

January 2020

# Red Bird Bulletin



## Hope Is Calling Us

*An urgent request for today*

Ten years ago the school at Red Bird was closed because of the lack of funding. An SOS went out to alumni, friends and supporters of the school asking for help. Many rallied to help this small school that depends on donations. There was a recognition of the importance of Red Bird to generations whose lives were changed by this institution. They rallied to reopen the school in the fall of that same year. The way was led by a former alum and principal (1975-1988), O. Taylor Collins. From 2010 to 2015 he worked diligently to set a course for the institution and dreamt of an endowment that would ensure that the school would never again face closure because of financial reasons. He passed away on January, 28th of 2015 without being able to witness financial security for Red Bird School. As we approach the fifth anniversary of his death, he continues to be missed, but his vision lives on.

**We are at a critical juncture and are issuing a plea** for your immediate support. For nearly 100 years, our school at Red Bird Mission has remained the one constant institution in this very isolated area of the southeast Kentucky mountains. It was established to serve those in need, and has partnered with the community to provide education and health care in order to minimize the devastating effects of deep and persistent poverty. The school and mission have grown to meet the challenges faced by each generation.

**A focus on workforce development** has led to the forthcoming addition of vocational and technical training for our students and those living in and around the Red Bird area. By combining our exemplary academics along with vocational training, we renew the founding concepts of Red Bird Settlement

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**This is the genuine pathway to a promising future for our region and fulfills the Red Bird Vision of “building healthy, sustainable communities within the mountains of southeastern Kentucky”.**



## Create Hope

*Give today*

**Please make a gift today to create persistent hope through Red Bird School.**

- Give [online through our secure payment link](#)
- Call us toll free – 888-726-3459 – to give.
- Mail a check to Red Bird Mission, Inc. marked “School” to:

70 Queendale Ctr  
Beverly, KY 40913

**Other ways you can partner with us to create hope:**

**Volunteer** – [Click here](#) for more info.

**Give items needed** every day – See [Amazon Smile Charity List](#) for ideas

**THANK YOU! CREATE HOPE!**

# Hope Is Calling Us

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School - prepare students to further their education and provide for themselves and their families. This is the genuine pathway to a promising future for our region and fulfills the Red Bird Vision of **“building healthy, sustainable communities within the mountains of southeastern Kentucky”**. This is not a band aid, but a sustainable permanent solution. We have readied the necessary infrastructure for the educational needs of today. **But, in order to be successful, Red Bird School needs the financial support of our alumni and friends to support us through the initial start-up years.**

Non-profit organizations are struggling and our school is no exception. There has been a decline in donations. Many rallied to help us with financial support in 2010 to prevent the permanent closure of our school, but much of that support has waned recently. **We urgently need your help now.** We must seize the opportunity for Red Bird School to take the lead in preparing the work force that responds to the economic needs in our region, across Kentucky, and our nation.

We cannot be successful without your help. **We need your support for our school today** and in the months ahead. We ask you to partner with us in developing this innovative model to transform rural communities. Your help will bring a real change by offering a concrete solution to the years of persistent poverty in this uniquely remote area of our counties. We extend sincere gratitude for your service to the people of the Red Bird valley.

