



Sharing Hope Ministry

Sharing Hope N • E • W • S

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ISSUE NO. 37

—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:
35,533

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:
16,477

—VOLUNTEERS—

Pen Pal Volunteers: **23**

Office Volunteers: **37**

Prayer Group Volunteers: **4**

Stepping Stones Volunteers: **8**

Visitation Team Volunteers: **11**

Teaching Team Volunteers: **4**

—BOARD OF DIRECTORS—

Brenda Blakley, President

Sammye Stark, Vice President

Connie Hodges, Secretary

Chris Brady

Jim Burgess

Brenda Burns

Dan Hetrick

Shirley Daniel

Rod Jones

Becky Logsdon

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Vonnie White

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Graphic Designs by Kim - 622-8399

Who is the Typical Incarcerated Woman?

Often we think of the women who are incarcerated as hardened criminals. A study from American Jails (September/October 2005) gives shocking statistics about female inmates; the country's largest growing jail population.

- The number of women inmates in the nation's jails increased nearly 50% from 1995-2002.
- These women have histories of fragmented families, with other family members involved in the criminal justice system.
- They are typically survivors of physical and/or sexual abuse; 48% reported the abuse happening before age 18.
- These women have multiple physical and mental health problems.
- 79% of women in jail are mothers, accounting for almost 250,000 children.
- Family violence, trauma, and substance abuse play a significant role in women's criminality and influence their pattern of offending more so than men.
- Most women offenders are disadvantaged economically. This, compounded with a history of substance abuse, trauma, and mental illness, leaves many struggling to care for themselves and their children.



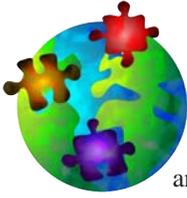
Sharing Hope Ministry assists incarcerated women in the State of Texas in changing their destructive behavior by sharing God's love and hope through the teaching of His Word.

I am 19 years old and this is my first time in prison! It's been really hard for me to adjust. I miss my family and my freedom. I have 10 years and I'm scared... I really do want to change my life around and do right. It seems like every time I try to do right, things go wrong. I know God is the only one who can help me and change the way I am feeling. It gets hard at times and I feel like giving up. And when I get mad I say and do things I end up regretting. Then I regret it because I know I'm hurting myself and my family. I really want to change! It's hard to find positive people in prison. Otherwise I know I would easily get more into the Word. I want to ask if you can please pray for me and my family and if you'll have any advice that will help me! I want to cleanse myself. I don't want to feel this pain in my heart. I want to feel free and I want to change my ways, my life, the way I think and feel. Thank you!

God Bless you, Nina (June 2006)

You Don't Think You Can Change the World?

Work with Sharing Hope to Change a Piece of the World.



We can't all go into a jail and witness one-on-one to a hurting inmate, but a donation of as little as \$15.00 a month can send a *Life Recovery Bible* and a Bible study to an incarcerated woman. These women request our help as they are making changes in their destructive behavior and establishing a relationship with God.

Use the optional Bank Draft Authorization form and each month your designated donation will be deducted from your account without the hassle of writing and mailing a check.

What will Your Monthly Tax-Deductible Gift Provide?

- \$30.00 - *Life Recovery Bible* and a workbook for 2 inmates ea. mo.
- \$45.00 - *Life Recovery Bible* and a workbook for 3 inmates ea. mo.
- \$60.00 - *Life Recovery Bible* and a workbook for 4 inmates ea. mo.
- \$75.00 - *Life Recovery Bible* and a workbook for 5 inmates ea. mo.
- \$90.00 - *Life Recovery Bible* and a workbook for 6 inmates ea. mo.

Thank You from a New Child of God

Sharing Hope Supporters provide the resources to place these Bibles in the hands of incarcerated women.

I just wanted to drop a note and let you know what a blessing my Life Recovery Bible is. I look forward every day to reading it and studying the wisdom contained in it. I love sharing it with the ladies here. It is such a valuable part of my recovery!

I have been transferred to the Uvalde Community Corrections Facility in Uvalde, Texas for 6-months, and then I'll be on deferred probation for one year. This facility is a wonderful place where we worship 3 times a week and have time every day for personal Bible study. I am so blessed! The craving for substances is gone- I crave the Word now! I'm also so thankful for your prayers. I know God is doing amazing things in my life! Truly, I cannot thank you enough for my bible and your prayers ...God bless you! Sincerely,

Kimberly J. (February 2006)



Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc.

DONOR CARD

I would like to partner with Sharing Hope Ministry in providing Bibles and study materials to female inmates in Texas.

Name _____ Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MONTHLY PLEDGE:

I will make a contribution of \$ _____ each month.

Draft my bank account each month for this amount.
(Please complete the bank draft authorization below.)

ONE TIME GIFT:

Enclosed is my one-time contribution of \$ _____.

BANK DRAFT AUTHORIZATION

I authorize Sharing Hope Ministry to initiate debit entries to my checking account named below. *(You may attach a canceled check or deposit form in lieu of filling out the bank information requested below, but your signature is still required.)*

Depository Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Transit/ABA No. _____ Account No. _____

This authority remains in full force and effect until Sharing Hope Ministry receives written notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford Sharing Hope Ministry a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name (print) _____ Social Security Number _____

Date _____ Signed _____ Signed _____

Christmas in October

Gift & Craft Show

Unique Sharing Hope Opportunity

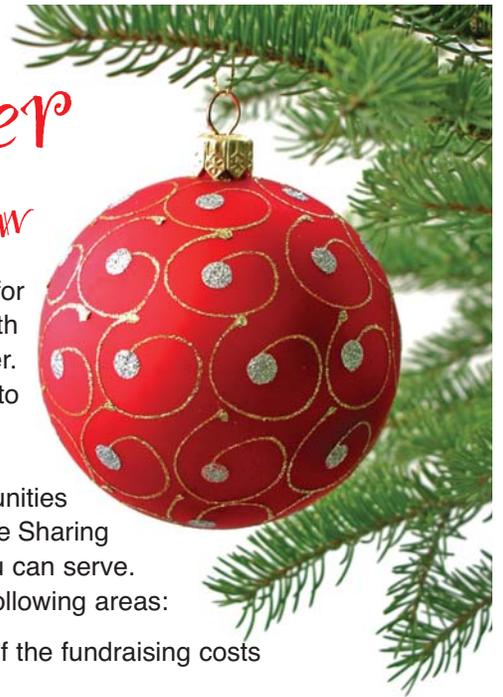
This year, Sharing Hope Ministry is attempting to find area businesses and/or individuals to underwrite the fundraising costs associated with the "Christmas in October" Gift and Craft Show. Our goal is that all proceeds from this event will be available to allow the ministry to distribute the *Life Recovery Bible* and study materials to incarcerated women in Texas prisons and jails. A sponsor packet is available upon request to anyone interested in sponsoring this event.

Please contact the office at 358-7803 or co-chair, Wanda DeVoll at 674-7156, with any questions.

Christmas in October is scheduled for October 28th and the 29th at the North Exhibit Hall of the Amarillo Civic Center. We still have booth spaces available to area crafters or businesses.

There will be many volunteer opportunities and we would love for you to contact the Sharing Hope office and let us know where you can serve. We are looking for volunteers for the following areas:

- ✧ Sponsors to underwrite a portion of the fundraising costs
- ✧ Workers during the event
- ✧ Provide food for the Bake Sale
- ✧ Help make bows before the event
- ✧ Fluffer's and Foofer's to work displays for the bake sale
- ✧ Help in the Sharing Hope booth
- ✧ Provide Christmas or Fall containers, clear cellophane, decorations and ribbons for the Bake Sale
- ✧ Help make white tablecloths to fit 8' rectangular tables
- ✧ Be on a team that distributes posters in area businesses



Sharing Hope Ministry Needs:

Prayer Warriors

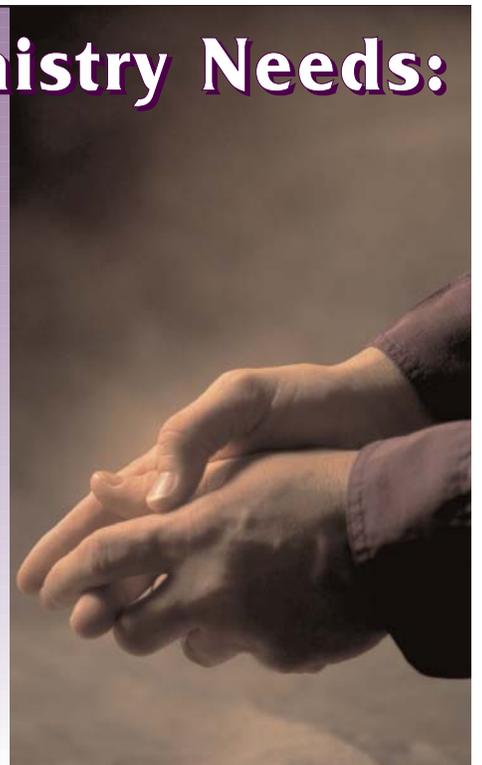
The prayer ministry at Sharing Hope Ministry has exploded with requests and we are having difficulty responding within a reasonable amount of time. We are looking for a few additional volunteers who would be willing to take home inmate requests each week, pray, and prepare a prayer card to send to the inmate. This is not a pen pal program where you continue to correspond with an inmate.

The Sharing Hope office will prepare a copy of the letter, envelope and postage for each request. All the volunteer will need to do is pick up the prayer package, pray and send the prayer card.

If you are prayer warrior and have time to minister to these incarcerated women, please contact us at 358-7803 and let us tell you more about the prayer team ministry.

Additional Needs:

- ❖ Yard work-pruning and trash removal from the office yard.
- ❖ Volunteers to help fill in during the summer months as volunteers are on vacation.
- ❖ Help with cleaning of the Sharing Hope Office



Tickets Are Now Available for the Sharing Hope Quilt



P.O. Box 19985
Amarillo, Texas 79114

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Amarillo, Texas
Permit No. 237



The Sharing Hope Quilt is finished and ready for display. Donations of \$2.00 each or 6 tickets for \$10.00 will give you a chance to win this fabulous quilt.

The quilt has already blessed the ministry as the material was given when Sharing Hope Ministry won the FABRIC DREAMS Charity Quilt Fabric Giveaway because of

our work in the community. The quilt was assembled by 4 very talented volunteers, Carolyn Holmes, Janice Johnson, Linda Stafford, and Carolyn Williams. Another Sharing Hope volunteer and professional quilter, Annette Watson, provided the custom quilting. This quilt is a stunning vibrant red and white quilt that you must see to appreciate.

Tickets are available through the office and we are asking our volunteers to help sell tickets to friends, family, church and business associates. Come by the office to pick up tickets and a picture of the quilt.

Sharing Hope Supporters - April-May 2006

Sharon Albracht
Ambassador's Class
Anonymous
Letha Banks
M/M Jerold Barry
M/M Doug Briggs
M/M Keith Clark
Shannon Cornell
M/M Larry Cross
M/M Jerry Dendy
M/M Paul Endres
Faith City Mission
Fisherman Class
M/M Bob Garrett
Georgie Gilman
Bonnie Green
Happy State Bank
M/M Ken Johnson
M/M Kampschroeder
Penny Lawlis
Lamplighters Class
Elizabeth Maddox
Margaret Moore
New Beginnings
Paramount Terrace Christian Church
M/M Dave Riggs

Rev/Ms John Riggs
Lydia Rodriguez
Jan Shannon-Town and
County Antiques
M/M Fletcher Smith
Linda Stafford
M/M Don Stark
M/M John Tolk
Douglas Toulouse
Westcliff Bible Church
M/M Kin White
Eunabeth Williamson
M/M Marvin Willis
Margaret Willis
M/M Mickey Wilson
Barbara Winningham
Women of Grace

IN KIND:
Anita Belieu
Donna Bishop
Shannon Cornell
Tim and Daphne Cox
Phylis Hicks
Carolyn Holmes
Joy Jelinek

Janice Johnson
Candy Kuykendall
Leigh Link
Paramount Terrace Christian Church
Linda Stafford
Annette Watson
Carolyn Williams

IN MEMORY OF:

Bull Bourlond
by M/M Jerry Cates
by Yancy, Mary, Miles & Haley
by Fritz and Quintose
by Heath & Family

Charles Breeding
by Margrette Holmes
by Linda Stafford

Don King
by M/M Sam Wilson

Charles Schnider
by David and Mona Higgins



CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®
Since 1937 Reaching children worldwide™

Sharing Hope Ministry's Partnership with Child Evangelism Fellowship - Amarillo

In May, 314 female inmates in county facilities received the pamphlet "What Went Wrong" with their newly requested Life Recovery Bible. The pamphlet provides an enrollment form for Child Evangelism Fellowship's Mail Box Club for children of inmates. Statistics show that a child whose mother or father is in prison has a seven times greater chance than other kids of ending up in prison. The Mail Box Club sends Bible lessons to children preschool to teens.