So much is happening at Clement Arts and in our local churches who continue to amaze me in the creative ways they are impacting the foster care crisis locally and providing forever homes for children here and around the world.

The first half of 2023 we've experienced the beauty of Ballet Magnificat! We've worshipped along with Sarah Kroger. We've made art and bought art and used art to be a voice for the voiceless.

Hundreds of volunteers have provided meals, cut grass, raised money, prayed, and supported families as they brought children into their homes whether temporarily or forever.

So much has happened, yet there is so much more that will happen this year! We are launching two new projects in the community that will allow for the Church to have major impact in keeping children from ever going into foster care and will help families reunite after children have been placed in foster care.

This is the right step in ending the foster care crisis in our community. To God be the glory!

In Christ,
Carmen Overton,
Executive Director

Message From Our Executive Director

Making a difference in the lives of adoptive and foster families through gospel-centered support & creative experiences

//CLEMENT ARTS
MID-YEAR REPORT 2023
Church Engagement

At the end of the first quarter, Clement Care has 27 churches actively engaging in Family Advocacy Ministry to make a difference in the lives of adoptive and foster families and birth families at risk.

01. **Prevention**

36 children and their birth families benefitted from a Primary Care Community to prevent children from entering foster care.

02. **Intervention**

25 foster families received support from a care community to help them foster longer and stronger. Churches set up freezer meal ministries & hosted a Parent’s Day Out event to provide additional support.

03. **Connection**

8 children who have been adopted & their families received support from a church. $4,000 was given by Clement Arts to support a local adoption along with additional fundraising support.
Fine Arts Classes

Approximately 200 students attended spring classes in dance, music, art, and martial arts. We celebrated our first students graduating from white belt to yellow belt in martial arts and our first dancers moving to pointe shoes in ballet. It was an exciting spring in our studio!

01. Quality Instruction
35 classes by highly talented instructors were offered in classical ballet, toddler music, textile arts, pottery, and painting...and new this spring...Martial Arts!

02. Gospel-Centered
In every class, students are not only learning a craft or skill, they are hearing that God loves them, Jesus sacrificed for them, and their life has purpose. They leave every class knowing that because God made them, they can bring value and add beauty to the world.

03. Mission-Focused
Proceeds from tuition every semester support vulnerable children both locally and around the world. This spring’s classes helped support a local family’s adoption of their son from Taiwan.
Strategic Growth

Clement Arts is in the first year of a new strategic plan. The focus for this year is to increase the number of church partners through awareness, engagement, and recruitment activities.

Highlight 1  CarePortal launches on August 1st!

- CarePortal is a care-sharing platform that connects families with needs with trained volunteers to meet those needs...in real time! Think Uber, but for meeting needs. So far, eight local churches have committed to have responder teams.

Highlight 2  New FAM activities to keep families together!

- In the first half of 2023, local churches have worked together to launch an ongoing parenting class that meets court requirements for parents working to reunify with their children after a time in foster care. Churches are doing countless other activities to feed, clothe, and provide for vulnerable children.

Highlight 3  Studio Remodel for Fall Semester!

- After another semester of record class enrollment, the time has come to upgrade the Clement Arts studio to accommodate more students and create a safe and welcoming environment for all. The new studio includes fresh paint, new flooring, and additional classrooms.

Clement Arts will continue multiplying leaders within churches to identify and activate their creative giftings to care for vulnerable children and families. We will create avenues that make it easy to be involved and erase the excuse of busyness. Using artistic expression, we will be the voice and the storytellers of the vulnerable in a compelling way so that apathy dissipates. We will engage people and churches in a collaborative manner and towards a shared goal of establishing a safe and loving home for every child. We will do all of these things by bringing people together from a cross-section of the community, by offering our creative talents as ministry tools, and by pointing to Jesus who rescued us and made us sons and daughters.
Ways You Can Help

Clement Arts exists due to the many individuals and churches who give or their time and resources to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and families. Here are three ways you can help:

- **Pray** – Every month we pray over a topic related to child wellbeing. You can find our prayer prompts on social media, in our newsletter, or in our printed prayer guide (reach out and we will gladly send you a copy).

- **Advocate** – Join or start a Family Advocacy Ministry at your church to support adoptive and foster families or birth families in crisis. Email Christal@clement-arts.org to get started.

- **Give** – Become a monthly donor or donate online at clement-arts.org or by mail to Clement Arts | P.O. Box 1142 | Fortson, GA 31808

YOU are making a difference in the lives of children and families!

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