



NOVEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

This fall has been a season of growth at Chosen. From online education programs, new team members, and new board members, great things are happening! Learn more below.

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Friends,

Chosen was conceived in my brain 13 years ago **today!** I had a passion for adoption, children in foster care, and a crazy idea for how to raise money so that children weren't languishing in a system or an institution. You can read more of my musings about the beginning [here](#), if you'd like.

Back then, little did I know that November was National Adoption Month. Frankly, I knew very little about the nonprofit or government child welfare system. But I had a passion.

God had birthed within me a desire for systemic change in 1995 when my brother came into our family through foster care. During our family's adoption journey, I saw how children could easily fall through the cracks in a system designed to protect them.

Since then, I have also learned how woefully inadequate our current system is to prepare and support families long term to help their children heal from the maltreatment they have experienced. **A fundamental shift is absolutely needed to help children heal and families thrive.**

Fast forward 13 years, and I cannot believe the wild ride our team has been on. We have grown tremendously - both in size, service, and reach. And that is because of people like **you** who care. The growth has been fueled by children's deepest need for the healing our team provides, so that families stay together.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I have found myself reflecting on gratitude, which is an antidote to stress (you're welcome! ☺) It's important that you know I am grateful for you, and the role you play in healing families. You are receiving this email because you are friend to Chosen. You have supported us in the form of wise counsel, service, or even a gift. You have truly been a part of helping children heal by strengthening their families.

Especially in November, National Adoption Month, we are glad to share stories like **William's**. We cannot celebrate the gift of adoption without supporting the long-term healing needs. Adoption day is only the beginning. William's story is one of hope and transformation. A story that shows **it is possible for families to move from chaos and fear to stability and love.**

Our team is thankful for friends like you, who make this healing possible. As we approach the end of 2021, will you continue to be a part of this healing? Please commit to close out this year by **making a gift to Chosen**. I know that together, we can continue making a difference.

Sincerely,



Jenni Lord | Chosen Care
Chief Executive Officer

A Chosen Story: William's Journey to Adoption



After multiple "almost adoptions,"
William had given up on the idea of being adopted.

But his foster dad, Dan, refused to give up. The two started on a long, bumpy journey
toward adoption, and they asked Chosen to be a partner on that journey.

Read the rest of this family's story [here](#).

Thank You, Hearts & Hands!

The **Hearts & Hands Golf Tournament**
was a success! On 11/04, the **Keller
Williams Heritage** team presented Chosen
with a gift of \$50,000, the proceeds from
the tournament.

We are grateful for this generous gift!



THE QUARRY
GOLF COURSE

**Mark Your Calendars:
Giving Tuesday is 11/30!**



THIS #GIVINGTUESDAY

Help us
strengthen families.

Make a gift.
Make a difference.

Tuesday, November 30, 2021



Are you ready to help strengthen families?

This **Giving Tuesday**, pledge to help heal & strengthen families by committing a monthly gift to Chosen of **any amount**.

[Pledge Your Gift Here](#)

"Fundamental Shift Needed: An Op-ed"

Chosen CEO Jenni Lord was recently published in the [San Antonio Express News](#).

Her op-ed tackles a tough question - what is needed to transform the flawed child welfare system?



A Chosen Resource: Understanding Kinship Care

Chosen does *whatever it takes* to help families heal--and that includes providing helpful online resources and information.

Do you know a kinship caregiver? Chances are, there is one in your life! Read more below about what kinship caregivers are, and how you can support them.

Kinship

/ˈkin-SHip/ noun

Kinship care refers to the care of children by relatives or, in some jurisdictions, close family friends (often referred to as fictive kin). Relatives are the preferred resource for children who must be removed from their birth parents because it maintains the children's connections with their families. This can be grandparents, aunts or uncles, siblings, or distant relatives.

source: www.childwelfare.gov

How Can You Be a Helpful Friend to a Kinship Caregiver?



**Car Pooling Plan
For School**



**Invitation Accompanied
With Child Care**



**Be Intentional About
Being A Regular Friend**



**Provide Meals
Once A Week**



**Send Friendly
Encouragement**

- Create a carpool plan for school
- Help coordinate childcare
- Check-in on them regularly
- Set up a plan to drop off weekly meals
- Send notes of encouragement

These and other tips can be found in the video "How To Help Grandparents Raising Grandchildren." Watch the 3-minute video at the link below!

[Watch the Video Here](#)

Welcome, Yara Ford!

Yara has joined Chosen as the Director of Operations



Yara is passionate about investing in children and improving outcomes. As Director

of Operations, she oversees financial planning, supports organizational growth, and furthers the development of Chosen's performance culture.

Learn more about Yara [here](#).

Welcome, Kristin Snyder!

Kristin has joined Chosen's Board of Directors.



Kristin has more than 10 years of experience in the healthcare industry with government-funded managed care programs. She is active in the community and passionate about helping families advocate for themselves to obtain social services.

Read more about Kristin [here](#).

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STRENGTHENING FAMILIES | HELPING CHILDREN HEAL | CHOSEN CARE