

#### Azleway, Inc. - Not just a home, an opportunity. - Azleway.org



15892 CR 26, Tyler, Texas 75707 **(903) 566-8444/(800) 340-2697** 

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#### 2022 Azleway, Inc. Board of Directors

Chairman: Thomas DeWitt Vice-Chairman: Gordon Roberts Treasurer: Michael S. Thomas

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vie Kevin Woodfin

## Azleway.org

#### Azleway Corporate Office Children's Services

Co-Director: Matt Patton (903) 566-8444 ext. 2262 Co-Director: Nekita Freeman (281) 446-8038 ext. 6016

#### **Children's Services Tyler Division**

15892 CR 26, Tyler, Texas 75707 **(903)** 566-8444/(800) 340-2697

Regional Director: Amber Romano (936) 205-5641 ext. 4022 Adoption Coordinator: Julie Antwine (903) 566-8444 ext. 2273

FB: Azleway Children's Services of Tyler and

Valley View Residential

#### **Children's Services Houston Division**

19333 Highway. 59 N., Suite. 250, Humble, Texas 77338

Director: Virginia Gallardo (281) 446-8038 FB: Azleway Children's Services of Houston

#### Children's Services Nacogdoches Division

1901 N. Stallings Drive, Suite 5, Nacogdoches, Texas 75964

Regional Director: Amber Romano (281) 446-8038 FB: Azleway Children's Services of Nacogdoches

#### **Children's Services Metroplex Division**

2004 TX-360 Frontage Road Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

Regional Director: Tiesha White (972) 206-2885 ext. 6105

FB: Azleway Children's Services of DFW

#### **Azleway Substance Abuse Program**

1085 PR 3481, Big Sandy, Texas 75755 **Director: David Trest (903) 636-9800** 

#### Valley View Residential

15892 CR 26, Tyler, Texas 75707

Director of Residential Programs: Booker Hooks (903) 566-6827

Azleway, Inc. receives partial funding through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), Health and Human Services Commission, and Texas Probation Department. The balance of costs is made up by corporate sponsors, businesses, private individuals and grants through public and private trusts and foundations. In short, we need your help to make quality, specialized care possible for the children in our care.



Who's Who on our Board?

Board Member

TOM DEWITT

Meet Board Chairman Tom DeWitt - Born and raised in North Kansas City, Missouri, Azleway Board Chairman Tom DeWitt was educated

at Vanderbilt University where he met his wife of 52 years, Anne. Tom and Anne have three grown children. Tom has spent the majority of his adult life engaged in real estate development and brokerage. His avocation is service and adult learning. Tom is also certified by the State of Texas as a Real Estate Instructor and has been an adjunct faculty member of Tyler Junior College.

Tom had this to say about his experience with Azleway:

"I have been involved with Azleway for the better part of the 40 years we have been in Tyler. Having been fortunate to have three healthy children who have all received good education and established careers in health care and education, I know just how lucky they have been. Exposed to Azleway youth for much of their lives, my middle daughter has become a foster parent herself in South Carolina, where she and our granddaughter are now beginning the college experience.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

"Azleway – A faith-based agency, providing opportunities through quality services to children and families."



# AZLEWAY HAS EXCITING NEWS TO ANNOUNCE!

This year, we achieved national accreditation through the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA).



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FOSTER PARENT
SPOTLIGHT
PAGES 6 & 7



Christmas Wish List Pages 11-15

GO TO ANY OF OUR FACEBOOK PAGES OR AZLEWAY.ORG FOR A DIGITAL COPY OF THE WINTER MAGAZINE

Go to: "smile.amazon.com". Login as you would on "amazon.com". You will be given the opportunity to choose a charity. Select Azleway as your charity of choice, and 0.5% of your spending will be sent to Azleway. That doesn't sound like much - but it adds up quickly. The best part is - it doesn't cost you any extra! Remember to use the "smile.amazon.com" website each time you shop, in order for Azleway to get donations from your purchases.

### amazonsmile You shop. Amazon gives.

"AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice."

https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeld=201365340

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A Publication of Azleway, Inc. Chester Amidon, Editor-in-Chief Katie Powell, Art Director Suzi Rambin, Designer For information, contact Katie.Powell@azleway.org



Azleway Magazine



#### From our Executive Director:



# Forward in Hope

As 2022 comes to a close, it is an opportune time to look back over what has been a wonderful year for the Azleway family. It is a time to reflect on the progress made by our children and by our agency. It has been a wonderful year for our children and youth at Azleway.

They have moved from the trauma of

abuse and neglect to develop meaningful relationships with loving caregivers and friends. Twenty-two of those relationships developed into forever homes through Azleway's adoption program. These children who had been part of the foster care system now have loving adoptive parents to whom they can turn for the rest of their lives. For 15 of our young men and women, they overcame endless hardships to graduate from high school.

Our children have not had the opportunities afforded to many. They have been forced to focus their internal energy on survival rather than learning. One young man told me that he had been in six different junior high schools. One of our graduates came to us last summer to begin school as a 10th grader. Thanks to his perseverance and hard work, along with extra effort from school personnel and Azleway staff, he was able to reach the goal some thought impossible. For these 15 from our residential, substance abuse, and foster care programs, their futures are now filled with hope.

Truly it has been a wonderful year for our agency. After an over a year long self-study process, our site visit by the Council on Accreditation occurred in January. This was the final step toward our first national accreditation. Two peer reviewers spent almost a week reviewing our programs, analyzing our self-study, visiting our facilities, and interviewing staff, board members, foster parents, and children. Both reviewers had spent over 30 years working in child-care.

