

### **NEWS & NOTES**

Facilitating positive life change for previously incarcerated women.



# HAPPY 8TH BIRTHDAY



**CELEBRATING 80 LIVES FOREVER IMPACTED** 

#### Birthday Celebration Reaps Over \$3,300 in Love Gifts

Our goal for the first-ever Giving With Heart fundraising project was \$5,000. We received less than our goal in donations; however, we are thankful for the love offerings of those who contributed.

The 12-day campaign, which celebrated Wings of God's eight years of serving women, resulted in donations totaling a little over \$3,300. We are so very grateful for all your love and support!

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#### Visit us -- later!

Witness the Hope Tours have been suspended until further notice due to corona virus. These tours are a great opportunity to visit the Wings of God home, meet our Pearls, learn about the mission and enjoy delicious food provided by our sponsor, Amore Pizza. This regularly occurs the 2nd Thursday of each month from noon to 1:00pm. Everyone is invited; we ask that you RSVP online or by calling the office.

#### Contact us!

phone: 269-415-0777

email:

info@wingsofgodinc.org

website:

www.wingsofgodinc.org

facebook: @wingsofgodinc

#### Volunteer News

- 225.25 Total volunteers hours in 2020 through March 15th
  - 96.5 Volunteers hours in JANUARY 2020
  - 76.25 Volunteers hours in FEBRUARY 2020
    - **52.5** Volunteers hours in first half of MARCH 2020
      - Individual volunteers through 3/15; some are repeat volunteers on a monthly basis, such as: morning muscle leaders, transportation drivers, class instructors, as well as our grocery shopper and excess food shopper.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, email us at: info@wingsofgodinc.org.

### Thank you to our volunteers

These Volunteers gave their talents and time during the first quarter of 2020: Sue Barber, Tara Behrman, Laurie Boyd, Leslie Buhl, Chris Crane, Jewel Dailey, Kathy Deboer, Lynna Dyloff, Carol Galler, Sara Galler, Chris Gargus, Elaine Gibson, Verma Givhan, Katie Hartwell, Vicki Henry, Dania Jewett, Dan Johnson, Beth Johnson, Tiffany McCafferty, Rick McDougal, Cheryl Moulds, Kim Otten, Andriece Patten, Phililp Phifer, Adam Potgiesser, Jeff Rebenstorf, Jack Shanley, Pat Shanley, Mike Siver, Carol Sjoquist, David Small, Deb Spencer, PJ Storm-Artis, Kathryn Taylor, Linda Truman, Greg VanHeukelom, Shirley Wiersma, and Sue Zygadlo.



### This issue we are highlighting two of our volunteers: Tara and Lynna.

Tara, left, drives to the Gospel Mission in Kalamazoo twice a month and selects food from their excess supply, delivering it to Wings

of God. This has reduced our monthly food budget while also providing previous Pearls with meat, canned goods, and other food items.

Lynna, right, has been a volunteer at Wings of God for six years. She faithfully shops for groceries weekly — rain or shine — and always has a smile on her face. Looks like the list this week is small, perhaps due to the bounty of Tara's gleaning from the Gospel Mission. We are blessed to have both of these women sharing their time with us!



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## Resident Milestones & Blessings

Jena became a Wings of
God resident on January 11th. As a result
of being in the Wings of God program, she
was recently reunited with her family,
including two sons and her father, Tim. She
is shown below with her sons Paxton and
Aiden.





The Wings of God House Dog, Lucy, celebrated her two-year anniversary in February. Lucy plays an important role as the House Therapy dog. She knows which Pearl and staff needs comfort. When Kristina arrived on 2/5/20, Lucy spent the entire night sleeping next to Kristina, providing comfort to our newest resident. She is sponsored by the staff at Van Buren County Probate Court and Judge David DiStefano. We thank them for providing for her care.

### Thank You

# TO OUR RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

"Thank you" does not begin to express the gratitude we extol upon retired Judge William C. Buhl and Dr. Kathy Brittan for their 10 years of service as the Wings of God Board Chair and Secretary, respectfully. We are thankful for your continued partnership in other ways! Blessings to you both in your future service to God and his people.



