

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

THE MASONIC HOME FOR CHILDREN AT OXFORD

*A Year in Review*

# Surviving a Pandemic

## Hindsight is officially 2020.

In that regard I imagine we all hope the difficulties that were illuminated by all the health, economic, and social impacts of Covid-19 are moving on to be history. I also imagine all are hopeful that our collective experiences provide opportunities for moving forward in a way that is productive for our entire society, more especially our beloved Children's Home. Many of the challenges presented continue as MHCO strives to operate in a safe manner, provide for the children, maintain a sense of normalcy, and recover as prudent.



Kevin Otis - Administrator

While the census is down MHCO did provide services to seventy-eight residents. Placing holds on admissions and family trepidation regarding limited visitation, as well as their concerns for safety during the pandemic, resulted in fewer placements to fill the vacancies due to successful discharges. During this period, the Home has moved forward with several important initiatives and is putting plans into action. These include establishing Core Values, implementing the CARE Trauma Informed Model of Care through Cornell University, Strategic Planning preparation, and development of a Transitional Living Program. These initiatives will further position the Home to provide extraordinary care to more children.

These initiatives and all MHCO is able to do for children in dark circumstances are only possible because of all the support, care, and love you share. Your recurring donations, planned gifts, grants, and gifts of talent, time, and treasure ensure the children's lives are guided by your light toward a brighter future. **Thank you for your prayers, positive wishes, and amazing gifts of yourself for our children.**

Prayers and best wishes,  
Kevin Otis, MHCO Administrator

**"Never let a good crisis go to waste"**

-Winston Churchill

PQI

**MHCO has been fortunate to receive significant grants in 2020**

PERFORMANCE

*Quality*

IMPROVEMENT

**\$50K**

COVID relief -  
SECU Foundation

**\$500**

COVID response -  
Southern Vision Alliance

**\$43K**

Triangle North  
Healthcare  
Foundation

**\$11K**

COVID relief -  
Cardinal Innovations

**\$25K**

Annual Giving -  
John William Pope  
Foundation

MHCO has utilized the remainder of the SECU capacity building grant awarded in 2019 toward developing core values and prework for strategic planning with the Garrison Group and a marketing plan from Angel Oak Creative. Additional capital grant funding will be sought after with the SECU Foundation in the coming years toward ILP and transitional living development.

PQI



## RESIDENTIAL

# Direct Care & Independent Living

## MHCO provides loving care for children and young adults.

The Direct Care Program cares for children from birth through 19 years of age and until they complete high school. The Independent Living Program provides support for youth ages 18 to 23 by providing assistance in achieving independence through educational and vocational opportunities.



### DIRECT CARE RESIDENTS IN 2020

- 19 Admissions
- 30 Discharges
- 25 Applications Received (43.9% return rate)
- 142 calls concerning placement
- 11.6 average age
- 1078.3 days average length of stay

31

Total Admissions  
in 2020

78

Children Served  
in 2020

## IN 2020, THE ILP PROGRAM HELPED RESIDENTS TO ACHIEVE INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES:

- To complete an education or vocational training program
- In finding and maintaining employment, career planning, and improving job skills
- In assessing current independent living skill needs and making service plans to achieve goals.
- To access physical and mental health services
- In providing transportation and assisting the resident in obtaining driver's education and a license, and planning for future

### INDEPENDENT LIVING RESIDENTS IN 2020

- 12 Admissions
- 15 Discharges
- 20 Applications Received (74.1% return rate)
- 32 calls concerning placement for ILP
- 20.3 average age
- 941.1 days average length of stay





MHCO

# Education

## PROGRAMS

**MHCO seeks to enrich our residents through education.**

- **2 HS Graduates** - 100% Graduation Rate
- **1 ILP Resident** passed exam for trucking at VGCC
- **Campus GPA 84.6%** at end of 2020
- **5.3 Residents** average on A honor roll
- **15.3 Residents** average on AB honor roll
- **4.3 Residents** average or above each grading period
- **7.5 Residents** average with GPA increase of 5 percentage Points with a C average or better

