding factor in his decision to attend North Carolina State, in addition to the financial aide package (including scholarships) they offered him, totaling \$29,000 his first year.

Throughout his high school years, staff also helped him "work on my game," he says, by opening up the gymnasium during off hours and shooting some hoops with him or throwing a football so he could get extra sports training time in. Noticing his dedication, BCC staff nominated him to receive the Youth Achievement Award from the Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth.

When he goes off to college, Jeremiah says he will miss the many staff, administrators and other youth he met at BCC over the years. Life at BCC, he says, is "a nice opportunity to meet new people and build relationships."



More of our *Stories*

Adoption

For Amanda and Doug, the road to bringing a child into their lives was a long one, but one well worth the journey. After deciding to adopt, the couple wound up half a world away in Kazakhstan where they finally met Joseph, a seven-month-old child in need of a loving home.

"We really feel that we were destined to have Joseph as our child," Amanda says. "We feel it was part of a larger plan, if you will, and that Joseph was always meant to be ours."

After Amanda and Doug decided adoption was the right option for them in building a family, they didn't know where to begin the maze of complicated procedures to complete an adoption. Then they heard Anne Pearce, the Board of Child Care's Director of Adoption Services, speak to a fertility support group, and so began their relationship with BCC, which has stuck by them throughout the adoption process.

While Amanda and Doug used an adoption agency located

outside their home state of Maryland for placement services, BCC provided a free initial consultation about the couple's adoption options, and supplied a packet of informational materials and articles that became the couple's "bible." When Amanda and Doug needed a licensed agency within Maryland to complete their home study, they turned to BCC. And when unexpected glitches occurred during their wait for a child, BCC was there to offer support, including help finding a second adoption agency to work with when they became unhappy with the first.

When Amanda and Doug finally brought Joseph home in May 2007, BCC was again there to guide them through the process, providing post-adoption support and advice, such as how to talk with people about their adoption, how to eventually explain the adoption to Joseph, and how to continue bonding with their new son.

"The Board of Child Care has just been fantastic and a great resource in assisting us with questions and concerns," says Amanda. And Joseph? "He's an amazing little boy. We are so blessed to have him in our lives."



Foster Care

When Vescenta learned that she was to become the foster parent to a sibling group of three boys, she was more than a little nervous about whether she could handle the job, but three years later, the four are still together and have become a family in her suburban Baltimore home.

"I never dreamed I would have them this long, but we've been doing pretty good so far," she says. Vescenta is one of more than a dozen treatment foster care parents who work with the Board of Child Care to provide loving homes to children and youth, ages 8 to 18, who need intensive care and treatment outside of their own biological homes.

For Vescenta, who is retired and a widow, Adam, 19, Simon, 16, and Kyle, 13, have helped to make her four-bedroom home come alive with activity. In turn, for the brothers, she has provided a stable, caring environment where they have been able to remain together. Adam and Kyle, in particular, have grown "very close" over time, Vescenta has noticed. "Vescenta has also been a bridge between the boys and their extended biological family," adds her BCC Clinical Social Worker, Camille Henderson.



The Board of Child Care provides the family with ongoing support, including therapy sessions for the boys and ongoing training for Vescenta. Adam's social workers at BCC recently helped him enroll at a local community college. And Vescenta has learned a great deal from the foster parent trainings. "It helps a lot with disciplining the boys and understanding them and handling crises." Camille works closely with Vescenta in assisting the boys with their educational goals and independent living and social skills.

After three years together, life has settled into a routine for the family. The boys have their favorite meals—macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and pizza—and on Saturdays they go to McDonald's and on Sundays they go to church. The holidays are spent with Vescenta's cousin who lives nearby and cooks big meals.

Vescenta says what she enjoys most about being a foster mom is "the joy of being a mom in my old age. I do enjoy taking care of the kids, cooking for them and seeing them off to school and waiting for their return. They are good kids."



A history of *Helping*

The Board of Child Care's Auxiliary

Historically, the ladies of the local parsonages and churches have supported children in need. The pantries of Kelso Home for Girls, Strawbridge Home for Boys and Swartzell Methodist Home for Children were never empty, thanks to the jars of jellies, preserves, fruits and vegetables these women diligently provided.

When the Baltimore Annual Conference created the Board of Child Care, the women of the Methodist churches across the Conference partnered with BCC.

Here are some of the activities and projects the Auxiliary organized during 2007.

- Each graduating senior received an afghan and \$100;
- 168 foster families and other families associated with BCC received Thanksgiving baskets;
- 200 children and youth in the residential and emergency shelter programs received Easter baskets;
- the Auxiliary Districts baked more than 27,000 cookies for the children;
- children and youth living on the Baltimore and West Virginia campuses received valentine candy and birthday cards with money and participated in arts and leisure activities organized by the Districts;
- at Christmas, youth on both campuses received gifts, as did each treatment foster care family. The children also shopped for their loved ones at Christmas stores on both campuses, thanks to the Auxiliary members who set up shop; and
- the Auxiliary's participation in Campbell's and General Mills labels and box tops collection programs generated \$2,156 in cash used to purchase resources for Strawbridge School.