As we gathered for the exit, they were highly complimentary of the loving care the children reported to them. Surprisingly, they had no areas for improvement. One of the reviewers shared that in this unpredictable chaotic world, the time spent with us gave him hope for the future.



In February, we received our expedited national accreditation. We were told that an expedited initial accreditation, where no program changes were required, was quite rare. This accreditation process has been one of the most rewarding and enriching processes of my over 45 years in child care. I am thankful for the tireless efforts of our staff, board, and friends in achieving this long-term goal of national accreditation, as we seek to provide the highest quality care to the children we are blessed to serve.

It has also been a most unusual year with soaring prices and scorching heat. These resulted in excessive costs of everything, especially for fuel and utilities. We have had tens of thousands of dollars of unanticipated air conditioning and food refrigeration repair and replacement costs.

These unexpected cost increases have required us to dig deep into our savings. We are asking for your help as we launch a \$100,000 "Forward in Hope" Campaign to help us partially cover these expenses.

Please consider a generous contribution to allow our children to move **Forward in Hope into 202**3. It has truly been a wonderful year for the Azleway family because of friends like you. None of the success stories of adoptions, graduations, accreditation, or return of children to their strengthened families, could have happened without loving staff and foster parents, and friends like you.

I am looking forward to the success stories of 2023 as we move Forward in Hope. Chester Amidon

Azleway Executive Director

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# - The Gift of Security-

"Sometimes, hope

is the best present

anyone can receive."



Hello friend of Azleway, I know many of you are wondering how you can help a child this Christmas.

Well, sometimes hope is the best present anyone can receive. That's why our executive director, **Chester Amidon**, has named our year end campaign "Forward in Hope", in

recognition that our agency is entering a new phase of Azleway's ministry to the children of Texas. We have set an exciting goal of raising \$100,000 in this end of year appeal, and as I reach out to all who read this article, I want you to think about some of your early Christmas gifts.

What's the best Christmas gift you ever received? For me, it was without a doubt a popular toy of the

seventies called the "Rock Em Sock Em Robots." This plastic toy featured robots that were supposedly in a boxing match. You could use levers to cause them to punch each other and if you were quick and accurate you

could defeat your opponent and cause his head to pop up and the bell to go off. You could quickly push the defeated robot's head back down and you were on to round two. I loved that toy. Knowing how rough my brothers and I were with our toys, I'm pretty sure it didn't last long. But it goes down in my memories as the greatest Christmas gift ever.

Now, as I think back, I realize that the most wonderful gift I got each year was one of which I was unaware. This gift showed up and was the most impactful one for every single Christmas I was home. In fact, this gift made each of all the other gifts possible. It was the gift of security. My brothers and sister and I received the gift of living in a secure environment. We did not have to worry about whether there was going to be food to eat, or a bed to sleep in. We did not have to consider whether my parents would be there to take care of us. We were living a life that was secured by their sacrifices and we prospered in every way because of it.



As you consider your Christmas and year end giving-would you consider giving the children of Azleway that same gift of security. Oh, we'll be collecting plenty of toys, digital games, and cool new clothes to make our kids smile, but what they really need is to know that their home will be secure, and their needs met. Your generous financial gift that helps us pay the high

cost of utilities, escalating insurance costs, climbing food expenses, and dozens of other rising expenditures could be the best gift you ever give our children. Please dig deep this year and join our dedicated team at Azleway in providing a secure and safe home for the most vulnerable

children in our society.

Hopefully, someday when our children are grown, they will think back to how blessed they were to have a secure home provided during their time of crisis. If everyone does their part, we can easily reach our goal of \$100,000. God bless you and yours, and thank you for your gift.

Kim Beckham Development Department

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

- Matthew 19:14

#### Azleway has exciting news to announce!

This year, we achieved national accreditation through the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA). This is a significant achievement for our organization, and one we are extremely proud of accomplishing. COA accreditation affirms that an organization meets the highest national standards of best practice, and establishes the organization's credibility as effective and professionally sound, in the field of human services. In addition, it provides assurance to all our stakeholders that Azleway is delivering needed, high-quality services in our community, conducting its operations



successfully, and managing its funds effectively. COA accreditation is an objective, independent, and reliable validation of an agency's performance. The COA accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administration, management, and service delivery functions against international standards of best practice.

The standards driving accreditation ensure that services are well-coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based, outcomes-oriented, and provided by a skilled and supported workforce. COA accreditation demonstrates accountability in the management of resources, sets standardized best practice thresholds for service and administration, and increases organizational capacity and accountability by creating a framework for ongoing quality improvement.

Founded in 1977, COA is an independent, not-for-profit accreditor of the full continuum of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations in the United States and Canada. Over 2,000 organizations — voluntary, public, and proprietary, local and statewide, large and small — have either successfully achieved COA accreditation, or are currently engaged in the process. Presently, COA has a total of 47 service standards that are applicable to over 125 different types of programs.

**To learn more about COA, please visit www.coanet.org.** To achieve COA accreditation, Azleway first provided written evidence of compliance with the COA standards. After that, a group of specially trained volunteer Peer Reviewers confirmed adherence to these standards during a series of on-site interviews with trustees, staff and clients. Based on their findings, COA's volunteer-based Accreditation Commission voted that Azleway had successfully met the criteria for accreditation. Although the formal part of the accreditation process has been completed, our work is far from over. COA accreditation is not an end, in and of itself. Rather, it is a process by which our organization can consistently strive for and achieve new levels of excellence.

