

AZLEWAY

Spring 2017

Changing
the

WORLD

ONE BOOK AT A TIME

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

DELEK FIELD



*Thank You
Delek Refinery!*



AZLEWAY, INC.

Azleway, Inc.

15892 CR 26

Tyler, Texas 75707

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15892 CR 26

Tyler, Texas 75707

(903) 566-8444/(800) 340-2697

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Children's Services Corsicana Division

First Baptist Church Family Life Center

510 W. Collin Street

Corsicana, Texas 75110

(903) 874-5500

Children's Services Houston Division

19333 Hwy. 59 N., Ste. 250

Humble, Texas 77338

(281) 446-8038

Regional Director - Nekita Freeman ext. 6016

Children's Services Nacogdoches Division

1100 South Street

Nacogdoches, Texas 75964

(936) 205-5641

Regional Director - Jenni Chumley ext. 4013

Children's Services Metroplex Division

1201 W.N. Carrier Pkwy, Ste. 101

Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

(972) 206-2885

Regional Director - Karina Green ext. 6103

www.Azleway.org

FB: Azleway Boys Ranch and Children Services

Azleway Boys' Ranch/Valley View

15892 CR 26

Tyler, Texas 75707

(903) 566-6827

Ranch Director - Billy Ray Roberson	ext. 2012
Campus Supervisor - Cecil Spears	ext. 2016
Campus Supervisor - Eric Flick	ext. 2021

Azleway Substance Abuse Program

1085 PR 3481

Big Sandy, Texas 75755

(903) 636-9800

Director - David Trest

Azleway
would like to extend
the greatest thanks and
deepest appreciation to
Delek Refinery
for funding our
new baseball field.

Mission Statement:

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

AZLEWAY

MAGAZINE

Spring 2017

It's All About
the Kids.



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SP-0217

Therefore, whoever humbles himself
like this child is greatest in the
kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives
and welcomes one child like this
in My name receives Me.

— Matthew 18:4-5 (Amp)

UPCOMING:



SADLER'S CATERED DINNER
LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS

AZLEWAY BOYS RANCH TRAINING CENTER
15892 CR 26 TYLER, TEXAS

Contact: katie.powell@azleway.org.



SATURDAY, JULY 29TH
at iJump

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Go to Azleway.org for
details and registration!



September 23, 2017
at Texas Rose Horse Park

SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE

Contact: katie.powell@azleway.org.

From our Director
Gary Duke

Where is the Hope?



I traveled to the Capitol in Austin, early in February, with two staff members, an Azleway board member and a beautiful young lady who had lived for several years in an Azleway foster home. **Azleway is a member of the Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services (TACFS) and we wanted to participate in advocating for the future of children in foster care during the 85th Legislative Session. This Alliance is comprised of over 300 member agencies and I have been blessed to serve on the Board of Directors for that organization for the last seven years.** There are currently several pieces of pending legislative action that will impact the future of foster children for many years to come. This legislation includes measures that would increase funding for the state and foster care providers, further efforts towards foster care re-design, increase our capacity to provide care and safety for all children, and work toward improving the quality of services to one of our most vulnerable populations.

In the media, we often hear of problems and challenges facing the foster care system in Texas. However, we seldom hear about the success stories. **I believe that the number of success stories far outnumber the failures of this system.** Yet the failures still occur and we should strive to ensure that all children are kept safe and, provided the opportunity, to succeed in life. Thousands of people work tirelessly every day to insure these children are safe, loved and that their needs are met. So many children have been able to develop a vision for the future and have successfully worked toward achieving their dreams. Over the 41 years I have worked with children, I have seen so many children who have grown into happy, healthy and productive citizens.

I wanted our State representatives to see and hear about some of the good that has been accomplished by and for those who have been involved in foster care. I asked **Sheila Mayberry**, one of our Houston Case Managers, and **Brook Newland**, one of our former foster

youths, to participate in a panel discussion to share their stories during our advocacy day at the Capitol.

