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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Ribbon Cutting and Homecoming for Foster Teens Displaced by Fire**

*Boys & Girls Haven to host media event and ribbon cutting ceremony as young people prepare to move back into apartment building reconstructed after fire.*

**Louisville, KY** – After an accidental kitchen fire in November destroyed all the apartment units in the Boys & Girls Haven Pre-Independent Living (Pre-IL) program, the 501(c)3 nonprofit agency is prepared to celebrate the reopening of the building with a private ribbon cutting ceremony and tour on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 AM. Media is welcome beginning at 9:30 AM for interviews and photography/videography.

According to Boys & Girls Haven CEO, Read Harris, insurance and donations from individuals, civic groups, and businesses covered a significant portion of the initial construction costs. Says Harris, “We look forward to bringing this tragedy full circle as we celebrate the compassionate heart of our community and welcome our young people back home.”

The Boys & Girls Haven Pre-IL program is one of the few transitional, supportive living programs for both boys and girls in foster care in the state of Kentucky. The program offers fully staffed and supervised dorm-style living to provide young adults, aged 18-21, with the independence, accountability, and support needed to successfully transition from foster care to adulthood.

Individuals wishing to contribute directly to the program are encouraged to purchase apartment items from the agency’s Amazon Wish List (<http://a.co/f7oszr8>). These items are stored for future use as new young people enter the program.

Cash donations are also welcome to further offset the cost of the move and to support all of the programs at Boys & Girls Haven. To donate online, visit [www.boysandgirlshaven.org](http://www.boysandgirlshaven.org).

*Boys & Girls Haven is a full-service foster care agency located in Louisville, Kentucky. Since 1950, the 501(c)3 nonprofit has transformed the lives of thousands of abandoned, abused and neglected children by providing stability, education, and life skills that will lead to success in adulthood. We employ a multifaceted, therapeutic approach including residential and in-home foster care, transitional living programs, career and life skills training, preventative community-based counseling services, and a variety of other programs and services.*

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