## So many ways to help children in crisis:

**Annual Fund** 

**Memorials & Honorariums** 

**Special Projects** 

**Christmas Wish List** 

Endowment

**Texas Equestrian Gala** 

**East Texas Communities** 

**Benefiting Azleway** 

Foundation

Please remember AZLEWAY in your 2023 budget

We asked some of our Azleway family questions about their journey with fostering and adoption in the hope that their answers might help other adults considering the same path. There are so many children needing a safe home in Texas and we urge you to consider opening your homes and hearts to these kids.

#### **The Bell Family**

#### How long have you been a foster parent?

"CPS brought my foster child to my home January 2021. However, I was licensed with Azleway in December 2021."

#### Why did you become a foster parent?

"I prayed about becoming a foster parent, and like an answered prayer, a child was brought to my house at

the request of her mother, by CPS. A few months later, my journey began. I felt like I could be a positive impact in a child's life, like I was to the baby's mother that requested her child come to my home."

#### What has been the most rewarding part of being a foster parent?

"The most rewarding part of becoming a foster parent is making a difference in the childrens' lives, that have been in my home."

### What advice would you have for a prospective foster parent (who is thinking about becoming a foster parent?

"My first piece of advice would be to pray about it, and be specific with your prayer. Also, make sure you get all information regarding the child, prior to the child being placed in your home. Don't take on more than you can handle - being a foster parent is work."



#### What have you loved the most about being part of Azleway?

"The friendliness of my last case worker, and how respectful and considerate she was, as well as a good listener."

#### **The White Family**



#### How long have you been foster parents?

"We have been foster parents for more than five years now."

#### Why did you become foster parents?

"My husband and I have always loved taking care of children. We started with a home daycare center, twenty years ago, and have worked with small children ever since. We have a big home and plenty of love to give, and we wanted to share that with foster children."

#### What has been the most rewarding part of being foster parents?

"It gives us great joy to watch our foster children grow. It is very rewarding to know that they are safe and given a chance to be children." What advice would you have for a prospective foster parent (who is thinking about becoming a foster parent?

"We tried to pack our schedule with as many activities as possible to keep the children interested, but one thing we have learned is not to over-do. You can stress new children with so many exciting trips to the park or the zoo, and you can also stress yourself and your own family too. Take it slow. You don't have to be a super-parent on your first day."

#### What was your first placement like? Were you nervous, excited, etc.?

"We were very excited for our first foster children. We cleaned our house many times, and prepared many activities for the new children. We wanted to make sure their introduction was the least stressful as possible. At first, the children were shy and insecure about the new home, but over time we all adjusted to each other."

#### What have you loved the most about being part of Azleway?

"I love the Azleway family. They have a great support system, and valuable resources when things get tough. They are always there for us, and my entire family. I think being a foster parent would be a little more difficult without the teamwork at Azleway."

#### Share any additional stories or thoughts you may have for Azleway and/or future foster parents.

"Every child is special and unique. You learn so much from them as they grow. Little by little, they reveal more about their personality to you, as they open up. Embrace it and enjoy their growth. It is very rewarding."





### **OUR SPECIALIZED SERVICES:**

- Foster Care Services
- Adoption Services
- Therapeutic Homes
- Substance Abuse Treatment

What began in 1979 as one cottage with eight boys has grown across Texas to eight locations, annually serving nearly 2,000 boys and girls, birth to age 22.

Children come to Azleway with scars from their past lives. They have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. Some, even at very tender ages, are so traumatized that they face significant obstacles to growing into happy, healthy and successful adults.

#### Our Purpose, Vision and Passion:

To bring children in crisis into a healthy and growth-producing environment where they will receive compassionate care, educational opportunities and a supportive network. Our ultimate goal is to direct each child into a loving family.

## Azleway Children's Services



Matt Patton Co-Director

Most of us have fond memories of the Christmas season, from the sights and sounds to the smell of the Christmas meals that we have been so blessed to have experienced. For most of us, the Christmas season is exciting, and represents spending time with family, laughing and sharing memories.

Unfortunately, not all children have fond memories of the Christmas season. Some children spend the Christmas season wondering where their next meal may come from, listening to their friends at school talk about the gifts that they anticipate getting, and in some cases praying that they and their loved ones remain safe, and survive the Christmas season.

To these children the Christmas season is just another season in their life of facing fear, hunger, loneliness and disappointment. Sadly, through no fault of their own, many children in these situations end up in foster care. These children enter foster care being fearful, feeling lonely and unsure of their future.

Our goal at Azleway is to work with our team of staff and foster families to provide safe, stable and nurturing environments to these children during their time of need.

During the Christmas season, Azleway's staff and foster families invest a lot of time and effort into ensuring each child who is in our care is provided an opportunity to experience a positive and rewarding Christmas season, without fear and concern for their health and well-being. Over the years, and because of the generosity of incredible people just like you, we have been able to ensure the children receive the Christmas that they all deserve. Annually, each child in our care completes a Christmas Wish List. These lists are then shared with businesses and donors, to assist in ensuring each child receives items from their Wish List. These gifts are then sent to the foster homes to be placed under their Christmas trees, so the children have gifts to open on Christmas morning.

"We would like to invite each you to be a part of making a child's Christmas very special." As you can imagine, there is a large expense when trying to ensure each child receives special gifts on Christmas morning. And that is where you can help. We are looking for caring and compassionate people to help us meet our goal this Christmas.

If you have the means, and this is a good time to help us

with our goal, we would really appreciate any assistance that you may be able to provide.



