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Fall, 2013

Hannah House

Where Life Meets Love

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR



Life at Hannah House has been full! We have babies being born, young women completing the program, young women entering the program and those in the process.

help they may enter the transitional program, with housing located next door and across the street from Hannah House. In this program they may stay up to two years. With the intense training and structure, the young women become productive, caring individuals who have the opportunity to succeed in life.

There are three C's in life that we share with the young women who are making application to Hannah House – Choice, Chance & Change. You must make the Choice, to take the Chance, if you want anything in life to Change.

This is a quote from one of our former residents: "Little did I know that coming to Hannah House would change my life completely. Their program filled with devotions, bible classes, life skills, career readiness, and step work has changed my life! Through their program I began to see the patterns of my life that were not good, and I was equipped with the tools on how to change those patterns. Hannah House has enabled me to parent my baby and raise him with the knowledge and wisdom of God."

The only requirements for a young woman to enter Hannah House is that she is ready for a lifestyle change, and that she will obey the staff. No money is required. Just make the choice, and take the chance that your life will change.

As we enter this time of changing seasons – we think of you, our friends and supporters who have been with us through all the changes throughout the years. Change is good for all of us. It keeps things flowing and alive. Where there is no change life becomes dormant, so we embrace change.

The process a young woman goes through during her stay is – one-on-one counseling, life skills training, educational courses, budgeting and financial training, and preparation for the work force through job training, including interview and resume instruction. In addition, residents who are pregnant have adoption counseling, parenting, and childbirth classes. Hannah House collaborates with many staffing agencies in Fort Smith, one of which trains the young women to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) free of charge. Hannah House also collaborates with the Adult Education Center where young women may obtain their G.E.D. if needed. After one year if the young women need additional

Thank you for moving with us into the New Year and beyond as we "Restore Daughters and Save Lives" through the ministry of Hannah House.

Housing Girls for Christ,
Cindy Crawford

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Hannah House

WHERE LIFE MEETS LOVE♥

A Ministry of
Tree of Life
Preventive Health Maintenance, Inc.

Fall, 2013

HANNAH HOUSE WANTS TO SAY
"THANK YOU" TO



ARKANSAS
community foundation
FORT SMITH AREA
Smart Giving to Improve Communities



Hannah House will have a booth

November 22, 23, 24

We have handmade crafts and candies just in time for your Christmas shopping.

Come see us!

Brick City Hours:

**Monday-Saturday 10 am - 7 pm
Sunday 12 pm - 5 pm**

ROCK THE RIVER 2014

10th Annual Rock the River for Hannah House is August 23, 2014 with: Building 429 and Disciple and more bands to be announced!
Check out facebook.com/RockTheRiverFS to keep updated

f Hannah House

@HannahHouse

www.hannahhouseark.org

Where Life Meets Love and Hope...

Words from our residents



Rachel Hinton

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

Life... Life is a mess. With some people it's easy to see their mess, other people it's not so easy. Remember when you had to clean your room, and you would shove everything that was on your floor into your closet or under your bed? That only works so long. Then your mom (or dad) comes to inspect your room one day, or to put something in your room, and notices that something is sticking out from under your bed or the door of your closet was closed on a shirt sleeve. Well, they decide to help you out and put it away, or to adjust the shirt in your

closet, and every item you own either comes out with that one thing from under your bed, or comes ROLLING down onto their feet from your over-stuffed closet. Guess what? You're busted.

Now, if you had kept up with the maintenance on your room, kept up with putting things away, put everything in it back where it all belonged, and thrown ALL the trash away, you wouldn't have had so much work to do when your mom or dad made you clean it to THEIR standards when you got home from school. Life is pretty much the same for to that in every way. Keep the trash in the trash, don't let things get to where they shouldn't be, and be aware of when something needs to be rearranged.

