December 12, 1917, was a chilly day in Omaha, Nebraska. Passers-by hurried along the downtown streets, their thoughts perhaps on Christmas, only two weeks away, and the preparations they still needed to make. Or, maybe they were wondering how the holidays would be different this year, with America now involved in the Great War being waged on the battlefields of Europe. In all the hustle and bustle, no one paid much attention to the tall, bespectacled priest who was shepherding several ragamuffin boys along the sidewalk.

When the little group reached a somewhat run-down Victorian-style boardinghouse, the priest confidently strode to the front door, unlocked it and bade his young charges to enter. Once inside, he turned to the cluster of expectant faces and welcomed the boys to their new home.

There was no ribbon-cutting ceremony. No parade with marching bands. No speech by the mayor. On that ordinary day, in that ordinary place, Father Flanagan’s Home for Boys (later to be known as Boys Town) opened its doors and an extraordinary revolution began.

Father Flanagan had borrowed $90 from a businessman friend to rent the property. For at least a month, the boys would have a roof over their heads. But there wasn’t much else. Between scarcities created by World War I and an overall lack of funding, the priest was hard-pressed to provide enough food and clothing for his boys. And as Christmas approached, the prospects for a happy holiday were bleak. By the morning of Christmas Eve, 25 boys were living in the house, and there was nothing to cook for Christmas dinner.

Then, a Christmas miracle. As would be the case time and time again in those early days of the Home, someone stepped forward to help just when things seemed hopeless. This time, it was a kind Omaha merchant who delivered a barrel of sauerkraut on
Boys Town Celebrates 100 Years of Miracles, Healing Children in Body, Mind and Spirit

Dear Friend,

This Christmas season is an extra special one for all of us at Boys Town. December 12, 2017, marks our Centennial anniversary — 100 years of saving children and healing families.

One hundred years is a long time to be doing anything. It’s especially significant, to us and our dedicated supporters, when the achievements of a century of service are all about improving the lives of countless children and families, and strengthening communities across the country.

At Boys Town, we have been so successful at helping people find success because we understand the challenges kids and their families face and know the best ways to help them.

In all of our programs, children learn new skills and how to build healthy relationships. We bring compassion and experience to the often-difficult task of getting kids to trust again. Once that trust is re-established, kids can learn how to clear away the debris of their old life and begin preparing to move forward.

Boys Town’s unique approach is so effective because we strive to heal the body, the mind and the spirit. This way of caring for children springs directly from the principles of our founder, Father Edward Flanagan, who focused on helping the whole child — physically, academically and spiritually. Father Flanagan believed every child could succeed in life if given the right skills and direction. Building on that basic belief, Boys Town has developed the best care practices, grown in its national impact and continually evolved to effectively meet the changing needs of America’s children.

We heal the “body” by making sure a child’s physical environment is safe, and that he or she is being nurtured and loved, and disciplined in appropriate ways. That means teaching takes the place of physical punishment and children live free of abuse and neglect. It also means children receive quality medical care and begin leading a healthy lifestyle. We heal the “mind” by changing the way children think about their relationships with others and society as a whole. We teach kids how to make better choices, so that positive behaviors can take the place of negative behaviors. And we promote academics and education so children are prepared to take on the challenges they will face in the future.

Most importantly, we rekindle the “spirit” by helping children establish a foundation of faith they can draw strength from every day. While respecting every child’s beliefs, we encourage and support our boys and girls as they make faith an integral part of their journey of healing.

As we celebrate this holiday season, we are thankful for the miracles of the heart our kids have experienced. Our boys and girls are especially thankful for your generous support, which helps make those miracles possible. You are always in their prayers because they know how much you care.

God’s Blessings,

[Signature]

Father Steven E. Boes
Boys Town National Executive Director
Setting Boys Town’s Sites on Widespread Care

With multiple affiliated sites, Boys Town has a significant national presence and can serve more children and families in a wide variety of ways. Boys Town often partners with local foundations, agencies and businesses to reach out to those in greatest need through residential care, in-home family services, foster care, behavioral health services, community support services and parenting classes.

