



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **WellStar Family Visitation Center, a Program of The Children's Haven, Receives *grant funding from Cobb EMC Community Foundation***

**CANTON, Ga.** – The WellStar Family Visitation Center, a program of The Children's Haven, received a \$3,600 grant from the Cobb EMC Community Foundation in February.

"We are so honored to receive this funding from the Cobb EMC Community Foundation. This support makes it possible for families separated by foster care to have safe, supportive, supervised visitation in a home-like setting at The Children's Haven. The need for our program is growing and Cobb EMC Community Foundation is helping us to meet this need," said Executive Director Marcie Smith.

The WellStar Family Visitation Center provided 1,246 family visits in 2020. The program provides family visitation, parent coaching and life skills assistance using evidence-based curriculum. During their visits, parents are encouraged to play, cook, read and enjoy the playground with their children. Each visit is supervised and documented per court orders. Before the center existed, visits took place at fast food restaurants or government buildings in the county. The program was nationally recognized by the Supervised Visitation Network as the 2020 Provider of the Year for the country. The award recognized the programs growth, innovation, family services, staff leadership and commitment to excellence in standards of care.

The mission of the Cobb EMC Community Foundation is to carefully assess the financial requests of charitable organizations, and to apply their collective wisdom to the allocation of available funds for the broadest benefit of the community and the members they serve. Funds for the foundation come from generous Cobb EMC members who opt to round their bills up each month through Operation Round Up. The funds have been used to support local nonprofits with outreach programs that benefit members within Cobb EMC's five county service area. To date, the foundation has given away \$6,144,784 in grant funding.

#### **About The Children's Haven**

The Children's Haven supports children in Cherokee County who are impacted by abuse and neglect to ensure they all have the opportunity to thrive in a safe and permanent family. The organization offers three main programs to help the county's foster children and their families – Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Cherokee County, WellStar Family Visitation Center and Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Cherokee. The Children's Haven empowers volunteers to serve the county's foster children and their families with the goal of strengthening the individuals and ultimately the community where they live. For more information about The Children's Haven, visit [CherokeeChildrensHaven.org](http://CherokeeChildrensHaven.org) or call 770-345-3274.

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