

**An Update from the Kentucky United Methodist Children’s Homes**

**The next Offering of Hope is January 29, 2023**

Thank you for sharing this update from us with your church! You are welcome to use our logo (above) in your bulletin or newsletter as well. Please contact Rebecca Merrill at info@kyumh.org if you have any questions about how to use this information.

* **Thank you** for your generous giving – you gave hundreds of gift cards so our youth could have a joyful Christmas!
* **One of our constant needs** this time of year is winter apparel. New or gently used coats, hats, and gloves in adult sizes S-3X can make a big difference for the youth and families we serve. Donations can be accepted at either of our campuses in Nicholasville and Owensboro.
* Unfortunately, Kentucky still has one of the highest rates for abuse and neglect across the country, and out of all cases reported, over 90% involve neglect. Despite our situation, our state government continues to under-fund the care for these children. That makes your financial support critical to the operation of KyUMH. And with that support, we are expanding our services in two important ways:
	+ Due to the COVID pandemic, there has been a significant increase in the need for mental health support for children. In response, the Children’s Home is adding staff and expanding its community counseling services across the state to reach more children and families in the Jessamine, Fayette, Daviess, Henderson, and Ohio county areas.
	+ KyUMH has launched a new program to serve unaccompanied children from other countries that have endured traumatic experiences, and help them find stable homes and a path towards citizenship. KyUMH was invited to join this program by another United Methodist children’s agency because of our excellence in caring for children in need.
* **There are several ways to give for 5th Sunday:**
	+ You can mail a check to PO Box 930, Nicholasville KY 40340
	+ You can give on our secure online form via credit card or direct bank transfer at kyumh.org/donate