In 1953, they officially organized into the Women's Auxiliary. Today they continue to generously give of their time year round to the children and youth served by BCC.

A special thanks is extended to Auxiliary members for their wonderful support of the children and youth at BCC in 2007. The Baltimore campus Auxiliary office is estimated to have logged more than 3,000 volunteer hours during the year, which translates to more than \$54,000 as a monetary contribution.



Financial statement

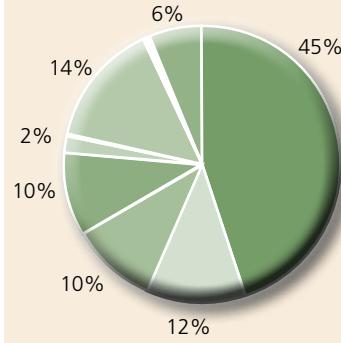
Operating Revenue	
State Government Reimbursement	\$17,317,651
Non-Government Revenue	\$2,764,843
Medicaid Reimbursement	\$2,870,672
Total Program Revenue	\$22,953,166
Endowment Income	\$1,716,541
Strawbridge/Kelso Contributions	\$1,481,052
Donations/Contributions	\$325,272
Other Income	\$83,308
Total Non-Program Revenue	\$3,606,173
Total Operating Revenue	\$26,559,339

Operating Expenses	
State Government Reimbursable Programs	
Residential Programs	\$7,453,649
Education	\$3,082,691
Shelter	\$2,689,541
DC Foster Care	\$1,943,254
Treatment Foster Care	\$667,993
WV Group Home	\$4,492,068
Title 1	\$97,145
Outpatient Mental Health Clinic	\$471,887
Total Reimbursable Expenses	\$20,898,228
Non-Reimbursable Programs	
Adoption	\$113,137
Day Care/Early Education	\$3,796,508
Ways to Work	\$31,375
Conference Center/Challenge Course	\$64,393
Total Non-Reimbursable Expenses	\$4,005,413
Total Program Expenses	\$24,903,641
Overhead	
Management and General	\$1,267,712
PR/Fundraising	\$387,986
Total Overhead Expenses	\$1,655,698
Total Operating Expenses	\$26,559,339
(excluding interest and depreciation)	

	Reimbursement	Private Funds	Total Revenue
Government Reimbursable Programs			
Residential (includes health suite income)	8,157,271	(703,622)	7,453,649
Education	2,575,132	507,559	3,082,691
Shelter	1,896,460	793,081	2,689,541
Traditional Foster Care	2,024,916	(81,662)	1,943,254
Treatment Foster Care	776,071	(108,078)	667,993
West Virginia Group Home	4,356,436	135,632	4,492,068
Title 1	86,160	10,985	97,145
Outpatient Mental Health Clinic	315,877	156,010	471,887
	20,188,323	709,905	20,898,228
Non-Government Reimbursable Programs			
Adoption	25,361	87,776	113,137
Day Care and Early Education	2,731,736	1,064,772	3,796,508
Ways to Work		31,375	31,375
Conference Center / Challenge Course	7,746	56,647	64,393
Management and General, PR, and Fundraising		1,655,698	1,655,698
	2,764,843	2,896,268	5,661,111
Total	22,953,166	3,606,173	26,559,339

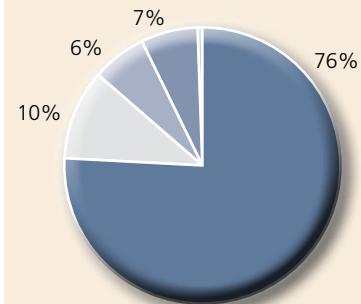
The Board of Child Care has a \$39,280,000 Bond Payable issued through Maryland Health and Higher Education Facility Authority (MHHEFA). Interest expense is excluded from these statements. Principal and interest payments are paid through the Endowment. Depreciation expense is also excluded from these calculations.

Use of Funds



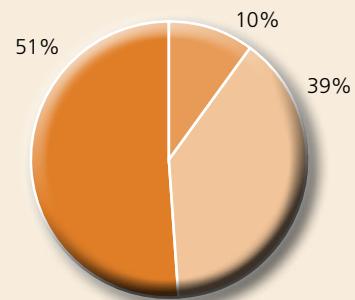
Category	Percentage
Residential Care	44.98%
Education	11.61%
Shelters	10.13%
Foster Care	9.83%
Mental Health Clinic	1.78%
Adoption	0.43%
Day Care/Early Education	14.29%
Conference Center/Challenge Course	0.24%
Title 1	0.37%
Ways to Work	0.12%
Administration	6.23%
Total	100%

Source of Funds



Source	Percentage
Government Reimbursement	76.01%
Non-Government Revenue	10.41%
Endowment Income	6.46%
Donations	6.80%
Other Income	0.31%
Total	100%

Use of BCC Endowment and Contributions



Category	Percentage
Subsidy of Government Reimbursable Programs	10%
Subsidy of Non-Government Reimbursable Programs	39%
Depreciation, Amortization and Bond Interest	51%
Total	100%

The Board of Child Care's *Programs*

Residential Care

For children and youth who cannot live with their families, a residential setting provides a caring and structured home to help them cope with their circumstances and learn new skills they will carry into adulthood. Children receive treatment and counseling that allow them to identify and appreciate healthy life situations and settings.