For more information on our programs, or to inquire about fostering or adopting a child, visit Azleway.org

The following questions and answers are being provided, in case you have questions relating to how you can assist our agency or to help in case you want to know more about foster care:

#### How long does it take to become a foster parent with Azleway?

Typically it takes about three months to go through the verification process. The timeframe is heavily dependent on your ability to provide all required documentation, the completion of in-home interviews with family members, and the completion of all required training. Once these requirements are met, one of our Development Coordinators will complete a home-study. If the home-study and verification process is approved, your home will become a verified foster home with Azleway. Once verified, one of our Intake Coordinators will begin looking for placements for your new foster home.

#### What if I feel like I'm just not ready to be a foster parent - are there other ways that I can help?

Yes, there are other ways that you can help foster children and foster families. You can donate your time. You could also be a respite provider, or babysitter to help foster parents have some downtime, or take some time to themselves. You can make a monetary donation. You can promote our agency on social media, by following our Facebook pages, and sharing with your friends and family. You can tell your friends, your church groups, your co-workers, mom or dad groups about Azleway, and ask them to follow our Facebook pages, or even visit our website. Every contribution, small or large, helps us get the word out about what we do and how others can get involved.

#### What if I just have a question about becoming a foster parent or how I can help?

The best way to find information about Azleway is to visit our website at azleway.org. Our website provides information on how to become a foster parent, and a place to ask questions about fostering or foster care in general. You can also find ways on how you can help Azleway in meeting our goals, and how to make a monetary donation to Azleway.

It takes the efforts of many caring and compassionate people to ensure the needs of children in care are being met. We hope and pray that your Christmas season is full of blessings and memories that last a lifetime. Just know that we are always available to answer questions about what we do, or how you can help in this ministry of caring for the needs of children. Most of all we look forward to having an opportunity to get to know you and your family.

Many Blessings from Azleway Children's Services Co-Directors Nekita Freeman and Matt Patton



Nekita Freeman Co-Director



Send gift cards to Katie Powell, Azleway, 15892 CR 26, Tyler, Texas 75707

## It's All About Giving

Over the last 42 years, Azleway has served thousands of children who desperately needed us, but we haven't done it alone! Azleway works year-round to make children's lives better, and to help them grow into healthy, happy adults. It's so wonderful when others join us in the mission!

Some kids are only with us for a few weeks, while others will need our programs for many years to come. When the holidays arrive, it's up to all of us to make the season as bright as possible for kids away from their homes and in transition.

We rely on our generous community to help us provide the "extras" for our kids, especially during the holidays. Your gifts make a real Christmas for the people in our care – often the only Christmas they have ever had.

Each year we ask each child to fill out a wish list for the holiday and we post three gift wishes in

East Texas Gift-Giving Guidelines

This is a <u>solid commitment</u>. Please do not promise to buy gifts unless you are <u>certain</u> you can provide them. If you would like to contribute, but are unable to buy all of the items on a child's list, it is okay to buy only one item. Each item brings us closer to fulfilling a wish. If for any reason, you become unable to fulfill your commitment, please call or email your contact person, in a timely manner.

Please do not ask to give your gifts to the child in person. Azleway strives to make Christmas as home-like as possible and observes traditional times for giving the gifts to the children Christmas Eve or Christmas morning.

All items need to be unwrapped and labeled with the child's name.

Stockings are great gifts, as are any other extras you may like to provide. If you don't want to choose an individual child, items such as stocking stuffers, board games, bibles, sports balls, watches, wallets, cologne, batteries, small toys, etc., are always needed. Monetary donations & Gift Cards are also appreciated.

the magazine, and throughout our communities. And every year you make it happen! We worry and fret and we pray, and somehow it all comes together for the kids in the same magical way that all holiday wishes come true.

So many success stories begin with the kindness of a stranger during a time of change. You hear these "re-birth" stories from so many accomplished business men and women, and we hear them from our Azleway foster children, past and present. I want you all to know that your kindness to these kids makes a real and lasting difference. It may be physically a pair of sneakers, a baby doll, or a warm blanket, but what it says to a kid is so much more - "We see you. We value you. We want you to be happy."



On behalf of Azleway and the precious children that we serve, we thank you all so much.



FOR TYLER ONLY - Select from the following registries to have your gift shipped directly to us OR drop off at the church offices of Central Baptist Church 1343 East Grande Boulevard, Tyler or Glenwood Church of Christ 5210 Hollytree Drive, Tyler, Monday-Thursday, 9-4. Contact Azleway at 903-566-8444 if you need us to pick up your gifts. You can find a direct link to the registries at Azleway.org or go to our Facebook page: Azleway Children's Services of Tyler and Valley View Residential

Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3R077Y6R170 V1?ref =wl share

Walmart:

https://www.walmart.com/registry/ER/7ad7d009-7042-

4d1f-9fe4-424fa2cb59d0

Target: <a href="https://www.target.com/gift-">https://www.target.com/gift-</a>

registry/gift/azlewaywishlist

Thank You!

Note: Each area has the same gift-giving guidelines, but every area has a different contact person & wrapping guidelines. Please consult the Wish List page for your area, to find your contact person.

#### Dear Santa Wish List EAST TEXAS DIVISION

Drop off gifts at select churches (see previous page), by December 14th. Gifts need to be unwrapped, with removable label with child's name.

