



ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2023

## Leading One Relationship at a Time Celebrating the Smith Family's Ministry

Nathan and Belinda Smith's fingerprints can be found in nearly every corner of Show-Me Christian Youth Home. In ten years, they have served in the roles of relief houseparents, Leadership U Coordinator, coach, teacher, 4-H sponsor, missions team leader, photographer, and nurse just to name a few. Each of these outlets gave them a chance to build relationships with the kids in different and powerful ways to teach life lessons and build bonds that last a lifetime.

"Building a relationship is critical. Until you have that, kids are not going to listen to anything you have to say," said Nathan. "All they will hear is meaningless words."

### Home Away from Home

Being relief houseparents gave the Smiths the opportunity to build deeper relationships with almost every child at Show-Me. Children stayed at the Smith's home whenever their houseparents were off-duty. They also stepped in to provide extended care for kids, as well as crisis intervention.

Anytime they had kids, the Smiths wanted them to feel like they were part of the family. They made their house a relaxing, non-stressful place where each child felt loved and safe enough to open up and be themselves. "I loved being able to share life with them – through the ups and downs – and walk with the kids through those times in their lives to whatever extent they would allow or wanted us to," stated Belinda.

"I always looked forward to going over there because they always made me feel loved and accepted when I visited," said Josie Koebel, a 2020 graduate of Show-Me. "I felt like I could talk and be myself around them."



▲ From 2003-2006, the Smiths served as houseparents to a home full of teenage boys including 15-year old Shawn Hensley (front left).

## Prayer Requests

### We Praise God for...

... new ministry opportunity advancing quickly: Family Care Ministry -- details to be announced soon!

... the new playground that is nearly complete at the LaMonte campus

### Please Pray for...

... progress on our plan to build a new school building

... another dynamic couple to serve as houseparents

... details to come together for the new Family Care Ministry to launch this Fall

... preparations for the 2023 Annual Open House



Join our Prayer Partner List to receive bi-monthly and urgent prayer requests. Call 660-347-5982 or sign up at [www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com](http://www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com)



2013

Countless kids - and generations - have been impacted through the many investments of the Smith family. Praise God for their commitment to Him and His Kingdom work of Show-Me.

- Chad Puckett,  
Executive Director



2023

Compelled by Christ to Rescue & Restore Young Lives





**" I felt like I could tell these people anything because they really did care and would try to do what was best for me. The Smiths laid the groundwork for me to finally be able to trust adults."**

**– Sean Hensley**

### ***Actions Speak Loudest***

Many times, the lessons that had the deepest impact were the ones without words. The everyday moments of life provided time to deepen connections: working out together, feeding the animals, or riding in the truck on an errand. "It was not what Nathan said, it was what he instilled in me," stated Steven Durst, a 2015 graduate. "He always led by example from the disciplined, responsible

way he ran his program to how he was always willing to help. He showed me how I needed to be purposeful with my life."

Sean Hensley, a 2008 graduate, had only been at Show-Me for a few months. A turning point for him was what the Smiths did not do. He flipped over a railroad tie which crashed into a wooden fence and created a large hole to the pasture. When asked, Sean denied being involved, until a few hours later his

conscience would let him keep silent no longer.

As Sean explains it: "I felt so bad that I had lied to Nathan and Belinda because they had been so forthright about wanting us kids to be able to come to them about anything. When I told him, he didn't yell at me or get irritated. He said 'we will get this fixed and obviously you will be a part of it.' After that, I felt like I could tell these people anything because they really did care and would try to do what was best for me. The Smiths laid the groundwork for me to finally be able to trust adults."

### ***Victory Beyond the Scoreboard***

The Smiths served key roles in sports and extracurricular activities, including the 4-H program. Nathan coaches basketball, while Belinda coaches volleyball and archery. Belinda created and ran the 4-H program at Show-Me for many years. These venues provided great outlets for kids to discover their talents and develop self-confidence.

Confidence comes from accomplishment. Accomplishment comes from perseverance. Perseverance comes from a desire for something better. Without desire, you will not try. This is true in life as much as it is in sports or the classroom.