Emergency Shelters

Vulnerable youth who arrive at emergency shelters are frequently runaways, homeless, abused or neglected, or experiencing a personal crisis. The centers provide round-the-clock emergency services for youth requiring immediate help while staff help them transition to a more stable environment, whether it is back home, foster care, or a residential program.

Foster Care

Foster homes are critically important for children who must be removed from their family and need a temporary, safe place to live. Fragile and troubled children need food and shelter, but also need guidance, support, encouragement and, most importantly, love. Since foster parents are not meant to be permanent or to replace a child's family, a team including members of their birth family meets to work toward reunification when possible.

Strawbridge School

Strawbridge School, located on the Baltimore campus, is a nonpublic school for students in grades 5-12. Using a state-approved curriculum, students are referred here because disciplinary problems

prevent public school attendance or due to various family crises. The school fills a vital need for students from surrounding counties, and for children and youth with special needs already participating in the on-campus programs.

Day Care and Early Education

When parents of young children go to work, they want to know their child will be safe, well-cared for and developing new skills while in day care. The Tide Point and DC Day Care and Early Education Centers help parents invest in their child's future by providing a diverse learning and social environment. The centers help ensure that each child thrives and grows to achieve his or her fullest potential.

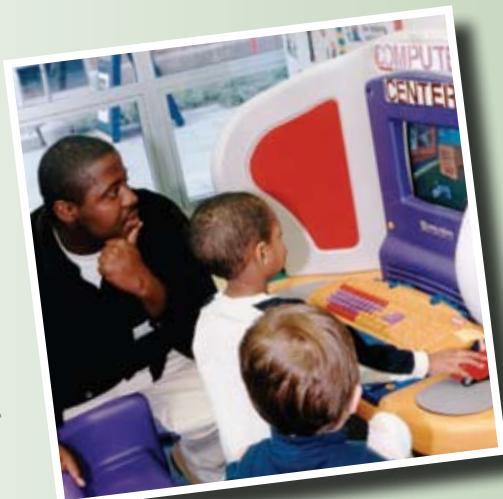
Adoption

Every child deserves a permanent and loving home. For those who are ready to become adoptive parents, the Board of Child Care brings children and families together. The agency places children through domestic and international adoptions, and also provides reunification services. The Board of Child Care is licensed to provide adoption services in the District of Columbia and Maryland.

Mental Health Services

Many people facing challenges and feeling powerless and overwhelmed benefit from receiving professional therapy to help them cope. The mental health clinic receives referrals from local departments of social services, churches and insurance companies, and offers sliding scale fees and co-pays to ensure accessibility for those children and families who need these services.

Children and Families receiving *Care* in 2007



Service	Numbers served	Days of care
Residential programs	280	55,405
Strawbridge School	192	14,362
Foster care	120	25,822
Day care	340	53,972
Emergency shelters	219	8,654
Adoption (# of families)	45	NA
Outpatient counseling	252	NA
Total	1,448	158,215

Programs and Service sites

Board of Child Care of the United Methodist Church, Inc.
Main Administrative Office
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
T: 410-922-2100
F: 410-496-5260

Residential Care
Baltimore Campus
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

Transitional Living
Wesley Way
Baltimore Campus
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

Nicodemus Group Home
1706 Nicodemus Road
Reisterstown, MD 21236
410-526-7569

Colesville Group Home
54 Randolph Road
Silver Spring, MD 21904
301-384-7179

Hagerstown Group Home
13420 Herman Myers Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
301-733-7627

West Virginia Campus
715 Brown Road
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304-274-1234

Strawbridge School
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

Mental Health Clinic
8028 Ritchie Highway
Pasadena, MD 21122
410-315-9411

Adoptions
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

Day Care
Tide Point Day Care
and Early Education Center
1030 Hull Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
410-234-0471

DC Day Care and Early Education Center
308 15th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-291-3330



Foster Care
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

308 15th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-291-3330

Emergency Shelters
Kelso Shelter for Girls
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

Singewald Shelter for Boys
3300 Gaither Road
Baltimore, MD 21244
410-922-2100

Safe Haven
8148 Jumpers Hole Road
Pasadena, MD 21122
410-315-9400

Mt. Airy Shelter for Boys
15302 Liberty Road
Mt. Airy, MD 21771
410-635-8012

Agency Affiliations and Accreditations
Council on Accreditation for Families and Children (COA)
Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence (EAGLE)
National Commission for the Accreditation of Special Education Services (NCASES)

Equal Opportunity at the Board of Child Care
The Board of Child Care is an equal opportunity employer, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color or natural origin with respect to children and families served or administrative staff.

www.boardofchildcare.org





Board of Child Care

of The United Methodist Church, Inc.

