# Thoring Hope Ministry

### **JUNE 2011**

**ISSUE NO. 60** 

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> Madelyn Green, Patsy's Place Support Staff

### -STATISTICS-

Total Life Recovery Bibles Distributed: **83,163** 

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:

42,739

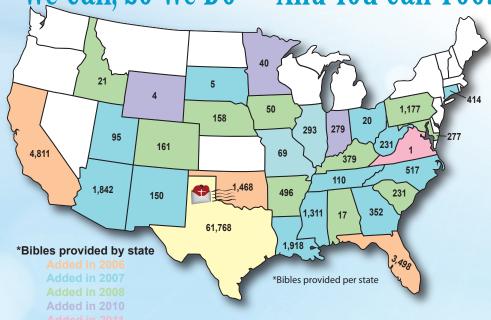
### -VOLUNTEERS-

Fund Raising Volunteers: 150
Jail Ministry Volunteers: 18
Office Volunteers: 45
Patsy's Place Volunteers: 18
Pen Pal Volunteers: 4
Prayer Group Volunteers: 7
Stepping Stones Volunteers: 11

### **—BOARD OF DIRECTORS —**

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# Would You If You Could? We Can, So We Do — And You Can Too!



"Go into all the world and share the Good News to everyone, everywhere... And the disciples went everywhere and preached..."

Mark 16:15 & 20

How wonderful are those who sacrificially travel to the deepest regions to do God's work, but not all who need Christ are in third world countries.

"I'm residing in Virginia Correctional Center for Women, and I heard that I could get a free Life Recovery Bible, please. I am finally coming to know the Lord Jesus as my Savior." ~ Tammy H.

Tammy was given a *Life Recovery Bible*. This didn't require a sacrificial journey. Instead, the Bible was provided out of our little office in Amarillo, Texas, where a volunteer read her plea, packaged the Bible and said a prayer that God would touch Tammy's life!

Because of Tammy's request, Virginia is the thirty-third state that has been added to our service area. With God's blessings, Sharing Hope Ministry will once again start moving forward with our expansion. Our goal is to provide a *Life Recovery Bible* to every woman in the United States who is incarcerated and searching for Christ! Our journey to provide the Good News is different than what the disciples experienced. It's not about the multitude of miles traveled; instead, it's about the multitude of hands that are actively sharing the hope which is received through having a relationship with Christ.



# ...And More About Those Hands...

"There are no words that can describe the appreciation I have in receiving your Bible and Bible Studies. I receive no mail unless it is the Bible study that I have ordered from you. I know that I have some support & understanding while here which helps me to witness to others about how my Lord provides in all my needs and wants. Thank you for the time that you spend to reach out to those of us who have no one but our Lord God. God bless & thank you all." Teresa

Our volunteer's hands are precious because they ARE the ministry. For each Bible and Bible study that has been sent out, many hands had to accomplish a series of steps which include the preparation, research, data entry, packaging and prayer.

Additional sets of hands keep busy when they comfort and witness to the local incarcerated women and deliver needed hygiene supplies to a recently released woman who has nothing. Mentoring hands are active as they help guide the women who are transitioning back to into our communities.

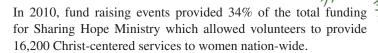
A new set of hands are emerging who are freely giving their time and talents as they teach classes, transport, support staff and help with the various needs at Patsy's Place Transitional Home.

A luncheon was recently held to thank the Sharing Hope Ministry and Patsy's Place volunteers for their service. Included in this newsletter are just a few of the many thanks received from the ladies who receive our services.

"I received the postcard you sent me lifting me and my children up in prayer. It's amazing to know someone is praying...for so long I've been like a rudderless ship in a storm and now I can see the shore. Your words have left me with a limitless capacity for HOPE!" ~ Haley, Central California Women's Facility



# Christmas In Ectober?



When our event expenses are underwritten by sponsors, 100% of the event's proceeds directly benefit the ministry. As an attendee, when you buy a cake at the "Christmas in October" Bake Sale, you are subsequently providing the funds which can allow us to buy TWO *Life Recovery Bibles*! You get the cake; the ministry gets more Bibles and studies to send out. Unfortunately, we fell short of having all the event expenses covered at last year's "Christmas in October". Can you help? Sponsor opportunities start at only \$250.00 and go up to \$5,000.00.

## What Are the Other Benefits of Being a Sponsor?

A sponsor will receive recognition on all forms of printed material generated after August 15, 2011. This will include advertising or publicity, newspaper and magazine ads. A "Christmas In October" poster with the sponsor name and logo will be placed by the entrance of the South Exhibit Hall. If requested, sponsors of \$500 or more will be given a complimentary 10X10 vendor booth in a prominent place.

Our eleventh annual "Christmas in October" will be held October 29th and 30th at the South Exhibit Hall of the Civic Center. Contact the office at 358-7803 or april@sharinghopeministry.org if you are interested in being a sponsor of this year's event!