Each of our sites offers its own set of services and programs. All of these services are based on the research-proven Boys Town Model® of care, so they have the same expectations for positive results and outcomes.

Most recently, every Boys Town site has been involved in community initiatives that identify neighborhoods with the greatest needs and focus on providing the right kinds of services in those areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>site</th>
<th>location</th>
<th>opened</th>
<th>services provided</th>
<th>lives touched ANNUALLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN NEBRASKA</td>
<td>Village of Boys Town, NE</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Residential treatment center, intervention and assessment services, residential care, foster care, in-home services, parenting classes, community support services, behavioral health services, health care services</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN IOWA</td>
<td>Council Bluffs, IA</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>In-home services, community support services, parenting classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN NORTH FLORIDA</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Residential care, in-home services, foster care, community support services, parenting classes</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN CENTRAL FLORIDA</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Intervention and assessment services, residential care, in-home services, community support services, parenting classes, behavioral health clinic</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN LOUISIANA</td>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Diagnostic and assessment services, residential care, in-home services, community support services, parenting classes</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN SOUTH FLORIDA</td>
<td>West Palm Beach</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>In-home services, community support services, parenting classes, behavioral health clinic</td>
<td>17,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN NEW ENGLAND</td>
<td>Portsmouth, R.I.</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Residential care, in-home services, foster care, community support services, parenting classes</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN NEVADA</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>In-home services, community support services, parenting classes, behavioral health clinic</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOYS TOWN WASHINGTON DC</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Residential care, in-home services, foster care, community support services, parenting classes, behavioral health clinic</td>
<td>6,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At one hundred years strong, Boys Town is proud of its legacy of service and its century-long commitment to the well-being of children, families and communities. But as always, we are constantly looking to the future and how best to improve the lives of youth and families in greatest need.

Boys Town’s next leap forward will involve striving to provide life-changing care for every child, every family and every community across the country. Here are four main areas where your generous support will empower us in our mission to achieve that ambitious goal.

**BOYS TOWN FAMILY HOME PROGRAM**

**Giving Kids a Second Chance through Family-Style Care**

Safe, high-quality residential care provided through the Boys Town Family Home Program℠ has been the cornerstone of Boys Town’s mission for more than four decades. Boys Town knows there will always be troubled boys and girls whose serious behavioral and emotional problems require the kind of intensive care and treatment we can provide in a family-like setting. Kids in our program go to school, learn skills, are responsible for chores and develop healthy relationships with adults and other youth, all with the goal of finding success now and later as a productive adult.

Unfortunately, political forces are threatening to reduce state funding that covers some of the costs of our Family Home Program and others like it. This could mean that many boys and girls may not get the help they desperately need. Boys Town has been a strong advocate for preserving this financial support for quality residential care around the country. We hope our advocacy efforts will be successful, but we will continue to count on the generous donations of our supporters to ensure that those youth in greatest need have an opportunity to benefit from the life-changing care Boys Town can provide.

While our residential program continues to produce positive outcomes for troubled children, Boys Town also has made significant efforts to help more children in their own homes so families can stay together.

The program most responsible for the success of this approach is In-Home Family Services (IHFS), which is now offered at every Boys Town affiliate site. This preventive approach has kept large numbers of boys and girls from entering an already overburdened child welfare system. It also is a more cost-efficient, cost-effective approach, enabling Boys Town to use your generous donations to reach even more children and families and help them experience positive results.

We hope our advocacy efforts will be successful, but we will continue to count on the generous donations of our supporters to ensure that those youth in greatest need have an opportunity to benefit from the life-changing care Boys Town can provide.
BOYS TOWN CAREER READINESS CENTER
Preparing Youth for Success in the Workplace

Throughout Boys Town’s history, our Career Readiness Center has played a vital role in preparing youth to enter the workforce as adults.

The Center, located in the Village of Boys Town, Nebraska, is an intensive, close-knit set of programs in which high school students can find their passion, learn specific workplace skills and build connections with potential employers and mentors while completing their required academic courses for graduation.