◀ *Whether it was working out, on the court, or the back of a horse, the Smiths found ways to connect with kids, and invest in their lives.*

Every child has a different personality, strengths, and weaknesses. The Smiths feel God called them to help each child grow in the unique way they needed. “Lord, help me to see through Your eyes to find and develop the things that You love about this child.” Nathan prayed.

**"Lord, help me to see through Your eyes to find and develop the things that You love about this child."**

— Nathan Smith

While they both taught the fundamentals of the sport, the final score was never the main objective. Attitude, teamwork, and character mattered more. Not everyone could score, but all could encourage. "Coach (Belinda) taught us that we have to be intentional in our encouragement," stated 2021 graduate, Sadie Puckett, a former volleyball player. "This experience has the potential to shape and mold us in either a positive or negative way. We determine if we are going to waste it or use it to turn us into something beautiful. We are going to work hard either way."

### **Learning to Lead Like Jesus**

The iconic ministry that led them to dedicate their lives to the mission of Show-Me: Leadership U. Working with horses and dogs to overcome challenges, students develop character and purpose as they embrace the principles of learning to lead like Jesus. "Working with the animals opens the kids' hearts to receive instruction," said Nathan. "When they see how your advice makes the horse do things they never thought possible, they begin to trust and are willing to listen to what you have to say about horses, life, and even God."

"Learning to be a leader can give them the

”

*"The kids have taught me how to be quicker to extend grace towards others. None of us can know what is going on in someone else's life. We are all broken people just trying to get closer to Jesus. When I get a step closer, I want to turn and help others. And, likewise, allow others to help me. It's a journey that we are all on together."*

—Belinda Smith



▲ *Being Show-Me's unofficial photographer means that most pictures of Belinda are selfies. Many of the most iconic photos of the ministry have been seen through the lens of her camera.*

confidence and skills they need to break the generational cycle many are caught up in," stated Belinda. "They realize that they have the power inside them to take a different path than the one they came from."

### **The Essential Element: Relationships**

How does a person measure their greatest impact? Nathan and Belinda Smith could point to numerous accomplishments: developing and running the Leadership U program, uniting a previously win-less volleyball team to become state champions, or helping to raise dozens upon dozens of children that have grown up under their influence. While the Smith family has made a difference in many areas over the last ten years at Show-Me, their biggest impact will always be in the relationships they built with the children that call Show-Me "home."

"Nathan and Belinda have been a role model for my marriage," stated Josie. "They are always going to be a part of my family and life. I don't think I would be the person I am today without their guidance and love."

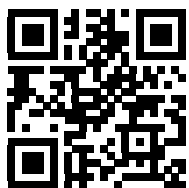


▲ *Leadership U and sports provide safe environments to gently push kids like Josie (above) beyond their comfort zones to achieve things they never thought possible.*



# Show-Me Needs List

Help stock our shelves and fill our homes. Below is a list of items needed.



## Need more ideas?

Take a peek at our  
"Show Me Christian Youth Home"  
wish list at Amazon.com



### Main Campus La Monte

- Salsa
- Snack items
- Pop tarts
- BBQ sauce
- Microwave popcorn
- Stain remover
- Hair ties
- Head bands
- Marshmallow sticks/campfire pokers
- Pillows
- 8ft picnic table cover with bench covers

### Drysdale Campus

- Spaghetti sauce
- Fruit
- Chips
- Blue Dawn dish soap
- Gain laundry detergent
- McDonald's gift cards
- Toilet paper
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Heavy-duty weed eater line
- Light-weight, curved-shaft weed eater
- Basketball hoop and goal
- Dishwasher
- Small freezer (3.5' Cu.Ft.)
- Metal fire pit

- New playground set  
(Old one destroyed by storm)

### Judd Home

- Fresh summer veggies
- Cheeses
- Microwave popcorn
- Blue saucer tree swing (40")
- 25'-30' flag pole & 6'x8' flag

