

Bloomfield

A home was established in the early 1920's by the Diocese of Virginia and located in the Hills outside of Charlottesville with the Deaconess' of Virginia called to staff the facility. The mission was to care for children with tuberculosis whose parents could not afford its treatment. When tuberculosis was eradicated the Deaconess' changed their mission to care for children with polio whose families were unable to care for them.

In 1960 friends of the Diocese financed to move the Home to an estate in Ivy, VA. called Bloomfield. It was now a home for Children with physical disabilities that could not be cared for by their parents. At the age of 18 the State required them to go to a nursing home.

In 1995 it was decided that Bloomfield would be helpful to more young people if we sold the property and gave grants to Children and Young adults up to 30 years of age. The sale of the Property was invested in The Trustees of The Funds and the interest earned each year goes to Grants for Young people in need all over the State. The Board is able to buy equipment requested from families in all three Dioceses in the amount of \$100,000 in items each year. More donations would increase that amount.

Bloomfield may be the only organization that answers wishes from children and young adults with severe physical needs that want a custom bike fitted for them that can run over \$5000 as well as other equipment that is needed to enjoy some pleasure time. It may be the only social contact they have with their peers.

Bloomfield has no paid employees and operates only with volunteers. The Board consists of members from all three Dioceses as it did in the beginning. Picture of the Deaconess' if requested is available.

Courtney Goddin Kohler, President