

**2013 – 2014**

## **Another Year of Transition at Elon Homes and Schools for Children, Inc.**

We have completed another year of transition at Elon Homes and Schools for Children, Inc. When one ponders the history of our organization, and like organizations, one is struck by the periods of transition. Some periods are decades in length of time (the Orphanage Years) and others are measured in years of time (residential treatment, residential care, levels of foster care, differing grades added to the schools, and community based services, etc.).

This past year has been marked by the transitional activities for our upcoming co-location on the campus of Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte. From one conversation in 2012 has sprung committees, planning, construction, new relationships, deepening ties into the community, and dream upon dream. June 2014 marks the end of the second full year of discussion between JCSU and EHSC! This move has taken much planning, time and prayer before it has come to pass.

In April 2014 our first physical move was made onto the beautiful JCSU campus. Foster care, Institutional Advancement, and EHSC Administration are now located at JCSU. Mecklenburg DSS offices are co-located there in our building. In the fall our Kennedy Charter Public School will also be located at JCSU.

This transition is leading us to incredible opportunities to better serve children and families, to expand capacity, to offer a better work place to our staff, and to provide for a balanced budget going forward.

In Deuteronomy 7:22 it is written:

*“The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little; you will not be able to put an end to them quickly, for the wild beasts would grow too numerous for you.”* **New American Standard Bible (NASB)**

This text speaks of the transition for Israel in returning to their land. Two things of note:

1. God is the leader. God is lovingly leading the people home. This is not a human led transition.
2. “Little by little” lest there be danger. God, even God, goes at a careful pace.

In our transition, we need to take this same spiritual position of trust. For EHSC to transition to JCSU, we remember and celebrate---

**GOD IS LEADING US, AND WE MOVE FORWARD LITTLE BY LITTLE, TO THE PROMISED LAND!**

We thank you for your faithful investment in this transition and into the upcoming season of child care and education for EHSC at JCSU.

Blessings,

Frederick G. Grosse, President