

Annual Golf Scramble Makes a Difference

Thank you for joining us at this year's Adriel Benefit Golf Outing!

This year's golf benefit brought beautiful weather and 20 teams from Northwest Ohio for a day of fun, fellowship, and most of all to raise funds to support foster children.

With the support from several sponsors and donations, over \$18,000 was raised at this year's scramble! It truly takes a community to make a difference, and we are grateful to those that came together this year to make an impact in a child's life!



Pictured are winner's from this year's scramble, 1st Children's Lantern, 2nd Boyer's Construction, 3rd Sauder Woodworking

Make sure to save the date for next year's scramble, which will take place at Eagle Rock Golf Club in Defiance, Ohio on Monday, September 9, 2024.

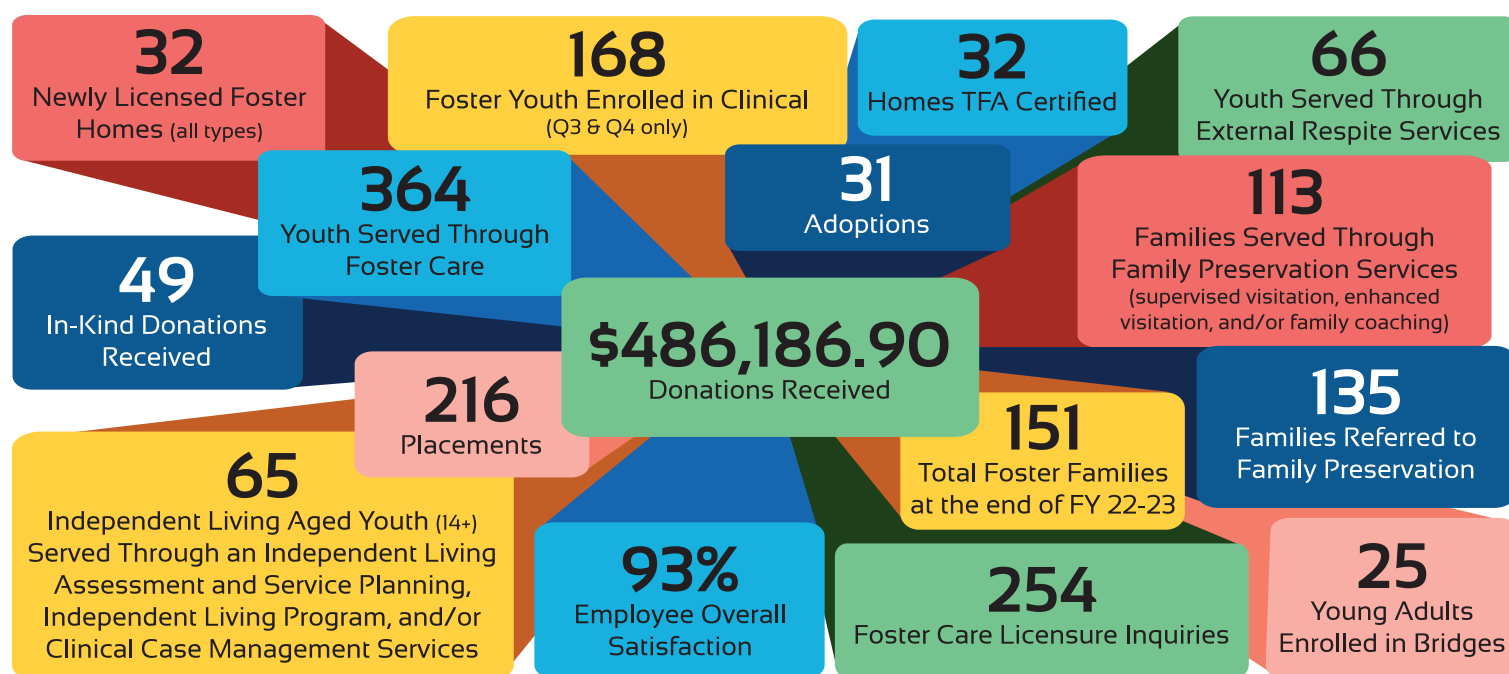
Check back on our website for updates or for other ways you can help.

<https://www.adriel.org/become-a-foster-parent/how-can-i-help-people-in-foster-care/>

Celebrate the Impact

Data from Fiscal Year 2022-2023

1 CHRONICLES 29:13 (NKJV)
"Now therefore, our God, we thank You
and praise Your glorious name."



Adriel serves children and families throughout Ohio. Visit our website and keep up to date with us on our social media.



