Aside from four years at the University of Richmond where he played baseball, the greater Fort Worth area has been home to Austin Reilly his entire life. It's not surprising that he returned to Texas after college. One of five boys, Austin grew up in a two-parent household with a father that was — and still is — very present in his life.

Yet an awareness that his experience wasn't the norm for others is one of the reasons why Austin is compelled to support the mission of Lena Pope. "When children grow up in stressful environments, caused by any number or combination of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), they tend to be at a much higher risk of developing emotional and behavioral problems," he said.

"Access to necessary family resources, such as affordable education-based childcare solutions, seems to be one of the biggest challenges this population faces."

These are issues Austin would like to see addressed in the community. That's why Austin found it easy to say "yes" when he was asked to serve on the board 10 years ago.

What would Austin like to see for youth in Fort Worth? "That each child has an opportunity to experience the joy of being a child," he said. "We need to do everything we can to impact their lives in a positive way so they can grow up to be productive members of our society and willing to do the same for the children behind them."

Austin is married to his high school sweetheart, Christine. They have two children, with a third on the way.
Search Underway for Next Leader

Following the departure of Dr. Todd Landry as CEO last spring, Lena Pope’s longest-tenured employee, Chief Operating Officer Shnease Webb, has expertly served as the interim chief executive officer while the board of directors conducts a comprehensive search for a new CEO.

The board has convened a committee to manage the search for a leader who will make an even greater impact on childhood well-being in Tarrant County. To help with this task, the search committee selected Morris & Berger, an executive recruitment firm specializing in service to nonprofits, to lead the search efforts. Recruitment has focused on the development of a strong, highly qualified and diverse candidate pool. Dozens of candidates have expressed interest in becoming a candidate for the position.

"As we search for Lena Pope’s next CEO, the needs and well-being of the children and families we serve is at the forefront of our minds," said Lena Pope Board Member and Search Committee Chair Jim Estill.

During his tenure, Dr. Landry oversaw the growth of Lena Pope’s prevention and early intervention programs to improve child well-being in greater Tarrant County. He successfully expanded Chapel Hill Academy charter school, and oversaw Lena Pope’s entrance into early childhood education. Under his leadership, Lena Pope expanded access to local high-quality early childhood education with the opening of two Early Learning Centers, and he was instrumental in fostering system-wide improvements for mental health delivery.

Landry stepped down after 10 years of service to become director of the Office of Child and Family Services for the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

It’s a privilege to serve as interim CEO for Lena Pope and lead our dedicated team of child advocates and professionals during this transition. We appreciate the board’s diligence and earnest efforts to find the right person to drive our continued progress in improving the well-being of children in Tarrant County.

Shnease Webb, Interim Chief Executive Officer
There’s more than one way to give….
Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Contributions

Made permanent in 2016 by Congress, this charitable contribution provision is limited to taxpayers age 70.5 and older. You can directly transfer up to $100,000 a year from your IRA to Lena Pope. So if you are 70.5 or older and make an IRA transfer to Lena Pope, you won’t get a charitable deduction, but instead — and even better — you will not have to pay taxes on the distribution. As an additional bonus, the transfer also counts toward your annual required minimum distribution. Donations from an SEP or a SIMPLE IRA are not eligible.

What is a qualified charitable distribution?
Generally, a qualified charitable distribution is an otherwise taxable distribution from an IRA (other than an ongoing SEP or SIMPLE IRA) owned by an individual who is age 70.5 or over that is paid directly from the IRA to a qualified charity.

Can a qualified charitable distribution satisfy my required minimum distribution from an IRA?
Yes, your qualified charitable distributions can satisfy all or part of the amount of your required minimum distribution from your IRA. For example, if your 2018 required minimum distribution was $10,000, and you made a $5,000 qualified charitable distribution for 2018, you would have had to withdraw another $5,000 to satisfy your 2018 required minimum distribution.

How are qualified charitable distributions reported on Form 1099-R?
Charitable distributions are reported on Form 1099-R for the calendar year the distribution is made.