This instruction, along with the life skills and relationship-building strategies taught in our Family Homes, prepares our boys and girls to make huge strides toward a better life.

An extensive remodeling and expansion project is underway at the Career Readiness Center. The project will include adding a number of courses designed to give students the foundational skills and direction they need to enter a career field. These courses include welding, small-engine repair, auto mechanics, construction, health occupations, graphic design, and communications and media sciences. Plans also include adding culinary arts and landscape design.

Boys Town has invested in and asked for the public’s support of this campaign because it provides students with their best opportunity for success as they transition into adulthood.

BOYS TOWN NATIONAL RESEARCH HOSPITAL
Groundbreaking Strides in Youth Care through Research

Major progress has been made at the Boys Town Center for Neurobehavioral Research, located at Boys Town National Research Hospital®-West, with the purchase of new technology called functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). Using this state-of-the-art technology, Boys Town can better understand how biology and behavior work together to influence child development and expand our knowledge of how and why children behave in certain ways. Blending advanced technology with our vast experience and knowledge of child and family issues, we’ll discover new and better treatment methods to give more children a brighter future.

Meanwhile, concerns about behavioral health issues in children and teens — including the increased use of psychotropic drugs — are making this research more urgent than ever.

See “Brighter Futures”: Page 6
Boys Town is uniquely positioned to do this critical research in order to produce results that are more useful in the everyday care of children and to rapidly apply research findings in our own work. We have a long history of providing effective treatment for children with a wide range of disorders, and Boys Town National Research Hospital this year is celebrating its 40th year of successful translational medical research.

In this way, like Father Flanagan before us, we are changing the way America cares for children and families.

**Boys Town National Hotline**

*With Your Help, We Keep the Lines of Hope Open*

More than 9 million calls and contacts from youth and adults since 1989.

More than 2,700 potential suicides prevented in recent years.

More than 179,000 calls and contacts received last year.

For more than 25 years, the Boys Town National Hotline and its extended services have been answering the call when children and parents need immediate, professional and compassionate assistance.

One of the most critical needs the Hotline meets involves teens who have decided to hurt themselves or take their own lives, but who at the last minute reach out to one of our Crisis Counselors in a desperate cry for help. In thousands of situations, our Crisis Counselors connect with those young people, provide a caring ear for their problems and save their lives by taking action to stop a potential suicide.

Unfortunately, even with the many young lives we save and change, there are still far too many boys and girls who could benefit from our help but don’t know how to find it. With additional funding and support, we could increase awareness through marketing and promotion, and reach out to those youth (and their families) who need the unique assistance our Hotline services provide.

The only way we can continue to meet this critical need is through the generous support of donors like you. Without your help, the very lives of children are at risk and at stake.

Father Flanagan: Visionary, Innovator, Advocate

From the very start of his work with wayward boys, Father Flanagan’s intentions were to change not only the course of individual lives but also the whole system of care for children, a reform that included doing away with the abusive and dangerous reformatories, orphanages and workhouses that represented the greatest failures of the child care system of his day.

As Boys Town grew, Father Flanagan used it as a testing ground, a place where he could develop and try out new theories and concepts for child care. He kept up with the latest developments in education, sociology and psychology, and used surveys and other research methods to measure the impact of the care the boys were receiving at the Home. Much of what he learned came from his relationships with the boys in his care, exploring each boy’s background and the individual problems that brought him to the Home. In his schools, Father Flanagan developed an early version of an Individual Education Plan for each boy and incorporated the ideas of pioneering psychologists into his model of care.

This revolutionary approach — basing the care of children on their experiences and changing needs and using research to measure results — is still employed by Boys Town today.
Christmas Eve. While it wasn’t the fattened goose, it provided a hearty meal and let Father Flanagan and the boys know someone cared. “It was a rather humble festival,” Father Flanagan said. “But we were happy and determined to make a success of our small institution.”

When Father Flanagan’s Home for Boys opened, it appeared to be just another kind attempt to do something about the problem of hungry, homeless orphans and back-alley ruffians. Father Flanagan saw things much differently.

