

May 2017

**ACH**  est 1924

**AMARILLO CHILDREN'S HOME**



His future is  (*greater than*) his past  
**BECAUSE OF YOU.**

[AmarilloChildrensHome.org](http://AmarilloChildrensHome.org)

## AMARILLO CHILDREN'S HOME began out of a single decisive moment.

In 1923, Presbyterian minister Dr. R. Thomsen and some friends, including civic leaders Guy C. Saunders and Allen Early, Sr., were meeting for coffee at the Amarillo Hotel when they saw three children crying outside, orphaned and hungry. At this critical point, these men chose to act: to feed and clothe the children and find them proper care. As a result of the events on that fateful day, Amarillo Children's Home officially opened in March, 1924.

# WHO WE ARE

- **WE SERVE** primarily children in the foster care and juvenile systems
- **AGES 5** through aftercare (college/young work force)
- **IN 7** family-style homes of up to 8 children with a set of houseparents
- **COMMUNITY** is at the heart of Amarillo Children's Home – from the beginning a product of this community, through our 93 years: you have poured in your time, heart, gifts and funds.
- **OUR FUNDING** comes primarily through community donations.  
**2016 FISCAL YEAR:** 81% community, 19% state
- **YOUR GIFTS ALLOW US TO BATTLE FOR OUR KIDS,** giving them much more than food and shelter
- **OUR ULTIMATE GOAL** is to restore each child's God-given identity and help them become everything they were created to be
- **OUR SUCCESS** shows itself over time:
  - IN THE SHORT-TERM** as our kids realize their own worth and the value of others, they become leaders in their areas of influence and a blessing to the world around them
  - IN THE LONG TERM** as they form their own families and carry the values and truths they learned at Amarillo Children's Home into adulthood, creating generational change
- **WE ARE GRATEFUL** as we look to the future, knowing we can continue to trust you, our community, to include us in your story



# INFO & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Summer is Coming!

Please be in prayer for our summer – pray the activities will be effective to accomplish our mission and the Lord's purpose.

### Graduation: May 27, Civic Center

Caprock 10:30 am  
Tascosa 5:30 pm

Check our our website for more about our seven graduates.

### Visit our Campus

We're in the process of planning several events – and we'd like you to be a part! Follow us on Facebook to get details about all we have going on.



## A PROFILE OF GIVING.

### Neilyn Griggs Maloney: 1929 - 2017

A heart for others. A birthright of generosity.

A gift that is > as its impact grows from generation to generation.

If you've been inspired to continue your own legacy or to honor a loved one by giving a gift in your will, learn how at [leavealegacy.org](http://leavealegacy.org) (click the "How to Give" button at the right) or talk to your financial planner.

# A LEGACY BEYOND MEASURE

In life, Neilyn Griggs Maloney lived with an open heart and open hands – generous with her time, intellect and money. In her passing, her life-long legacy continues through a gift left in her will, along with a gift from her mother's trust to Amarillo Children's Home (ACH). Neilyn also desired to leave a *tribute* to her grandparents, father and step-father, and to *particularly honor* her grandparents and the memories she treasured of time spent with them visiting ACH and delivering shoes to the children here.

Born and, to an extent, raised in Amarillo, Neilyn led an interesting life. When Neilyn was young, her mother, Christine Russell Griggs Rauh Hignett, married Neilyn's step-father Stanley Rauh. Neilyn had a wonderful relationship with Rauh, an original

staff-writer for the New Yorker and, later, a screenwriter known for his witty dialogue (most famously for work on Laurel and Hardy) at the dawn of the talkies.

A student at Amarillo High, Neilyn, herself, was quite intelligent and went on to obtain her BAS in English and Chemistry, her MA in English and Chemistry and her Law Degree.

Though Neilyn lived elsewhere as an adult, she retained a heart-connection to Amarillo with warm recollections of attending Central (now First) Presbyterian and those aforementioned visits to ACH. Neilyn, her mother and her grandparents, are forever a part of the community of "our people" living on in the many lives of the children their generosity has touched.

**WE  
EXPLORE.**

Because what is gained is **>** the cost. Through *your support* we provide intentional, purposeful experiences and building blocks to shape well-rounded and healthy individuals and families.

## GIVE AN OCEAN-FULL OF MEMORIES *story taken from an interview with one of our girls*

Spring Break is family vacation time at ACH. Your gifts help provide each cottage a fund (which they can add to with family savings) to plan a trip that best fits their family. It's a time of magical-memory-making and family-relationship-deepening.

