



Bethany House

Providing Services for Women and Children Since 1986

Let it Snow



Let it snow...love, blessings, health, renewed hope and healing upon you, your families, and the women and children we serve, and on the Bethany House Program. May we all experience God's blessings and love this Holiday Season. There are so many reasons to be thankful. We want to thank you for your generous support of our program, and for the sponsor families that continue to provide shelter in life's storms for women and children and pregnant women who need a place to call home.

"J" tells her story below toward becoming successful and independent and how her sponsor family played a role. "My experiences from living with my Sponsor Family were more than I expected. I came here to Oregon to give my daughter up for adoption. After I gave birth to my baby girl, I could not give her up. Afterwards the adoption agency had to cut me off and I had nowhere to go. I called Bethany House and Beth call back with news of a Sponsor Family that was interested in meeting with me and decided I would fit with their family. We still hangout and go to church together and they adore my little girl. My Sponsor Family to this day is still in my life and are more than that, we are family. We love each other. I would like to give a special **Thank You to Bethany House, the Supporters and to my Sponsor Family for all their love and support =)**" My daughter and I are living in our own apartment now and I am working toward a Degree in Business."



ONE SPONSOR FAMILY HAS THIS TO SAY "My first encounter with Bethany House came 3 years or so ago when I contacted them and volunteered to be a "big sister" to one of the girls. I got to know a young lady and so much enjoyed having her and her child in our lives. So, when Bethany House began their Sponsor Family Program Beth asked me if that was something my family would be interested in. I had quite a bit of time on my hands and wanted to be involved in some kind of ministry.

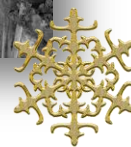
My family agreed with me that this would be a good opportunity for us. Beth and I met the young lady and together we decided that she would be a good fit for our family. She was in a difficult living situation and needed to make some big changes in her life in order to keep her baby.

Anytime one adds a member to an existing family, there are some adjustments. Our transitions haven't always been smooth, but we've been very glad to see the changes in attitudes as well as actions in this young lady's life. Not only did eating habits get much healthier, but her choices of friends and activities have gotten healthier as well" **This family had the joy of watching a healthy baby come into the world and were able to help prepare their sponsored woman to move out on her own, attend classes that would allow her to work and earn a living from home while being with her child.**

The cornerstone of the Bethany House Program is our sponsor families. Do you have extra space, an open heart, the desire to help a young mother and a child? Do you believe you can provide a positive, guiding influence in the life of a hurting woman? If so, you might find the role of sponsor family to be highly rewarding. Giving and loving others is a commandment from Christ. We are to help, encourage, and lift others up, using our time, talents, and treasure to bring healing and hope. When we give we truly receive blessings beyond our wildest imaginings. We hope you will consider stepping out in faith and making an eternal difference. Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers.



We understand not everyone can sponsor a woman and her child or children. But we believe everyone who believes the work we do is valuable will be blessed when they give to help hurting, homeless, and often abused women find safe shelter, healing, while discovering new ways to live, love, and parent successfully. **The evidence is clear:** The Bethany House Program helps create generations that give back to their communities after experiencing kindness and care from others who generously give.



Make checks to Bethany House PO Box 3278, Gresham, OR 97030 * Multiple Online Giving options at: www.bethanyhousenet.org. And find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Bethany-House-201883746521268/>



Celebrating Success

The Bethany House Program success stories serve as a timely reminder why we do what we do and why you support what we do! As we celebrate this "Season of Love" let's remember the work we do is critical and life-changing, *and* what you so generously give truly changes lives. *Visit our Facebook Page for expanded stories.* <https://www.facebook.com/Bethany-House-201883746521268/> *Updates and client quotes from Bethany House "girls" giving back:* (names withheld for confidentiality)

One woman who was in our program about ten years ago, struggled with addiction to drugs, she had a history of domestic violence, and she wasn't sure she'd ever be a good parent. I had the opportunity to speak with her again recently and discovered she is still drug free and raising her children in a safe, healthy environment. She gives credit to the support and skills she received from our program. She is not a statistic. She is a success!



"Bethany house made sure all my needs were met and gave me godly instruction on how to be a mother, a wife and a provider. This program and its financial supporters made it so that when I had my daughter 25 years ago that she and I wanted for nothing. We were overwhelmingly blessed with food clothing and training for success as I made a home and returned to the workforce." (Today she works in social services helping troubled youth and financially supports the Bethany House Program)

"This program is a lifeline to women and their children in the community who have no place to go. God gave the vision for this program to be a beacon of light and mercy for women and children to have a future and a hope! Bethany House continues to offer housing through sponsor families and meets the needs in the local community when others have no answers."



"Beth has always made it a point to be there too whenever I needed someone to talk too. My son was diagnosed with high functioning autism and our hardships through that only taught me even more to keep depending on God and to continuously find the strength and focusing more on those for him to build on. I was encouraged to depend on in God through Bethany House, I feel this has brought me and will continue to bring me through this life with a hope and a meaningful purpose for our lives"



EXCITING NEWS! A local business has offered to match up to \$3,500 of the donations this newsletter raises. That means if we raise \$3,500 it turns into \$7,000 to help more women and children. Will you please consider this match opportunity when you are deciding to give this Holiday Season?