

# York County business makes giving back a priority, helps new employee after house fire

By [Sandra J. Pennecke](#), Inside Business

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*Chuck and Chase Worley, co-owners of Worley's Home Services, aim to give back to their community as their business achieves success. (Courtesy photo)*

YORK COUNTY — Chuck Worley has had his share of troubling times.

That's why the owner of York County-based Worley's Home Services, a heating, cooling, plumbing and electrical company, is eager to give back.

In business with his son Chase, the Worleys have experienced a high rate of growth since they opened in 2016.

"Our goal is to give back 10% of our net profits every year," he said. "I felt like God has blessed me with this amazing business, and I felt like it's the right thing to do."

So, they gave more than \$250,000 to charitable causes including Five Loaves Food Pantry, International Cooperating Ministries and Young Life over the past two years.

Most notable is how quickly the Worleys were to help a new employee last year following a devastating house fire.

In March, 30 days to the day that Lacey Boyd started working in Worley's accounting department, her Newport News home caught fire. Aware that Boyd and her family lost everything, the Worleys gave them \$5,000 in gift cards within 24 hours of the crisis.

“Ten years ago, the hardest thing about business was finding customers. And now, the hardest part is finding employees,” Worley said. “So once I get a good employee, I want to take care of them and give them a great place to work.”



*Lacey Boyd works in the Worley's Home Services accounting department. Thirty days after she started her work there, her Newport News home had a devastating fire. Her employers were quick to help through a monetary donation. (Courtesy photo)*

Boyd said she was shocked when she learned about the donation and the intensity of her employer's generosity. Boyd said the plumbing department also started its own fundraiser to help her family.

“In hindsight, it only makes sense because that's the kind of environment they've created here,” Boyd said. “The family and faith atmosphere they talk about here is very real.”

Chuck Worley knows what it's like to struggle — and persevere with a little help.

The senior Worley, a Norfolk native and 1987 Norfolk Catholic alumnus, graduated from Newport News Shipyard's apprentice school in 1993.

“It changed my life and taught me a trade,” he said.

He went to work for a couple of companies before delving into business ownership in 2001 with his own heating and cooling business, Energy Efficient Solutions.

“I did pretty well,” he said. “I had probably 15 to 20 guys working for me.”

But by 2014, Worley was going through a divorce and sold his company. A financial spiral ensued, and Worley filed for bankruptcy, he said.

“It was a horrible situation, and I was in a horrible place,” he said. “But, my claim to fame is that God has a plan.”

Chase, who was finishing up his degree in accounting and business management at Christopher Newport University, encouraged his father to buy a small company.

“He told me I needed to go back to doing what I did best: owning my own company,” Chuck Worley said.

Worley’s Home Services started with three employees. Six years later, Worley’s has 75 employees through organic growth and several acquisitions.

Referring to his son as the yin to his yang, Worley said Chase handles operations and financials while he focuses on sales and marketing. With his business flourishing, Worley proudly said he has since paid back all 70 people he bankrupted on.

“It does feel good,” he said. “We’ve been so extremely blessed.”

And Lacey Boyd said she, her husband Jeremy and their three daughters and dogs have been blessed, too. They will be moving into their rebuilt home next month.

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