### Medical

- Knuckle and fingertip bandages
- Calamine lotion (clear)
- 4x4 gauze pads
- Burn cream
- Gauze wrap

### Kitchen

- Hand mixer
- New oven mitts
- Large cutting board
- Dry erase menu board
- Laundry soap

### Show-Me School

- One-subject notebooks
- Highlighters
- Mechanical pencils
- Blue pens
- Glue sticks (purple)
- White-out tape rollers (Bic)
- Sticky Notes
- Block erasers (pink or white)

### Leadership U

- Diamond high energy dog food
- Alfalfa (Sm. sq. bales)
- Bermuda Hay (Sm. sq. bales)
- Brome Hay (Large round or Sm. sq. bales)
- Safe-Guard cattle dewormer (290g tube)

### 4-H & Art

- 2 Prang watercolor sets
- Acrylic paint pens (fine tip and regular)
- Watercolor paper (140 lb cold press)
- Amaco air-dry clay (White/gray, 25 lb. box)
- Variety of knitting yarn
- Plants that can be propagated
- Potting soil
- Perlite
- Plastic poring containers or flower pots

### Path to Purpose

- Reliable "starter vehicles" for our graduates

### P.E.

- 2 plastic balls (12.4")







◀ Adulting is hard work! To better prepare our young people, Path to Purpose students practice the everyday tasks of being an adult: budgeting, grocery shopping, cooking, and even pumping gas.



▶ A group of our elementary students toured the Missouri State Capital to see how our government works. The group also visited the Museum of Missouri Military History to understand how we live in the land of the free because of the sacrifices of the brave.





# In loving Memory & In Honor *Gifts received between April 1 - May 31, 2023*

## IN MEMORY

LYLE ALUMBAUGH  
Austin & Tammie Keith

DON ARNETT  
Roy & Mary Arnett

TRAPPER ARNETT  
Roy & Mary Arnett

VIRGINIA (GINNY) ARNETT  
Roy & Mary Arnett

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TIMOTHY CALLAHAN  
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Keith, Jeanie & Family  
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LEE & CORDIA CASEY  
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Ditzfeld Transfer

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CHAMBERLAIN  
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CARL COBB  
Roy & Mary Arnett

DOROTHY COMBS  
Cliff Combs

EARNEST & UDAH FAY

COMBS  
Cliff Combs

BERTHA CRANK  
Dale, Lynn, Sarah, Courtney,  
Kimmy, Dale & Misty  
Chaney

JAMES CROWDER  
J R & Shirley Wheatley

CULLER FAMILY  
Tommy Hunter

GALE & KAREN CULLER  
Bob & Dana Wetherell

DENNIS & ADAM DECKER  
Sharon S Decker

NICK DECKER  
John & Sherry Swearngin

CHRISTINE DUNLAP  
Sonya Allison

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William & Indi Braden  
Deloyce Barry  
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Dee Friel

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Alvin & Sharon Hrubes

DWIGHT GOOD  
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Omega Christian Church

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Amber Pawloski

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Gene & Betty Parrott

SHIRLEY HALL  
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HAND  
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Chris & Cynthia Tallman

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MICHAEL HUFFMAN  
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Jeanette McColm

DUSTIN MILLER  
Geni Miller

ROGER & NADINE  
MOOSMAN  
Nathan & Gina Broadus

MARTHA PARKER  
Patricia Hayes

DEAN PARROTT  
Terry & Barbara Schell  
Gene & Betty Parrott

CLIFFORD PECK

*Memorials & Living Honor gifts are made to honor the memories of loved ones by giving hope and the best chance for success to children who desperately need it.*

*To honor your friend or loved one, contact us at:  
24302 Mahin Road - P.O. Box 6  
La Monte, MO 65337 • 660-347-5982  
[www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com](http://www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com)*