Abbigail P. Age 2 Tricycle Stuffed Animals Blanket

Andre S. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Anias H. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Anthony R. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Anthony R. Age 12 Tablet Portable DVD Player & Movies Sleeping Bag

Brady J. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Caden F. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Caleb B. Age 14 Men's Bicycle Tablet Portable DVD Player & Movies

Calvin D. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Cameron B. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Christina V. Age 13 Make-up Tablet Target Gift Card

Christopher M. Age 17 Tablet Portable DVD Player & Movies Wal-Mart Gift Card Colten V. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Dominique W.Age 17 Nike Slides (sz.10) Dillards Gift Card Old Spice Body Products

Dylan B. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Eric B. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Fernando A. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Hernan C. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Immanuel G. Age 18 Men's Bicycle WalMart Gift Card Portable DVD Player & Movies

Isaac D. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Isaac F. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Issiah H. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Jacob P.Age 17 Nike Slides (sz 13) Rod & Reel Headphones

Jacovian W. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet James McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Ja'michael B. Age 4 Mos. Tummy Time Crawling Crab Fisher Price Red Crawl Around Car Bumbo Floor Seat

Ja'Nova B. Age 1
Bath Paint & Crayons
Little Tykes First Slide
Healthy Roots Doll
Zoe (African-American)

John N.Age 15 Nike Slides (sz. 10 ½ ) Harry's Cologne Rod & Reel

Jonathan J. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Jonathan R. Age 18 Portable DVD Player & Movies Green Sleeping Bag Nike Slides (sz. 10 ½)

Jose C. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Jose R. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Joseph B. Age 17 Nike Slides (sz. 11) Portable DVD Player & Movies Whataburger Gift Card

Jovantae McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Juan M. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Juleus C. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet Keiton B.Age 15 Walmart Gift Card Target Gift Card Black Converse Shoes (sz. 13)

Kentorian C. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Keondre P. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Ladasha M.Age 1 Baby Doll Little Tykes First Slide Tricycle

Mariah S. Age 6 Tablet Hungry Hippos Game Bicycle

Matthew A. Age 6
Marvel Legend Series
Thor
Paw Patrol Deluxe Truck
Marvel Powerpunch
Thanos

Melissa S. Age 5 Tablet Bicycle LOL Dolls

Michael A. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Mya S. Age 8 Frozen 1 & 2 Movies LOL Dollhouse Bicycle Natalie A. Age 4
Peppa Pig Checkup
Case Playset
Ekids Frozen Microphone
w/Bluetooth
Reborn Baby Doll
(Girl, Sleeping)

Nikolas S McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Payton G.Age 1 month Tummy Time Mirror High Chair Suction Toys Play Nest

Phoenix G. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Quentin D. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Ryder W. Age 5 mos. Teethers Diapers (sz. 2) Wagon or Ride-on Toy

Sam D. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Shon R. McDonald's Gift Card Rod & Reel Wallet

Thomas J.
McDonald's Gift Card
Rod & Reel
Wallet





## Dear Santa

### WISH LIST - NACOGDOCHES DIVISION

Please drop off gifts by December 13th. Gifts need to be wrapped, with removable label detailing contents & permanent label with child's name.

Amare W. Age 8 Medium Boys' Bicycle Hot Wheels MP3 Player

Ares G. Age 2 Road Rug Rocking Horse or Wagon Riding Truck

Ariana D. Age 12 LED Bedroom Lights Headphones MP3 Player

Elizabeth R. Age 6 Girls' Bicycle Sleeping Bag (Purple or Pink) Boots(sz.12) Esme G. Age 4 Tablet Baby Dolls Bicycle

Jordan D. Age 8 Tablet Walkie-Talkies Skateboard w/Helmet & Pads

Lane C. Age 4
Cars & Trucks
Cowboy Boots (sz. 12)
Small Bicycle
w/Training Wheels

Marshawn W. Age 3 Tricyle Tablet with Case Cars & Trucks Masen R. Age 10 Mountain Bike Tablet Red Sleeping Bag

Noah B. Age 9 Geode Crystal Kit Tablet Beanbag Chair

Parker S. Age 0 Teething Toys Clothes (sz. 6-12 mos.) Toys that Make Noise

Penelope B. Age 6 Pink Scooter & Helmet Smart Talking Robot Tablet Reggie O. Age 10 Tablet Sleeping Bag Medium Bicycle

Rylei J. Age 2 Lawn Chair Toddler Bike Toddler Bed

Sharlott D. Age 11 Art Supplies Headphones Medium Girls' Bicycle

Tech C. (M) Age 5 Small Bicycle w/Training Wheels Dinosaur Toys CowboyBoots (sz. 10) Terry R. Age 2 Tricycle Stuffed Animals Stacking Blocks



f Azleway Children's Services of Nacogdoches

### **How Can You Make a Difference Today?**

Some donors send regular contributions, which help to improve facilities and unique programming. Others contribute items which are serviceable to our children. Many utilize our Memorial or Honorarium Program, which allows them to remember a friend or loved one, while investing in the life of a child. Some even remember Azleway in their wills, to ensure the future well-being of children in Texas.sd

**During this holiday season, donations from the Christmas Wish List** are a special way to ensure that Azleway's children are not forgotten. This as a difficult season to be without a family, but special gifts from the community help the kids remember that they are, indeed, still children for a little while longer.

No matter how you choose to support the children of Azleway, please know that your donation will be multiplied many times over. Your dollar will not only impact the children of today, but will have residual effects in impacting future generations, as we continue the fight to break the cycle of children in crisis.

Please Remember Azleway In Your 2023 Budget



## Dear Santa wish list - DFW METROPLEX DIVISION

Please drop off unwrapped gifts with child's name on a removable note, by December 14th.

