

BETHANY



HOUSE



FALL EDITION 2004

PROVIDING A LOVING HOME AND SERVICES FOR SINGLE PREGNANT YOUNG WOMEN

Dating a 20 year old at the age of 17 wasn't the smartest move I've made in my life. Being 18 and finding out that I was having a child really wasn't what I expected for Valentine's Day...you know, the whole not being married and having a baby thing. I was thinking, "What is everyone going to think about me?" Then, having to move from one place to another wasn't helping my confidence in having a child very much. Knowing that every first of the month I would have to find a new place to live wasn't going to be easy for me as a single, pregnant girl.

When I finally found Bethany House I was about ready to give up my son for adoption to some people that I didn't even know because my boyfriend had said that unless I did he wouldn't date me anymore. Had not these wonderful people at Bethany House shown me love and kindness, I would have placed my child up for adoption and become embittered. I would not have known how to love and care for someone.

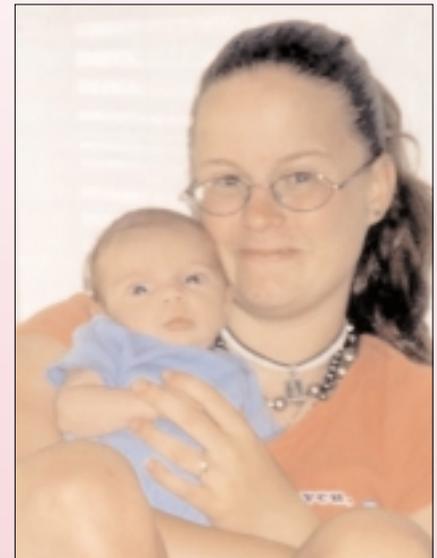
I was adopted at seven days old and raised in a huge family. My mother had lots of children to take

care of and never really had time for little Lindsey. I didn't want my relationship with my son to turn out like my mother's and mine: seeming unloving, uncaring and totally neglectful. When I thought I knew what I wanted from life, she and I lost what little relationship we had.

Since, I have learned so much about myself and what I really want and need. Mainly, I want to be loved and I need to start loving myself before anyone can get anywhere near me. Having Logan is the best thing that has happened to me in a long time. After being told by two doctors that I wasn't able to have children, having him was awesome. Yes, I will be the first to admit that at my age it wasn't the smartest thing to have done, but it happened and I love my son and will raise him to the best of my ability with the help of the people here and close friends of mine.

Being at Bethany House has taught me how to care for my son and my self, cook, and do basic cleaning and maintenance. Although we may have to follow a few rules at Bethany House, being here has been the best thing that could happen for

me. The girls that come in and out of here are great, but they need help like I did and still do. The staff are wonderful, God-filled people. I'm not much of a religious person, but being around them has shown me that someone up there really is



watching over us down here. If there is anything you want to find out about yourself, then all you have to do is look beyond yourself for help.

Thank you for all of your help in supporting this ministry.

Lindsey



New Arrivals

We are looking forward to Marisa's baby in October.



Directors Desk

Do you want to become more involved with Bethany House? Find out how to help...INSIDE



Did You Know...

just \$47.50 a month provides food, utilities, transportation, clothing and a home for one girl.

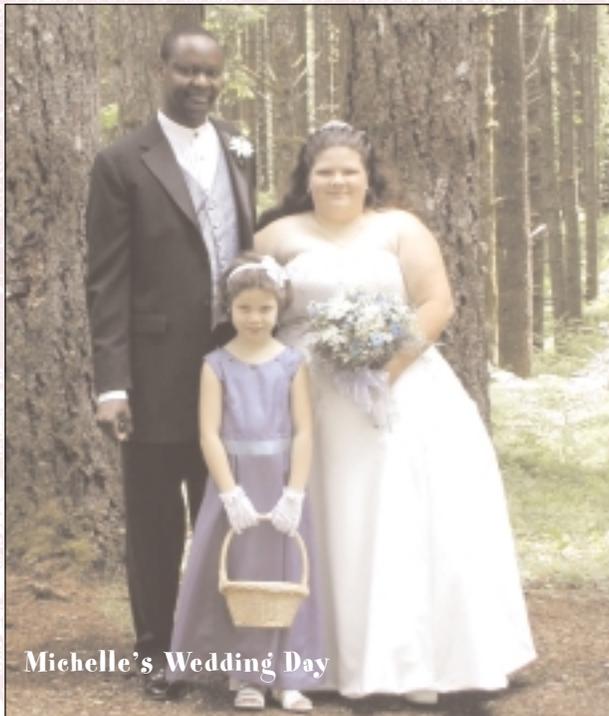


Special Feature...

Two of our former resident's got married this summer. Read their updates...INSIDE

...And They Lived Happily Ever After

For two former Bethany House girls, getting married this summer was a dream come true



Michelle's Wedding Day

It's hard to believe nine years have passed since I got the news that would change my life forever. I was a stubborn pregnant 17 year old, and I was rebelling against life it self. My self-esteem was very low and I had no real education. I was so happy to know that there was a place I could go, to get away from the stress, to start over, and to come closer to God. Bethany House was my ticket to growing up. I attended Mt. Hood Christian while residing at Bethany House and received Christ into my life and was baptized. One of my goals while residing in the home was to obtain my GED, which was a real accomplishment for me. Since leaving Bethany House a lot has happened, my little girl Rebekah endured many hospital stays, but the good news is she is fine now. I married on June 12th of 2004 to a wonderful man, his name is Gad. I got the wedding that I always dreamed of and I never thought life could be this good. I have done a lot in the last few years including getting off of all assistance and returning to school to get my C.N.A. I graduated on July 16th of 2003. I have to thank everyone who nine years ago made a huge impact on my life. It was the love and knowledge that has got me to where I am today, so thank you and God bless all who come to Bethany House and for everyone that supports this wonderful ministry. **Michele**

