



**Baptist Children's Home
and Family Services**
Building Futures. Changing Lives.



June 16, 2020

Dear Friends:

After careful consultation with numerous individuals and event organizers regarding the health and safety of everyone involved with our annual Fall Festival, including our donors, residents, employees, exhibitors, and longtime attendees, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Baptist Children's Home and Family Services Fall Festival scheduled for September 19th in Carmi.

Following increased uncertainty about the COVID-19 virus and when our State will enter phase 5 of the reopening plan, we felt this was the best way to proceed during such an unprecedented global situation. Under the guidelines outlined by the State of Illinois festivals are not allowed until Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan. We are very disappointed that we are unable to hold the Fall Festival for our friends and supporters. But we know it's the right decision based on the information we have today.

Our team will be reaching out directly to our past sponsors, supporting churches, and attendees with information about alternative plans we are considering. We are exploring options to coordinate an online experience to showcase our ministry and continue to provide our quilt auction this year. We are not sure about details at this time, but we are prayerfully considering ways to celebrate the BCHFS community. Updates will be shared on our website - www.bchfs.com.

We thank everyone who supports BCHFS. The decision to cancel is disappointing since we will not be able to see many of you, who we only see at the Festival. Please pray for God's continued provision for the ministry and for ways that you may be able to support our work during this unusual time. Our staff looks forward to bringing you a reimagined online event this Fall and a bigger brighter Fall Festival in 2021.

In Christ,

Denny Hydrick
Executive Director

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