Ahmadria F. Age 12 Razor Scooter Family Dollar Gift Card Pink Sleeping Bag

Ahmadrick F. Age 10 Blue Sleeping Bag Wal-Mart Gift Card Skateboard w/Helmet & Pads

Aiyana L. Age 11 **Tablet** Bicycle Sleeping Bag

Alexander H. Age 9 Karaoke Microphone **Tablet** Remote Control Car

Andrew M. Age 15 **Black Jogging Pants** (sz. men's LG) Headphones X-Box Card

Ayden O.Age 12 Man-eater Game for Nintendo Switch Digital Art Drawing Tablet MP3 Player

Cameron Age 9 Karaoke Microphone Remote Control Car Tablet

Chrislynn C. (F) Age 8 Scooter Miraculous: Tales of a Barbie Head (African American)

Clyde W. Age 17 Twin Comforter (Blue or Brown) Bicycle Amazon Gift Card

Daniel N. Wal-Mart Gift Card **Tablet** Portable DVD Player & Movies

Devon H. Age 18 Portable DVD Player & Movies Wal-Mart Gift Card Men's Bicycle

Emily H. Age 13 Family Dollar Gift Card Ladies Bicycle Visa Gift Card

Evelin B. Age 1 Ride-On Toy Stuffed Animal Children's Table & Chairs

Genesis T. (M)Age 3 TEMI Dinosaur Truck Fun Little Toys Pop-Up Tent w/Gear Bug and Cat Noir Items Fisher Price Bounce & Spin Puppy Gildardo C. Age 12 Bicycle w/Helmet

Wal-Mart Gift Card

Tablet Gor'juz W. Age 4 Dolls Pink Twin Comforter

Barnes & Noble Gift Card

Hakeem C. Age 3 Blue Blanket TonkaType Trucks Stuffed Dinosaur

Herminio B. Age 2 Tricycle Toddler Slide **Educational Toys** 

Jamar B. Age 6 Comforter (Cowboys, Red, or Black) Tablet Spidey Friends Mini Cars

Jason C. Age 5 **Tablet** Walkie-Talkie Set Transformer Robot Truck

Kai O. (M) Age7 Art Supplies **Tablet** Twin Comforter (Blue or Red)

Lanya C. Age 6 Pink Blanket Watch Play Makeup

Levi N. Age 9 Tablet Nike Shoes (sz. 1) Karaoke Microphone

Marc C. Age 17 Nike T-Shirts (sz. M) Samsung Tablet Target Gift Card

Marlon W. Age 2 Toy Cars Tricycle Mega Blocks

Mason C. Age 15 Gaming Chair Target Gift Card Watch

Michael L. Age 13 Clothes (sz. 16 boys) Watch Men's Bicycle w/Helmet

Michael N. Age 14 CD Player Mini Television Remote Control Car

Naomi B. Age 3 mos. **Teether Toys** Play Mat Bumbo Floor Chair

Nukyh O. (M) Age 7 Sleeping Bag Tablet Bicycle

Timothy G. Age 19 Men's Bicycle Wal-Mart Gift Card Portable DVD Player & Movies

Trenton N.Age 15 Remote Control Car Full Comforter (Red) BinocularsD4e

Quay'Darim D.Age 11 Army Men Skates (sz. 7) 10-Speed Bicycle

Quincy B.Age 11 Blue Sleeping Bag Gaming Headphones Smart Sketcher

Victor G. 9 Piece Magnetic Ring Fidget Toy Jose Hand Puppet Bicycle





## Dear Santa HOUSTON DIVISION

Please drop off wrapped gifts with contents and child's name on a removable note, by December 14th.

Alejandra L. Age 9 Barbies Tie Dye Backpack Razor Scooter

Alexa D. Age 16 Tablet DVD Player Purse

Alexander C. Age 3 mos. Clothes (sz. 6-9 mos.) Diapers (sz. 2 & 3) Play Mat

Amari D. Age 1 Toddler Piano Dance Mat Musical Toys

Amiri F. Age 1 V-Tech Musical Rhymes Book Pink Twin Comforter Small TV

Amari J. Age 2 American Girl WellieWishers Kendal Doll Robotime Doll House with 9-pc Furniture Set

Amilleon Age 10 Barbie Big City, Big Dreams Dorm Room Playset Chromebook

Angel R. Age 5
Baby Alive Magical Mixer
Doll Blueberry Blast
Thinkfun Zingo,
Zingo 1-2-3,
Zingo Word Builder
Disney Princess Style
Collection Role Play Set
w/Smartphone & Watch

Angelique B. Age 19 DVD Player Rollerblades (women's sz. 9.5) Amazon Gift Card

Aniysha G. Age 16 Uggs Fluff Yeah (sz. 8) Bracelets Make-up (eyelashes)

Anthony R. Age 20 Walmart Gift Card Medium Boxer Brief (6 pack) Men's Jeans (32/30) Arianya J. Age 14 Fujifilm Instax Mini 11 Instant Camera (Purple) Insignia 32-ince Class F20 Series Smart HD Fire TV

Armoni D. Age 3 Play Food & Dishes LOL Comforter Set Tricycle or Scooter

Asiah S. Age 7
Baby Alive Princess Ellie
Grows Up!
(w/Black Hair)
Ben Franklin Talking Toy
Cash Register
Baby Alive Bunny
Sleepover Baby Doll

Autumn L. Age12 Echo Dot Longboard Skateboard Notebooks & Pencils

Biah B. Age 16 Scrunchies Polaroid Camera Barnes & Noble Gift Card

Braden B. Age 4 Basketba**ll** Big Truck Scooter

Bryan G. Age 5 Spider Man Toys Skateboard w/Helmet Mega Blocks

Carlos Z. Age 17 Pokemon Cards Amazon Gift Card Wal Mart Gift Card

Chandler D. Age 17
Popeye's Chicken
Gift Card
Pullover Nike Shirt
(Men's Small, Blue, white,
reds, yellow, black)
Kappa Mitel Slides
(Black sz. 9.5)

