

# Because You Gave...



## Welcome to The Highlands

I'm 16 years old, and I had my son when I was in 6th grade. I've been shuffled around a lot—bouncing from family member to family member, not always living in the best situations.

Most recently, we were sleeping on a couch in a home without heat. My son is two years old. I came to The Highlands so he and I could stay together.



## Welcome to Street Outreach Services

I'm 18 years old, and my girlfriend and I are sleeping in a tent until we can find housing. Between loads of laundry at the drop-in center, we sometimes play Uno with the SOS staff. I haven't played Uno in years.

In the midst of our circumstances, playing a simple game with people that care about me is one of the best things right now.



## Welcome to Respite Care

At first, I was concerned when I signed my son up for the Respite Care program because he tends to have difficulty

being away from me and struggles with anxiety. But I knew a few days to reset could be good for both of us. The first time he was at respite, he cried when he went into the house and refused to stop crying until the two other boys there shared about their positive experiences in the program. I'm not sure exactly what they said, but it must have encouraged him to give the program a chance. After that visit, not only was my son agreeable to going back but looked forward to his time at Respite.



## Welcome to Safe Landing

I'm 17 years old, and I've been at the shelter for almost a year. I've been in the foster care system the entire time. I've had a rough go of it, but the director and counselor here are 'my people.' I can depend on them, and they've given me the support and encouragement I needed to finish my classes and earn my high school diploma.

# Thank you for helping to make these stories possible.

To protect their privacy, these pictures are representative of our youth but paired with their real stories.

For more information about Shelter Care's programs and how to help make stories like these possible, please visit [www.sc72.org](http://www.sc72.org)





Thank you so much for your kindness, support and fellowship at this year's "And You Gave" Dave Fair Legacy Fundraiser. Your presence, prayer and encouragement made such a wonderful difference for the young people and families in our programs but also for our staff and me personally. Thank you for your continued friendship and dedication to provide healing, restore hope and recognize the value of young people and families in need.

I'm excited to share with you that through the event, together we raised over \$41,000 for the young people and families in our programs! And I'm so excited to share with a special way that kindness has spread - through conversations about the event, another \$40,000 has been raised and dedicated for additional projects that will bless our youth!

In all the ways you throw kindness like confetti for our young people, thank you.

Jessica Purdy, Director of Development



**Congratulations to our Big Dipper Award Winners,  
Lisa Roper and Angela Fortunato!**



# Thank you to our event sponsors!



**Redmon Funeral Home, Mark Phipps,  
Tom & Julie Doll, Dave Petno, Pam Sayre,  
Bob & Lisa Reffner, and  
the Crawley Family Foundation.**

## Thank you for helping to make this possible! In fiscal year 2024,

**The Shelter Home Program** served 9 boys for a total of 1,815 days through the Shelter Home Program.

**The Highlands Teen Pregnancy Shelter** served 9 girls and 6 babies for a total of 2,221 days.

**Safe Landing Youth Shelter** served 129 youth through short-term residential services for a total of 2,319 days and 96% of youth left the shelter to positive, long-term living arrangements.

**Street Outreach Services** served 138 young adults, including 36 young adults through the Bridges Program and 22 young adults/families through Rapid Re-Housing Program.

**The Respite Care Program** served 82 duplicated youth through short-term respite care for 237 days.

For a fuller version of our Annual Report, please visit [sc72.org/about-us/](http://sc72.org/about-us/)

