



Read Bobby’s story on the reverse.
**This is HOPE. It is
what you make possible.**



<<DATE>>
<<NAME>>
<<ADDRESS>>
<<CITY STATE ZIP>>

Dear <<NAME>>,

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN CRISIS NEED YOU. The number of youth and young adults needing a safe home, specialized education and therapeutic resources continues to skyrocket. Virginia Home for Boys and Girls creates a healing and nurturing environment for these youth with the generosity of people like you. We rely on your ongoing support to sustain trauma-informed programs and individualized services that create real pathways of hope.

Bobby’s success story on the back of this page is one example of the incredible difference your gift makes. His story is one of many that we shape together — a story that has a sad beginning, but—because of you— a happy ending. After 14 years apart, Bobby has been reunited with his biological mother.

Please join us in honoring what Bobby’s story — and your gift— really means for all our young people: **HOPE.**

You can help many young people at VHBG by making a one-time gift using the enclosed envelope or take your support to the next level by going online to our secure website at VHBG.org/GIVE to set up a monthly pledge. Thank you so much for considering a gift to Virginia Home for Boys and Girls.

With gratitude,

Claiborne Warner

Claiborne Warner
President & CEO

“There is an incredible lack of traditional foster care availability, especially for older youth (2,372 in Virginia right now). We owe it to these children to explore the possibility of family reunification if it’s safe.”
-Karen Rice, LCSW, Director of Therapeutic Resources

Your generous previous gift enabled us to serve hundreds of youth in crisis.
Won’t you please consider a gift of \$[AMOUNT]?

You can also **give online at VHBG.ORG/GIVE** or contact Heather Garrett at 804-270-6566, ext. 1250, HGarrett@vhbg.org

Gift Amount: \$ _____ ☐ Check Enclosed (made payable to Virginia Home for Boys and Girls)

Let’s make sure we have your contact information correct. Please change anything below that needs updating.

Name(s): _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____



BOBBY'S STORY

Because of your help, Bobby was reunited with his biological mother and half siblings that he'd never met.

He is thrilled.

When he was only an infant, Bobby was abandoned by his teen, single mother who disappeared from the state. His grandfather raised him as best he could, but his own mental instability and deteriorating physical health often interrupted Bobby's healthy development. Neglected and alone, Bobby didn't know how to cope. By the time he was eleven-years old his physical behavior became a threat to himself and others. He was sent to a treatment facility as a last resort. Once stable enough, Bobby was ready to transition back home, but returning to grandpa wasn't safe.

VHBG was just the right kind of transitional living Bobby needed. He spent more than two years living in our therapeutic neighborhood and attending our John G. Wood School. Here he learned anger-management and developed resilience. Counseling and group home living helped Bobby experience healthy family life, accept adult direction, learn independent living skills, manage emotions and develop true connections for the first time in his life.

Despite great progress, his long history of difficult behaviors and mental health struggles made it extremely difficult for social workers to find Bobby a permanent home. A foster home was finally lined up only to cause Bobby extreme disappointment when the family changed their mind the night before he was scheduled to make the move.

Working through 'Family Find' we located Bobby's mother who has spent the last 14 years growing herself, though totally disconnected from Bobby. From across the country, using telehealth technology, she put in an incredible effort to connect with Bobby and prepare for their reunification. She learned about trauma and the impact it's had on Bobby; she learned parenting skills for teenagers with difficult behaviors; she accepted responsibility and, with the help of the VHBG team, made her case to the local judge to get her parental rights reinstated. Finally, Bobby was home.

"This is the best thing that has ever happened to me and I want it to be the best thing that has ever happened to Bobby." *-Bobby's mother*

thank you



Virginia Home for Boys and Girls is a nonprofit that has been dedicated to responding to the unique and ever-changing needs of youth and families in crisis since 1846. We believe all young people deserve to be loved and nurtured as they are embraced for their unique authentic identities and believe that with resilience, they are destined for success regardless of the experiences of their past.

Join us for a campus tour to see our unique therapeutic neighborhood where we strive to provide the precise trauma-informed care that each young person deserves.
Call Heather Garrett at 804-270-6566, ext. 1250 or contact her at HGarrett@vhbg.org to schedule your tour.
There's nothing like seeing your gift in action.