

1ST QUARTER 2024

FOSTER BY FAITH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR BOSSIER KIDS

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BOSSIER KIDS NEWS

This past spring break, our Bossier KIDS children had a blast starting soccer, working on church projects, and playing, playing, playing.

We have two incredible men who volunteer to help maintain our Bossier KIDS homes, one of which serves us through their own medical concerns. We are immensely grateful for these individuals and all who volunteer on a regular basis or support the work we are doing. You are our heroes!

Interested in helping meet the needs of Bossier KIDS? Send us an email or give us a call.

bossierkids@gmail.com | (318) 741-1934

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

DONATIONS

Along with monetary donations, there are a variety of other ways you can donate to Bossier KIDS and local foster families. If you have gently used children's toys, gear, clothing items, or bedroom furniture, consider donating them for use in foster homes. In addition, you can also greatly bless a foster family by deciding to purchase these items for their children.

FOSTER CARE TRAINING

If you have considered becoming a foster parent, don't wait any longer! We need you. Consider visiting the website for the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (www.dcfslouisiana.gov). The DCFS website contains important information about the steps to becoming a foster parent, as well as answers any questions you may have before pursuing certification.

GEAR UP FOR WARMER WEATHER

As we welcome warmer months, we want to invite you to participate in the lives of our foster families throughout the spring and summer. Consider donating outdoor gear and toys such as playsets, slides, and sports equipment. Offer to help transport kids to extracurriculars or sponsor their participation in an activity they love. Connect with one of our families to see what they need and how you can help this time of year.

APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

Warning Signs of Possible Child Abuse

- **Chronic School Absentism**
- **Self-Harm**
- **Bed Wetting & Nightmares**
- **Poor Hygiene**
- **Defensive Injuries or Bruising**
- **Unexplained Injuries**
- **Dressed Inappropriately for Weather**
- **Abnormal Weight Gain or Loss**
- **Sexualized Behavior**
- **Phobias**
- **Increased Aggressive Behavior**

GETTING INVOLVED WITH BOSSIER KIDS IN THE SPRING & SUMMER MONTHS

1. Donate Outdoor Activities

Consider donating playsets, slides, sports equipment, bubbles, and outdoor toys to help a local family enjoy this season.



2. Offer Respite Care

Extend a helping hand to foster parents by offering weekend respite care to allow the parents to recharge.

3. Support Extracurriculars

Offer to sponsor a child's extracurricular activities, or simply show up to support them in their games and performances.



FOSTER FAMILY RESOURCES

Bossier KIDS Certification: If you are interested in fostering for Bossier KIDS, we have the ability to certify you to foster in one of our three Bossier KIDS homes or grant you certification to foster in your own home. Connect with us through social media or our website to learn more.

www.bossierkidsinc.org

Adopt US Kids: Adopt US Kids is a national organization whose goal is to provide a family to every child and teen in the U.S. foster care system. They provide information for prospective foster and adoptive parents, aid in the adoption process, and connect families through their social platforms.

www.adoptuskids.org

CASA Louisiana: CASA stands for "Court Appointed Special Advocate." CASA Louisiana's website provides information for individuals who are interested in volunteering in this capacity on behalf of a foster child.

www.louisianacasa.org

Louisiana Foster Care Support Organization: The Louisiana Foster Care Support Organization connects Louisiana foster families to support groups, trainings, parents' night out opportunities, clothing/supplies, and opportunities for their foster children, as well as includes resources for children aging out of the care system.

www.louisianafostercare.com

Fostering Families Today: Fostering Families Today is a national foster care magazine with resources, advice, and helpful information on aiding foster children. Their website also features access to free webinars, their newsletter, article archives, and Facebook discussion groups.

www.fosteringfamiestoday.com

Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services: Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is a governmental organization that advocates for the safety of children, helps families and individuals at risk, and provides refuge in the event of a natural disaster. Their website also outlines steps to becoming a foster parent.

www.dcfslouisiana.gov

SEASONAL CRAFT

CARDBOARD RAINBOW COLLAGE



SUPPLIES:

- Sheets of Cardboard
- Construction Paper in Various Colors
- Buttons
- Pom Poms
- Glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Start by cutting out a blank cardboard rainbow template for each child.
2. Cut colored construction paper in various sizes of squares and rectangles, arranging pieces in piles based on color.
3. Set-up pom poms and buttons in bowls or piles.
4. Allow each child to create their own rainbow, helping with glue when needed.