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Dave & Ann Wobbe

MARVIN WOBBE

Dave & Ann Wobbe

BETTY WRINKLE  
Randy & Mary Beth Gilby

KATHY YOUNCE  
Roy & Mary Arnett

## IN HONOR

CLARK BICKNELL  
(Graduate of Leeton High School)  
Leeton Christian Church

BETTY CALHOON  
(90th Birthday)  
Ima McDaniel

NOAH CLEAR  
(Graduate of State Technical  
College of Mo)  
Leeton Christian Church

ZACH & BRITTANY  
CLEMENT  
(Graduates of Central Christian  
College of the Bible)  
Leeton Christian Church

LANA FERNEAU  
(90th Birthday)  
David & Deloris Wurdeman

JASON FILBECK  
(Birthday)  
Ron & Christina Filbeck

BAILEY FLEMING  
(Graduate of Leeton High School)  
Leeton Christian Church

MELVIN FOSTER  
(90th Birthday)  
Ann Foster

KAREN JOHNSON  
(Birthday)  
Sarah Wellnitz

JAMES & MARTHA  
LUMPKIN  
(60th Wedding Anniversary)  
Gail Lumpkin

MARTHA LUMPKIN  
(Mother's Day)  
Gail Lumpkin

WAYNE VINYARD  
(Birthday)  
Mark & Sarah Eubank

## Advice from the Show-Me Christian School Class of 2023



“Always try to encourage someone. Encouragement played a huge part in helping me get here today and I know that I am not the only one!”  
- Joe Enoch

“Live life to the fullest by taking chances, trusting people, and having fun. Don't dwell on your mistakes and failures, instead learn from them and move forward!”  
- Luke Porter



“Life is short better enjoy it, but eternity is long better prepare for it!”  
- Jenna Smith



## Watch. Download. Share.

Keep you and your church connected with Show-Me this summer with our video update.

- Short Ministry Updates
- Graduation highlights
- Stories of Children



ShowMeHelpingKids.com



Youtube.com/ShowMeChristian



Facebook.com/SMCYH

# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS ✨

- ★ Hillsboro Christian Church - Hillsboro, MO
- ★ Whitefield Christian Academy - Kansas City, MO

- ★ State Fair Community College Staff - Sedalia, MO

Terry Van Natta • Robin Sadler • Alan Morse • Dan & Joyce Deevers • Connie Enoch • Lyn Carpenter • Jeany McGowen • Nora Windmeyer • Rita Berry • Pat Johnson • Helen Hapes • Donna Ward • Janis Shisler • Larry & Cheryl Kintz • Virginia McAllister • Judy Wolter • Jim & Kay Butler • Richard & Sharon Moyer • Rita Henson • Kathy Stone • Renee Betances • Kathy Wooden • Cliff Combs • Roy & Barbara Majors • Dale Chaney

For the latest volunteer opportunities, please contact Chris Smith at 660-347-5982 or [chris.smith@showmehelpingkids.com](mailto:chris.smith@showmehelpingkids.com).



Comedian



JARON MYERS



# 2023 ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday,  
September 9, 2023  
10 AM - 3 PM



Come see  
**SHOW-ME**  
✓ Meet the families  
✓ Tour the homes  
✓ Enjoy lunch  
✓ Fun kids' activities  
all day  
✓ Comedian  
✓ Horse program

## EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HOME AND A FAMILY

Show-Me Christian Youth Home is Compelled by Christ to Rescue and Restore Young Lives. We believe that every child deserves a home and a family, an opportunity for a better future and an excellent eternity.

## FAMILY. FAITH. FUTURE.

Out-of-home placement services are available to children of any age at no cost to the parent or guardian. We are funded solely by contributions from individuals, churches and groups that are willing to put their faith into action to help children.



## Administration

Chad Puckett, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Ken Parton, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
Rachel Reynolds,  
CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTOR

## Childcare Staff

Thomas & Aubrey Chaney  
Jeff & Laura Eades  
Dalton & Jordan Heilig  
Ken & Emilee Parton  
Tim & Rachel Reynolds  
Ronnie & Krystal Snider  
Brad & Jessica Stilfield  
Matt & Emily Tyler  
Del & Kristi Weyer



Show-Me Christian Youth Home

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