Chloe P. Age 9 Barbie Doll & Clothes Unicorn Doll Tablet

David S. Age 11 Pokemon Pack Nike or Adidas Hoodie (sz. Med) Men's Bicycle De'Morrion W. Age 14 Amazon Gift Card Walmart Gift Card Tablet

Deja B. Age 10 Gift Cards for Shoes & Clothes Nintendo Handheld Game Basketball

Diamond T. Age 18 Amazon Gift Card Walmart Gift Card Target Gift Card

Donte A. Age 13 Red Ethika Underwear (men's small) Red Full Comforter Polo cologne

Francisco M. Age 18 Nintendo Switch Game (Five Nights at Freddy's) Nike Hoodie(sz. LG) Skateboard w/Helmet & Pads

Gavin H. Age 18 Screw Driver Set Impact Wrench Cologne (Blue)

Gracie C. Age 5
Ballerina Doll
Learning Toys
Bike w/Training Wheels
& Helmet

Guadalupe A. Age 12 Art Supplies Amazon Gift Card Laptop

Hairo B. Age 1 Ball Pit Push Toy Toddler Kitchen

Harli C. Age 3 Tricycle Ballerina Doll Learning Toys

Heavyn B. Age 6 Princess Tent Fruit Scented Market Set Dance Mat

Hayzeli B. Age 3 LCD Writing Tablet Barbie Set Bike

f Azleway Children's Services of Houston

Hector B. Age 13 Science Books Skateboard w/Helmet & Pads Tablet

Hunter B. Age 5 Monster Truck Razor Scooter Switch Games

Isabella S. Age 6 Pink Bicycle w/Helmet & Pads Tablet Crocs (sz. 2)

Jacobo G. Age 8 Nike Hoodie (sz.12-14) Skateboard w/Helmet & Pads Lego Kit

Jaleesa Age 19 Earrings Ring Light Camera

Jaloni F. (F) Age 10 Amazon Gift Card Girls Bike Tablet

Jasmin P. Age 16 Barnes & Noble Gift Card Nike or Adidas Hoodie (sz. L) Uggs (sz 9)

Joshua D. Acoustic Guitar Tablet Amazon Gift Card

Junior P. Age 5 Scooter Remote Control Car Tablet

Juniper D.10 mos.
Anything Bluey Related
Baby Aspen Phoebe the
Fairy Princess
Fisher Price Brilliant
Basics Stroll Along Walker

Kambrie M. Age 9 Barbie Doll & Clothes Purse Tablet

Karenz H. Age 7 Amazon Gift Card Wal-Mart Gift Card Tablet

Karrie J. Age 5 Tablet Barbie & Chelsea the Lost Birthday Playset TTLOJ Kids Play Tent for Girls (Pink Castle)

King. M.
Adidas Hoodie (12-14)
Skateboard w/Helmet
& Pads
Kyrie Tennis Shoes
(sz. 3 ½)

Kingjermaine M. Age 6 Amazon Gift Card Bicycle Tablet

La'Nijah P. Age 18 Earrings Amazon Gift Card Ladies Bike

Layton M. Age 5 Remote Control Race Car Spiderman Toy Tablet

Liliana L. Age 6 Barbie Doll & Clothes Play Food & Dishes Riding Toy Car

Lyrica P. Age 19 mos. Stacking Blocks Toyventive Wooden Activity Cube Leapfrog Tablet

Majorjohmir L. Age 5 Amazon Gift Card Bicycle Tablet

Mariah H. Age 11 Necklace w/Initial Camera Tablet

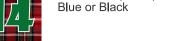
Melony A. Age 12 Craft Kit White Converse Low Tops (sz 6) Peanuts Snoopy Hoodie (sz. M)

Micheal S. Age 3 Spiderman Toys Red Bike w/Helmet Tablet with Case

Monopalee J. (F) Age 1 Stuffed Animals Pajamas (sz. 12 mos.) Clothes (sz. 12-18 mos.)

Nathan B. Age 18 Axe Body Wash Wal-mart Gift Card Amazon Gift Card

Nathaniel D. Age 16 HDMI Compatible Capture Card Axe BodyWash Lego Super Mario Starter Course



Neil T. Age 14 Visa Gift Card Jacket (sz. M) Skateboard

Oliver C. Age 18 Chromebook Amazon Gift Card Chain Necklaces

Rachel G. Age 13 Pink Skateboard w/ Helmet & Pads Craft Kits Mini Fridge

Rebekah G. Age 16 BlackMichael Kors Purse Hello Kitty Plushie Gift card for Beats Headphones

Romeo M. Age 18 Full Comforter (Dark Blue) Men's Bike Winter Hat & Gloves

Rylan H. Age 7 Skateboard w/Helmet & Pads Tablet Bike

Samuel V. Age 11 Tablet Amazon Gift Card Wal-Mart Gift Card

Selena A. Age 11 Art Supplies Tablet Shopping Gift Cards

Shelby W. Age 18 Visa Gift Card Amazon Gift Card Walmart Gift Card



Sir G. Age 9 Amazon Gift Card Bicycle w/Helmet Tablet

Summer S. Age 15 Sketch Book & Art Supplies LED Lights for room Bluetooth Speaker for Phone

Tremayne W. Age 18 Best Buy Gift Card Tommy Hilfiger Cologne JCPenney Gift Card

Trevion M. Age 16 Full White Comforter Bicycle Winter Hat (Knitted) & Gloves

Wesley H. Age 16 LED Lights for Room Amazon Gift Card Wal-Mart Gift Card Winter S. Age 11 Skull Blanket Mini Fridge Speaker

Yaquelin C. Age 2 Girls Clothes (sz. 4T/5T) Dolls (prefer Hispanic) Toddler Bike

Xavier B. Age 2½
Twin Blue Comforter
Fisher Price Laugh &
Learn Smart Chair
Spiderman Bicycle
w/Training Wheels



Create Joy!

