



THE Sheepfold

Shelter, refuge, and a new beginning
for abused mothers and their children

April 2012

Millie's Story . . .

My marriage and life with my children can be described as a roller coaster. My marriage with my husband, (who I now call him "my was-band), began when I thought our love was perfect! In fact, the marriage was far from perfect when I was blinded by love.

Soon after we began a family, it slowly turned into the worst thing ever, his behavior changed to aggressive one, creating a hostile environment for the children and me.

Time passed and I had three children. I prayed to God to give me strength and courage in my faith and marriage. The abuse led to the children and I immediately put my foot down. Safety of my children came first. We left him in 2002. My life's struggle began.

I support, educate, discipline and love my 3 children everyday with patience and understanding. I might be poor but *not* broken. I have almost finished my education. Employment has been difficult. Yet, I found work in the county as a Sub IA (Instructional Aide) for special needs children (ranging 3-23 years old). There is no full time job available at this time.

Through the grace of God, you will find us at The Sheepfold, for we are homeless—but not hopeless. I know the Lord is leading and guiding us as we get closer to self-sufficiency each day.

Thank you Sheepfold!

—*Millie*

*Know that wisdom is sweet to your soul;
if you find it,
there is a future hope for you . . .*

—Proverbs 24:14

Evidence of a Changing Heart . . .



Josh and his Mom



Josh and Anna

*. . . he restores my soul
He guides me in
paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.*

—Psalm 23:3

When Josh and his mom came into our program, he was an angry and confused young man of 12 years. He was uncooperative, disrespectful and immature. He didn't understand what was happening in his life and his only instinct was to react in anger.

Through God's grace, Josh's heart has been changing and growing. The Lord provided a wonderful, Godly man to mentor Josh and show him what a true man of God looked and acted like.

Once mean and short tempered with the younger kids, Josh now has a protective love as an older brother for the younger kids of the house. He will sit and read with them, teach them a new game, or play a fun game like "Josh says" with them. His heart has grown so much, that he often offers to help or shows his care for the ladies and managers by helping with chores.

Josh asked me if we could have cake for my birthday. I replied "yes", and that I would probably bake a cake for us. Josh exclaimed that I could not make my own cake and that he would like to bake it for me since he's in Home Ec. now. My heart about burst, I was so filled with joy.

Under the supervision of me and his mother, Josh baked a delicious "Fun-fetti" cake. He frosted it himself and had wanted to make it in a shape of a heart, but instead made a heart with sprinkles.

Josh is such a tangible testimony of God's grace and forgiveness. In 2 months He has transformed Josh. God is still at work in Josh's heart, and though some days are not as easy as others, it's days like this that give us hope for Josh and for every mother and child who walk through our doors.

—Anna, House Manager



Josh - 12 years old



View our website for a more detailed
Shelter Needs Listing

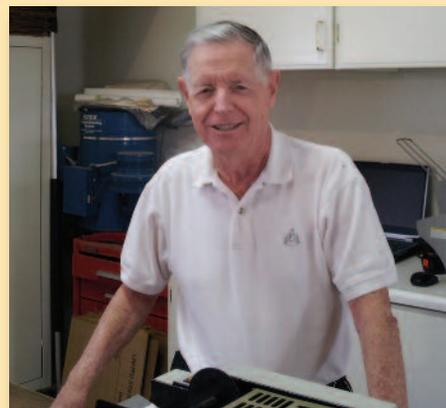
Black olives
Canned diced tomatoes
Cream of chicken soup
Cream of mushroom soup
Canned corn
Canned beets
White/brown rice
Spaghetti pasta
Ketchup
Mayonnaise
Mustard

BBQ sauce
Ranch dressing
Hot sauce (Tapatio, Tobasco,
Franks, etc.)
Pudding cups
Fruit cups
Boxed juice
Capri Sun
Granola bars
Trail mix

National Volunteer Month

In celebration of National Volunteer Month, we would like to put a "spotlight" on a very dear volunteer, (they are all so dear to us).

This volunteer has quietly worked "behind the scenes" here at The Sheepfold. His name is Ted Beresford. Ted has worked vigorously and generously for over 17 years serving this ministry providing a much needed service. You see the very newsletter you hold in your hands—the vessel with which we share all of God's miracles, takes a talented team of wonderful people to produce each month. Today, I wish to acknowledge one of the team members, Ted, who blesses The Sheepfold right from his very own garage, working alone, with the labeling machine that labels over 16,000 newsletters each month.



This process takes 10-12 hours to accomplish. Ted doesn't own a business that does this type of work! No. As a matter of fact, he purchased this machine and has allocated time every month to honor this need for this ministry and other non-profits in this area. He is a quiet servant, not asking for fanfare or pay. He arranges his schedule around the labeling and mailing production of The Sheepfold newsletter. *Note: Ted will be retiring soon from this wonderful 17-year endeavor, so we will be looking for some future help in this ministry. Ted is willing to donate his machines to a new volunteer.*

Ted and his wife, Betsy, are wonderful servants for God's kingdom. Not only does Ted serve in this capacity but he and his lovely wife also volunteer their time at the local elementary school as part of the Good News Club. If you haven't heard of the program, it is wonderful. The Good News Club brings the Gospel to school age children at the front door of their school. We are so grateful for his generous heart which greatly blesses this ministry!

From the smallest to the largest efforts of our many volunteers, we are grateful to you all for your time, talents and work. This ministry could not serve the women and children as it does, without this volunteer force's continued daily support. You each make such a difference!

-DeAnne DiGuisepppe, Volunteer Coordinator

Heard's Garden Tour is Coming Soon

The Mary Lou Heard Garden Tour is an event that gardeners look forward to every year. If you love flowers, water features, ideas for your garden, and/or walking through other people's gardens, you should put these dates on your calendar.

For the past several years, the Heard's Garden Tour has donated their proceeds to The Sheepfold, because Mary Lou Heard was a friend of ours. She loved The Sheepfold and we loved her. She is greatly missed by her friends and family but the Tour continues in her honor. Don't miss it!

Heardsgardentour.com

The 2012 Tour will be held on:

Saturday, May 5th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, May 6th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone,
but on trees and flowers and clouds and stars.
nature quote - commonly attributed to Martin Luther*

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*Wait on the Lord;
Be of good courage,
and He shall
strengthen
your heart . . .
-Psalm 27:14*

Happy Easter - April 2012

The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability

is the respected organization that audits non-profit corporations on a yearly basis to verify that all donations were recorded properly and were used for the purpose for which they were given, and requires a full financial statement for supervision by The Sheepfold Board of Directors monthly.

Membership in the ECFA is only granted to non-profit corporations who meet their rigid standards. We are proud of our long-standing membership in this organization.



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Founder The Sheepfold

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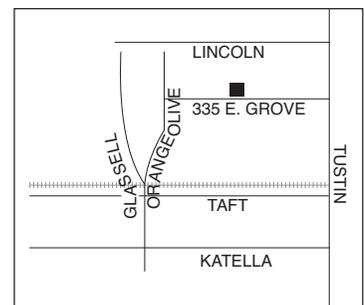
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