

Together, we can make a difference for children and families.



## Meet Joseph.

Unlike many children his age, **4-year-old Joseph** didn't know his numbers or colors. His grandma did her best to provide a home and enrolled him in school, but he was behind, and he spent every day fighting to overcome the first four years of his life.

The neglect Joseph had experienced was far more than he could bear, much less process and comprehend. You can imagine, then, Joseph's struggle to rest at night. It was hard to get up in the mornings, and he refused to go to school. When he did go, he couldn't focus. This was more than attention-deficit; this was circumstantial hardship.

Joseph's grandmother was at a loss, but thanks to friends like you, everything changed when a pediatrician recommended she call Thornwell. A Building Families Specialist began visiting with Joseph and his grandma. She taught his grandmother how to implement consistent routines and help him feel safe. They would meet in the morning before school and again for bedtime in the evenings. She stood with his grandma, quite literally in the trenches, to meet Joseph right where he was. Slowly but surely, grandma began earning back the role of parent, and Joseph began responding to the trauma tactics and consistent structure. Once he really felt a sense of safety, he began to sleep...and wake up rested, ready for school. Joseph missed the first 35 days of school, but today, he attends regularly and even earned 'most improved student' in his classroom.

Thank you for believing in a world where everyone belongs to a thriving family! Visit thornwell.org/give to give a one-time or monthly gift to sustain Thornwell's ministry for children and families.

\*Names and photos have been changed for the family's protection.

## INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED?

TO ADVOCATE OR PARTNER
Church Relations Manager - 864.689.2797

TO VOLUNTEER
Volunteer Coordinator - 864.938.2704