Ms. Mayberry grew up in foster care and saw both the bad and the good. She worked hard to get an education and has ultimately chosen to serve foster children. **Ms. Mayberry** did an outstanding job of communicating her passion for her work and the children she serves. What a blessing this young lady brings to children and families in Houston. **She is one of many examples of hope for the future.**

Ms. Newland graduated from high school and exited foster care about a year ago and is currently enrolled at Tyler Junior College, where she is studying medical technology. She talked about her experiences in foster care and the support she received that helped her to succeed. **I was so proud of the courage that this 19-year-old displayed in sharing her story. Brook provides us with hope in spite of the challenges she faced and overcame as a child.**

We have great hope for the future! We have hope that the legislature is going to fully fund foster care for the first time in decades. We have hope that new systems of care will generate better long-range outcomes for children entrusted to our care. We have hope that more people will serve as foster parents, so children can be cared for in their home communities. We have hope in the tens of thousands of people who currently serve children in need. **We have great hope in you!** The gifts you give to these children when you provide time, energy and resources, to help meet these children's many needs, have an immeasurable impact on their lives and the lives of future generations. We have hope for the future, and our children are a large part of that hope. Finally, we have our greatest hope in the grace and mercy so freely extended by God.

May God Bless each of you richly and may your hopes and dreams never be far away.

Blessings, Gary


Executive Director

Azleway Needs Foster Parents

Azleway Children's Services is actively seeking families for children who are awaiting homes. With offices in Tyler, Houston, the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, Nacogdoches and Corsicana, 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.

Information meetings are held *every month* to provide you with the tools to make an informed decision for your family. We look forward to meeting with you soon!

1st Tuesday:
Tyler Division
15892 CR 26
Tyler, Texas 75707

2nd Thursday
Metroplex Division
1201 W.N. Carrier Parkway, Ste. 101
Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

3rd Thursday
Houston Division
19333 Hwy.59 N., Ste. 250
Humble, Texas 77338

4th Tuesday
Nacogdoches Division
1100 South Street
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

For information or to RSVP, email Magen.Anderson@Azleway.org.

Minimum Requirements:

- Must be 25 years of age
- Must have high school diploma or GED
- Valid driver's license and proof of insurance
- Pass criminal background check, including FBI fingerprints
- Certified CPR & First-Aid
- Must have adequate space and income to support the child or children
- Must complete pre-service training including trauma informed care





2209 S. Broadway Avenue

Brookshire's
Rice Road, Bergfeld Center

Super 1 Foods

Troup Hwy., West Loop 323, S. Broadway Ave.

Thank you to these Tyler retail locations, who allowed us to place our Wish List Trees and magazine racks in their locations. They promoted Azleway and collected toys from their generous customers. Your support means so much to East Texas children!



RoseHeights
CHURCH

Special thanks to these very special Tyler area companies and churches, who showed up to Azleway with loads of gifts for our kids!

Trinity Baptist Church
Henderson, Texas



Emerald Bay Community Church
Bullard, Texas



Hibbs ♦ Hallmark & Company
Insurance Agency

Christmas Festivities - DFW Division



Stegmeier, LLC in Arlington totally outdid themselves this year. They adopted all of the children at the DFW Azleway division. **Stegmeier employees bought EVERY item on the children's wishlists!**

Regional Director, Karina Green expressed her gratitude by saying, "We would like to say a **HUGE** thank you to **Stegmeier**. We were *overwhelmed* with their love and donations. There are not enough words to express our gratitude. We pray an abundance of blessings over the **Stegmeier** family."



Azleway employees happily attend the **Stegmeier** Christmas luncheon!

Thank You



DFW Azleway Children's Services had a blast at their annual Christmas Party! Among the festivities was recognition of some of the foster parents who have been with Azleway for 10 years or more. They have served the children with dedication and undying commitment.

Flores Family -16 years
Gadson Family -15 years
Tillman Family -13 years
Williams Family -13 years
Hubbard Family -12 years
Dabbs Family -11 years
Moore Family -11 years
Jackson Family -10 years



Mrs. Dabbs



Mr. & Mrs. Gadson

Says DFW Regional Director, Karina Green, "Thank you, thank you, thank you! There would be no Azleway without the wonderful families that have chosen to partner with us in this ministry."

Thank you to **Heritage Auctions**, and **Curves on Green Oaks Blvd** in Arlington for bringing gifts to our kids!

Christmas Festivities - Nacogdoches Division

Special thanks to the members of **Phi Mu Alpha of SFA**, for their contribution to our toy drive. This Fraternity took it upon themselves to hold a concert, benefiting Azleway, in order to collect gifts for the toy drive! Thanks to all those that attended the concert and gave to the cause.

