



Sharing Hope Ministry

Sharing Hope N • E • W • S

DECEMBER 2006
ISSUE NO. 39

—PHONE NUMBER—

Sharing Hope Ministry
358-7803

—ADDRESS—

P.O. Box 19985
Amarillo, Texas 79114

—WEBSITE—

www.sharinghopeministry.org

—STAFF—

April Riggs, Executive Director
april@sharinghopeministry.org

Leigh Link, Secretary
leigh@sharinghopeministry.org

—STATISTICS—

Total *Life Recovery Bibles* Distributed:
38,429

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:
18,161

—VOLUNTEERS—

Office Volunteers: **36**

Prayer Group Volunteers: **5**

Stepping Stones Volunteers: **6**

Visitation Team Volunteers: **12**

Teaching Team Volunteers: **3**

—BOARD OF DIRECTORS—

Brenda Blakley, President

Sammye Stark, Vice President

Connie Hodges, Secretary

Chris Brady

Jim Burgess

Brenda Burns

Shirley Daniel

Dan Hetrick

Rod Jones

Becky Logsdon

George Snell

Vonnie White

Moving Forward and Expanding Our Borders



God has continued to bless this ministry with a growing volunteer base and loyal financial supporters. For several years, our Long Range Planning Committee (made up of volunteers, board members, and staff) has been praying for God's continued direction of growth for this ministry. Upon the recommendation of this committee, the Board of Directors met in September to update our Mission Statement and Bylaws so that we can expand the borders of our ministry to include services to women who are residents of treatment facilities and incarcerated women outside of the State of Texas. For years, our ministry has been turning away requests from these women for the *Life Recovery Bible*. Many times, volunteers have personally purchased a Bible for a woman who has made a desperate plea. Due to the blessings that God has provided, we will now be able to reach more women with God's love and hope. We ask for continued prayer as we begin our growth to the national level.

Sharing Hope Ministry Mission Statement

The mission of Sharing Hope Ministry is to assist incarcerated women and women in recovery in overcoming destructive behavior by sharing God's love and hope through the teaching of His Word and by equipping them with life skills.

Dear sharing Hope,

Hi, I am 19 yr old, H.I.V. positive, and in jail for my second prostitution charge. When I was 16, I was diagnosis with H.I.V. and ever since, I just gave up. I went back to the streets and have been in and out of jail, raped and abused. I'm starting today by accepting God into my heart and life. I have filled out an application to a recovery house to work on my addictions and relationship with God. Would you please send me a Life Recovery Bible? I have looked at other inmates and I love this Bible. I understand it a lot better and I love the 12 step program (reading plan) that is in the Bible. Please keep me in your prayers.

With Love, Carri

Newsletter Design Courtesy of
graphicdesigns
by kim

806-622-8399

Patsy Britting Benevolence Fund



Patsy Britting was one of the driving forces behind the Sharing Hope Ministry. Patsy was passionate about witnessing to our area incarcerated women and reflected God's love through her actions. In honor of her work, the Patsy Britting Benevolence Fund has recently been established to provide emergency financial assistance to qualifying local ex-offenders as they work towards a new life with Christ. The goal of this fund is to assist our local

women who endure extenuating circumstances on their way to establishing a new life style, free of the negative influences of previous social structures.

Research on a national level has shown that 48% of released female offenders are re-incarcerated within three years. Recently released women are overwhelmed with the basic; finding adequate housing, a job, regaining custody of their children and accessing required treatment groups. Due to lack of resources, many women feel they have no choice but to return to the same trouble neighborhoods and habits that originally led them to jail. The Patsy Britting Benevolence Fund will provide limited support to women who are actively pursuing a changed lifestyle.

Those who wish to honor Patsy's work or would like to have a part in helping a woman change her life can make donations specifically to this fund. Please contact the Sharing Hope office with any questions.

Use to Benefit Sharing Hope Ministry!

Each time you do a search on your computer you can earn money for Sharing Hope Ministry as simply as using the search engine GoodSearch, instead of Google or MSN. Good Search is powered by Yahoo!, which donates half of the advertising revenue it earns to charity. Each time you use GoodSearch and designate Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc. as your charity, GoodSearch will donate a portion of the advertising revenue earned from the search to our ministry!

Follow these simple steps and Support Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc.:

- 1. Log on to www.goodsearch.com***
- 2. Type in Sharing Hope Ministry in the "I Support" box***
- 3. Hit Verify***
- 4. Search the internet as you normally would.***

Add GoodSearch to your bookmarks or make it your homepage to make it easier to use. Just click on the area that offers to put GoodSearch on your tool bar and follow directions. Also, spread the word to your family and friends to help generate more contributions. GoodSearch estimates each search will raise \$0.01 for our ministry. 100 supporters searching twice a day could generate \$730 a year, or 1000 supporters could raise \$7,300!



