

# Upbring 2022 Report to the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod

It is our mission to break the cycle of child abuse by empowering children, families, and communities.

Inspired by faith and compelled by compassion, we are answering the call to defeat abuse. With more than 1,000 employees who serve in one of our 78 locations across Texas, Upbring is a leading nonprofit child wellbeing organization in the state. Foster care and education are at the forefront of our work, joined by other vital mission-oriented programs under the same mission: to break the cycle of child abuse by empowering children, families, and communities.

By caring for children in our communities and the families that raise them, we are living out the word of God and sharing the gift of his love with the world.

With the faithful support and commitment of our partners at the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, we continue to help children and families across the state heal from traumatic experiences. Upbring is so grateful for the part you play in helping us work to create a world where all children are loved, cherished, and protected.

Each year, thousands of Texas children suffer from abuse and neglect. Guided by our faith, Upbring strives to end the cycle of suffering by delivering a wide range of innovative services that directly address the spectrum of needs for each child and family.

## 2021 Accomplishments

### CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- Residential Treatment Center: 105 girls between the ages of 11 and 17 given a safe place to heal from trauma at our New Life Children's Center in Canyon Lake, TX; 4 youth completed a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) course with 3 going on to obtain their CNA license; 88 volunteers served New Life Children's Center for a total of roughly 7,800 hours.
- Foster In Texas (FIT): 1,176 children served through Upbring Foster In Texas—140 new foster families verified and 113 children connected with forever families.
- Unaccompanied Children: 3,245 unaccompanied children served— 1,003 Bokenkamp Children's Shelter; 779 Grace House Children's Shelter; 509 New Hope Children's Shelter; 445 Corpus Christi Transitional Foster Care; 477 El Paso Transitional Foster Care; 32 El Paso Long Term Foster Care
- BeREAL: 41 future professionals aging out of foster care offered services to help them transition to adulthood through our Supervised Independent Living (SIL) programs in Texas and Louisiana; 16 young adults successfully completed our BeREAL program in 2021
- Upbring Education Services: 2,734 children given a nurturing and inclusive place to learn—1,408 through Head Start and Early Head Start; 1,201 through Trinity Charter Schools; and 125 through Upbring School of Arts and Sciences.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Neighborhood House/Health For Friends Clinic: 31 tons of food were distributed through our food voucher program; 62,316 individuals were served, primarily with utility assistance in 2021; over \$2.2

million paid out for utility assistance; 201 visits were made to our free Health for Friends Clinic in 2021; 77 were seen at 4 new outreach sites in Lubbock—two of these sites opened in August and two in December

#### DISASTER RESPONSE

- LSS Disaster Response served 223 households
- 649 individuals were served, including 179 children
- The total monetary value of the services our LSS Disaster Response team provided in 2021 was \$13,447,296.08