**HISTORY**

Bloom (formerly Fayette Youth Protection Homes, Inc.) was founded in 1986 by Fayette County resident, Jim Friday.

In 1989, the organization’s first group home, The Jim Friday Home, opened its doors. The organization’s group homes stayed in operation for 27 years.

In 2008, Bloom expanded its programming to include a free clothing resource center called The Bloom Closet. The Bloom Closet is open to any foster child in the state of Georgia.

In 2009, Bloom created the Bloom Foster Parent Program to recruit, train, and oversee foster families.

In 2015, Bloom became licensed to begin caring for medically fragile or therapeutic foster children and pregnant (or parenting) teen girls.

In 2016, The Bloom Closet provided clothing and necessities for 2,000 foster children from 60 Georgia counties.

In 2016, Bloom’s Foster Parenting program trained 40 foster families and provided homes for more than 70 abused and neglected children.

In 2017, Bloom launched a new program, called “Bloom University,” which trains and equips foster families to care for traumatized children.

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**MISSION**

Bloom provides safe shelter and physical, educational and emotional support to children who have been victims of abuse, neglect or other tragic circumstances, in order to strengthen them for the next phase of life.

**PROGRAMS**

**Bloom Foster Care Program**

Bloom’s foster care program selects, trains, and oversees private foster families to care for children in their homes. The children are from all socioeconomic, racial & religious backgrounds, ages birth through age 17.

**The Bloom Closet**

At The Bloom Closet, foster children receive clothing, toys, and other supplies at no cost. In 2017, Bloom provided items to more than 3,000 foster children from 90 Georgia counties and gave away more than $600,000 worth of clothing and supplies.

**Bloom University**

This year, Bloom launched a new program, called “Bloom University,” which trains and equips foster families to care for traumatized children.