Special thanks to **Vineyard Church** and **Nacogdoches Board of Realtors** for their generous donations of gifts for our children. As you can see from the photos, we received an abundance of gifts for our kids from them and **SO MANY OTHERS!**



Phi Mu Alpha of SFA



Vineyard Church
Nacogdoches, Texas



Nacogdoches
Board of Realtors



AKA's

Thanks to the **AKA's**, for their contribution to our toy drive again this year!

Thank You All!

Cypress Point
Management, LLC
(no photo)



Tundra Technical
Solutions



Navigating Behavior
Solutions, LLC



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church
Kingwood, Texas



Harris County Constable
Precinct 4

Special thanks to these Houston area donors for their generosity in bringing so many gifts for our kids!

Houston Division Azleway Children's Services held their Christmas party at It's Pizza on Dec. 17th. Everyone had a blast!



Christmas Festivities - Corsicana Division



to these companies for making our Corsicana Division Christmas a huge success!



Corsicana Division Azleway Children's Services held their Christmas party, for foster families, at Schulman's Movie-Bowl-Grille. It was tons of fun! They ate pizza, fries, popcorn and scrumptious desserts. They had drawings for door prizes, and handed out Christmas stockings and arcade game cards to the kids.

Changing^{the} WORLD

ONE BOOK AT A TIME

Caden Black, a 7th grader at Whitehouse Jr. High School, has been a participant in Education in Action's Lonestar Leadership Academy program since being nominated and accepted in 4th grade. In order to complete this program, participants attend three week-long summer camps (1 per year), in major locations throughout Texas, to learn about Texas History and gain valuable leadership lessons. Caden completed his third and final camp in the Summer of 2016. Students in this program can also apply to participate in the Lonestar Leadership's Alumni Council. As part of the council, the students agree to complete three leadership lessons, as well as design and implement a community service project with the support of a sponsor. This is Caden's third year in the council and, as an avid reader, he wanted to share his love of books with others for his service project this year. **He came up with the idea of doing a book drive and connected with Katie Powell at Azleway Boys Ranch to see if they would like to be the beneficiary of the drive. Katie said, "YES!"** Caden enlisted the support of the Whitehouse Jr. High School Student Council. They ran a two week book drive to collect new and gently used books. Caden's goal was to collect a minimum of 150 books (about 2 books per boy at the ranch), but **they far exceeded that and collected nearly 1,000 books!** The books will go to the Azleway Boys' Ranch! **Caden was recognized as a "Wildcat Hero"** in a recent school newsletter for bringing this project to the school in support of this year's school theme of "Change Your World". The books were delivered to Azleway Boys' Ranch on Thursday, February 2nd. **Thank you to Caden and the Whitehouse Jr. High Student Council!**



So many books! This is just a few of the books brought to Azleway by Caden and his friends. We have a nice new shelving unit that will be completely filled with books!

These two cute boys couldn't wait to get their hands on these books. The campus supervisors will be putting a system in place, to enable the boys to check out books. Our boys now have their very own library. 😊



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, general residential operation (GRO) and transitional living homes.



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.

AZLEWAY BOYS' RANCH VALLEY VIEW

Azleway Boys' Ranch is intensive therapy set in relaxed atmosphere. Catering to at-risk boys, Azleway Boys' Ranch 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 the Boys' Ranch, 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 Azleway Boys' Ranch. 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) now 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 25 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.



Over 30,000 Texas children in foster care in 2016, and the numbers continue to grow each year.

So many ways to help children in crisis:

Annual Fund

Special Projects

Endowment

Memorials & Honorariums

Christmas Wish List

Big Ranch Round Up

Texas Equestrian Gala Benefiting Azleway

Azleway Ninja Challenge

Please remember AZLEWAY in your **2017** budget.



**SATURDAY
JULY 29TH**

at iJump - Tyler

**Go to Azleway.org for
details and registration!**

ADOPTION SCENE



ESTES FAMILY

ALL DIVISIONS



O'CONNOR FAMILY



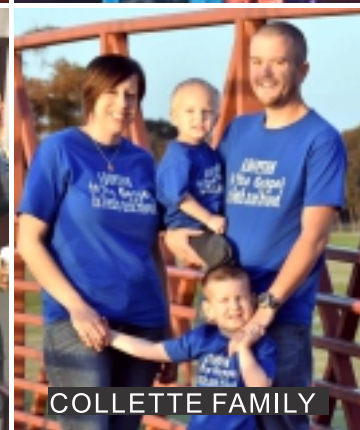
EDWARDS FAMILY



SARGENT FAMILY



THOMAS FAMILY



COLLETTE FAMILY



JOSEPH FAMILY



BARNES FAMILY



GEE FAMILY



NEAL FAMILY

(child medically unavailable for photo)



GASTON-BELL FAMILY

*It's All About
the Kids.*

Azleway.org



Azleway Adoption - A FOREVER Family

Since its inception in 2010, ACS Adoption Services has helped 214 children find forever homes!

