

TIRRELL'S STORY

Adopted by John and Erin Stuebe and adopted into the family of God in 2023.



Each day is a victory for Tirrell. With John and Erin Stuebe, his former foster and now adoptive parents, surrounding him with love and support, the 14 year old is thriving. Few could ever look past Tirrell's bright smile and perceive the darkness that consumed his childhood.

As a boy, Tirrell's life was shrouded in shadow. Not even the people who lived near him knew what he endured within his childhood home. Rarely did his family allow the boy out of his bedroom. Rice was the only food they fed him. He had no toys except for a worn set of wooden blocks. He was not allowed to attend school. Tirrell's entire world could be measured by the space inside his bedroom walls.

One day, a family member had no choice but to take him to the hospital when he developed extreme sores on his legs. It was then social services became involved removing Tirrell from the home and placing him in the NC foster care system.

A judge assigned to Tirrell's case asked the family member why he was isolated and not allowed to attend school. The family member responded, "He wasn't worth the gas money."

When Baptist Children's Homes (BCH) foster care supervisor Jessie Chilson became aware of Tirrell's situation, God nudged her to call John and Erin Stuebe. The Stuebe's are licensed foster parents through the EVERY CHILD initiative, a partnership between BCH and NC Baptists.

"Jessie pulled up to our house and the car door opened," John recalls of the day Tirrell arrived. "Tirrell got out with his walker. His legs were bandaged up, but he had a big smile on his face. He came into our home, set the walker down and never used it again."

Tirrell was nearly nonverbal because of his years of isolation. Erin left her career to home school Tirrell. From simple math to being taught the meaning of different emotions, Tirrell was a quick learner. The same held true in attending church and hearing the Gospel for the first time. Through the discipleship of John and Erin plus his involvement at their church, Tirrell started memorizing scripture, and it began working in his heart. *On June 16, 2023, Tirrell was adopted into the family of God when he accepted Christ.*

WORTHY

Everyday, Christian men and women answer God's call to care for "the least of these" (Mat. 25:40).

Cottage parents at Baptist Children's Homes (BCH) welcome a child into their cottage who experienced horrific neglect. Couples, like John and Erin Stuebe, who have become foster parents through the **EVERY CHILD Initiative**, a partnership between BCH and NC Baptists, welcome a child like Tirrell into their caring, Christian home. An expectant mother chooses adoption for her baby because compassionate staff at BCH's Christian Adoption Services are there to come alongside her.

Through your gift to BCH's **Annual Offering**, Christ's love is shared and lives are forever changed! Those we serve come from heartbreaking circumstances that have made them feel alone and unwanted. Your gift makes it possible to introduce children, families, special needs adults, single moms and others we serve across NC, SC and Guatemala to a Heavenly Father who says they are **WORTHY** because of the sacrifice of His Son.



WEEK OF PRAYER

Please pray for the BCH ministry and the lives of children and families we serve together.

Sunday. Pray for children and families in your community and across North Carolina.

Monday. Pray for the thousands of lives BCH serves each year through its 35 locations.

Tuesday. Pray for BCH's cottage parents, staff, care givers, foster parents and adoptive parents who care for children around the clock.

Wednesday. Pray God leads couples to foster and/or adopt through the **EVERY CHILD** ministry.

Thursday. Pray for intellectually/developmentally disabled adults we serve daily.

Friday. Pray for indigenous children at Good Shepherd Ministries in Xela, Guatemala.

Saturday. Pray for women we minister to who face an unplanned pregnancy. Pray they see the beauty of choosing life for their unborn babies.

Sunday. Pray children, families & individuals BCH ministers to will come to know Jesus as Savior.

Through your offering, **167,619 LIVES** were impacted in 2022. In the past five years, there were **661 DECISIONS FOR CHRIST.**



SHARING HOPE...CHANGING LIVES

Baptist Children's Homes
of NORTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL OFFERING GOAL: \$1.5 MILLION | BCHOFFERING.ORG | [f](#) [@](#) [v](#) [t](#) [i](#) [n](#)

#EVERYCHILD

#ONMISSIONTOGETHER

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