*We didn't realize we  
were making  
memories,*

*We just knew we  
were having fun.*

*- Author Unknown*

**T***he first day, we drove down to Surfside. It took a loooooong time. We stopped at this huge convenience store called Buc-ees. The restrooms were awesome. When you squished the soap to wash, bubbles came up! And when we finally got to our house, it was right **ON** the beach.*

A house on the beach, a dream Spring Break. It feels lavish, but when the extravagance is the result of a careful budgeting of family activity money and working together to deliver magazines in the hot sun, it's also a lesson in delayed gratification and the joy of working as a family to achieve a common goal.

*I loved the beach. You couldn't drag me out of the ocean. We surfed on belly boards; I got tackled by waves; Gen and I were waiting for a wave, and I felt something pinch my leg – I grabbed it and pulled it up – I said, "Gen, did you know there are crabs out here?"*

*One of the days we went to the Galleria. I had saved my allowance and birthday money and got to buy an iPod from the Apple store (Did you know there's an Apple store?!). And we went ice*

*skating! We were really bad at it – then we got good. Once, Sarah started to fall – I forgot I had skates on and tried to catch her and we both went down! It was really funny – and really cold...*

Life-experience is a great educator, and travel, metamorphic. Change of scenery and pace mixed with adventure makes a person come alive and helps one learn about oneself and the world. You have gifted this to our kids!

*We went to the aquarium and ate **IN** the aquarium right by all the big fish. I could barely eat... all I could do was look. **AND** we got to pet sting rays! It was so cool. It was a little scary at first – they look like they're going to eat your finger... but, they're just getting to know you. They swim to you and **WANT** to be petted. After that, we went to the boardwalk and rode rides- it was so much fun!*

*My favorite part was just hanging out with people and getting to know them a little more. Everybody was nice on the trip – we were all making a special effort to get along and have fun together. **It was really good to be away as a whole family.***

*Thank you for an incredible, impactful Spring Break! **Will you help make summer magical as well?** Your gift will provide daily opportunities for our kids to discover their God-given value and be forever transformed. You can use the enclosed envelope. **Please respond today** – summer is almost here!*

[AmarilloChildrensHome.org](http://AmarilloChildrensHome.org)



Hearing their excited voices  
is **>** just reading about the trip!

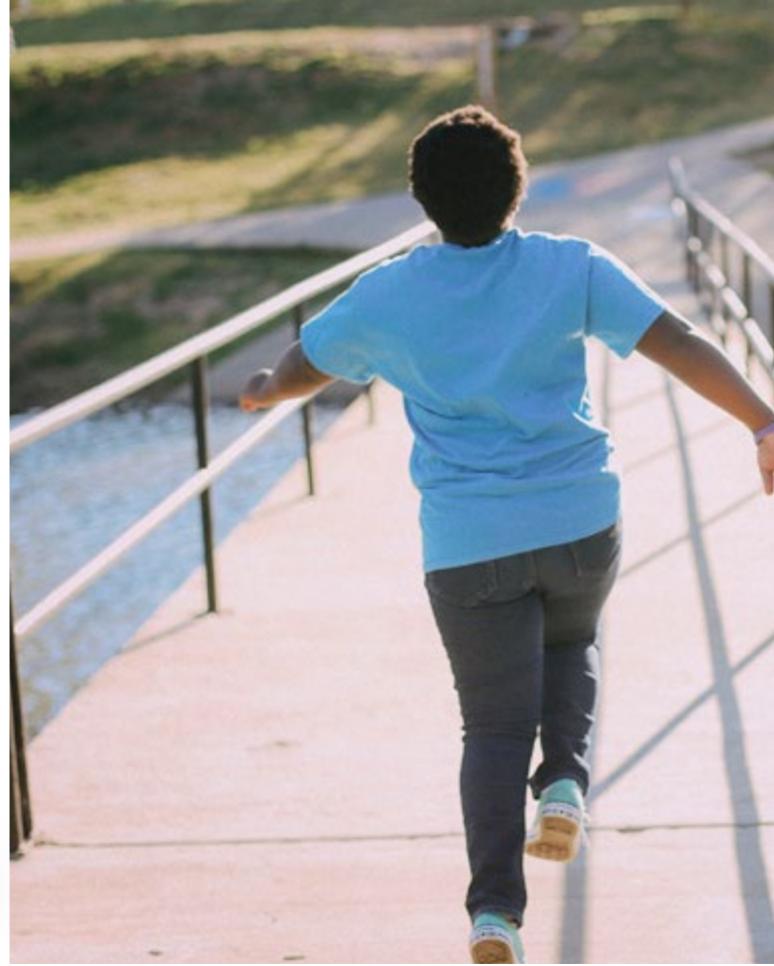
Go to [AmarilloChildrensHome.org](http://AmarilloChildrensHome.org)  
and click on *this picture* in "The  
Latest" to watch a video of some  
of our girls petting sting rays

*My favorite part was just hanging out with people and getting  
to know them a little more...*

**It was really good to be away as a whole family.**



Visit [AmarilloChildrensHome.org](http://AmarilloChildrensHome.org) to watch this precious girl sing *Amazing Grace*



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**WE DO.**

Since 1924, we have been comprized of an amazing community of people who do. People like you, who see the need and give of their resources so this vital work can be accomplished.

