



Sharing Hope Ministry

# Sharing Hope N • E • W • S

**AUGUST 2004**  
ISSUE NO. 27

— PHONE NUMBER —

Sharing Hope Ministry  
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— ADDRESS —

P.O. Box 19985  
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— WEBSITE —

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— STAFF —

Mindy Briggs, Executive Director  
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Carolyn Holmes, Secretary  
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— STATISTICS —

Total Life Recovery Bibles Distributed:  
**22,780**

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:  
**9,983**

— VOLUNTEERS —

Pen Pal Volunteers: **281**

Office Volunteers: **43**

Prayer Group Volunteers: **2**

Stepping Stones Volunteers: **9**

Visitation Team Volunteers: **17**

Teaching Team Volunteers: **4**

— BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

Brenda Blakley, President

Chip Garrison, Vice President

Angela Lust, Secretary

Jim Burgess      Gil Farren

Connie Hodges      Rod Jones

George Snell      Sammye Stark

David Thurman

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## Steppin' ASIDE

*Executive Director Mindy Briggs is retiring from Sharing Hope Ministry September 10. She believes it is time to step aside and watch what God does with the exciting new leadership that is coming aboard.*

"Surely it hasn't been five years since Sharing Hope got it's start! I remember working as an Administrative Assistant in the Women's Ministry program at Paramount Terrace Christian Church, and being amazed as we watched God answer our prayer for an outreach. One year later, I accepted the position as Director of Sharing Hope Ministry, and Sharing Hope stepped out on its own. It has been an exciting and amazing journey as God has grown the ministry.

"My work with Sharing Hope has taught me that God cares about each and every one of us, and He cares about the small stuff as much as the big. I have watched Him provide for every need that the Ministry has experienced—from volunteers to financial support to the individual requests and needs of the inmates we serve. I will never again question His love for each person He created.

"As I considered an early retirement, it was natural for me to try and help God figure out what he would do to replace me. (Ah, the pride that cometh before a fall!) I wanted someone who would see the big picture and understand that Sharing Hope is God's ministry. I wanted someone who would love and understand the hurting women that we serve. I wanted someone who would understand the value of our volunteers who are the hands and feet of Christ.

"So I finally did what we do daily at Sharing Hope—I prayed. As I prayed, I had a mental picture come to mind of God leaning out of a cloud and saying 'Hey! I've got it covered, just step aside so I can make it happen!' Sure enough, once I let go, God provided a God-sized answer to my prayer.

"I extend a heartfelt welcome to April Riggs as our new Director. April does see God at work through Sharing Hope. She has a heart for hurting people, and she is already very appreciative of the volunteers that serve God through Sharing Hope. She is God's answer to our prayer for strong, Christian leadership.

"Many thanks to those of you that have worked with me over the past four years. You have brought me much joy and taught me more than you will ever know this side of heaven. I look forward to joining you in the volunteer ranks."



*Outgoing Executive Director,  
Mindy Briggs*

The Board of Directors invites you to a

### "Come and Go" Reception honoring Mindy Briggs

Tuesday, September 7

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Paramount Terrace

Christian Church

4000 Mays

Activity Center, entrance # 6

Help us celebrate Mindy's four years with  
Sharing Hope Ministry  
and congratulate her on a job well done

Fifth Annual

# Christmas In October

## Gift and Craft Show

OVER 100 BOOTHS

Saturday, October 2nd  
10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Sunday, October 3rd  
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Amarillo Civic Center  
South Exhibit Hall

Admission: \$2.00  
(Children 12 and under are free)

Sponsored by



Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc.  
Members and purchase Bibles and study materials for incarcerated women in Texas



P.O. Box 19985  
Amarillo, Texas 79114

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**Welcome to Executive Director, April Riggs**

## Sharing Hope WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

*Sharing Hope Ministry is pleased to welcome April Riggs as its new Executive Director. April is a member of Westcliff Bible Church, where she and her husband serve as volunteer youth ministers. We asked April to share a little bit with you below:*

"I'm so thankful that God knows the path that we are to follow. He gives us the desire to be in certain places at His appointed time. As I look back over the last several years, I see how God's hand gently guided me to the position of Executive Director of Sharing Hope Ministry.

"For several years I held the position of the Executive Director of a child advocacy program in Dalhart. In that position, I was able to help the organization in its pursuit to seek recourse for the best interest

of children in the foster care system. For the last four years, I have been the College Director of the ACE programs at Palo Duro High and Caprock High Schools. In this position, I guided high risk seniors and college students with their college applications, and their collegiate performance. In many cases, these students were trying to pursue an education against the odds of their environment.

"These experiences have shown me that there are many people, in many types of situations who are in need. A desire has been impressed upon my heart to be open to where God leads me and to be involved in those areas that are meeting people's needs. I am very excited about the opportunities for this kind of service at Sharing Hope Ministry.

"My vision and direction for Sharing Hope Ministry is to continue in the path that has been set by the strong leadership of Mindy and the Board of Directors. This program was begun by prayer and grew by following God's lead. My commitment is to continue to seek God's direction and assurance through prayerful obedience. I look forward to working along side those who have been so instrumental in touching the lives of the women served by Sharing Hope. The level of commitment displayed by these volunteer workers has been an inspiration to me as I prepare to join your ranks."

## MATCHING GRANT AWARDED TO SHARING HOPE

A foundation that asks to be anonymous has awarded a \$15,000 matching grant to Sharing Hope Ministry. Our challenge is to raise up to \$15,000, and the foundation will match dollar-for-dollar every donation that is earmarked toward the grant.

Please consider making a contribution to Sharing Hope Ministry toward this matching grant. It is a wonderful opportunity to double your contribution, and your gift will be used to purchase Bibles and study materials.