

Life at Collins Home this week is quiet while kids attend summer camp and the house parents enjoy a much-needed vacation. Taking advantage of this time, one of our dedicated Board Members, Ed Pekarek and our friend, Rich Leonard have been working tirelessly in the girls' home painting rooms and making repairs. And when I say tirelessly, I'm talking 10 to 12 hour days.

We are so grateful and thankful for our friends in the community that work alongside us ensuring our kids have all their basic needs taken care of... and that they know what it's like to live in a safe and loving home environment. At Collins Home, they don't have to worry about where their next meal is coming from or where they're going to sleep each night. Our job, as adults, is to take care of the children placed in our care. That is why we are trying to replace their worn-out bedroom furniture.

Over the past 19 years and after hundreds of children sleeping in the beds, using the dressers & nightstands, the furniture has to be replaced. Although we have a wonderful volunteer, the awesome Mr. Bob Head, who has been able to replace handles, rebuild drawers, etc., has done all he can and we need to purchase new furniture. We are beyond thankful it has lasted this long.

I don't know what we'd do without friends like Ed, Rich, Bob and our community throughout the year. We do not take the love and support lightly...we thank God for you all daily.

Our goal is to purchase bedroom furniture that is not only functional and of time tested quality, but will also create a warm and cozy space for our children. We've already raised \$17,500, but we need \$7,500 more. Please help us get the word out to your family and friends who would like to brighten a child's life while making a tax deductible donation to Collins Children's Home.

A look ahead...Our 34th Annual Chicken BBQ Dinner will be held at Northside Elementary Cafeteria in Seneca, SC on Saturday, September 16, 2017 from 4-7pm. Each plate includes ½ slow grilled chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, potato chips, roll, pickles and cookies with tea or lemonade. This year tickets will be \$12.00, due to an increase in our costs. The plates are well worth an additional \$2.00 and all proceeds benefit our ministry of helping heal the broken hearts of hurting children.

We will be mailing newsletters/invitations to the BBQ next month. If you don't receive your newsletter/invitation by the end of July, please call Kaye at 864-882-0893 so we can make sure you are on our mailing list and we will reserve tickets for you.