**100%**  
Promotion  
Rate

**93.1%**  
Passing all  
Subjects



## WORKPLACE &

# Vocational

## EDUCATION

**MHCO seeks to enrich our residents through education.**

- **Driving Instruction**  
No Residents were taught due to Covid-19 Restrictions
- **Summer Programs**  
None due to Covid-19 Restrictions
- **Kid\$Earn Program**  
10.7 Eligible Residents Employed on campus (monthly average)



**Our kids have been helping re-pot trees that will be available for sale during the 150th Celebration in 2023.**

# Employment

**10.2**

Eligible residents  
employed off-campus  
(monthly avg.)

**10.6**

Employer Sites  
(monthly avg.)

**89.7%**

Percentage of eligible  
residents employed  
monthly



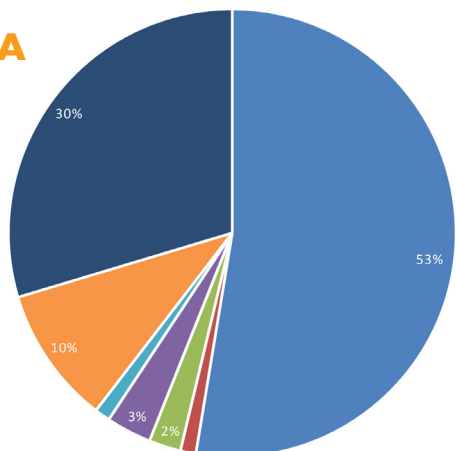
# School Of Graphic Arts

**WE DO: Full Color Printing • Books Of All Types • Corporate & Masonic Printing • 3-D Printing**

**COMPLETE PACKAGE INCLUDES: Design, Printing, and Full Service Mailing**

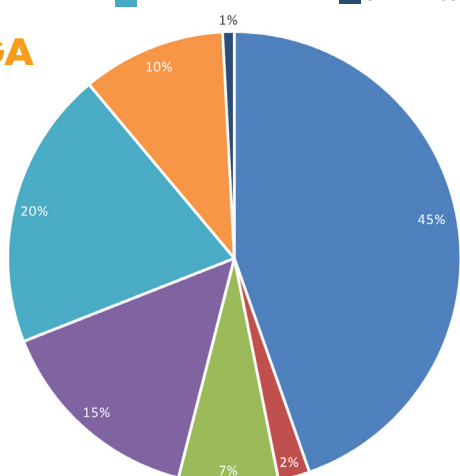
**We at SGA are committed to Quality and Service.**

## 2020 SGA REVENUE



GENERAL PUBLIC   MASONIC LODGES   ORDER OF EASTERN STAR   MHCO  
GRAND LODGE   WHITESTONE   OTHER MASONIC

## 2020 SGA EXPENSES



SALARIES & BENEFITS   UTILITIES/DEPRECIATION   POSTAGE/DELIVERY   OUTSOURCED WORK  
SUPPLIES   PAPER/COPIERS   ADVERTISING



There have been many staff changes at the School of Graphic Arts! Pictured from left are Libby Lambert - Graphic Design/Altec, Ann Short - Office Manager, Catherine Scott - Graphic Design/Instructor, Allan Daniel - Mailroom/Bindery Specialist, Thomas Barlow - Assistant Manager, and Barry Long - Manager SGA. Our staff may have changed but our dedication to delivering the very best product to our customers has not! Visit our website and check back often for exciting changes coming soon! [www.schoolofgraphicarts.com](http://www.schoolofgraphicarts.com)



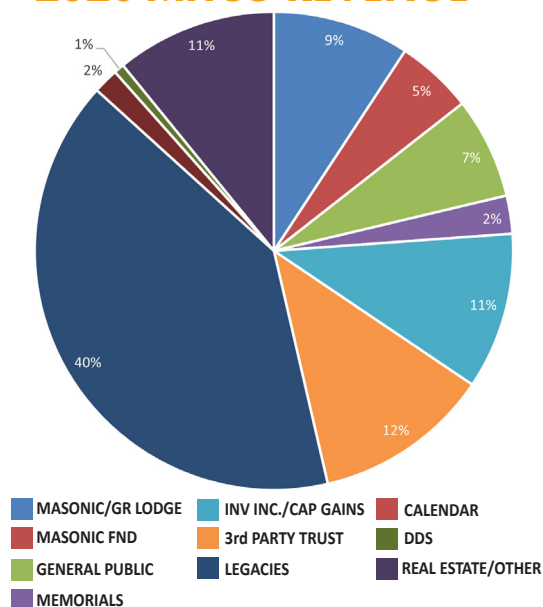
**Eddie Dickerson** came to Oxford Orphanage in 1955, graduating in 1969. After graduating from NC State University, he owned and operated Watermark Graphics before he returned to Oxford as an employee of the print shop in 2002. He was named manager in 2004. Eddie retired from the School of Graphic Arts in 2020, and considers his time spent at the print shop "the hardest job he ever loved". We will miss you Eddie! Thank you for your years of service and your dedication to your Home!

MHCO

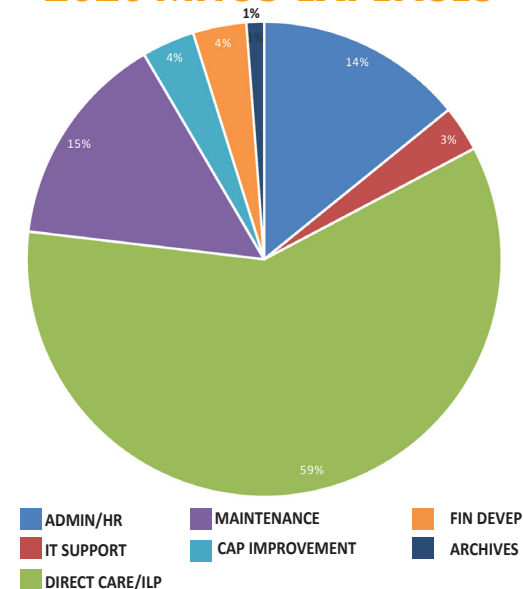
# Finance

**In 2020, MHCO received \$38,744 in in-kind items & gift cards and \$35,000 in in-kind services.**

## 2020 MHCO REVENUE



## 2020 MHCO EXPENSES



MHCO

# Development

The Masonic Home for Children continues to nurture and enrich the lives of the children who need our Home because of the generosity of our donors. Our friends and supporters believe in our mission and enable MHCO to continue a long history of outstanding long and short-term childcare.

- **\$3.5 Million** - Total Monetary Donations for 2020
- **2,708** - Total Monetary Donors for 2020
- **55% of Total** - Masonic Donations

**Yancey Otero,**  
MHCO Class of 2013,  
joined the staff as the  
Financial Development  
Assistant in March of  
2020. Welcome home,  
Yancey!



EXPERIENCED

# Personnel

QUALITY SERVICE

- 11.....** Hires - 6 CCW and 5 new hires
- 6.....** Voluntary Terminations - Including 2 CCWs
- 2.....** Retirements
- 1.....** Termination
- 17.3%** Turnover Rate - 9.1% turnover of CCWs

**MHCO's staff has a heart for the children and a commitment to our MHCO Family.**

# Growing Hearts

## BRIGHTER FUTURES

### In 2020, we served 78 children.

Everyone can probably remember difficult and challenging times in their lives. This has surely been the case in 2020 and continues into the new year.

Our trust being in God sustains us and causes all of us to move forward. Over the years, God has taught me so much about what it means to trust Him and therefore my faith is well-founded.