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Michael's Journey

"It's okay to be scared, it's okay to be fearful, it's okay to not know what is happening, and it's okay to worry, but make sure to worry about the right things. Stop chasing the pleasures. You are responsible for your life and what happens next. What has happened to you is not your fault."

Those are the words that Michael would tell his 14/15 year old self, or another young person going through a similar situation that he experienced. Michael lost his parents at a young age; his mom when he was 8 and his dad when he was 14. In addition, Michael lost his grandparents during this time. At a young age, the amount of loss and pain he was experiencing was tremendous.

Michael said he grew up in the church, but after such great loss he rebelled against God. To cope with the pain he began seeking pleasure in, "partying, doing drugs, drinking, and hanging out with the wrong crowd." He was "caught" in the act at his stepparents house and was taken to the juvenile detention center. During his time in the center, he was given a promise bible from a center guard. This is where he read the Gospel of John for the first time. During what Michael said was the "most agonizing experience of my life," is where he learned about Jesus and of God's promises. Michael asked his stepparents for a second chance to come back home, but it was not granted.

After leaving the center, Michael spent six months in a residential placement where he began therapy and an independent living program. Two months before turning the age of 17, in January 2022, Michael was placed in an Adriel foster home. "Moving around was the hardest part," he said. However, he took this move as an opportunity to get involved and find community. Michael began playing football and while he didn't feel close to God during the season, he found God again, let his light shine throughout his classmates, and was voted Homecoming King his senior year. Michael has remained in the same foster home even after emancipation, and when asked about foster care he said, "it was a very positive experience."

Today, Michael enjoys hanging out with friends, lifting, reading, learning about God and working on being an overall better person. He said the drive to be better is a "Gift from God." Michael wants to make sure that everyone knows the truth, and without his relationship with God he would not be where he is today.

While in foster care, Michael participated in Adriel's Independent Living program. In this program he earned several items to help set him up for college. In addition, Michael began the Bridges program with Adriel in the summer of 2023, and says it is a positive resource. He is not looking at Bridges as a "crutch," but a resource to help him through his college years. Michael will be starting at Hillsdale College this fall and majoring in Business. He has a full scholarship and says it is a "blessing from God." He hopes to be finishing up college at the same time he completes the Bridges program.

Michael's story included trauma and pain, but he says it was a journey of developing himself and finding his way back to God. He is focused on achieving success in life and not losing sight of God. Michael said, "I am at the best point I have ever been. I have confidence in my abilities, and I believe I am going to succeed in everything in life."

For more information about Bridges,

please visit <https://www.adriel.org/community-based-family-coaching/bridges-18-21/>
and/or for more information about how you can support young adults, such as Michael,
please visit <https://www.adriel.org/become-a-foster-parent/how-can-i-help-people-in-foster-care/>

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www.adriel.org

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WHAT MAKES ADRIEL DIFFERENT?

make a difference in the lives of these precious young souls. Yes, it involves the unpleasant aspects of broken relationships and confronting the painful truth of neglect and abuse, but with God's grace, we can work together to transform a system that often feels stacked against the most vulnerable. While it may seem daunting, we find comfort in knowing that God walks beside us on this journey."

Throughout the 125 year journey, Adriel has continued to evolve over the years, and grew from one orphanage to now serving children in foster care all over Ohio. Adriel's mission continues to be "providing quality care to children in the spirit of Christian love." We welcome diversity and are hoping to have even more diverse families as we grow our foster parent network.

Adriel offers counseling to foster children at no cost (and typically no waitlist), and to foster families to help them through the emotional work of foster parenting. Foster families also enjoy 24/7 on-call support, paid respite days, and in-home consultation from Adriel staff on a regular basis based on the needs of the family and the foster children in the home. The Adriel staff is dedicated to carrying out our mission. We have a strong foundation within the foster care department, with leadership bringing many years of experience and expertise. We have set high expectations in service standards, aiming to provide only superior services to youth and families.

Adriel trains its foster parents using the Teaching Family Model, which is an evidence-based model of parenting (basically a "cheat sheet" of how to be an awesome parent and get good results working with children) so they are prepared as foster parents. Adriel also provides additional support, resources, encouragement, education and guidance on a regular basis to our families. We recently added a special Onboarding Program for newly licensed foster parents to provide them with extra special support during their first year as Adriel Foster Parents. Ongoing training is also offered at no cost to Adriel Foster Parents. We also have events for our foster families throughout the year, including a family picnic for Foster Care Month in the spring, a Christmas party for the families and children every December, and Adriel Cedar Point Day each summer (free for children in foster care).