How do I report a qualified charitable distribution on my income tax return?
To report a qualified charitable distribution on your Form 1040 tax return, you generally report the full amount of the charitable distribution on the line for IRA distributions. On the line for the taxable amount, enter zero if the full amount was a qualified charitable distribution. Enter "QCD" next to this line. See the Form 1040 instructions for additional information.

The preceding is not tax, legal or financial advice. We encourage all of our Lena Pope investors to learn more about these creative giving options by contacting their financial and tax advisors. To discuss specific needs or to explore these or other giving opportunities with Lena Pope, please contact your Lena Pope donor relations team!
Lena Pope believes that children are an asset, with unlimited potential deserving of investment. Our eight decades of experience in child and family services inform our current efforts to improve child well-being in Tarrant County. Our evidence-based, research-tested programs focus on prevention and early intervention services that support child development and improve the behavioral and mental health of the children and families we serve.

**YOUR INVESTMENTS MATTER!**


### MENTAL HEALTH
- Increase in childhood & family resiliency
- Counseling/therapy

### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- Decrease in problematic behaviors
  - Juvenile justice alternative education
  - Juvenile crime diversion
  - Problematic sexual behaviors
  - Substance use treatment & services
  - Functional family therapy

### EDUCATION
- Improvement in school readiness & success
  - Early childhood education
  - Primary education

### GENERATING A LIFETIME OF SUCCESSFUL RETURNS
Philanthropists Walter Reynolds and Donald Reynolds Share Insights on Impactful Giving

The Reynolds Family consolidated their personal and corporate giving in 2015 with the formation of the R4 Foundation. The R4 Foundation invests locally within four charitable pillars: Education, Community, Wellness and Arts.

Last spring, brothers Walt and Donald Reynolds shared with Lena Pope supporters some of their journey in both formal and informal philanthropy including early influences, challenges and lessons learned along the way.

Walt and Donald shared that their parents modeled "behaviors of giving," from supporting all of the kids’ schools and activities, to opening their dinner table and home to friends in need. The Reynolds have continued in that tradition by making their giving a family affair. Donald and wife Fantasy, as well as Walt and wife Claire, are all very involved in the decision-making and the
organizations/cause they support. And the couples have recently begun involving their children. Once a year, all the children are invited to attend one of the foundations’ quarterly grant meetings to observe and learn about the philanthropic process.

One might anticipate that the creation of the formal foundation could create distance between the Reynolds and the organizations they support. But Walt shared that has not been the case. The family feels more connected than ever to their giving and the organizations they support.

The Reynolds develop relationships with their grantees in an effort to increase their own knowledge of the issues they support, and partner with the organizations addressing them.

The R4 Foundation really gave them a process for evaluating the impact of their giving in a new way and the Reynolds feel like it has allowed them to become more intentional and strategic in their philanthropic investments.
Elaine and Larry Klos

Helping adults is important, but if you truly want to make a difference for the next generation you have to focus on the children." — Larry Klos

Through their board service, volunteer roles and philanthropic investments, Elaine and Larry Klos have helped to tackle some of the most challenging issues facing our community for decades. Elaine recalls her first experience as a donor at the young age of 8. She made tissue-paper flowers and sold them for a penny each at the trolley stop near her home in Philadelphia. When she had sold $10 worth, she sent the money to the local children’s hospital.

Workplace giving, volunteerism and advocacy have been staples of the Klos’ contributions. Their work at both the city and state levels has helped change laws and policies, ultimately propelling greater change for some of our community’s most vulnerable residents. The couple even utilize their talents in woodworking to produce beautiful furniture pieces that they donate to organizations for use in fundraising auctions.

Larry and Elaine currently focus their philanthropic investments on children, giving to about 25 mostly local organizations annually. They believe most of the community’s greatest challenges require multiple partners and agencies to tackle. The couple has purposely chosen to give more now instead of in their estate, so that they can see the changes that result from their philanthropic contributions.

“You have to give what you can,” Elaine said. “Certainly, the money is important, but the heart is as important. The giving of yourself is such a big part of philanthropy.”

The Klos’ fusion of financial investment, volunteerism and advocacy has resulted in philanthropy that propels communities and causes forward. Lena Pope is grateful for their many years of support and advocacy.
Making the Most Impact

Investing in children today leads to a lifetime of successful returns.

