

A New Year Commitment.... One of the first questions friends and family ask at the beginning of each year is, “What is your New Year’s Resolution?” Rather than make a resolution for Collins Home, I make a “Commitment” that we will continue to provide the best quality care for hurting children and families in need. A commitment that our homes provide a safe, loving and nurturing environment where our children have opportunities to heal and realize their full potential. A commitment that in all that we say and do, our children know they are loved and will always be a part of our family.

Over the Christmas break, I was walking through Wal-Mart and caught a glimpse of a little girl that used to live at Collins Home as she and her dad were getting in line to check-out. I slipped up behind her and lightly tapped her shoulder and was rewarded with a delighted smile as she squealed, “Mrs. Alena” and threw her little arms around my waist. My heart melted as she hugged me three more times in the short amount of time we chatted before they had to check out. And once again, all it took was a sweet smile and hearing, “I love you, Mrs. Alena.” to strengthen our commitment to love and care for some very special kids. I don’t get to spend a lot of time with our children due to administrative and fundraising responsibilities but I do cherish the time we share. Their warm hugs and genuine smiles reinforce my commitment to do everything possible to continue providing a safe and caring place for innocent children to call home.

I hope you will consider making a commitment to support Collins Children’s Home this year. Of course, as a non-profit, financial support is always needed. However, we also have a lot of volunteer opportunities on our campus and at our thrift store. If you’d like a tour and to learn more about CCH, give us a call at 864-882-0893.

I want to leave you with a couple of quotes I recently came across.... *“The best use of life is to invest it in something which will outlast life.” - William James* and *“We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today.” Stacia Tauscher*