

SUMMER 2025



501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization

www.thenestalliance.org

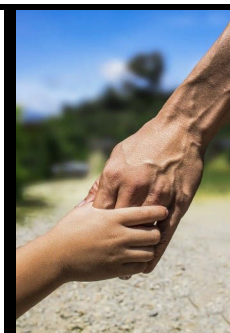


Photo taken by Board Member, Stephanie Baker

Pictured left to right: Board Members, Arvill Scott, Autumn Cline, Kendra Graybeal, Pam Payne, Theresa Church, and DSS Licensing and Adoptions Social Worker, Tori Logel.

Shown is a recent meeting at The NEST Center to discuss current statistics and the need for more foster homes in Ashe County. The NEST Alliance continues to provide resources for foster families and to make The NEST Center available for children entering foster care while placement is being secured for them.

Foster care is a program that provides shelter to children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. The shelter may be emergency, short term, or long term.



How to become a foster parent:

- Be 21 years of age
- Be financially self-supporting to meet own family needs
- Complete training classes
- Receive a criminal record clearance with no criminal record involving violent crimes or crimes against children
- Receive a health screening clearance
- Obtain CPR and First Aid Certification
- Have a home that meets basic safety requirements

MORE LICENSED FOSTER HOMES ARE NEEDED IN ASHE COUNTY

Key Highlights From Meeting with Foster Licensing and Adoptions DSS Social Worker

1. At the present time there are 11 licensed foster homes in Ashe County, but there are 40 children who need foster care.
2. There are currently only 2 respite care providers who offer care on a temporary basis.
3. Ashe County children are being placed in foster care outside of our county, away from what they know (e.g., their schools, friends and communities).
4. Additional local licensed foster homes would enable our local children to continue receiving services and care in the county and to remain in their schools.
5. Reunification is the most common goal for children in foster care. When children are separated from their families, the first goal is to reunify them when it is safe enough to do so. More foster homes in Ashe County would allow for children to remain close to their families where programs designed to help with reunification or kinship placements, whenever possible, could be put into place.
6. Kinship placement occurs when a social worker determines the children are unsafe in their parents' care and seeks kinship care for them. This allows the children to have the stability of living with family members rather than being placed with an unrelated foster family.
7. Foster care placement for teenage children is especially needed.

We encourage the community to learn more about being licensed to provide foster care or respite foster care in Ashe County.

**For more information, call or email
Licensing Social Worker, Tori Logel
336-877-5713 or torilogel@ashecourt.gov.com**

Missions: NEST Kids, NEST Net, Roots & Wings Children's Homes

**Thank You for Making Our 2025
Tournament a Success!**
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All sponsors listed, board members (above), golfers (below) and all volunteers are crucial to The NEST Alliance missions. Without them and Mountain Aire Golf Club, the golf tournament would not be a possibility as an ongoing fundraiser. We are grateful for this support each year!



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Just Wing It	



100% Volunteers

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NEST KIDS PROGRAM—WHERE GIVING HEARTS CONNECT FOR CHILDREN



Riding on Faith Equestrian Center provided moments in time to press pause and to just be a child having fun.

Thank you to Alan Lynch (top left) and NEST volunteer, Tammy Wheatley; NEST board members, Arvill Scott and Pam Payne (all bottom row); and other NEST Leaders who provided van transportation, a meal, snacks, cold waters, sketchbooks and markers. Pictures of all children and youth on horseback were taken by Ms. Wheatley who later packaged and gave the photos to each child as a keepsake.

In the bottom scene, NEST Kids participate in a sack race with other children prior to horseback riding.



More Connected Hearts



These scenes show 2 to 3 new books for 22 children or youth, chosen specifically for each of them before being placed into bags filled with basic needs (e.g., soaps, lotions, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and a short-sleeved summer shirt). Van transportation was provided to Vacation Bible School by NEST Board Members. How wonderful when hearts connect!

Faith

Believing in the future we cannot see while caring for present needs we do see because "With God, all things are possible." *Matthew 19:26*

DIPLOMAS BREAK BARRIERS

The cake, shown below, was made for a special graduate this year. She not only completed high school but is also volunteering in our NEST Kids Program to help younger kids, and she attended a week long youth trip to Camp Caswell with 3 others from our NEST Kids Program this July.

We hope all NEST Kids, who range in age from 5 to 17, at this time, will graduate from high school. Seven youth, who were part of and received support from The NEST Kids Program, have graduated from high school in the past 3 years. We are well aware of the hard work and commitment it takes to complete this important milestone.

THANK YOU TO ALL who continue to give time, resources or talents to make The NEST Kids Program an ongoing reality!



The NEST Alliance
PO Box 684
West Jefferson, NC 28694
Contact: thenestalliance@gmail.com
Phone: 828-964-2350 or 336-877-5741

We welcome ANY donated amount, and on-going donations are greatly appreciated. The NEST Alliance is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Please make checks payable to The NEST Alliance. Online donations are accepted at www.thenestalliance.org. Automated bank drafts are also available upon request. Donors may also request tax-free transfers from an IRA or automated bank drafts.

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"With God, all things are possible."
Matthew 19:26

3 founders and former board members
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