And did you know two types of giving have a particularly meaningful impact on local child well-being?

Champions of children who make monthly contributions to Lena Pope create the reliable resources that ensure all children have access to high-quality educational experiences, valuable mental health support services and critical behavior interventions. Those who go the extra mile to give $1,000 or more in annual operating support amplify that impact.

$500 a month will provide an early intervention for families experiencing problematic sexual behavior with their teen or preteen.

$250 a month provides intensive counseling and therapeutic services to families experiencing significant challenges.

$100 a month will provide a teenager with a behavioral intervention that deters criminal behavior, improves decision-making and offers a second opportunity at success.

$50 a month provides abused and neglected children counseling and behavioral interventions that create lifelong coping skills and build resiliency.

LENA POPE EXTENDS A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2019 IMPACT INVESTORS.

Anonymous
Paul Ballard
Susanna Bartolomei
Mercedes Bass
Tim Bass
Allyson Best
Fran Bolen
Crystal and Tracy Bolt
Robert Bond
Madelon Bradshaw
Anita and Kevin Buehler
Susan and Stephen Butt
Sandra and Cork Bye
Joyce and Robert Capper
Nancy and Tim Carter
Katie and Jason Ciccarino
Scott Clark
Kay and Ron Clinkscale
Vicki and John Cockerham
Kathryn and Don Cosby
Bo Cung
Gwen Darby
Leslie Darby
Kim and Glenn Darden
Sherry and Mark Denton
Kristen and Jonathan Deweese
Sharon and Jim Estill
Terri and John Fant
Sharon and Dan Feehan
Jane and Robert Ferguson
Harriett and Robert Finley
Sally and Chris Gavras
Lynda Gearheart
Kristin and Stewart Henderson
Christina and Mark Johnson
John Karl
Callie Keyser
Julie and Scott Kleberg
Elaine and Larry Klos
Kari and Todd Landry
Erma Lee
Marty Leonard
Pepper and Scotty MacLean
Robert McKenzie-Smith
Ellen Messman
Debra and Clark Million
Allison and Terry Montesi
Bettye and Wade Nowlin
Marjorie Odell
Susie and Ray Petta
Julie and Steve Piggott
Jessie and Matt Rainwater
Patti and David Rapisand
Gail Rawl
Jane Rector
Elaine and Randy Sabre
Betty Sanders
Amanda and Corey Scott
Laura Sonefeld
Marilyn and Jay Taylor
Paula and Marce Ward
Susy Weaver
Sonya and John Wierzowiecki

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If an error has occurred, please accept our sincerest apologies and let us know of our mistake by contacting us at development@lenapope.org or 817-255-2646.

To become an impact investor with Lena Pope, please contact a donor relations team member at 817-255-2646 or development@lenapope.org.
I

IMPROVE

Second opportunity

for success

Rethinking Recidivism: Should Juvenile First Offenders Be Given a Second Chance?

From birth, children face challenges that can negatively impact their well-being. Whether those trials are experienced during the terrible two’s or the teenage years, one factor remains the same: the more risks a child encounters, the greater their likelihood of experiencing negative outcomes. As risk factors compound, so do the consequences.

And during adolescence – the period of developmental transition between childhood and adulthood – the stakes get even higher. Risk factors can impact both physical and mental well-being at any age. Yet there is also evidence that with effective intervention – increased protective factors to offset risk factors – early delinquency does not have to guarantee a life sentence of criminal activity.

Dissecting Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency is the act of breaking a state or federal law by committing a crime while under the age of 18.

What leads children to engage in delinquent behavior? Researchers have concluded that there is no single path to delinquency. Rather, a number of conditions and variables are associated with an increased chance that youth will offend. And there’s a multiplicative effect when several factors are present. The risk factors for juvenile crime include individual, social and community factors.

Several studies have linked prenatal and perinatal complications with later criminal behavior. Children with low academic performance and low commitment to school during the elementary and middle school grades also face higher risk. Family characteristics such as poor parenting skills, family size, home discord, child maltreatment, antisocial parents and divorce are also known to play a role in development of juvenile delinquency.