For the first 10 years of my life, I lived in a "Leave it to Beaver" household. I was the happiest kid you could've known. We lived in Virginia and I spent endless amounts of time at my grandparents' house for the first 2 years of my life while my parents worked. When I was about two and a half, my parents and I moved here to Arkansas when my dad got offered a job. We moved a couple of times until we finally settled in a nice house with lots of land behind it. I was one of the kids you almost only hear about in legends anymore that spent all their time playing OUTSIDE. We had farm animals, I was in 4H with my chickens, I had a horse I rode almost every day, we had a hunting dog, Nesslie, who was my best friend, I had everything a kid could ask for. Looking back now, my life was sufficient, I didn't want for anything.

At the age of 10, on a Wednesday night after church, my parents sat me down, and my mom proceeded to obliterate my entire world in no less than 5 minutes. The thought that 5 minutes can turn your whole world upside down, still baffles me to this day. I suffered the worst trauma I could imagine in my little 10 year old head. I don't wish the pain of divorce on ANYONE, no matter the age. I've been put through several marriages and divorces since then by my parents. Each one has reopened that wound from 11 years ago.

My choices after age 10 were, increasingly more destructive than the last. I didn't start my bad choices until I was 15. There was a voice in the back of my head every time I made a bad decision, telling me, "This isn't you Rachel. You still have time to stop. It's not too late." Somehow I always knew I would never get addicted to anything like drugs or alcohol or cigarettes, and I never did. In my mind, any bad decisions you make are spread out through the course of your life, maybe every 5 to 10 years you make a bad judgment call. Well, my bad judgment calls were executed prematurely and in a concentrated manner. From age 15 to 20, I made many negative life changing decisions. Without hearing that warning voice in my head, or my family's judgmental remarks referring to my choices, I plummeted into depression and resentment. I knew that wasn't who I was, but I was searching for something of substance in my chaotic life, and I wasn't aware of all the good things I could be doing. No matter how much I closed my eyes and wished it all away, negativity lurked outside my eyelids, threatening to drag me deeper into despair.

At the age of 20, I married my boyfriend of 1 year. He was my first serious boyfriend, so I was new to how to have a good relationship. Our relationship was not based on God, so Satan took FULL advantage of that. After dating for 1 year, I did not have a stable place to live, so I filled out an application to come to Hannah House, a few days before I was to move in, I decided to move in with my boyfriend and alienate

myself from my family because I knew they would, yet again, be disappointed in my awful decision making skills. So to save myself the multiple "talks" from my family members, I told them I was going to take care of myself without help from them by living in a homeless shelter... Yeah, I know. That's even worse than the truth. Well, we got married a few days after I moved in with him and his family, and it was okay for a while, but, as in any relationship that is not based on God, the consequences are extremely negative. So I moved in with a friend, and it got a little better between he and I. But it wasn't long before we both realized that maybe there was something after all to this Hannah House. Also I had nowhere else to go, with my family out of the picture completely for 1 year.

"He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand." Psalm 40:2

So I came to Hannah House, unsure of what to expect, but willing and all too ready to undergo a serious POSITIVE life changing experience. It was... different, at first. I was so used to making my own decisions for several years, but I finally got the hang of it here. I learned things here that fed my faith in ways I never thought possible. I never knew that faith in God could be this fulfilling and satisfying to my spirit. I still want more and more, but what I'm wanting is edifying to my spirit. It's positive and uplifting.

I've been at Hannah House for 9 months, and I've gotten more, spiritually and mentally, than I have in my whole 21 years of existence. This is concentrated God, gotten my daily value of Alpha's and Omega's from this place, for eternity. To think that I could've missed out on all of this is scary. God's presence is unmistakable here at Hannah House. This place and the people associated with it are anointed with the Holy Spirit, and to be a part of them, you can't help but feel the Holy Ghost, and enjoy it. They are the greatest teachers I've known. They all have taught me things that I can, and will use in EVERY aspect of my life.

