

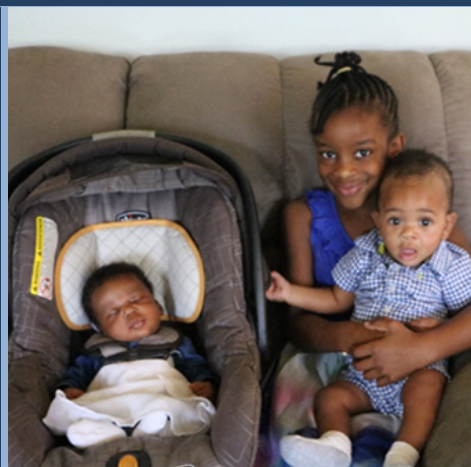
En Gedi House

2018 Update



TWO NEW VISITORS

Back in February, we got two boys the same day. A 3-week-old and a 5-month-old. We were willing and excited! There was a lot of rushing around during the first few days to find 'aunties.' We needed aunties to come in at night, so I could get some sleep; and during parts of the day, so I could still run errands. We were extra busy during this time because we were still helping host teams at Knockpatrick CCCD. Through all the flurry, God was an incredible sustainer and provided all the help we needed. There were a few deaf graduates from CCCD who needed jobs. We were able to hire them as aunties and they helped us love on the boys.



HELLO FROM EN GEDI!

We are thankful for all the ways that God has been moving and working through us this year. Last year, we finished up construction and moved into the house. That year, we only had one overnight placement because CPFSA (Child Protective and Family Services) was going through a complete restructuring. This year has been different. We are now settled in the house and have had babies since February. Thankfully, part of the restructuring of CPFSA is they are trying to place children in smaller homes, like En Gedi, or foster care instead of large long-term facilities.



MATTHEW

Matthew (the 5 month old) was a dream baby. Sadly, he was neglected and malnourished before he arrived. Anytime he was not being stimulated, he would just put his fingers in his mouth and fall asleep. His first week with us, when we got him on a schedule with regular meals, he became a different baby. He was still a dream, but now he was becoming so much more interactive. The longer he stayed, the less lethargic and more active he became. His bio mom was mentally unable to care for him, so the authorities stepped in and let his grandmother and uncle have custody. His stay at En Gedi only lasted for a little over a month before he was thankfully reunited with his family.

KIMANI

Kimani (the 3 week old) was our wild card. He was to be put up for adoption because his bio mom was very young. He has stayed with us for the past 5 months and has become the best little guy. He happily accepts different play roles Neiah assigns him (student, shop keeper, etc.). In May, he had a termination hearing to start the process of finding him a forever family. This month, his mom changed her mind about giving him up for adoption. Because his situation has changed he will be moved to a long-term facility. He will start visits with his mom, and she will attempt to meet all CPFSA's requirements to get him back. Prayers appreciated as this is not an easy process.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for all your prayers, love and support.

God Bless You!
Erin & Neiah