This is especially true at our beloved Children's Home. The Home successfully navigated the challenging times as we continue our mission to serve God and His children.

During these times, our Administrator, staff, and especially our children, handled these difficulties and trying times. We can't express enough our appreciation, gratitude, and thanks for their efforts in continuing to advance our mission. So many sacrifices were made and scheduled events were cancelled, but our children kept a positive attitude and look forward to seeing all of us again in the near future.

We would be remiss if we didn't express our appreciation to our Brothers, Sisters, and supporters of our Home. I heard so many times in 2020 and was asked how our Home was doing, or what can I do to help, or what do the children need, etc.? So, on behalf of the Home and the Board of Directors, thank you for answering God's call to you.

I am the total optimist, and pray that soon we can get back to some type of normalcy. We



Dewey Preslar  
Board Chairman



look forward to the Great Landscape Day, children graduations, Homecoming, the holidays, and the list goes on and on. So, my trust in God is stronger than ever and is evident in our sustainability at our Home.

Wishing everyone a healthy and safe new year and being able to break bread together again at our Home away from home in Oxford, NC.

God's Peace,  
Dewey Preslar  
Luke 18:16



## Greetings,



Alvin Billings,  
PM

I certainly hope there is more light in 2021. I want to introduce myself. I am PM of Bula Masonic Lodge No. 409, PDDGM of District 22, Past Potentate of Amran Shriners, a member of Scottish Rite, KCCH, York Rite, and now I am the Annual Giving Officer for your Home. My position was created to promote recurring (monthly) giving as well as annual giving. The idea is to increase recurring giving to allow our Home to operate on these gifts which would keep it from dipping into our savings. If every Mason in NC would contribute \$10 or more per month, we could wean ourselves from this dependency. This idea is extended

to the public also. We have already had an interview on a local radio station and are planning many more to promote our home to the public. We would love to broadcast public service announcements on local television and radio to promote your Home. If you have contacts, please let me know. We have a Facebook page with information and weekly videos. Visit it at <https://www.facebook.com/masonichomeforchildren>. I am also working on lodge visits both in person and virtually. I'd love to share our story and mission with your lodge. If you would like to schedule a visit, please give me a call at (336) 260-3483 or email: [abillings@mhc-oxford.org](mailto:abillings@mhc-oxford.org). Our website: [mhc-oxford.org](http://mhc-oxford.org). Thank you for the opportunity. I hope to see you soon!

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Alvin Billings, PM

## OUR MISSION:

Providing a safe, nurturing home for children in need with opportunities to maximize their potential.

## VISION STATEMENT:

MHCO is a safe haven where children flourish here and beyond.

## QUALITY STANDARDS:

MHCO is committed to high quality care for children in need through:

- highly qualified personnel,
- continuously evolving evidence informed model of care, and
- active engagement with community and stakeholders.



# THE MASONIC HOME FOR CHILDREN AT OXFORD, INC.

600 College Street  
Oxford, NC 27565  
919.693.5111

TOLL FREE 888.505.HELP (4357)  
[www.mhc-oxford.org](http://www.mhc-oxford.org)



Masonic Home for Children  
*Growing Hearts, Brighter Futures*

**BENCHMARKS** ([www.benchmarks-nc.org](http://www.benchmarks-nc.org))

**CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA®** ([www.cwla.org](http://www.cwla.org))

**ALLIANCE FOR STRONG FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES™** ([www.alliance1.org](http://www.alliance1.org))

**NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR NONPROFITS** ([www.ncnonprofits.org](http://www.ncnonprofits.org))

**ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS™** ([www.afpnet.org](http://www.afpnet.org))

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc. is a licensed, residential children's home through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ([www.dhhs.state.nc.us](http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us)) and is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit registered through the Secretary of State of North Carolina ([www.secstate.state.nc.us](http://www.secstate.state.nc.us))

*Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the Charitable Solicitation Licensing Section at 888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State.*

*Photographs in this publication courtesy of MHCO staff*