We accept foster care referrals from all 88 county children's services agencies in Ohio, and do our best to have available foster families in as many school districts as possible so that children in foster care do not have to lose their friends and school connections, just because they are in foster care. The children in foster care face their fair share of difficulties, often needing to survive day by day. Adriel is here to help them navigate the emotional toll of their traumas and pave the way for a brighter future. We believe that every child deserves the chance to succeed and flourish in life, not just in this moment, but for life!

Amidst the challenges, there is a profound sense of fulfillment and empowerment in programs dedicated to keeping families united. Each day, we encounter stories of resilience that inspire hope and promise. Envision the heartfelt warmth and love shared around a fostering family's dinner table. Observe the profound joy and strength that emanate from programs supporting families to remain together. Trust and confidence flourish with the aid of mental health services, mirroring the compassion and comfort akin to Christ's benevolence for those in need. These services become a perpetual source of encouragement for all, nurturing personal growth and healing.

The heart and soul of the Adriel community lie in our unwavering commitment to empowering the vulnerable and helping them reach their full potential. It's a mission that touches all of us, and we're in this together! So, from the bottom of our hearts, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who have dedicated themselves to this noble cause. And to all of you, we warmly invite you to continue this incredible journey with us as we stand by our neighbors, offering a helping hand and spreading love and hope each and every day. Together, we can make a real difference!

Here is what foster parents are saying about Adriel's services and support:

"I have appreciated that every time I call Adriel, I speak with people who go above and beyond to be helpful. It's not just a job for them."

"We appreciate all the support and listening that the consultants offer us. They have been a blessing."

"Adriel staff are positive and encouraging. This is so helpful for foster parents, as we face a lot of stress!"

"Putting foster parents/families and foster children needs first and finding creative ways to find solutions to problems."

Too busy to be a foster parent, but love to help children? Become an Adriel Respite Foster Parent!

Adriel Respite Foster Parents help "babysit" children in foster care when their foster parent has a work trip for the weekend, when the family needs after-school care for their foster child, or if the foster parents just want a night off to have a "date night" together. Adriel Respite Foster Parents receive free training and 24/7 support, and are reimbursed for each day they provide care to a foster child. Find out how you can become a licensed respite provider for foster children in your community today! Complete the inquiry form at www.adriel.org/foster-parent-inquiry-form/ and your local Adriel Licensing Specialist will reach out to help you register for orientation and answer your questions!

"I enjoy providing respites as a way to support foster families and love offering a fun break for the kids! As someone who desires to play a positive role in this community, but isn't quite ready for full-time placements, I have found offering respites to be the perfect opportunity to share my love and my home. Seeing the kids get so excited to engage in even the smallest of activities has brought me more joy than I ever could have anticipated. I have been so blessed by each one of the kids who have come to visit and truly love being a respite provider!" ~ Ashley Whitacre

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Be the One to Help Make a Difference with Planned Giving

God promises to bless those who are generous, and in return promises repayment for our generosity. The bible says that when we give, we are storing up treasures in heaven. In Matthew 6:21 it says, "Wherever your treasure is, there your heart will be also." When we invest in God's kingdom our hearts align with God's values and experience His spiritual blessings.

Did you know that you can stretch the possibilities of your support with the advantages of planned giving? Planned gifts are just that: gifts that require some planning. With planned giving, you can make the most significant gift of your life and support our mission and work as you achieve your overall financial, tax and estate planning goals. The tools available to you can help give you more, in tax-smart ways, and can provide income to you along with your gift.

Adriel works closely with the Mennonite Foundation and Everence to ensure that planned giving and end-of-life gifts are handled with the attention and importance they deserve. Watch this video to hear more about Everence and why your support matters <https://everence.wistia.com/medias/ijzocfh9km>

For more information, contact:

- Adriel Development Office at foundation@adriel.org
- Chandler Ingle, Everence Financial Consultant at chandler.ingle@everence.com

Angel Tree Giving

Will You Be The One to Help Adriel's Foster Children and Bridges Young Adults Be Remembered at Christmas this Year?

As we start approaching the holiday season, Adriel is making plans for this year's Angel Tree Giving. We want to make sure that every foster child, as well as young adults in the Bridges program feel the generosity, kindness, and love that comes with the Christmas Spirit.

This year we will continue with financial donations, which enables Adriel to purchase a gift for each child from their individual wish list and ship directly to their foster homes. In addition, we will be providing the opportunity for gifts to be dropped off at either the West Liberty or Archbold office on specific collection dates and times.

To give a financial gift, please visit <https://www.mygiving.net/donate/Donate-to-Foster-Care> and apply donation to the Angel Tree Giving.

For more details, please visit our website <https://www.adriel.org/angel-tree/> or contact Brooks Behnfeldt at brooks.behnfeldt@adriel.org or 937-407-1190.

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