### Generosity Report

#### 2019 year-end giving campaign report

Last year was, once again, one of abundant grace and offerings bestowed upon all of us here at Wings of God. Meeting our year-end campaign goal, we raised over \$30,000 for 2019.

**During 2019:** 

26 churches blessed us





58 businesses supported us

308 individuals donated



We need Pledge for Pearls volunteers in June

The second annual Pledge for Pearls Fundraiser event is coming Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20, 2020. Last year was our first year of this event, and we were amazed by God's faithfulness and generosity. We raised over \$21,000 from business sponsors, individuals, and people in the community who dropped bucks in our buckets! Our goal for 2020 is \$25,000. We are excited to have fifteen early bird sponsors already partnering in the event! See the enclosed flier for more exciting information how you can give, volunteer, and pray for this fundraiser!

## a Message from Karina

During this ever-changing time of the COVID-19 pandemic, I want you to know that Wings of God is following the lead of distancing ourselves from the Public to protect others, as well as our Pearls (Wings of God residents, whom we consider family) and Staff. We have a calling and will trust the Lord through this.

We continue with in-house classes through an internet-based provider, and our counselors and mentors will be calling each Pearl to stay in touch. We are not closing Wings of God and will continue to provide the care needed, trusting the Lord fully to continue to provide for us. **However, all visits/guests to Wings of God are discontinued until further notice.** 

The Pearls are handling the virus scare with hope, faith, fellowship, and perseverance. We are completely in faith and dependent on our donors to continue giving so the Pearls may continue their journey of growth in Christ. We know that staffing is absolutely necessary to properly and lovingly be present for the Pearls.

Thank you for your continued financial support and prayers for good health, wisdom, amazing ah-hah moments, and creative ways to draw closer to God. May He continue to bless you with His presence and comfort.

In His Hope, Karina Lamorandier, Executive Director & Co-Founder

#### \_\_\_\_Swe the Oate 2020 BENEFIT DINNER Thursday, October 8 at Lawton Community Center

## Happy Birthday

#### Two of our Pearls recently celebrated birthdays in typical WOG style!

Trina celebrated her birthday at the Wings of God on January 30th. The Pearls and staff sang Happy Birthday before showering words of affirmation

and encouragement upon her. Trina said that this was her first clean birthday in several years. Praise God for His healing presence in her life!



Angie is our newest resident who arrived on February 13th. The Pearls and staff celebrated her birthday on the 28th. She received a huge silly-string shower after her birthday song to match her silly and bubbly personality. Angie was also lavished with words of affirmation and

encouragement. God bless you, Angie, on your journey!

### One other special person celebrated her birthday at Wings of God

Karina, the Executive Director and fearless leader of Wings of God, found it impossible to ignore her birthday on March 3rd. The Pearls celebrated with balloons, cake, and a rousing rendition of the birthday song. Then they all shared their heartfelt gratitude for all that she does for Wings of God.

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#### Wish List

## Please feel free to call the Wings of God House at 269-415-0777 to donate any of these needed items.



Frozen pizza
Frozen pizza rolls
Frozen Healthy Choice dinners
Liquid flavored coffee creamer
Paper towels
Bigby Coffee gift cards for Pearls
Food gift cards for Sav-a-Lot, Meijer,
or Walmart

Hand sanitizer:
pump dispensers for the house
and purse-sized for Pearls
Air fresheners
Baby wipes
Eyebrow Tweezers









Books of the Bible tabs
Toners for Lexmark CX725 Printer:
#74C1SK0, #74C10Y0,
or #74C1SM0
Copy paper
Postage stamps

### Quick Facts

#### **Resident Statistics:**

- $\rightarrow$  83 Residents since inception February 2012.
  - → 176 Children have been impacted by the 83 women who were ministered to at the Wings of God.
    - → 6 Residents as of March 15th: Trina, Emily, Jena, Tashina, Kristina and Angelina. Please pray for them!!