I became a Christian at a summer camp in 1998, but without any real direction I got back into my old lifestyle pretty quickly. When I found out I was pregnant, I knew I wouldn't be able to get through it alone. I knew there were homes for unwed mothers, so I looked for a Christian home that would also help me in my relationship with Christ. I found Bethany House and moved in on April 1, 2001 and was quickly welcomed into the family. My daughter, Makenna, was born on October 2, 2001. Soon the day I dreaded arrived: it was time to move out. I was walking out of the very home that had accepted me and gave me security. Thanks to God, within a short time I found a job, was able to get my own car and my own apartment with my grandparents help. Then, tragically, my apartment burned down. I had to start all over again. However, something wonderful was around the corner. Shortly thereafter I met the man of my dreams. We were married this year on August 7. I have tried to keep in touch with everyone at Bethany House, especially Jack and Beth (the founders) who even took my wedding pictures for me. Carrie Anne (our weekend housemother) has been a real friend. I also want to thank Pastor Les Moore and Brother Joe Atkins from Shekinah Christian Ministries for helping me deal with some tough issues in my life, and Pastor George Powell and his wife from Abundant Life Church who were my foster family for a while. All of these wonderful people surrounded me on my wedding day, a testimony to me of God's faithfulness and love. I know I'm not perfect, but I am grateful to all the people God has used in my life to help set me and others like me on the right track. Please consider giving to this ministry if you don't already. If you do, please continue. Thank you so much. **Sarah**



Sarah's Wedding Day

Community Involvement



Having our girls give back to the community is an important part of the program at Bethany House. We have been very fortunate over the years in having many different types of volunteer positions available. We believe that when these young women are able to give back it develops self discipline, a heart of compassion, wonderful work ethics, and builds character.

One of our young women Marisa, (picture not shown) has been volunteering at Marquis Care at Centennial here in Gresham spending time with seniors. Marisa was recently rewarded by staff and volunteers alike with a baby shower for her baby that is due in October. We are so proud of all the girls efforts, we thank all the wonderful businesses and establishments for continuing to open new doors of opportunity to our young women.

Fundraisers to Benefit Bethany House

Our newest fundraiser is one all of you can be involved in by simply collecting the items listed below. This fundraiser is one that will teach our young women how to run a small business, how to implement good marketing skills, receive training in Excel and all other aspects of a computer. Please join with us and help our young women to learn and grow and become successful career women and mothers.

Cell Phones (w/package if possible)	Baby Monitors
Older Marbles	Breast Pumps
Video Game Units, games/accessories:	Automatic Watches:
X-box	Rolex
PlayStation	Taghauer
Game Boy	Hummel collectibles
Children's Games	1st Edition Books
Pre-1970 Barbie Dolls (in original boxes)	Autographed Books
Veggie Tales movies and toys	Collectable Coins
Potty Training video	Business Computer Software:
	QuickBooks Pro
	Office Pro

UP COMING FUNDRAISER:

The second week in October Jan Weston from Weston Pontiac a long time supporter, is coming along side Bethany House to help raise money by having a football toss into the sunroof of a new car on the showroom floor to raise funds for the home. There will be different prizes in all categories and one grand prize to be announced the last day of the event. Watch for media on this event and mark your calendar and come and join in the fun.

United Way Donor Plan

Another way of giving :If your employer is a United Way giver, you can designate your donation to go directory to Bethany House. Just ask your United Way representative for a Donor Option card. You may contribute a one-time gift or donate regularly on a payroll deduction. Even though Bethany House is not a member of the organization, this is a great way to "direct" where your donation goes and we appreciate your help.

Job Opportunity

After 5 years of devoted service, our long-time housemother at Bethany House (Becky Coleman) has moved on to open My Sisters House for women and children, another much needed service in our community. Bethany House is now looking for the right women for these challenging yet rewarding positions. The Housemother/s at Bethany House will have the opportunity to help create a supportive and loving environment for up to five young women and their babies. We are looking for day, evening and weekend staff. If you are interested please call 503-667-3259 for more information.



COMMUNITY EVENT

We are partnering with KPDQ & The Fish this year in many different activities. You see us here at Esther Short Park in Vancouver right beside KPDQ gaining more exposure for Bethany House. Rodger Manning from the Fish made a quick dash to get into the picture with Linda Mobley left (Board Member) and right Penn Johnson (Advisory Board Member).

The Bethany House Newsletter is a quarterly publication written to inspire and inform you of the many wonderful experiences we have with our young mothers-to-be.

Content written by:
Former residents of
Bethany House and
Beth Rhinehart, Founder &
Director of Bethany House

Newsletter Design by:
Alyssa Ernst

Printed by:
Minuteman Press of Tigard

Board Members:
Beth Rhinehart
Linda Mobley
Linda Adkins
Ryan and Penny Johnson
Brian Vroom

Advisory Board:
Pastor Les Moore, Pastor David Hall
Dr. Edward Yanke, Dr. Renee Mestad
Ron Rowell, CPA
Financial Planner Michael Gama
Fundraising Advisors Bill Russell
Ron Post and Dave Farquhar, Jan Weston
Steve Movley, Prepaid Legal