

this is

# HOPE





All children can learn if given the appropriate supplies...tools and resources.

Students like Adonis and Clayton are why I wake up early every day, come to Virginia Home for Boys and Girls' John G. Wood School, and work so hard for our children.

During our summer school field trip, Adonis and Clayton were scared to get in the water at Buckroe Beach. Together they decided they would support each other, encouraging each other to face their fear and get into the water.

I took this picture after they both got out of the ocean. I love the confidence, love, determination, and strength they exhibited stepping out of the water together.

This experience gave them hope.”



**Jason A. Kisson Ed.D**  
John G. Wood School  
Principal

Youth like Adonis and Clayton who have emotional and behavioral health challenges have had no reason to trust anyone, **until now.**

They'll start the school year this fall supplied with some resilience skills they learned this summer.

But what really helps the children we serve get back to school with the hope of being successful is the trauma-informed care they will receive from experienced educators who believe in them.

In addition to the academics, our art program encourages students to use non-verbal expression as an outlet for intense feelings.

A sense of mastery is achieved in our Career and Technical Education programs.

And social and emotional health are supported by sporting opportunities and field trips.

While supplying students with pencils to get back to school is never unappreciated, you can help supply our kids with so much more by making a donation today to ensure they get the trauma-informed care and education they need.

**It's a school supply that can last a lifetime.**



**Adonis and Clayton have so many obstacles to overcome and it is imperative that we do everything within our power to educate them and other children like them. Your contribution today can ensure that they'll get the care they need to succeed in school and in later life.**

# campus tours: schedule yours today!

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. *There's nothing like seeing your gift in action.*

Contact Erin Nord at 804-270-6566, ext. 1190 or ENord@vhbg.org to schedule your tour!

## OUR HISTORY

Virginia Home for Boys and Girls has been dedicated to responding to the unique and ever-changing needs of children and families in crisis since 1846. Originally known as the Richmond Male Orphan Society, VHBG is proud to be one of the oldest respites for children in continuous operation in the nation. As the environment of child welfare has evolved, so have the services provided by VHBG. In the 1960's, we stopped operating as an orphanage and started providing transitional living services to youth ages 11-17 in our Group Care Services program. We recently expanded the age range of children served to help youth aging out of foster care ages 17- 21 in our Independent Living Arrangement program and to include youth who identify as LGBTQ and find themselves facing homelessness, ages 18- 25 in our Pride Place program. We also offer specialized k-12 education and therapeutic resources to youth in all of our programs.

## OUR MISSION

At VHBG, we provide a home and education to children across Virginia with emotional and behavioral health concerns. Through therapy and counseling, we help them begin to heal from their trauma while giving them a safe place to live and learn so they can transition to their next best level of care – hopefully to a permanent home and/or back to public school.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe all children deserve to grow up surrounded by a loving, nurturing “family”. All children deserve encouragement, protection, and a sense of belonging that comes from supportive adult relationship in a healthy family environment and a safe supportive community. After all, healthy adult relationships are critical to every child's ability to live a successful life.



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