After working in Omaha for two years with transient men — many of whom were plagued by alcoholism, illiteracy and hopelessness — the priest realized his efforts often were too little and too late to make a real difference. Discouraged, he wrote: “I knew that my life’s work lay in the rehabilitation of these men. And yet, my methods were so basically wrong. In talking with the men, I learned that they had been orphaned in childhood.... Or, they were members of large families where income was not sufficient to care for them.... Or, again, they came from families broken by divorce. Invariably they were homeless and abandoned. They veered here, were shoved there throughout their formative years and, reaching a man’s estate, were only shells of men. I knew that my work was not with shells of men, but with the embryo men — the homeless waifs who had nowhere to turn, no one to guide them.”

The idea of providing a haven for boys, where they could get a positive start in life and learn how to be productive citizens, grew from that realization and became a reality on that December day in Omaha. And as more and more boys began showing up at Father Flanagan’s doorstep, he was already envisioning a grand new future for child care in America.

In the weeks and years that followed those first uncertain days, a movement slowly gathered momentum. With courage and faith, Father Flanagan preached his principles of child and family care to government leaders, community decision makers, child care advocates, and anyone and everyone who would listen, striking a nerve in the public’s collective conscience and slowly recruiting a small army of supporters and believers.

Far ahead of his time, the good priest took child care into uncharted territory, breaking down racial and religious barriers by accepting any boy who needed help and challenging the status quo, which, until then, often meant ignoring the needs of children and denying their God-given right to be happy, healthy and hopeful about their future. Over time, Father Flanagan established himself as a champion of children and their causes, and Boys Town became a symbol of the need for sweeping changes in America’s system of child care. Until the day he died in 1948 at age 61, Father Flanagan devoted his life to the plight of children who needed someone to believe in them.

Now, nearly a century later, Father Flanagan’s vision has proven to be 20/20 and his mission continues, thanks to the leadership of his dedicated successors. By constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of America’s children and families, Boys Town has grown into one of the nation’s largest nonprofit child and family organizations, touching the lives of more than two million people every year.

As Boys Town moves into its second century of service, it will shine as a beacon of hope for every child, every family and every community because so many generous supporters like you believe every boy and girl deserves a happy, healthy, productive life. For today’s young people and for those of generations to come, the dream and the mission live on!
Special Year-End Opportunity: IRA Rollover Gift

If you are over age 70½, the Federal government permits you to gift up to $100,000 from your IRA to charity without increasing your taxable income or paying any additional tax. These tax-free rollover gifts could be $1,000 or $10,000 or any amount up to $100,000 this year. The gift offsets your RMD for this year.

The information contained in this briefing does not constitute legal or tax advice, and it is recommended that you seek the advice of your attorney, professional tax advisor and/or financial planner prior to making arrangements for a planned gift.

A Charitable Bequest: A Gift from Your Will
A Wonderful Way to Support Boys Town’s Mission of Saving Children and Healing Families

How to Make a Bequest

A bequest is one of the easiest gifts you can make to significantly impact Boys Town’s work. Your estate-planning attorney can include a provision in your will that leaves a lasting gift to our organization. Your bequest could be a gift of specific assets [such as your home, artwork or a coin collection], a cash donation of any amount or a percentage of your estate. A bequest could also be made from the residue of your estate or what is left after all gifts have been made to your heirs.

Bequest Benefits

• It costs you nothing today to make a bequest.
• Your bequest is free of federal estate tax.
• Your bequest can be changed down the road.
• You can still benefit your heirs with specific gifts.
• A bequest may produce estate tax savings.
• You can leave a legacy of charitable giving.

Recommended Bequest Language

“I give to Father Flanagan’s Boys’ Home, Boys Town, Nebraska, 68010, Tax ID Number 47-0376606, [the sum of $________ or ___ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate] for its general purposes.”

Call us at 888-332-3219 or email giftplanning@boystown.org to learn more about Charitable Bequests. You can also visit us online at boystowngift.org. With a little planning, we can help you provide for your family and give to the causes you care about.

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