

2020 Annual Update

Hello, my Dear Brothers and Sisters,

What a year we have had! Plans for our 20th year Anniversary Celebration in April could not materialize, but we want to share with you the progress we have made since the doors opened at My Father's house in 2000. None of this could have happened without God's provision through all of you who give of your time, skills, and resources.

While the future is unsure, we can always stand on the truth that no matter what happens, God is in Control! I rejoice at what we have seen Him do this year. Despite COVID -19, we have stayed healthy and have accomplished much, if a bit more slowly.

We did have to close Redeemed Treasures for a month; and we lost some volunteers who have moved out of town or have not felt safe enough yet to return to the Campus. At Grace House, (the house we bought this year to shelter 3 more women with children), renovation stopped temporarily but picked up again as volunteers found ways to pitch in and still feel safe.

I am amazed at all that has been accomplished with all the challenges we have faced! The work to prepare Grace House was more than first expected. We hoped to be finished by the end of the year, but our new goal is to be ready for residents by the end of March. We have done extensive electrical work; taken out a fireplace and chimney; renovated a bathroom; torn down the old shed and built a pavilion; closed in the porch to make a new back entrance and playroom for the children; built a deck for the new entrance; refinished the hardwood floors in the living and dining room; and put up a fence at the back of the property. We are currently working on the kitchen - adding pantry cabinets, new counters, etc. and finishing up the playroom. I say "we," but it was all done by those of you who volunteer.

We have many praises. We have seen our residents work through their challenges and witnessed God doing miracles. Three of our ladies have moved on (see their stories below) and though we will miss them, what a joy it is to see them succeed and move into their own homes.

Our Christmas wish list includes being able to buy two large refrigerators for Grace House (about \$3000), complete renovations (materials remaining will cost about \$2000), and finishing paying down the Store Loan. We borrowed \$60,000 to purchase it in October 2018 and now owe only \$20,000. Paying the loan off will allow us to hire another one of our residents to work at the Redeemed Treasures Thrift Store.

As always, I thank all of you for being part of what we are doing here. All who pray for us, donate, volunteer, and do special projects are the reason we can continue to provide our services to our residents and the Community. All of us at Stand at the Crossroads Ministries -the Board, the Staff and the women and children who reside here are so very grateful!

May you all have a most wonderful holiday season and be blessed.

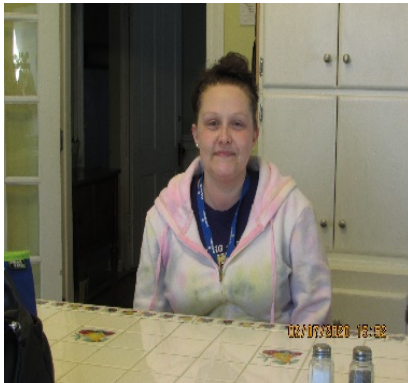
Debbie Lamb, Director



Shannon came to us right off the streets. She was homeless and had been sleeping in an alley. It was a sad story of making wrong choices and losing custody of her daughter. She began to do well right away. She stayed at My Father's house and soon was able to have overnight visits with her daughter. When an apartment came available she was able to move into one and obtain custody of her daughter, Ashley. Shannon became our first store manager and excelled in her skill, both as a manager and in technical skills. When it was time for her to move on she quickly found employment and a cottage to rent with option to buy. It was a joy having her and Ashley with us.



Emily was working at Fresh Market and going to school trying to make ends meet, caring for her son Max. She came to us and stayed for two years while she finished her degree for Medical Assistant. She accepted Christ as her savior and was baptized soon after coming here. While here she applied for a single-family Home loan with USDA Rural Development and qualified. By the time she finished school the house was being finished and we helped her and Max move into their own home. Emily is an example of the women who come in to our program and take advantage of their time here to move on to become a productive member of our community.



Lacey came to us after she had to move out from her Grandmother's house. She had no job, work experience, driver license or car. In her thirties, she never had to take care of herself because family did everything for her. Lacey was a joy to work with. She stayed with us for a little over a year at My Father's House. She was a great resident and began going to church and renewed her commitment to Christ. She worked at SC Vocational Rehab and they helped her find employment as a temp at Emersions. She did so well there they hired her on permanently. She got her driver's permit and finally got her license. She saved money and was able to purchase a car and move out on her own. We were so proud of her accomplishments