Several studies have found a consistent relationship between involvement in a delinquent peer group and a child’s likelihood of committing offenses as youth. School policies concerning grade retention, suspension and expulsion, which disproportionately affect children of color, have negative consequences for
at-risk youth. Where a child lives also has an impact. Those who live in neighborhoods with high levels of poverty and crime are at increased risk of involvement in serious crimes.

**Seeking Solutions**

When teenagers commit crimes, what should we do? Should they be addressed as children whose offenses are the result of immaturity and circumstances? Or should they be handled as criminals? For a few decades, the mantra of "adult time for adult crime" was adopted. This approach is costly. And evidence suggests it actually increases crime.

More recently, scholars have advocated a different approach. One of the world’s leading experts on adolescence, Laurence Steinberg, Ph.D., contends that juvenile justice should be grounded in the best available psychological science, which shows that adolescence is a distinctive state of cognitive and emotional development.

Under this approach, developmentally based laws and policies make it possible for young people who have committed crimes to grow into responsible adults, rather than career criminals. This model better serves justice, costs less and lightens the burden on the legal and prison systems. It also results in more young lives getting back on track rather than going further off course.

In Tarrant County, this approach has already been put into place with positive results through Lena Pope’s Second Opportunity for Success® (SOS) program. The seven-week skill-building class for youth and parents is designed to improve family connections, increase peer refusal skills, expand critical thinking and decision-making skills, and develop goal-oriented action plans for participating youth. The classes also provide effective parenting strategies and communication skills.

A first-offender program, SOS is designed to help give participants ages 10 to 17 the skills they need to live crime-free lives. After the youth and family have completed all program requirements – and the youth has not reoffended – Lena Pope makes a recommendation to the referring party that the individual be successfully discharged and that their charges be dropped.

The SOS program works. An extensive multiyear outcomes audit of the program was recently conducted. In 2017, Lena Pope partnered with Dr. Aesha John, associate social work professor at Texas Christian University, to conduct a research study funded by the Jerry M. Lewis, M.D. Mental Health Research Foundation. It found that SOS created significant improvements for both youth and parents in the program. Another study found that 90 percent of SOS youth participants have not reoffended within four years of program participation.

SOS helps the greater Fort Worth community meet its goals of reducing violent crime and gang-related activity, decreasing crime in neighborhoods, reducing juvenile crime and preventing youth and family violence. It costs less, too. From 2015 to 2017, participation by 358 youth in the program offered a cost savings to Tarrant County of over $1 million, compared to the cost of one year of supervised probation.

Programs like SOS demonstrate that investments in child well-being today yield significant positive returns tomorrow.

**IMPACT OPPORTUNITY:** Investing $100 a month through Lena Pope provides a teenager with services that deter criminal behavior, improve decision-making and offer a second opportunity at success.
I
IMPROVE

champion
of Child Well-Being

Trey Webster, Family Specialist

There is a saying that "once a Lena Pope kid, always a Lena Pope kid."

Trey Webster is proof that children aren't the only ones with a lifelong connection to the Lena Pope family. Webster has been connected to the Lena Pope mission for almost three decades, beginning as a foster parent along with his wife Yolanda, when Lena Pope still provided that service. The couple fostered more than 100 children over 20 years, adopted a sibling group of four children, and continued providing foster care through another agency after Lena Pope transitioned to different programs.

That early connection with Lena Pope led to 26 years as an employee, and Webster's current position of 15 years as a family specialist with the Second Opportunity for Success® (SOS) program.

What are teens dealing with that lead them to the SOS program?
A lot of what teens are struggling with has to do with peer pressure. They want to fit in and be a part of something. The temptations are readily there, like the availability of drugs and the things that are causing teens to fall back. It seems like there is a "giving up" mentality that is causing teens to throw their hands in the air and say, "It is what it is. It doesn't matter. Everybody else is doing it." And that's not so. Everybody else is NOT doing it. We try to get them to understand that they don't have to follow that path.

What challenges are parents facing?
What they're struggling with is how their teens are getting bad ideas from other teens and are bringing these things home with them. It's a hard world out there. What I tell parents all the time is, "You need to have a strong back." And strength is about bending, but not breaking. You cannot give up.

