A.C.T.S., All Called To Serve

September Newsletter

September 3, 2014

**Texas Baptist Children’s Home**

On Tuesday we had the privilege of touring the Texas Baptist Children’s Home (TBCH) located in Round Rock. Texas Baptist Children’s Home “Provides a haven of hope for children and families in crisis through its residential programs for children and single-mother families, as well as community-based outreach and prevention programs. Based on Christian values, these services are designed to provide a safe, nurturing home for children and to stabilize and strengthen family relationships,” <http://www.childrenatheartministries.org>.

TBCH has several cottages, each housing up to eight children or five families. We visited two different cottages during our tour, one designated to housing adolescent boys and another for single mothers and their children. Each cottage has two house parents (a married couple who also live in the cottage) that serve as mother and father figures to the children as well as support for single mothers and their families. Children and families who live in the cottages receive an array of resources, including counseling, life skills, and extracurricular activities, as well as basic needs such as meals, clothing and bedding. The extent to which these house parents and staff reach out to their clients and work to provide a structured and loving environment was remarkable.

In an effort to reach out to this incredible organization and support both the clients and staff, A.C.T.S. is working to participate in the following:

* Volunteer to assist staff in sorting through donations at the TBCH commissary.
* Sponsor birthdays at a cottage. This is a yearlong commitment to provide a present and birthday supplies to each client living in the cottage.
* Gather donations of toiletries and household items needed at the cottages.
* Provide a meal to cottages.

If interested in participating, please contact Carrissa Bradford at 512-777-8511.

**October Yard Sale!**

A.C.T.S. is hosting a yard sale in October to raise money for SafePlace! This money will be used to support the helping professionals whom endure an incredible amount of stress and emotional exhaustion on a daily basis in order to provide refuge and assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We are in need of the following:

* Baked goods and lemonade to sell.
* Donated household items and clothing.
* Volunteers to help with the yard sale, particularly pricing, set up and break down.

If interested in participating, please contact Carrissa Bradford at 512-777-8511.

**\*\*\*As always, we encourage child involvement! An important mission of A.C.T.S. is to not only reach out to those in need in our community, but to teach our children how they can become involved to support and uplift their community as well!\*\*\***