Source: Art Bar Blog

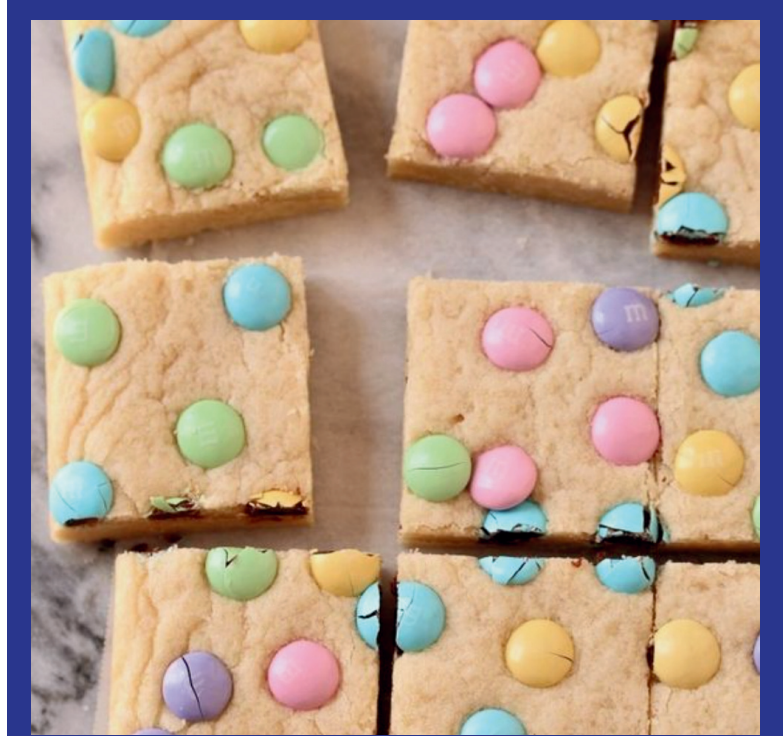


SEASONAL TREAT

M&M SUGAR COOKIE BARS

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Stick Softened Butter
- 3/4 c White Sugar
- 1 Egg
- 1.5 Tsp Vanilla Extract
- 1 and 3/4 Cup Flour
- 1/2 Tsp Baking Powder
- 1/4 Tsp Salt
- 1/4 Cup Pastel Easter M&Ms



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease an 8 x 8 pan and set it aside.
2. In a big bowl, cream the butter and sugar.
3. Add the egg and vanilla extract and mix together.
4. Add the flour, baking powder, and salt and mix again.
5. Add in the M&Ms and gently stir everything together.
6. Pour the batter into the pan and spread it out evenly.
7. Bake it in the preheated oven for about 20 minutes or until a tester inserted comes out clean.

Source: TinasChic.com

DONOR APPRECIATION

2024 1st Quarter Donations Given in Memory Of

In Memory of Carolyn Freeman

from Junior and Lynea Hollis

In Memory of Jim Loftis

from Shreveport Legacy Family Dentistry

In Memory of Kennon Harvill

from Raley and Associates

from Mary Catherine Coyle

from Joey and Janet Brown

In Memory of Ted Keys

from Junior and Lynea Hollis

from Joey and Janet Brown

In Memory of Joe McDoniel

from Junior and Lynea Hollis

from Joey and Janet Brown

BOARD APPRECIATION

Our 2024 Volunteer Board of Directors

Paul Cressend

Penny Burks

Gregg Vaughan

Charles Gregg

Chance Nerren