What do you think the SOS program does?
I believe this program causes teens and parents to PAUSE for a moment. They come in for seven weeks together, and the program allows them to focus on each other and themselves. To interrupt that negative momentum and get them to focus on improving themselves and their relationships, this is vital.

What is your hope for the future of SOS?
My hope is that SOS will be made available in all states, to give youth the opportunity, if they make a mistake, to avoid the system. It can decrease the incarceration rate. I would love to see this program all over the nation. The percentage of success is 90 percent. This program could improve entire communities.

Why do you do this work?
I grew up as independent. I wanted to do my own thing. I didn't want to have to be with everybody else. I thought I would work in an office somewhere, and not have to deal with too many people. How much has changed! As I became more mature, I began to see things differently. "What is my purpose here on earth?" I discovered what my purpose is. And I think being a part of this program is my purpose: to be able to serve, to give people a second chance.

I love to see people "level up". To be able to serve through Lena Pope, it was transformational for me personally. Now, I enjoy seeing people, no matter the background, recover and learn from their mistakes and grow from them. That gives me a sense of joy.
What Success Looks Like

After starting her career as a human resources professional with a healthcare company, Lauren Laugen is enjoying her new role as a stay-at-home mother to her first child, a 2-month-old daughter.

The new mom calls Austin home, but growing up in North Texas is how she became connected to Lena Pope. In 2005, Lauren was a student at Lamar High School when she began coming to terms with having been abused as a child.

“I had been ignoring [the abuse] for most of my life,” Lauren said. “I wasn’t handling it well and felt out of control. I found myself acting out in a number of ways and going against the rules set by my parents.”

Lauren’s dad, Lenn Ortiz, who is now a probation officer with Tarrant County Juvenile Services, began to see a trend of misbehavior that ultimately led to Lauren being caught shoplifting.

“For me, shoplifting and lying to my parents was a way to gain control.”

The incident resulted in a referral by Hurst Police Department to Lena Pope’s Second Opportunity for Success® program.

“I felt very embarrassed, especially because my Dad worked for a program that collaborated with Tarrant County Juvenile Services,” she said. “I felt ashamed that he had to go through the program, too. But I knew I was given an opportunity, and was very thankful that my Dad would help me by attending.”

Lenn also had conflicted feelings about the program.

“During the day, my [professional] role offered parental guidance for children who violated the law,” Lenn said. “I felt like a hypocrite with low parental credibility.”

But Lenn set aside his pride to participate. In doing so, he discovered areas to improve as a parent, such as being more active with his child by spending time together, knowing where she was going and with whom, and taking the time to listen.

“Taking the risk to participate showed where I was deficient as a parent, how I could improve for my daughter, and eventually to articulate these valuable experiences to the parents I contact even today,” he said.

As Lauren attended each of the classes, she became more informed about the reality she faced if she continued down the same path.

“I learned very quickly that I did not want to continue with the choices that I was making and that I wanted to live a better life,” she said.

Shortly after completing the program at Lena Pope, Lauren began attending counseling to help talk through her emotions. It helped her get through the pain that had led to her acting out. One of the commitments Lena Pope made to adolescents who successfully completed the program was particularly motivating to Lauren.

“I was given a wonderful incentive that my books would be paid for if I went to college,” she said. “I wanted to make sure that happened and be a good example for Lena Pope.”

She attended Texas Tech University, earning a management & marketing degree in business with a 3.8 GPA. Now, she hopes others see the value of investing in youth who need a second opportunity, like her.

“This program gives kids another chance,” she said. “I hope they have the courage to make different choices and attend college and work toward a career or whatever dream they may have.”

If Lauren and Lenn could speak to teens and parents who are currently participating in Lena Pope’s diversion program, what would they say? Lauren would tell them that “right now it feels like it’s all about you and what your friends think. But the choices you make fall back on you and you feel those consequences. Lena Pope is a gift. Accept it with open arms.”
## Be a Secret Santa

For many families served by Lena Pope, the holidays can add additional financial stress while they are working to improve their lives. You can help bring them joy and hope by shopping for a child’s holiday wishes. Contact a donor relations team member at development@lenapope.org to get started.

## Organize a holiday drive

If you’d like to increase your impact, gather coworkers, family and friends for a holiday drive to collect basic and personal necessities for families served by Lena Pope. Your contribution of the following recommended items will help ease the everyday financial burdens they face:

- Gift Cards (Increments of $25 are preferred to Walmart, Target or Fast Food Restaurants)
- Toiletry Items (Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap/Body Wash, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, etc.)
- Pantry Items (Peanut Butter, Canned Food items, Dry Pasta, Beans, or Rice, Granola Bars or Cereal)
- Household Items (Clorox Wipes, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent)
- Diapers and Wipes
- Sheets, Blankets, Bath Towels
- Sports Balls, Board Games, Craft and Art Kits, Legos, Play-Doh, Baby Dolls or Stuffed Animals

Please deliver new, unwrapped items to Lena Pope by Dec. 13.

## Your holiday mailing list can make a difference!

Why send holiday cards yourself when we can take care of it for you? Your donation to Lena Pope this season can be made in honor of your friends and family! We will mail a holiday card to everyone on your holiday mailing list indicating that an investment in children has been made with Lena Pope in their honor. It’s a win-win; your loved one will be honored that you helped others in their name and a child served by Lena Pope will be blessed by your generosity. A minimum donation of $10 per name is requested.

## Purchase Poinsettias at Calloway’s Nursery

Add some color to the holidays and do some good by purchasing beautiful poinsettias at Calloway’s Nursery. During the holiday season, Calloway’s Nursery will donate 10 percent of all poinsettia sales to Lena Pope. Preorder these perfect plants for your home or office by November 22.

- Six-inch red poinsettias are $9.99 each
- Purchase 30 or more and receive free red wraps and free delivery
- Purchase 50 or more and receive $50 off your order

To preorder, call or visit your local Calloway’s Nursery. Purchase in stores the first week of November. Find the Calloway’s near you at Calloways.com.

Your Support Makes the Holidays More Meaningful

Would you like to help make the holiday season a little more magical for someone in our community? Lena Pope provides services at rates families can afford – often at low or no cost – which means many of the children and caregivers connected to our programs have few resources for extras during the season of giving. Here are four ways you can join us to make sure they experience some holiday cheer.

**Bonus:** We can even help you check an important to-do off your long holiday list!
Connecting to Lena Pope’s programs and services is getting easier thanks to an online makeover that begins with the launch of two new websites: www.LenaPope.org and www.MartyLeonardChapel.org.

When families face a challenge, crisis or other obstacles, the first place they turn for answers and resources is often online. Previously, all of Lena Pope’s clients were directed to a single digital platform – from families seeking counseling services, to parents in need of educational options, engaged couples in search of a wedding venue and individuals with other needs. A new approach will utilize multiple customized sites specific to individual audiences. Each will provide a user-friendly experience that simplifies the process of finding desired information.

Lena Pope’s remodeled digital presence will enable the agency to play a bigger role in supporting the well-being of children and families by providing a better online user experience. The two new websites feature a responsive and easy-to-navigate design, searchability and mobile optimization.

www.MartyLeonardChapel.com is a retail site for individuals seeking a venue to host weddings, memorial services, celebration of life ceremonies and other events. It launched in September.

When the new www.LenaPope.org site launches soon, users will access information about Lena Pope’s Early Learning Centers, counseling services and behavioral intervention programs from this platform. It will ensure families have access to critical information 24/7 when they seek help during a crisis, rather than only during Lena Pope’s regular operating hours.

A third website will launch in spring 2020 for Chapel Hill Academy, Lena Pope’s open-enrollment, tuition-free public charter school. The new websites collectively enable Lena Pope to meet its goals by doing a better job of delivering information about services the agency provides to help families overcome life’s challenges.

It’s Getting Easier to Connect With Lena Pope

www.martyleonardchapel.org

www.lenapope.org
Award Honors Ted Blevins for Impacting Children and Families

As Lena Pope’s fourth executive director from 1984-2008, Ted Blevins, MHD, brought an energy and enthusiasm that helped bridge significant changes in services and operations for the agency. In recognition of his lasting impact, Blevins is the recipient of a Garcia-Lancarte Award, honoring individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary service to Lena Pope and its mission.

Blevins’ meritorious support and devotion helped Lena Pope successfully transition its programs to evidence-based practices. His tenure also saw construction of the Marty Leonard Community, the launch of Chapel Hill Academy charter school, and development of new revenue streams such as the Chapel Hill Shopping Center retail development. His leadership and vision also contributed to the founding of Mental Health Connection. Each achievement reflects his unwavering focus on improving child well-being in Tarrant County.

Blevins and his wife Dollie joined Lena Pope staff as residential home program directors in 1982, when Lena Pope still operated as a residential facility for youth. Blevins oversaw the development of Lena Pope’s first school initiative, a day treatment program that eventually worked with 1,200 students in alternative education. It achieved up to a 93 percent success rate in preventing children from being incarcerated. Under Blevins’ leadership, Lena Pope implemented Family Matters. This program included a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, counseling, life skills training, a referral service and case management. He also led a first-of-its-kind research component that tracked children after their residency at Lena Pope to measure their success.

Chief among Blevins’ achievements was merging Lena Pope with another nonprofit, Youth for Tomorrow. This allowed Lena Pope greater economy of scale, and expanded the agencies’ footprint for enhanced child well-being to Flower Mound, Roanoke and Argyle. Blevins was also pivotal in developing a center for youth who had been expelled from school or were in juvenile detention, and even developed a program to provide cars to eligible children in foster care once they turned 18. Blevins’ primary aim throughout his 27-year tenure was always the same: keeping families together and helping them achieve stability.

Previous Garcia-Lancarte Award honorees include:
Garcia-Lancarte Family, Don Kirk, Judy Needham, Dr. Tom Rogers, Jr., Marty Leonard, Ronald Clinkscale, Dr. Rick Dangel, Charles Jones, Kaydee Bailey, Susy Weaver, Asako Cosby, Mamie Ellis, Mike Reilly, Glenn Darden, Shnease Webb and Marilyn Taylor.
Lena Pope would like to recognize the following individuals who have made arrangements for Lena Pope in their estate plans.

- Neils Agather
- Avery L. and Mary Crafton
- Benny Burl Bacon
- Harry Beren
- Bertie Faye Phillips
- Ted Blevins
- John F. Boyle
- C.E. Lowrance
- Electra M. Carlin
- Charles C. Harrison
- Everett Comer
- Alan Cook
- Jeanette Joan Cross
- Richard F. Dangel
- Dean Louise Fitz-Patrick
- Donald L. Hutt
- Drew Clifton
- Ella C. McFadden
- Mamie Ellis
- Emma C. Hahn
- Evelyn Gardenhire
- Everett B. and Edith P. Comer
- Jody Grigsby-Cox
- William Y. Harvey
- J. Leslie Hornsby
- Charles H. Jones
- Joyce Marie Rushenberg
- Don W. Kirk
- Kohler Estate
- Lackey Memorial
- Laura Stein
- David M. Lavine
- Martha V. Leonard
- Mac A. Bigelow
- Mamie Keevan
- Martha Kate Sanders
- Mary A. Frank
- McNatt Estate
- Andy Moore
- Otis O’Quin
- Ellen P. Ray
- Estelle Redd
- Rose Lafferty
- S.E. Allison
- Scott Estate
- Garrett Smith
- Alvin Soniat
- Marilyn M. Taylor
- Thelma R. Kyle
- Shnease D. Webb
- William S. Carter
- A.L. Zaepfel

Have you made arrangements for Lena Pope in your estate plans? We’d like to ensure your bequest is used for the purpose for which it was given; please contact a donor relations team member at 817.255.2646 today to start the conversation!
Ms. Teresa Morris
Mr. James Morris
Ms. Belvia Moody
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Lansford
Mary Potishman Lard Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Leach
Ms. Audra Lee
Ms. Erma E. Lee
Mr. Paul Lee
Mr. Robert Lee
Ms. Christy Leonard
Ms. Martha V. Leonard
Ms. Lyn Lewars
Major and Mrs. Alonzo Lewis
Ms. Bernice Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. James Lewis
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Adeline & George McQueen
Foundation
Voss McRaney
The Honorable and
Mrs. Terry Means
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Mederos
Mrs. Tamara B. Middleton
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