Jim and Lonna Burgess

See the New look at the Sharing Hope Office

The Sharing Hope Ministry office as had a face lift. Volunteers have a beautiful new look as they enter our offices thanks to the efforts of board member Jim Burgess, his wife Lonna, and professional painter and local artist, Eddie Rimel. The Burgesses and Eddie took on the job of cleaning up the look of the reception area where volunteers and guests are greeted. Our office now looks very professional.

Another board member, Brenda Blakley updated the volunteer workroom by replacing a torn and worn border with a new look. We appreciate the time, talent, and effort to give our office a pleasant and professional appearance that will look great for years to come.

Christmas in October

EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Thanks to our Sponsors and Volunteers

Thanks to the work of hundreds of volunteers and the generous donations of our sponsors who underwrote all of our expenses, we were able to make over \$33,700.00! This more than doubled our proceeds from last year's event. Over 300 volunteers prayed, led committees, worked the event, and provided baked goods and supplies. Many vendors tithed their earnings back to Sharing Hope to show support of our mission. We applaud all who were involved for the great job.

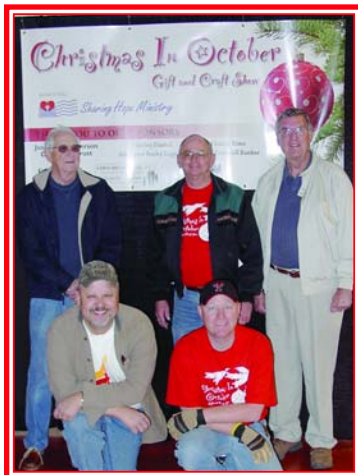


We Couldn't Have Done It Without You.

Sponsors

Coldwell Bankers
Jim and Laura Sims
John and Becky Logsdon
Panhandle Laundry

Josephine Anderson Charitable Trust
Shirley Daniel
Chris Brady, D.D.S.
Wells Fargo Bank



Thanks to our guys that provided the muscle for the event

In Kind Services

Graphics by Kim
Brasher Trophies
Clear Channel
The Shirt Factory
Soroptomist Club

Volunteer Committee Chairs

Co-Chair: Wanda DeVoll
Admissions: Rosemary Robinson
Bake Sale: Earlene Stiles, Trish Bailey, Julie Ashby
Facility/Dock: Keith and Darla Banks
Finance: Dan Hetrick and Rod Jones
Prayer Team: Dianne Sagan
Registration and Hospitality: Linda Stafford
Publicity: Joyce Schultz
Quilt: Carolyn Holmes
Sharing Hope Booth: Laura Sims
Transport: Jerry Bailey



The Bake Sale looked fabulous thanks to our many decorators.



The Soroptomist Club worked the admissions tables all weekend!



Vendors enjoyed the highest attendance ever at a Christmas in October event.

Special Thanks to Grandpa's Crayon Holders and John Blakley Sr. who donated 100% of their earnings to Sharing Hope Ministry!





P.O. Box 19985
Amarillo, Texas 79114

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Sharing Hope Supporters - Sep-Oct 2006

Sharon Albracht
Ambassador's Class
Jennifer Auvermann
Letha Banks
Jerold & Karlana Barry
Donna Bishop
John & Brenda Blakley
Virginia Bonifield
Marie Braboy
Church of the Living God - Galveston
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Lezlie Cooper
Shannon Cornell
Larry & Delores Cross
Shirley Daniel
Paul & Linda Endres
Faith City Mission
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Bob & Connie Garrett
Georgie Gillman
Michael Graham
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Douglas Toulouse
United Way
Westcliff Bible Church
Kin & Vonnie White
Margaret Willis

Marvin & Wilda Willis
Mickey & Judy Wilson
Women of Grace Class

IN MEMORY OF:

Dorothy Hodges
by Ethel Gorrell

Mike Holmes
by Earl & Carolyn Holmes

Claudia Nunley
by Dave & Linda Autry
by Debbie Barron
by LaPaloma Women's Golf Assn
by April Riggs
by Billy & Connie Simpson
by Hallie Snyder
by Tascosa Country Club Women's
Golf Assn
by Travelors Oil Company
by Margaret Willis
by Marvin & Wilda Willis
by Nelson Williams

Maggie Davis
by Aurene Bevers
Joyce Putnam
by Gary & JMelle Fletcher

Erma Snodgrass
by Martha Vantine

June Tilson
by April Riggs

IN KIND:

Brasher's Trophy
Clear Channel
Graphic Designs by Kim
Soroptomist Club
The Shirt Factory