Founded in 1920 by McCormick Spice Company entrepreneur Willoughby McCormick, **Baptist Family & Children's Services (BFCS)** exists to give a new start to children and families in crisis. With a long history of keeping kids out of institutional settings, BFCS asserts that a family – biological, foster, adoptive or otherwise – is the engine that best nurtures a child's development. Believing that strong families raise great kids, our mission is to serve God by keeping children safe, stabilizing families and building strong neighborhoods by providing material assistance, transitional housing and homes for kids in need.

BFCS operates two major programs of service... CHOSEN Treatment Foster Care & Good Samaritan Network.

CHOSEN (Children of Special and Exceptional Need) Treatment Foster Care program serves abused and neglected children referred to our care by Maryland's county-level Departments of Social Service. In a typical year we serve an average of 60 children, mostly teenagers, who need significant attention and special treatment techniques. Most of the children referred to CHOSEN come into the program struggling to overcome the effects of abuse and neglect. Most have behavioral problems and learning deficiencies. CHOSEN trains treatment foster parents to help their foster children manage and ultimately overcome their challenges. CHOSEN staff is available to foster parents 24 hours a day to provide the support, expertise and manpower necessary to help the kids in our care. For more information, please call Lizette Ubides at 410-872-1050/x1400.

Good Samaritan Network (GSN) focuses on the acquisition of stability, self-sufficiency and permanent housing. Program offerings include: (1) multi-phase transitional housing and supportive services to families that would otherwise be homeless; (2) wraparound case management; (3) a crisis helpline for church leaders; (4) school supplies and Christmas gifts each year for thousands of needy children; and (5) **Safe Families for Children**, which recruits volunteers to serve as short-term hosts for the children of families in crisis, while also supporting their parents as they do the work necessary to re-stabilize the family. *Safe Families* volunteers are equipped to offer biblical hospitality through training, support and the assurance of program safeguards. The average stay for a child being hosted is six weeks, but can range from two days to a year. For more information, please call Kate Macdonald at 410-872-1050/x1090 or Tammy Folkerts at 410-872-1050/x1170.

Volunteers Needed: Based in Columbia, with services throughout Maryland and Delaware, the BFCS vision is to give kids and families in distress a new start by promoting their safety, stability, well-being and trust in God's love. Fulfilling this dream, however, requires the involvement of many volunteers, especially those ready and willing to serve from the region's faith community. Whether it's becoming a *safe family* or using one's construction skills to turn a donated church parsonage into transitional housing, your help is critical. For more information about volunteering, please call Tricia Sakles at 800-621-8834/x1120.

Baptist Family & Children's Services
7161-A Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046
(800) 621-8834 / (410) 872-1050 / Fax: (410) 872-1047
www.baptistfamily.org . . . soon to be: