

Welcome....



The Heart Gallery is dedicated to increasing awareness of children in the 12-county Big Bend area who are available for adoption and in need of loving and permanent homes.

The Heart Gallery is a group of volunteers dedicated to promoting adoption and bringing attention to children from the Big Bend area who are available and still waiting for their forever family. Along with our online presence, we maintain a collection of quality photographs of our waiting children for display at churches, businesses, events or any other location that might help raise awareness.

Heart Gallery Big Bend operates 100% with volunteers, including individuals and partners that are willing to donate their time and efforts. Our work would not be possible without the sponsors who support us and the professionals who give their time and energy. Every donation we receive is used to fund the costs associated with adding children to the Heart Gallery Big Bend and helping these children find homes.



Heart Gallery Big Bend Lookbook #2

“The world may not change if you adopt a child, but for that child their world will change.” – Unknown

**Get to know the children by browsing this
Heart Gallery Big Bend Lookbook and the following below:**



www.heartgallerybigbend.org



heartgallerybigbend@gmail.com



Florida's Adoption Information Center
1-800-96-ADOPT



www.facebook.com/heartgallerybigbend



www.youtube.com/channel/UCmUrcVrrrlH9N4hZQhnrsoQ



www.instagram.com/heartgallerybigbend

Introducing Alexandra & Brinson...

Alexandra is nine-year-old female who enjoys playing Pokemon and being outside. Alexandra has a strong personality and enjoys being around her friends. Alexandra needs a loving home.

Brinson is a twelve-year-old male who enjoys playing videogames and being outside. Brinson likes to do arts and crafts and going to school. Brinson has a sister, Alexandra, whom he does not have the best relationship. Brinson needs a loving home.



**If you would like more information on
Alexandra and Brinson, please email us at
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***"My adoption was treated
as a celebration."
— Michael Reagan***

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Introducing Arabella....

Meet Arabella! She is a young teen who describes herself as helpful, curious, and outgoing. She loves to talk and is very social. She reaches out to her team by phone, likes to have facetime chats to touch base, is very involved in her case and glows when she gets positive attention. This girl is a serious animal lover. She loves dogs and grows up with them. She loves all kinds of animals and reptiles. One day she hopes to work with animals or possibly become a flight paramedic when she is older, though she is worried about her fear of heights getting in the way of that. Arabella has a guitar, and she loves playing it. She hasn't had any lessons and she would really love to learn how to play. She loves music. Her favorite kinds of music are country, gospel, and some hip hop. She writes her own songs and sings all the time. Her favorite artist is Carrie Underwood. She stated, "My favorite thing about her is she says she's going to do something and then she does it, like donating to St. Jude and she loves animals too. She can wear anything!"

Arabella loves art, specifically coloring and sketching, but she loves being creative in a lot of ways. When asked what her favorite food is she said, "Salads! I know that sounds weird coming from a kid, but I like all kinds of salads!" Her favorite color is purple, and she wants to dye her hair "purple, blue, black, and white". She is a good student and said, "I love all my classes! I love to learn. You can never stop learning." She loves to read and loves audiobooks as well. When asked what else she is interested in she talked about taking pictures. She said, "I probably won't be able to live without a camera when I'm older". When asked if she could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why, she said without a pause, "Africa! Because I can see so many animals. They have a lion and hyena sanctuary and I want to go there and see the hyenas. You know, hyenas aren't the bad guys in real life"

She identifies as a Christian and likes going to church on Sundays and would like to continue that. She doesn't have a denomination preference and is open to lots of different kinds of churches. Arabella has a brother, an aunt, and a set of grandparents she wants to be sure she can keep in touch with. She would like her adoptive family to help her stay in touch with them.

Arabella is looking for a family "that will love me". She would love to have siblings but would be happy without them. She would love her family to have animals, any kind of animal or reptile, or would allow her to have a pet. She is open to every kind of family!



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Arabella, please email us at
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*"Anyone who doesn't have
experience with adoption
wonders, 'Does love for a child
come through DNA?' I knew it
didn't." – Katherine Heigl*



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Introducing Aure and Isiah....

Meet Aure and Isiah! These two siblings have a very supportive and close relationship with each other, and they are two very different people! They have a lot of matching clothes and think it's fun to match from time to time. Aure describes herself as "independent, strong and resilient". Her favorite thing about herself is "my hair. It's so wild, crazy, and unpredictable. Sometimes you have good hair days and sometimes not so good and that's kind of like my life". She is very future focused and is doing extremely well in school. She is planning on graduating early and is not sure if she wants to work in the legal field or in nursing. She is interested in forensic nursing. She has applied and has been accepted by two colleges, but she hasn't made up her mind yet. One thing Aure is sure about is that she will be in a field where she can help others. She enjoys just being outside or in nature. She likes sitting outside to do her schoolwork and doing things in general outside. She also enjoys cooking. "Cooking brings peace".

Aure loves animals of all kinds. She misses her pets and recently got a bearded dragon named Charlie. She is already really attached so having a family willing to accept Charlie into the home is important to her. She's had Guinea pigs and dogs as well in the past. She loves travel and she would really love to see Dubai and Africa one day. She has maintained afterschool employment with the same company for two years and is making a car payment on her own.

People close to her say, "Aure appears to be very mature for her age. She is extremely intelligent and maintains a high average in her academics. She is very family oriented. She loves her younger brother and spends a lot of one-on-one time with him. She simply wants to be a part of a normal family along with her brother.

Aure displays a lot of strong leadership skills. According to her current caregiver, "Younger children tend to naturally follow her. She stands firm in her convictions, and she is not easily persuaded by others or peer pressure. When she sets her mind to something, she usually follows through."

One thing that is clearly very important to her is that no matter what, she and her brother can be together and keep the same level of a relationship they currently enjoy.

Isiah is a quiet young man. He really enjoys his quiet time away from the goings on around him. He describes himself as "anti-social" because he really enjoys watching TV and playing video games, but he will engage with his friends and his sister. Isiah loves animals too. He enjoys quiet, lovable animals he can sit quietly with and snuggle. He is also quite willing to engage with and accept guidance and support from his caregivers and his sister. He has a very quick wit and a dry sense of humor. He is clearly very intelligent, and he is very close with Aure.

He loves to eat Chic Filet and a lot of seafood. When asked what his favorite food was, he gave a long list. He would like to learn how to cook a medium rare steak for himself! He is into Anime shows and particularly enjoys One Piece Katakuri. He said his favorite subject in school is "lunch". Isiah is described as good in math. "He's like a human calculator!" When he finishes school, he would like to go to college "to be a doctor. I don't know what kind of doctor because I don't know what kinds of doctors there are".

He enjoys being outdoors and when asked what chores he prefers he likes to volunteer for the ones that take him outside or give him a break from the other kids in the home. He does well in school and is well adjusted. He does have good insight into his own feelings and is willing to ask for help when he needs it.

These siblings are open to all kinds of families. Both would like to continue to attend a Christian church. Like his sister Aure, it is very clear that Isiah is very interested in making sure that he continues to enjoy the close sibling relationship he has with his sister. Being apart or separated from each other appears to be something very present on both of their minds and something they are concerned about.

Both kids are looking for a family that will be supportive of helping ensure that they stay in close touch with each other even after Aure moves on to college in the very near future. They both have been very active and involved in each other's lives and it is very important to them that this continues.

"When I have a family someday, I'll probably adopt. Adoption has always been something close to my heart. There are so many kids out there who really need a family." – Tim Tebow



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If you would like more information on them, please email us at heartgallerybigbend@gmail.com and/or call Florida's Adoption Information Center at 1-800-96-ADOPT.

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Introducing B-One....

Meet B-One! He is a very energetic, tall, engaging young teen boy. He describes himself as “kind, caring and helpful”. He loves to play basketball and he is very tall! He also really enjoys playing battle style video games. B-One has not played on a sports team, but he thinks he would really enjoy that. His favorite music is hip hop and rap. His favorite foods are pizza, chicken, Takis, hot fries. He likes all of the Takis flavors. He does not like mushrooms, seafood, asparagus, squash, zucchini, or avocados!

B-One does love dogs. Yorkies are his favorite. He used to ride horses when he was younger. He would like to ride again, but he would like to remain in a city environment. He does really enjoy cooking, especially grilling out. When it is his turn to cook, the whole house looks forward to it. B-One is described as “the funny one”. He is often putting on a show and the center of attention. B-One has several siblings and relatives that are very important to him. He is looking for a family that will help him keep those connections.

“Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me” – Fred Rogers



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Introducing Brianna....

Brianna also known as “Syon” by close friends and family members is a 14yr old female that identifies as transgender and prefers to be referred by (he/they). Syon is a very bright child that has a great personality and sense of humor. Everyone that crosses paths with Syon instantly falls in love with him and his charismatic ways. Two of Syon’s most favorable hobbies are traveling and crafting. He’s traveled to at least 4 states such as Delaware, Ohio, Florida, California, and plans to eventually travel many more states and/or countries throughout his lifetime. Crafting is also Syon’s ultimate passion. He crochets blankets, pillows, and the list continues on a daily basis. He attends an art school in which he’s currently taking a fabric arts course. Which he refers to as his favorite subject. His latest project is sewing himself a bumblebee costume by hand for Halloween. Syon is extremely open to getting to know and eventually be adopted by a loving family that is LGBTQ+ friendly and willing to accept him for who he is.



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***“We always wanted to
adopt, and when the
opportunity opened up,
we did it to help change
a child’s life.” – Willie
Robertson***

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Introducing Candra....

“If there’s a cause worth fighting for, it’s this: children belong in families.” – Nicole Skellenger

Introducing Candra! Candra is a bi-racial girl with a big personality. She is very personable! It is easy to strike up a conversation with her. She is very interested in music and being with friends. She loves being active and describes herself as athletic. She enjoys playing sports and doing outdoor activities. Candra has a younger sister and brother adopted separately. It is very important to her that she can maintain contact with her siblings, especially her little brother.

Candra loves getting her hair done, is very into wigs and cosplay. She loves Anime. She always keeps a journal on her so she can doodle and draw. She loves being creative and crafting. She also really likes dressing cute and is very into being social with her friends and family. She has a sense of style and likes to be able to express herself with her clothes, accessories, and hair style. She has a lot of varied interests and thrives on praise and positive reinforcement. Candra is often the girl others come to for makeovers, make up tips and hair braiding. She loves “cosmetology” and is very interested in this field. She has a big imagination and loves to learn new things and be a part of everything. She is sassy and fun to be around. She loves to talk! She can talk about all kinds of things, and it is easy for her to share her interests with people she trusts. It is easier for Candra to build a trusting relationship with a female, so she is looking for a family that includes at least one mom.

The one thing she really wants her future adoptive parents to know about her is that she is, “...not my file”. Candra wants her family to be aware that while she has been through a lot, she has come very far, and she doesn’t like being defined by her past. She really wants to have a special relationship with a mother figure in her life.

Candra needs an emotionally stable, patient family who can keep her engaged in activities that focus on self-esteem, team and peer relationships, and who is able to support her in her healing journey. She is very smart and does well in school, but, like most kids her age, does need help staying motivated to get her work done. Candra is looking for a family where she can soak up all the attention and not compete with other children near her age or younger. The most important thing to Candra is having a relationship with her brother. She will need to be able to have frequent phone contact and visits with him. She is looking for a family who understands how important sibling relationships are and will help her stay in her brother's life as much as possible.

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Introducing Caitlin...

Duska is a beautiful young girl who prefers to go by the name of "Caitlin", her middle name. Caitlin easily engages with other individuals; she describes herself as "socially awkward" but in fact is a curious girl who has a knack for carrying on a conversation with just about anyone. Caitlin enjoys math in school, playing basketball, soccer, and running. She also likes tossing the football around. Her current caregivers describe her as an intelligent and outgoing girl with strong communication skills and a wild imagination. Caitlin loves to sing and listens to Hip-hop, Rap and R&B. She enjoys drawing and would love very much to have the opportunity to learn more about sketching techniques. Caitlin describes herself as "boyish" and stated that she does not want "a pretty pink room full of princesses and stuff. I'm not a girly girl anymore". Caitlin needs to be the only child in the family.



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"Families don't have to match. You don't have to look like someone else to love them." – Leigh Anne Tuohy

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Introducing Chase....

Chase is an active, spirited, and determined little boy. Chase needs a two-parent home with an active male role model and father figure. Chase sometimes struggles with respecting the authority of women but can be redirected when met with an authoritative response by a male figure. Chase would do best as an only child, as he thrives on one-on-one attention. Chase enjoys being outside. His hobbies include fishing, playing on the playground, and going to the beach. Chase has behaviors which are difficult to manage at times but is working to build resilience and coping strategies. Chase is full of love and personality and will do well in the right environment. Chase thrives in environments with structure and routine. Chase is good with animals and is looking for the perfect family to help him grow.

“Biology is the least of what makes someone a mother.” – Oprah Winfrey

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Introducing Hailey....

Introducing Haileymae! Haileymae is a very tender hearted and sweet young lady. She smiles often and beautifully. She is somewhat shy, but friendly and easy to talk to. When asked what she likes about herself she said, "I'm brave" and gave a big smile. She responds well to structure and likes to be a part of a team. Haileymae enjoys going to the beach, swimming, playing board games, and watching television. She is looking for a two-parent family. She is ok with having new siblings but "not too many". She gets along very well with her peers and makes friends at school easily.

When asked to describe her ideal family Haileymae said, she would like to be adopted by a Black/African American or Multiracial family; One that is fun, outgoing, and loving, but firm when need to be. She would like for the family to be one that loves to travel and spend time together, likes to sleep in, and who will occasionally allow her to see her biological family. She feels her adoptive family needs to know that she likes to spend time with her brother, who she views as her role model and is always there when she needs him. She would also like for them to know she loves people, would like to have a dog (favorite animal), likes to help with little children, and likes helping others. Haileymae reports that she can also be moody and easily aggravated at times.

She is looking for a family that will support her relationship with her brother and help keep her in touch with him. She also has relatives that she has an important attachment too that she wants to stay in touch with.



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*"However, motherhood comes to you, it's a miracle."
Valerie Harper—*



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Introducing Holden....

Holden is a handsome young teen with brown hair and hazel eyes. He is full of energy and very lovable. Holden loves to give hugs and get hugs in return; he can be very affectionate and loves attention. He loves to ride his bike and enjoys most outdoor activities, especially camping and making s'mores. Holden also enjoys playing video games and watching movies and can be quite competitive at times. His favorite movies are Marvel movies, especially Spiderman and The Hulk. Holden needs a family with strong parenting skills, lots of energy and a good sense of humor who will be committed to meeting his needs.

“...perhaps there is no greater miracle than finding a loving home for a child who needs one.” – Bill Clinton

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Introducing Jacob....

Jacob is a teenage boy who dreams of finding his forever home. Jacob would like to be adopted into a smaller family with a mom and dad and two siblings. Jacob wants a family that he can spend time with and feel comfortable opening up about his emotions with. Jacob seeks to have a strong support system that he can confide in. For fun Jacob loves being outdoors, he enjoys hunting and fishing! Jacob also loves to go bowling and doing various art projects. Jacobs favorite movie is Home Alone and he also enjoys watching Shark Week. Jacob loves animals and would love a pet; he reports his favorite animals are reptiles!



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Adoption has always
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There are so many
kids out there who
really need a family."
— Tim Tebow*

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Introducing Jahad....

Meet Jahad! Jahad is described as a sweet and quiet young man. He loves to sleep in and play basketball. He does enjoy playing outside but likes to watch television play strategy and battle style games on the Play Station. He does like Star Wars, “but just the new ones!”. He loves to put puzzles together, play cards and board games. He doesn’t particularly enjoy reading and does avoid that as much as possible. Jahad loves macaroni and cheese, spicy and fried food, all kinds of seafood, especially oysters. He loves swimming in pools. His favorite color is “Blue, but like the sky”. He is doing well in school and his favorites are math, science, and social studies.

Jahad might want to grow up to be a police officer or fire fighter “so I can rescue people”. He loves dogs! His favorite breed is Husky. But he loves birds and horses too! Jahad thinks he does extremely well with “helping and sharing. I like to help others.”

Jahad has several siblings and relatives that are very important to him. He is looking for a family that will help him keep those connections.



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***“Biology is the least of what
makes someone a mother.”***

— Oprah Winfrey

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Introducing Jyer'Markis...

Jyer'Markis is a 17-year-old teenager with high hopes for his future. His favorite sport is basketball, and he wants to try out for the basketball team at his school. Jyer'Markis described himself as observant, social, friendly, brave, and resilient. Jyer'Markis communicates effectively and can advocate for himself. He wants to graduate high school and attend college so he can play basketball.



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Jyer'Markis, please email us at
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***"Adopted. Big deal; so
was Superman." – Christ
Crutcher***

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Introducing Laskye & Alaysha...

Alaysha is a 13-year-old introvert that enjoys sports and trying new activities. She loves animals and her favorite is a rabbit.

Laskye is a 16-year-old teenager who enjoys skateboarding and longboarding. She loves all types of art and reading.

The sisters are very attached and want a forever family that can support their differences and encourage them in school.



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& Alaysha, please email us at
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“Adoption was a bumpy ride - very bumpy. But, God, was it worth the fight.” – Mariska Hargitay

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Introducing Leah....

Leah has a bright personality. She enjoys spending time outside, being around animals, and dancing to hip hop music. Her favorite animals are horses and pandas, and she loved growing up around horses and getting to ride them. Leah enjoys being a girly girl and wearing perfume or getting her nails done but is also not afraid to play outside and get some dirt under those nails. Leah has a strong connection with her biological family and needs to be able to maintain those relationships. She would benefit from a family who can support and encourage her in school.



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***"We look at adoption as
a very sacred
exchange. It was not
done lightly on either
side." – Jamie Lee
Curtis***

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Introducing Lloyd, Adrianna, Nivia, & Dream....

Lloyd is the oldest sibling and has black hair, brown eyes, and the sweetest smile. Though Lloyd has been through a lot, he has overcome and persevered. He is helpful, protective, and resourceful, which has aided him well as the care of his siblings have been his top priority since he was 7. Previous caretakers have stated that Lloyd “sets an example for younger children” and that he will help his caregivers “whenever the opportunity arises”. He is described as “kind-hearted”, with a sweet disposition and a great sense of humor. He loves to laugh, but he loves to make others laugh even more. He is extremely easy going, and is generally very cooperative.

Lloyd enjoys playing his Xbox and hanging out with his friends. In his free time, he also enjoys playing on his phone and watching TikToks. He can cook all sorts of yummy foods from hot dogs and sandwiches to macaroni and cheese. He says that one thing he’d really like is to “be a kid”.

Adrianna is a beautiful young girl who has black hair and brown eyes. Adrianna has been through a lot in her life, however it has not hardened her heart. She is described as “sweet, quiet, and loving”. Because she has had to take care of her younger siblings at such a young age, Adrianna is also described as “motherly”; she always makes sure her younger siblings are okay and is oftentimes being there to comfort them and lead them. She is very cooperative, polite, and helpful and she develops bonds easily. It is said that out of all of her siblings, she is the most determined in her schoolwork and that’s she’s highly inquisitive- always wanting to know the “why”.

She enjoys “girly” play, including Barbies, baby dolls, Frozen characters “Elsa” and “Anna”, and nail polish. She also loves to watch YouTube videos, play outside at waterparks, and skate. One thing she learned how to make at an early age is pancakes and she is absolutely incredible at making them.

Nivia is a sweet and sassy girl who has black hair and brown eyes, and according to previous caregivers she has a petite frame. Nivia is described as being “very affectionate”, and while she loves to show off her independence, there are times when she can appreciate “being babied” and allowing others to take care of her. She is extremely self-aware, and can recognize her own behaviors and turn around to learn from and improve them. She has a competitive disposition to her sister, Adrianna, however she loves her and her brothers just the same. She likes to be helpful and take care of her younger brother, Dream, but also loves to play with peers her own age. She can play princess with the girls while also playing outside with the boys- she doesn’t discriminate.

Nivia can be bossy and competitive and wants to be a leader. She enjoys playing with others her age and likes to swim. If snacking is your thing, she’s a girl after your own heart. She has the taste in food with ramen noodles being a favorite. Nivia also enjoys reading picture books.

Dream is a little boy who has black hair and brown eyes. Dream has just recently graduated Pre-School and is now enrolled in Kindergarten, where he is soaking up so much knowledge! Dream is extremely curious and inquisitive. He is a bright child and has a great future ahead of him. He will do anything he can to be known as a “big boy”. He might take a little bit to warm up to others, but as soon as he does he wants to be friends and show affection.

Dream absolutely loves his siblings and enjoys playing with them whenever he can. He can be found following them around and smiling whenever they’re near. He plays well with other children and loves to make friends. He absolutely loves to be outside and ride his bike, be pushed on swings, playing with balls, and jumping high on a trampoline. His favorite toys are Hot Wheels cars and Legos and he loves superhero shows like PJ Masks and Spiderman.



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Introducing Lucio....

Lucio is seventeen years old. He enjoys playing video games and building Legos. Lucio attends school online and is in high school. Lucio would like to be employed at Walmart when he turns eighteen-years-old. Lucio is driven to obtain employment and would like to manage his own money. Lucio requires a family who is hands on and where he is the only child. Lucio is looking for a forever family with those who will support him.

“...He is our son. He was meant to be ours...he was meant to be matched with us. So, it’s perfect. – Connie Chung

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Introducing Lucas....

Lucas is a fun-loving kid. He enjoys watching anime shows such as “Two Piece”, Legos, Roblox, and Minecraft. If he could he would play those all day long! He also likes action figures like the Transformers. Lucas loves animals like cats/dogs and would love a ferret for an emotional support animal one day. He also enjoys reading! Lucas has expressed interest in things like working in the car shop and doing boxing in the future! He likes to try new things! Lucas would love to find his forever family to share his hobbies and interests with.



**If you would like more information on Lucas,
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***“Mom said that what
really cinched the deal
was my smile. Once she
saw that, she didn’t want
to look at any other
babies.” – Greg
Louganis***

The Heart Gallery Big Bend is a group of volunteers dedicated to promoting adoption and bringing attention to children like Lucas who are available and still waiting for their forever family.



Introducing Luke...

Luke is a handsome teen with brown hair and big brown eyes. He is tall and has a beautiful smile. He possesses a warm disposition and a big heart! Luke loves playing outdoors, building, and being creative. Luke also enjoys watching television, playing computer games, listening to music, swimming, skating, fishing, riding his bicycle, going to the movies, and going to the beach. Luke is a very creative child and enjoys creating with his own hands and imagination. Luke's favorite subject in school is art class. Luke needs a family that will be there for him forever that will love him and provide security.



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***"My adoption was treated
as a celebration."
— Michael Reagan***

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Introducing Marquaris....

Marquaris enjoys video games such as Roblox and race car video games. His favorite color is red. His favorite animals are cats. Marquaris plays flag football and is currently in a league. He also enjoys riding his bike. Marquaris would do well in a home is the only child due to his needs. The child needs a home that is willing to work with him on his educational success and behavioral needs.



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Marquaris, please email us at
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***"What makes you a
man is not the ability to
make a child, it's the
courage to raise one." —
Barack Obama***

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Introducing Pacarri ...

Pacarri is a 15-year-old transgender female who loves fashion, beauty, and entrepreneurship. Pacarri is an only child and looking to be adopted by a family who will support and respect her identity. Pacarri is in the 10th grade and wants to enroll in cosmetology school post high school. Pacarri is very humorous, enjoys music, and talking to friends. Pacarri can adapt to change and make new memories by doing anything fun.



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— Michael Reagan***

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Introducing Sara....

“My name is Sara, I’m 17 years old. My hobbies are Graphic design through Adobe Illustrator, I sew occasionally and at school I’m learning to code. I’m a very tech savvy person, and I play the occasional video game through my personal Nintendo Switch or my laptop. I’m looking for a family in Tallahassee because my two younger sisters have been adopted by a family there and I want to be in close proximity to them. My ideal family environment is a very chill and comforting household, I love cats especially the fluffy ones and dog wise I only really do golden retrievers. I tend to keep to myself at times but, once I’m around people I like I tend to talk to a lot. I’ve been trying to dress more lady-like lately so half of my wardrobe is dresses, but I still like being comfy. I may be turning 18 in August 2023, but I still want to have a chance to be adopted before that happens.”



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– Michael Reagan***

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Introducing Sarah....

Sarah is a very smart and cheerful young lady with dirty blonde hair and gray blue eyes. Sarah likes listening to music, watching movies, and going for walks. She aspires to travel around the world and wants to be her best self. She enjoys being busy and active and considers herself to be funny and outgoing. Sarah does well in school and possesses a lot of potential. She makes above average grades and is involved in extracurricular activities, including cheerleading and FBLA. She has indicated that upon graduation from high school she would like to pursue a career in social work helping young ladies like herself. When thinking about her forever family, she would like them to be "active," "loving," and "loyal."



If you would like more information on Sarah, please email us at heartgallerybigbend@gmail.com and/or call Florida's Adoption Information Center at 1-800-96-ADOPT



"If the standard route for creating a family had worked for me, I wouldn't have met this child. I needed to know her. I needed to be her mother. She is, in every way, my daughter." – Nia Vardalos

The Heart Gallery Big Bend is a group of volunteers dedicated to promoting adoption and bringing attention to children like Sarah who are available and still waiting for their forever family.

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Introducing Serenity....

“My name is Serenity. I’m almost 17. I like writing, calligraphy, origami, and playing the piano. I’m a twin and my sister are already living with another family. I also have a bunch of other siblings that I like to stay in touch with (that aren’t up for adoption). I would like to explore new hobbies and interests. Being outdoors brings me fresh life and I would love to do hiking and other outdoor activities with my new family, like swimming and roller blading. I am a survivor, and I am conquering my traumas. I maintain A/B average in school, and I am in advanced classes. The future is so exciting, and I have big dreams and goals that I plan to achieve.”

“I have a lot of respect for my birth mother. I know she must have had a lot of love for me to want to give what she felt was a better chance.” – Faith Hill



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Introducing Serita...

Serita is an extraordinary young lady with a large need and desire to be loved unconditionally. She enjoys spending all her time outside, getting hugs, or sitting on laps. Serita has a big heart and a loving attitude. She loves to eat and has a big appetite for chicken nuggets. Serita's caregiver reports that even though she is non-verbal, she is typically easy to get along with and care for. She enjoys meeting new people and exploring new things. Serita needs a family who will lovingly commit themselves on a long-term basis to her care and continuation of her growth and development.



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"Little souls find their way to you, whether they're from your womb or someone else's." — Sheryl Crow

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Introducing Ta’Nayjah...

Hi! My name is Ta’Nayjah and I go by Nay. I am in high school and enjoy being around my friends. I am active in ROTC and am on the dance team. I like to work out, listen to music, and travel. I have goals of graduating high school and going to college. I am motivated to be the best I can be. I hope to be on the track team for my high school this year. I am looking for a forever family who is interested in traveling, spending time with me, and allowing me opportunities to better myself. It is important to me that I am able to maintain family relationships and peer relationships I have formed so far. I am quiet at first, but once I feel comfortable, I enjoy talking and getting to know others.



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Ta’Nayjah, please email us at
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as a celebration.”
– Michael Reagan***

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Introducing Tate....

Meet Tate! Tate is a funny, sensitive, and inquisitive 16-year-old young man. In his free time, Tate enjoys playing basketball, making music, and drawing. Tate has quite the creative ear and eye! When he's not drawing, you can find him playing either the drums, guitar, or piano. Tate also loves to sing, which he is very good at! Tate aspires to one day become a music artist or to be on Broadway. Tate is hopeful that he will soon be adopted into a home with loving and supportive parents. Tate would do best in a trauma-informed home where he is able to receive a lot of individualized attention.

***"They [my adopted children are] as much my blood as I am theirs."
— Brad Pitt***

The Heart Gallery Big Bend is a group of volunteers dedicated to promoting adoption and bringing attention to children like Tate who are available and still waiting for their forever family.

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Introducing Valley....

Meet Valley! She's a kind and caring teen whose looking for a family to love her and accept her as she is. Her favorite colors are red and black. She loves to read; she especially loves the Harry Potter series and anything to do with vampires. If you let her, she'd eat chicken nuggets, french fries and ice cream every day, but she's been adventurous and has been trying lots of new foods, and even liking them! She's loves dogs, especially big dogs but has come to love cats, too. She enjoys outdoor activities but needs someone to help her get motivated to get out there. She loves playing on her Switch, specifically Minecraft. She is working hard at school, where she has been getting herself caught up to the appropriate grade, she especially loves history and science. Attending college is part of her future plans, wanting to be a marine biologist and/or archeologist. Valley is a goofy kid who loves telling "dad jokes". The ideal family for Valley would be a family experienced in raising teenagers and is trauma informed. Valley needs a stable, loving, and attentive family that gives her a sense of comfort but that is firm when need be. Valley would like to maintain contact with those who are important to her.

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"Biology is the least of what makes someone a mother." — Oprah Winfrey

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Introducing Zion....

Zion enjoys one on one attention and would do well in a family that has the extra time to spend with him. He likes playing outside and drawing. Zion's favorite food is McDonalds, and his favorite color is blue. He is interested in music. He would like a family that plays instruments, but he is not necessarily interested in learning to play one himself. When asked what the one thing is, he would like potential adoptive families to know about him he said, "I'm funny!" He enjoys Jazz, Rock and Hip-Hop music and loves all kinds of sports. Zion identifies as Christian but does not want to attend church or participate in church activities. He is looking for a family with a lot of energy that he can do lots of outdoor activities with such as sports, swimming, and other outdoor events. He also really enjoys video games and would like a family that could enjoy that activity with him as well. He is looking for a family where he can be the only child. He has a half sibling that is being adopted separately. It is important to Zion to have a family that will help him keep in touch with his brother through phone calls, video calls, and face to face visits.



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Louganis***

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*Adoption - because family isn't made
from blood, it's made from love." –
Unknown*

*"Adoption is not the call to have the perfect, rosy family. It is the call to give love,
mercy, and patience." – Unknown*



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