"I really want to thank all of you, not just for me, but for all the women you help. I hope ya'll know that ya'll are a lifeline – when all others have left us for whatever reason. Ya'll are a life raft in the sea of helplessness we all feel in here." ~Jessica, Potter County Jail

# Needed for the "Christmas in October" Bake Sale

- Clear wrap from Hobby Lobby (big rolls) .
- Pottery and/or platters, plates, bowls (no Lucite, paper or plastic, no tins).
- Wired ribbon and picks/holiday decorations.
- Gift cards to Hobby Lobby or Michaels.

# Patsy's Place Transitional Home

A Program of Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc.

"I would like to "thank you" for accepting me into Patsy's Place. I'm ecstatic about the chance you are granting me. I feel as if this is my Hope for Life. I've spent this time behind bars reconnecting my relationship with God and have grown emotionally & spiritually. With that, Sharing Hope has been a tremendous help with the Bible studies, postcards and personal notes. Thank you!" ~ Dora, Crain Unit

We are entering into our fifth month at Patsy's Place and what an exhilarating adventure it has been! We've experienced ups and downs, highs and lows, success and even failures; and this is just the beginning. It's like a roller coaster ride with many unexpected twists, turns and loops. Nevertheless, it is very exciting to be part of the process of God transforming the lives of the ladies He's sent to Patsy's Place thus far. It is indeed a process. A preordained process conceived by God even before the foundation of the world! Since our opening, we have learned so much in this very early stage in the growth & development of the program.

In case you're wondering what's going on at Patsy's Place, here's a brief preview: back in March, the ladies helped setup up and attend Hope Fest. In April, our participants traveled to Canadian to hear Bible teacher and author Sheila Walsh, and in May they attend a Women's Conference in Ceta Canyon. The ladies have also participated in several practical living and craft activities, such as making fresh bread, patchwork quilting, floral design, setting tables, wedding preparation, jewelry and card making. However, it is not all fun and games around here, each participant is required to attend cognitive, financial, managing moods, relapse prevention and recovery classes daily. We have developed a good routine and flow for our program.

So many people have invested their time, talent and money into Patsy's Place. What a labor of love this has been, and it has not been in vain. On behalf of the Patsy's Place staff and residents, we would like to thank all of you who have given to this ministry. We could not accomplish our mission without your generous support. We would especially like to thank all of our teachers and volunteers.

Ersela Demerson, Program Director





Hillside College and Career Group construct the fence for the courtyard

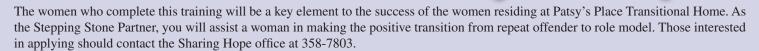
# Patsy's Place Needs

- · 12 passenger van for transportation
- Donated, used vehicles for the women who have completed phase one and are beginning jobs
- Volunteers to help put together a Garage Sale to benefit Patsy's Place

## Patsy's Place Garage Sale

A garage sale will be held this summer to benefit Patsy's Place Transitional Home, and we could use your help! We will be accepting items for the garage sale through the month of June. Volunteers are also needed to help organize and work. Contact april@sharinghopeministry.org or call 358-7803 if you can help!

# **Stepping Stones Mentor Training Scheduled**



Stepping Stones training will consist of four training sessions. The dates will be Saturday July 9th and 16th from 8:30am - 5:00pm and Thursdays July 21st and 28th from 6:30-9:00pm. Applications can be picked up or requested from the Sharing Hope Ministry office. Applications are due back at the office by July 1st.

"Thank you for the bag with shampoo and brushes and stuff. I had nothing when I came back to Amarillo. Now I have a mentor that has been great. She's held me accountable. I'm going to make it this time. Thanks." ~ M., Amarillo





Sharon Albracht-Parr Jim Albright Martha & Walter Allison Mary & Rodney Alt Amarillo Endodontics. Christy Amason Ambassadors Bible Class Sharon Anderson Jolene Aragon Cathy & Dan Asford Denise & Blake Autry Jo & Art Baker LaCretia Baldwin Letha Banks Debbie & Doug Barron Karlena & Jerold Barry Rosalind Bates Peggy & Kenneth Bellar Dawn & Neil Bentley Donna Bishop Cheri & Ron Boyd Marie Brabov Lisa & Lew Bradshaw Ronnie & Chris Brady Maxine Brame Joy & Rick Brenneman Mindy & Doug Briggs Kay & Ken Brinkley Kathy Brittain Dorothy Britting Kathleen & Brian Brown Linda & Randy Brown Lynda & John Brown Brown Pontiac-GMC-Pat Burch Lonna & Jim Burgess Pat & Jerry Burling Brenda & Terry Burns Donna & Craig Burriss Linda & Ron Byers Leo Caiafa Mrs. Bob Callan Melinda Cardwell Mary Ruthe & Richard Carter Pat Cathcart Terri & Russ Cato Jana & Dane Chapman Marilyn & Jim Childers Choice Media

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PATSY'S PLACE IN

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