In summary, my life was saved through Hannah House. My eyes were opened and my heart was mended by the love I received from Hannah House and the people associated with it. I believe God placed them on my path to show me the manifestation of His love for me. He IS a merciful God!

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event
11/1/13-01/31/13	Holiday Matching Challenge
11/22-24/13	Hannah House Booth at Brick City Emporium, 3215 South 74th Street, Fort Smith
1/18/14	Sanctity of Life Service, Location to be Announced
<i>For more information on the above events go to our website at hannahhouseark.org</i>	
4/17/14	"Where Life Meets Love" 2nd Annual Banquet, Movie Lounge 7601 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith
8/23/14	10th Annual Rock the River for Hannah House

This issue of the Hannah House newsletter was printed by:



Thank you!

In Honor and Memory

In Honor/In Memory donations received after November 6, 2013 will be acknowledged in our next newsletter.

Given By	In Honor/In Memory Of	Given By	In Honor/In Memory Of
Mrs. Bonnie Rogers	In Memory of Bertie Lynn	Jo Bearden	In Memory of Leighton Holmes
Mark and April Wear	In Memory of Baby Wear	Jerry & Cindy Crawford	In Honor of Ashley Inman, Bonnie Jones, Debbie Koivisto, Donna Gurley, Kristina Long
Ms Betty Bottoms	In Memory of Douglas Wayne Bottoms		In Memory of Kyler Andert
Larry & Charlene Long	In Memory of Leighton Holmes		In Memory of Doris Files
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William Gage	In Memory of Velma Gage	Gertrude Vaught	
Suzanne Post	In Memory of Francis Eide	Jane Daily Moore	

OUR NEEDS

Household Needs

- Air Fresheners
- Batteries AAA, AA, D
- 2 Brooms
- Cleaning Supplies (i.e. Comet Spray, Toilet Cleaner, Pine Sol, Lysol Spray, Shout, Resolve Carpet Cleaner, Clorox Cleaning Spray or Wipes, etc.)
- Counter Top Spice Rack W/Spices
- Dusters
- Dish Soap
- Large Kitchen Trash Bags

- Light Bulbs 40 Watt
- Liquid Laundry Soap
- Kleenex
- 2 Mops
- Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper

Office and Classroom

- Copy Paper
- Postage Stamps
- Printer Ink - Epson 69 or 88 HP 60 black

Personal Needs

- Blow Dryers
- Diapers Size 2, 3 & 4
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Hair Spray
- Mouthwash
- Q-tips
- Triple Blade Razors

To Finish Our Extreme Home Makeover

- Counter Tops and Floor in the Kitchen
- Tile & Grout for 6 Bathrooms

Wish List

- ▶ Black Storage Ottoman for Living Area
- ▶ Joyce Meyer Teaching Series Mp3s or Gift Cards for Mp3s
- ▶ 2 Large Matching Microwaves
- ▶ Minivan, SUV, or Small Car to Transport Residents to Appointments
- ▶ Outside Grill-Propane

ROCK THE RIVER - 2013!

Rock the River 2013 was our 9th annual event and was the best ever! We want to thank everyone who made Rock the River for Hannah House a huge success:

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Thank you to Volunteers and "Stage Hands" who work many hours. Thanks to our Committee Members, who gave of their time over the past year to make Rock the River happen: Stephen Beasley, Cindy Crawford, Jerry Crawford, Rob Crawford, Shanna Goodson, Dennis Hulsey, Lauri Lowrimore, Don Shaver, Kimberly Shaver, Stephanie Weece, Suzanne Weece, Randy Weece, James Wood, Sandy Wood.

Thank you to all the Local and Regional Bands who worked hard to play at Rock the River - The Rock Band, Hardie Avenue, Harvester, Lauren Elizabeth, Altered, Cape Fear, Hell Robbers, Critical Agenda, Redemption's Call. You guys did a great job and sounded awesome!!