*And because you do, this nearly 7th grader does.*

A man is walking down the street when he falls into a pit. The walls are so steep he can't get out.

A doctor passes by and the guy shouts up, "Hey you. Can you help me out?" The doctor scribbles a prescription, throws it down in the hole and moves along.

A government official comes by and the man yells, "I'm down in this hole can you help?" The official replies, "Isn't there a law about avoiding pits?" and hurries on.

Then a friend walks by, "Hey, can you help me out?" the man calls, and the friend jumps into the hole. Our guy says, "What are you doing? Now we're both down here!" The friend says, "Yeah, but I've been here before and I know the way out."

- Leo McGarry,  
*The West Wing*  
(modified)

## BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS - GALATIANS 6:2

**"MY LITTLE SISTER DIED LAST YEAR,**  
so when my choir teacher told us one of the teachers in our school had lost her sister,  
**I KNEW SHE'D BE SAD.**

During recess, I went looking for her  
and I **FOUND HER.**

*I told her I was sorry for her loss, that my sister had died, too.*

I asked her if I could sing *Amazing Grace* for her after school, and she said yes.

**I DIDN'T KNOW HER,**  
**BUT I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING FOR HER**  
**BECAUSE I'VE BEEN THERE AND I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE.**

I know it helps when someone stands by you, and  
**I WANTED TO DO THAT FOR HER."**

*taken from an interview with one of our girls*

**TO RESTORE THE IDENTITY OF CHILDREN  
SO THEY CAN REALIZE THEIR GREAT VALUE  
AND BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS.**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

## ABOUT OUR RECENT NAME CHANGE



Our 93 year history has made us what we are today and will influence who we become over the next 93 years.

- Darrin Murphy

It is both an honor and humbling to work at an organization that is 93 years old. I love to hear stories of our history and I am trying to capture as much of our past as I possibly can.

Our history has made us what we are today and will influence who we become over the next 93 years. The original trust of the three story building in North Amarillo given to Central Presbyterian church began our journey as the Presbyterian Home for Children. We are thankful that the people of Amarillo responded to support the mission of caring for children in need.

Over the years, a gift by Charles Wolfin in the 1940's allowed us to move to 34th street. Here we continued our relationships with local schools, having kids in the inaugural classes of Coronado elementary, Austin middle school and Tascosa High.

One of the intriguing things I have experienced in my 4 years as President, is the name used to describe us. I am the President of an organization referred to by at least 13 different names ranging from 'that place on 34th' to 'the Home for Presbyterian kids'. What has been interesting is that it is called different things depending upon the relationship between the place and the person. I love that we have had deep relationships with so many different people in Amarillo over the past 93 years, each with a unique story. These stories of people who love kids and love our organization have allowed us to truly be Amarillo Children's Home for 93 years.

Our deep connection with a community of caring, kid loving, life impacting individuals, has resulted in 93 years of ministry to kids and their future families. As we move into our next 93 years we will value our roots and honor our relationship with Amarillo by continuing to accomplish our mission to "restore the identity of kids, so they will realize their great value and be a blessing to others". We are so thankful for the opportunity to honor our place in the history of Amarillo's benevolence to change the future of our community through kids.

Thanks for loving kids,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrin".

Darrin Murphy M.A.B.C.,  
President of Amarillo Children's Home

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## LIVES YOU HAVE TOUCHED

I had the recent pleasure of visiting with the wife of a man who used to live here at Amarillo Children's Home - he was one of *our kids*. She said to me, "He's a better father because of his time here."

Soak that in. **HE'S A BETTER FATHER BECAUSE OF YOU.**

**THAT'S WHY YOU GIVE TO AMARILLO CHILDREN'S HOME.** Of course you care about children, *now*, about kids having a better life, *now*. But you also want them to have a better future - to **BE** a better future. You want to be a part of developing better husbands and fathers, wives and mothers, business owners and employees, neighbors and friends. **HE'S A BETTER FATHER BECAUSE OF YOU**, and so are many, many more. **THANK YOU.**