

East Tennessee Christian Home & Academy (ETCHA)

Our mission is to give **A New Beginning** to adolescent girls who can benefit from an enhancement of their life experiences by:

- Instructing them about the teachings and love of Christ.
- Providing a safe, loving, Christian home surrounded by staff, teachers, house parents, and volunteers who are well qualified, present a positive role model, and have a passion for the ministry.
- Assessing each girl's educational needs and developing an individualized curriculum plan for the achievement of a high school diploma and for fostering a desire for higher education.
- Encouraging character traits that promote successful living.
- Teaching and requiring the demonstration of practical life skills.

*"For I know the plans I have for you." declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11*

How You Can Help

PRAY individually for the ministry, the girls, and staff on a daily basis.

SUSTAIN AND GROW THE MINISTRY by giving of your finances on a consistent basis. ETCHA is a 501c(3) organization and all donations are tax-deductible.

ESTATE PLANNING by remembering ETCHA in your will and as a beneficiary in your life insurance policy.

CHURCH PARTNERSHIP by encouraging your church to include the ETCHA ministry in the Mission budget to make an annual commitment of financial support.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP by enlisting businesses to make an annual commitment to sponsor a portion of ETCHA's operating budget.

GIVE in-kind donations such as paper products, food, clothing, etc., or make regular financial donations-- even your daily pocket change can make an impact.

VISIT THE CAMPUS to see for yourself the programs and services.

VOLUNTEER your time to help with the work required to keep the campus effective and efficient.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS about this important ministry and enlist their support and involvement.

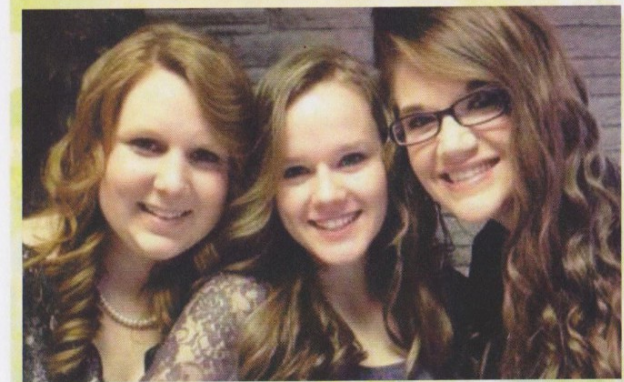
EAST TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN HOME & ACADEMY



"Growing Girls God's Way"

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."

Proverbs 22:6



Caring for Children and Youth since 1946

East Tennessee Christian Home & Academy was started in 1946 by Preacher Fred Smith and other leaders of First Christian Church, Elizabethton.



Over these 68 years hundreds of children and youth whose families could not or would not provide them with an environment that nurtured their development have been served. Many have returned to their communities and become productive and successful citizens. The programs of service have evolved from an original concept of an orphanage to its present day residential education programs for at-risk adolescent girls. In a perfect world, ETCHA's ministry would not be needed. However, today numerous adolescent girls are being challenged by their environment and they and their families are in need of respite and/or reprieve.

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ETCH Academy

The Academy is a critical asset in achieving the objectives of the ETCHA ministry. Due to the individualized curriculum of Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) that is biblically based, the girls are able to succeed in school and learn in a safe, protective environment. The Academy is a requirement for all residents and can accommodate an additional four Day Students.

To determine the students' learning gaps and place them at the appropriate grade level for learning, ACE diagnostic tests are administered at the time of admission. In addition, all girls receive the Wide Range Achievement Test 4 at admission and annually thereafter. This standardized test provides a grade-equivalency on a national level and enables the Academy to track each girl's progress.

Most students express an immediate sense of success and become motivated to proceed forward. Because the girls work at their own individual pace, they catch up and even get ahead. Some residents have found such success in the academic program that they remain as Day Students after meeting their residential requirements. At graduation, students receive a high school diploma. Some graduates have chosen to continue their education at institutions of higher learning.

The Tennessee Department of Education considers ETCHA in a category for church schools. At graduation, students receive a regular high school diploma.

FOUR SEASONS Growing at ETCHA

God has a plan for each girl who joins the ETCHA family. The goal is to help each girl discover her path and purpose in life. For teaching and encouragement this journey is divided into Four Seasons..

The girls move to a new season while growing at ETCHA with the five strong attributes of Esteem, Trust, Character, Hope, and Attitude.

Winter: A time of adjustment and preparation that begins at admission.

Spring: Through the love of Christ, counseling, Godly parenting, education, and other tools, the seeds are planted. Staff work to protect, care for, nourish, and "Grow Girls God's Way".

Summer: A time of growing and maturing. The focus is finding ways to help the girls learn the skills of independence and display leadership behaviors.

Autumn: The girls are in full bloom! Those who are 18 years old are ready to join the Transitional Living Program. Our prayer is that they have realized that when they put their life and hope in CHRIST, He promises that He has good plans for them!