If you are an individual or couple willing to provide a loving home to a child, there are thousands of children looking for a forever home in Texas. 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, as well as 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.**

Potential adoptive parents must be at least 25 years of age, with a high school diploma or GED, and must pass a criminal and child abuse background check. In addition, they must complete pre-service training with a focus on children who have been abused or neglected, become certified in first aid and CPR, and complete a comprehensive home study.



For more information, contact Julie Antwine at Julie.Antwine@azleway.org or call (903) 566-8444, ext. 2273.

The Ranson Family adopted SEVEN children!



Memorials & Honorarium

David and Carolyn Bain *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Bob Caves Air Conditioning, Inc. *in memory of Pete Watson*
Gillian Brasfield *in memory of Helen Gray*
Mary Burch *in memory of Helen Gray*
Celia Flowers Tyler Legal Account *in memory of Howard Coglin*
Coker Enterprises *in memory of Pete Watson*
Charles and Sharon Cox *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Emory and Geraldine Fielding *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Mark and Susan Heckmann *in memory of Helen Gray*
Scott and Ginger Hines *in memory of Billy Hipp, Sr.*
Scott and Ginger Hines *in memory of Jeryl Story*
Richard and Evelyn Honea *in memory of Helen Gray*
James I. Perkins Family Foundation *in memory of Helen Gray*
Lynn and Sue Kersh *in memory of Pete Watson*
Raymond and Mary Layne *in memory of Louis Martinez*
Mary Lindsay *in memory of Helen Gray*
Robert and Sue Love *in memory of R.B. Darnell*
Mr. & Mrs. Brian McCabe *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*

Lewis and Peggy McMillan *in memory of Diana Tomilson*
Glenn and Doris Morby *in memory of Helen Gray*
Sonia Murad *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Sue Neill *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Olson *in memory of Helen Gray*
Tonya Pierson *in memory of R.B. Darnell*
Glenn and Anne Reese *in memory of Del Waggener, Jr.*
Donna Rogers *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Southside Bank *in memory of Helen Gray*
Joe Steph *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Rebecca Steph *in memory of Dr. Donal Wray Steph*
Yvonne Sturrock *in honor of Bob Caudle*
The Tyler Garden Club *in honor of Trent Dawson*
Paul and Margaret Turman *in memory of Pete Watson*
Kay Lynn Vinzant *in memory of Helen Gray*
Kathryn Watkins *in memory of Helen Gray*

Save the Date



September 23, 2017
at Texas Rose Horse Park

Sponsorships Available

For additional info., email: Katie Powell at katie.powell@azleway.org
Helping Texas children in crisis. Azleway.org



**JOIN EMCEE
GILLIAN SHERIDAN FOR A
FUN EVENING, BENEFITING
CHILDREN IN CRISIS**



**FABULOUS LIVE &
SILENT AUCTIONS
WITH AUCTIONEER
SHERIFF J.B. SMITH**

**DINNER CATERED BY SADLER'S!
THERE WILL BE A CUPCAKE CHANCE DRAWING
AND MANY OTHER FUN SURPRISES!**



**AZLEWAY BOYS' RANCH TRAINING CENTER
15892 CR 26 TYLER, TEXAS 75707**

TO BECOME A SPONSOR, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL KATIE POWELL - 903.566.8444, EXT. 2212





AZLEWAY, INC.

15892 CR 26, Tyler, Texas 75707-9136

Operators of Azleway Boys' Ranch and Azleway Children's Services

DELEK FIELD

GAME DAY!

**AZLEWAY
BOYS' RANCH
HAS A NEW
BALL FIELD!**

**OPENING DAY
FEB. 18TH**

DELEK REFINERY VS. AZLEWAY

*Thank You
Delek Refinery!*

Delek Field is funded through the generosity and hard work of the Delek Tournament for Hope.

