



Since its inception, Thornwell has been a partner to the local church and important part of our ministry. We share the same heart—to love God and love others—and a long history of service to children and families.

Thornwell began in the heart of a young pastor in 1875, and they have continued the legacy of hope and healing ever since. Today, they are an interconnected community of experts, advocates, and caregivers who spend their lives committed to helping children and families in need through a family-centered continuum of care.

Their mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect, to build up and reunite families, and to support healthy communities in the name of Jesus Christ.

In partnership with Thornwell, we are making a world of difference in the lives of families like the Hauns.

Tifanie Haun, mom of four, engaged Thornwell's Building Families Lead Specialist Sarah Spencer at a local church Fall festival with the hope that she could help her. She said, "When we learned Thornwell offers a program to teach family skills, I knew this was exactly what we needed to overcome the parenting challenges we were facing with our 5-year-old (at the time), Olivia."

A shared language, the ability to deescalate power struggles, and the importance of consistent rewards and consequences are just a few of the tools now in the Haun family tool kit. Tifanie went on to share how much easier it was to navigate early childhood with her son Gabriel once she was equipped with essential parenting skills. Tifanie said, "I love Building Families because it's easier to help a child than to fix an adult. Building Families helped us help our children and helped me be a better parent."

This later became even more valuable as Tifanie and her husband responded to the call to foster. "Sarah and I stayed in touch even after our time together. There was not a question in my mind when I realized the children needed some extra support to cope and heal—I knew Building Families could help us!"

This brought the Haun family into a second cycle of Building Families care, this time introducing trauma-informed therapy, skills, and training to help the foster children adjust and learn social and coping skills. Tifanie said, “Sarah met each child exactly where they were. It’s one step toward a ‘normal’ life for our fosters.”

Thanks to Thornwell and churches like ours, families have a safe and nurturing place to learn together, express themselves, and build a foundation for a strong and stable environment that produces strong, stable children and adults—who continue to pay it forward! Thank you for generously supporting Thornwell!

As we work together with Thornwell, we can serve many more children and families like the Hauns.

<<Insert your church’s specific call to action to support partnership with Thornwell (l.e. financial contributions, in-kind donations, or volunteering/service.>>

Thank you for your compassionate hearts, steadfast support, and constant prayers for Thornwell and the children and families we, together, serve. We couldn’t do it without you!