



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

EAGLE FUND UPDATE

We thank you for the gifts given to Eagle Village each year. With each gift you bless our youth in ways you might not realize are truly life changing. Gifts to the Eagle Fund support the basics like scholarships for access to the services we provide; trauma assessments, counseling, or the chance to attend one of our camps. Gifts also support involvement of the families of the youth who live on our campus. We are able to give them transportation, overnight accommodations, food, therapeutic intervention and family support. In addition, your support helps to teach our youth a standard of living by keeping the campus they live in, go to school in and have activities, in good shape. They do a great deal of hard work learning how to cope with the abuse and neglect they have endured. They are recovering credit at our charter school and they are learning a new way of life. The majority of the youth we work with haven't grown up going to the zoo, church, museums, libraries, lakes and much more, so we give our youth first time experiences. We want them to have fun as children, to know what that feels like. We want them to look forward to a different future.

We are grateful that you care about the experience youth have while they are with us. The window of time to work with each youth can be short and we want to make a lasting impact on their lives. You give us the opportunity to go above and beyond for our youth.

Learn more at
[eaglevillage.org](http://eaglevillage.org/donate)
/donate



CLOTHING STORE

We have been gifted gently used children's apparel. To organize the clothing, we call on volunteers like Sandi Marklew. "When I first started there was nothing but a giant pile of clothing," she explained. Luckily, Sandi and another volunteer spearheaded the process of cleaning and organizing incoming clothing.

Now, the clothes are neatly stored in labeled boxes, categorized by gender, type, and size. This system allows children to easily find the items they need. In addition to organizing, Sandi also utilizes her sewing skills to hem, repair, and create clothes and other items for our youth. This includes making curtains for the youth houses, as well as stockings for Christmas.

"I really didn't know what I'd be doing when I started helping but I love it," she mentioned. "When I think about the needs of these kids and this ministry, I know this is where I'm supposed to be. I want to fulfill my commitment to the kids."



2023 IN REVIEW

2023 was an incredibly busy and successful year for our Village. Here are just a few of the many highlights from last year.

23

Successful
Adoptions

117

Part-Time, Full-Time
& Seasonal Staff
Hired

138

Kids Attended
Summer Camps

2

Completed Building
Renovations

In 2024, we look forward to focusing on our five-year strategic vision, the completion of the Activity Therapy Center, developing new programs, creating a comprehensive strategic plan, and recruiting more talent.



GROWTH GOALS

2024 is going to be a year of growth for Eagle Village. We are continuing to grow our programs, staff, and campus - while planting the seed that inspires positive development in our youth.

During their first therapy session of year, we asked our children to set goals for each other and themselves. A few of our youth shared their responses in hopes of inspiring others to make their own goals.

"Looking back, I learned that I can do anything I set my mind to. This year, I want to stop being mean to myself and others. And, to be a better person to my family and friends. I want our time together to be focused on the good, and not so much the bad."

- Eagle Village Youth

"Last year, my biggest accomplishment was coming to Eagle Village and allowing others to help me. In 2024, my main goal is to find my forever family and to continue to do good."

- Eagle Village Youth

"In 2023, I got over my mom being gone and not in my life anymore. I want to focus on making new adventures and memories this year."

- Eagle Village Youth

Our youth also learned that in order to achieve their goals, they need to grow. Grow personally, academically, relationally, and spiritually. The best way to reach a growth goal: find the right motivation, plan for the road blocks, be accountable, and be realistic.

JANUARY IS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH



"To be a mentor you have to understand that you're not going to save the world or completely change a child," said maintenance specialist, Mike Schildhouse. He has experience in being a mentor for 5 years. "What you will do - they will remember that moment you took the time to care about them."

After mentors consent to background checks, they undergo training and are assigned to areas where their assistance is needed. We kindly request that mentors connect with their mentees on a weekly basis, whether it be through a phone call, sending a card, or coming to campus to go on a walk.

We are currently looking for group mentors to help at the youth houses or at the camps.

For more info, contact:

Chad Saxton

Director of Outreach & Engagement

1-231-305-6512

csaxton@eaglevillage.org

Learn more at
[eaglevillage.org](https://eaglevillage.org/volunteer)
/volunteer



WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT

Friends Friday is a chance to learn more about Eagle Village and our 55-year history. Join us for an exclusive tour of our 681-acre campus! You will learn about our history, current services and how we help children and families reach their full potential. Bring a friend and join us the third Friday of the month.

Serve Saturday is the first Saturday of each month. We have a scheduled project or several projects based on needs, weather and volunteer availability. Whether it be an hour or six, teamwork gets the job accomplished and lasting friendships develop. Lunch is always served.

To RSVP, contact:

Chad Saxton, Director of Outreach & Engagement
1-231-305-6512 | csaxton@eaglevillage.org

Upcoming Dates:

- Friends Friday: February 17th
- Serve Saturday: March 2nd