## STOCKING STUFFERS NEEDED FOR ALL AREAS

WATCHES, LIP BALMS, SAMPLE SIZED TOILETRY ITEMS, SLIPPERS, BASKETBALLS, FOOTBALLS, COLOGNE, BOARD GAMES, AA BATTERIES, WALLETS, GIFT CARDS, MAKE UP, BALL CAPS, SMALL TOYS, BARBIES, PLAYING CARDS,



### Do You Feel Like Something Is Missing?



There are thousands of children looking for a forever home in Texas, and Azleway can help match you with a child to complete your family. We will help guide prospective families through the adoption process, including guidance with the required home study and paperwork and working with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS).

At Azleway, parents can be verified to adopt in two ways: matched adoptions or foster to adopt. In matched adoptions, parents are approved only to adopt and Azleway will work with the family to match them with a

child in the care of TDFPS. In foster to adopt, parents are certified as foster/adopt homes and can foster a child, prior to adopting him or her. Also, adopting a child through Azleway and TDFPS is far less expensive than private adoptions.

For more information about adoption and foster-to-adoption services, please contact Iulie Antwine at 903-566-8444, ext. 2273.

### **Azleway Adoption: A FOREVER Family**

We proudly present to you - just a few of our newest Azleway families!

The Brady Family



elt's all about the Kids



The Lampkin Family



The Fowler Family



The Gould Family



The Renteria Family



# WHAT WE DO AT AZLEWAY

Azleway has been faithfully restoring lives and relationships of children in crisis since 1979. We have had the privilege of helping thousands of children and families in their times of desperation.

Every child that comes into our agency is evaluated and placed in an appropriate program based on his or her needs. We have a continuum of care which includes: basic foster family homes, therapeutic foster family homes, and general residential operation (GRO).



#### GENERAL RESIDENTIAL OPERATION (GRO)

Children struggling with emotional and behavioral issues are quickly stabilized in Azleway's Residential Treatment program. Unfortunately, many of these youths are not ready to move into foster care.

Bouncing between residential treatment and foster care is hard for a child's security, education and self-esteem. Azleway's GRO program is a way to transition a child into foster care by continuing enrollment in an on-campus school, where the child receives counseling services, structured activities, case-management support and care from professional staff who can maintain active support. A change in placement can then be accomplished when the child is ready and able to successfully function in a less-restrictive environment.

#### **VALLEY VIEW RESIDENTIAL**

Valley View Residential is intensive therapy set in relaxed atmosphere. Catering to at-risk boys, Valley View provides a wide variety of professional services, tailored to meet the needs of residents, in a planned continuum of care. Providing flexible, individualized therapy, testing and counseling services, Azleway staff professionals are committed to building a program to fit each child's needs. Each boy is invited into a caring environment at Valley View, where he receives structure, compassion, education and coping skills.

#### FOSTER CARE SERVICES

Azleway Children's Services (ACS) was originally established to provide the "next step" for successful residents of Valley View Residential. Now, Azleway finds homes for boys and girls, ages 0-17. When parents are unable or unwilling to care for a child, ACS finds safe, secure homes for these Texas children in crisis through our Foster Care Program. Foster homes range from basic care homes to therapeutic homes, depending on the needs of the child.

#### AZLEWAY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM (ASAP)

Founded in 1997, the Azleway Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) helps kids get free from chemical dependency. The staff, of licensed professional counselors and licensed chemical dependency counselors, works with young men ages 13-17, in a ranch setting in Big Sandy, Texas. The goal is to help each youth develop a solid recovery program that includes relapse prevention planning and strong support systems, through group and individual counseling sessions, education and group therapy.

#### **ADOPTION SERVICES**

Azleway Children's Services (ACS) also provides adoption services. At Azleway, parents can be verified to adopt in two ways, matched adoptions or foster-to-adopt. Potential adoptive parents must be at least 21 years of age, with a high school diploma or GED, and must pass a criminal and child abuse background check. Since its inception, the Azleway Adoption Program has helped over 150 children find their forever homes.



# Faith, Family and Fostering

#### Join us to find out what you need to know

Azleway Children's Services is actively seeking families for children who are awaiting homes. With offices in Tyler, Houston, the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, and Nacogdoches, Azleway Children's Services is committed to meeting the foster care needs of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. With that in mind, our desire is to partner with you, our local community members, to support these children in crisis. We offer a wide variety of opportunities such as fostering, foster-to-adopt and matched adoptions. Azleway offers extensive training and on-going support.

If you would like to attend an information meeting, please contact Keitha Douglas - 713.539.2762 or Keitha.Douglas@Azleway.org.

**Tyler Division** 15892 CR 26 Tyler, Texas 75707

Nacogdoches Division 3316 N. University Drive Suite D Nacogdoches, Texas 75964 **Houston Division** 

19333 Highway 59 N., Suite 250 Humble, Texas 77338

Metroplex Division 2004 TX-360 Frontage Road Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

