



# BETHANY HOUSE

Providing a loving home and services for single pregnant young women

## Precious is precious...so is baby Marcello.

Did you know?

**If your employer is a United Way contributor, you can designate your donation to go directly to Bethany House. Just ask your United way representative for a Donor Option card.**

Precious came to Oregon from Texas when she was just four years old. Sadly, at just age nine, she was touched inappropriately by a family member, sending her reeling into a state of confusion, anger, and pain.

“At thirteen, I got involved in drugs and sex. I was trying to fit in and cover my negative feelings. Things went like this throughout high school.

After graduating in 2000, I went on vacation to celebrate, but ended up doing more drugs and partying with men. I returned

hoping to turn myself around by attending college. I lasted two years before dropping out. I started working and was living



*The women from Mt. Olivet Church adopted Precious as one of their own and threw her a baby shower beyond her wildest expectations. This group of lovely women continue stand with Precious as a network of loving support.*

on my own. Then I made a huge mistake by getting involved with a man twelve years my senior. I was only twenty at the time. Shortly after our affair I discovered I was pregnant. Unsure what to do, I made a decision I'll forever regret. I had an abortion. This led me deeper into the party and drug world where I again tried to bury my emotional pain. Nothing seemed to work. I got my nurses aide license, and worked a regular daytime job, while prostituting for drug money at night.

I got involved with methamphetamine, which took me further into a pit of despair. I became pregnant again at 24. The baby's dad wanted nothing to do with either of us. He was abusive and drinking all the time. I knew I

needed help, but didn't know where to go. I bounced from hotel to hotel, and from couch to couch. I even lived in my car during the winter months. After seeing my baby on the ultrasound screen I knew I had to get my life together. I called Bethany House looking for a warm place and found not only a warm, safe place but also a family.

I've grown so much. It hasn't been easy, but I'm letting go of my past and embracing my future. I have a precious (yes, precious) baby boy named Marcello. I've been drug and alcohol free for almost nine months. Today, my son and I have a hope and a future. Without Bethany House, none of this would have been possible.”



### Bethany House

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**INSIDE:**

# Shared values lead to sharing the Bethany House vision...

When our friend and supporter, Jim Misner, from Pro-Touch Painting calls, we can't help but smile. Jim is a financial donor/volunteer of time/giver of goods and services/prayer person/ ... okay, we'll stop there. Seriously, this man does more than a few things for Bethany House. As a man who values the lives of young women and children, Jim has reached out and formed a relationship with our program. He believes that helping Bethany House is highly rewarding. In fact, Jim had the following to say after receiving a thank you note from us: "I am sure that you fully agree that the greatest thanks we can receive is the blessings the Lord will bestow on you and the girls touched by your ministry. Thank you for letting us be a part of it in any way that we can." Thank you, Jim, for your kindness and service!



Around the same time that Jim and his friends were diligently working on repairing our deck, a quilting group from the Cherry Park Plaza invited our girls over for a delicious lunch and to present a handmade quilt to Danielle. As you can see from the photos, these women were overjoyed to give of their talents to bless a young woman in need of love and support. Sadly, shortly after this engagement, our precious Danielle lost her baby. This was Bethany House's first miscarriage in over seventeen years. Although this is a tragic situation, Danielle is committed to changing her life. We are committed to standing by her as she walks through her grief and continues to heal emotionally, physically, and spiritually. We trust the good work that God started will be completed. Please join us in praying for Danielle's future.

2007  
Annual Picnic



# A SERVANT'S HEART

*A message from our Director, Beth Rhinehart*



## Remember how quickly rumors spread back in high school?



You couldn't wait to dial that phone (maybe a rotary one?) and share the news that Sally was kissing Bobby at last night's football game. And before you knew it the news had traveled with the ferocity of a fifty-foot tidal wave across an unsuspecting beachfront. The damage was often much worse, though. Instead of broken buildings, hearts and lives were destroyed as the lies continued to flood the school halls, providing daily conversation for anyone who cared to listen. I can only imagine the impact of sharing that type of information in today's technical age with the click of a mouse or special call feature on the latest cell-phone.

I got to thinking, what if we were as excited about sharing good news and good causes with everyone we knew? What if we rushed to our email and told everyone we knew about Bethany House and the opportunities to see lives changed? What if ...?

Can you imagine the positive impact that would result if every person who receives this newsletter shared with one, five, or even ten other people the incredible stories of our residents? We could fill up every seat at our upcoming banquet in a matter of minutes. We would then have the opportunity to highlight the amazing work we are accomplishing and invite others to join the fun.

The whole world knows when a certain hotel heiress walks one of her ten dogs, yet we continue the upward battle of getting news of our organization out to those who just might share our values and vision.

You can change that right now! Please, complete the following commitment form. Make a copy to remind yourself of the challenge you've accepted.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (name) commit to sharing the program Bethany House provides for single, expectant women with 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

people. I'd be interested in a tour of your home/facility \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

I'd like to learn more about your upcoming banquet at 6:30 PM on Saturday, November 17, 2007 at the Airport Sheraton Hotel featuring a dramatic production by the Covenant Players.

 At our annual picnic, as we meet with former residents and their children, we are better able to determine the types of ongoing support that will make our future, second phase a success. Their accomplishments and struggles also allow us to make improved aftercare plans for our program "graduates." PS. Thank you to Pastor Les...great job with the barbeque.



### **Do you love babies?**

Care about women in need?

Enjoy giving...?

If so, you can help bless a baby (and a young mom) by purchasing a Diaper Bag and filling it full of much-needed baby supplies (and goodies). Bethany House will distribute

bags to their own single, expectant residents and to other pregnant women in the community who need support. Get in on the blessing!

### **Please Pray..**

- for our newest resident, Kristy, to have a healthy birth
- for Danielle to find healing and hope after a miscarriage
- for the right piece of land, or funding to purchase land for the second phase.
- for incoming residents to embrace change with enthusiasm
- for a qualified weekend house mother.
- for a successful banquet with many new guests and old friends alike
- for our director and staff to overcome any obstacles and challenges that may arise
- for new supporters to come along side our program

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Watch for exciting changes coming to the Bethany House website: [www.bethanyhousenet.org](http://www.bethanyhousenet.org) including on-line donation options and an interactive blog.

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### **Items needed:**

Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Orange Oil, Bathroom Shower Spray, Frozen Juice, Large Kitchen Garbage Bags, Ziplock Baggies (all sizes) Canned Corn, Aluminum Foil, 409 Cleaner, Liquid Laundry Soap



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