

*New Beginnings
Start Here.*

DaySpring Villa
Women and Children's Shelter
THE VILLA VOICE

Volume IV, Issue 4

Winter 2011

Our Christmas Present Is Their Christmas Future

Like many of you and your families, the staff at DaySpring Villa is busy preparing for the holiday season. Thanks to our many volunteers and supporters, our guests and their children enjoyed a beautiful Thanksgiving dinner right down to the drumsticks and pumpkin pie. Perhaps our prayer that day was like yours too. We thanked God for life and each other, for His blessings in good times and bad. We also prayed for peace—not just in the worldly sense but *personal* peace for every woman and child who seeks refuge here from an abusive partner.

With the Thanksgiving meal a memory, the Christmas spirit soon took hold at DaySpring Villa. We hung colorful lights, decorated trees, and wrapped donated gifts for our guests and their children, anticipating the moment we'd hear the excited giggles of kids too young to understand why they're here. It's impossible not to be forever changed by that laughter. What is possible is that these children and their mothers now have an extraordinary opportunity to know a much different future.

At DaySpring Villa, we provide more than the basic necessities for women and their children caught in a domestic violence situation. Our mission is to literally transform their lives to become strong, independent women and mothers. We work with each of our guests to set practical goals that help them make better choices and regain their self-worth. As the only

certified faith-based domestic violence shelter in Oklahoma, DaySpring Villa emphasizes spiritual, emotional and physical healing as the path to positive, lasting change.

Then and Now

This year *The Villa Voice* featured three guests out of the 108 women and 76 children we've received as of the date of this writing.

Amanda

You might recall Amanda who was shuffled between family members for years. Abandoned by her mother, she became a product of the system—another statistic whose future looked bleak. Homeless at 18, Amanda sought help from a local church where the pastor told her about DaySpring Villa. She arrived angry and despondent, unwanted and unloved, with no direction or purpose. Our staff worked closely with Amanda to help her learn how to make positive choices that would break the destructive cycle her life had become. After 19 days at DaySpring Villa, Amanda was ready to start anew. She is now living with her grandparents.

Lindsay

Pregnant and beaten, Lindsay came to DaySpring Villa with her three-year-old

daughter determined to put all of their lives on the right track. Her fairytale romance with a man she discovered to be a drug addict had disintegrated into a violent existence and several brushes with death. At DaySpring Villa, Lindsay found the courage to put her past behind and regain her independence. We encouraged her to set realistic goals following the birth of her baby, and introduced her to opportunities that will allow her to live self-sufficiently.

Now working, Lindsay and her children have transitioned out of DaySpring Villa and are living with family.

Denise

Like many of our guests, Denise endured a childhood marred by violence. Although she was determined not to become one of those women who would let a man hurt her, she soon found herself in just that predicament with an abusive husband. Denise arrived at DaySpring Villa in January, optimistic about the future and committed to breaking the pattern many children of domestic violence continue as adults. We are delighted to report that Denise has achieved virtually every goal she has set for herself. She works full-time at a job that she loves, bought her own car, and is now saving for a home of her own.

Unfortunately, not every woman who comes to DaySpring Villa makes the difficult choice

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The Staff of DaySpring Villa Wish You All a Merry Christmas!

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to change a life of violence. While we are always disappointed by this fact, we pray that one day their eyes and hearts will be opened, if not for themselves then for their children.

With your continued support, DaySpring Villa looks forward to creating more success stories like those you've just read. **Year after year, we shelter, clothe, feed, and provide vital services to make these success stories**

possible—and diminish the potential for the children of these women to perpetuate the cycle of domestic violence, whether as a victim or abuser. Because DaySpring Villa receives no government or United Way funding, we rely on financial gifts from individuals, churches, and companies to transform the lives of women and children in crisis, enabling them to become productive members of our community.

On behalf of everyone at DaySpring Villa,

thank you for believing in our mission and our purpose. We wish each of you a Merry Christmas. May you have many blessings and peace now and into the New Year.

Sincerely,
Wilma Lively
Executive Director
DaySpring Villa



Give the Gift of Drive

Imagine trying to get through life without a car, or not even knowing how to drive.

One of the most surprising facts that new supporters of DaySpring Villa learn about our guests, is that many of them don't know how to drive. While some of these women may have taken driver's education classes in high school, their abusers later forbade them to drive or obtain a driver's license during their relationship. Why? Quite simply, *control*.

"Part of the recovery process for our guests is learning how to live independently," says

Wilma Lively, executive director of DaySpring Villa. "One of the first items on their list after finding a job is saving money for a car so they don't have to depend on public transportation, friends or family to get to work or school."

For years, staff members at DaySpring Villa have used their personal vehicles to teach these women how to drive and prepare them for their driver's test. But with more guests in need of a driver's license than staff members and cars to help them, we need your help. **Please consider donating any working economy-sized car that you no longer use**

for the purpose of driving practice. All practice exercises are led and accompanied by a DSV staff member on private grounds. All donations are tax deductible.

To learn how you and your unwanted vehicle can become a force of independence for our guests, please call Wilma Lively at 918.245.4075.



Our Christmas Wish List

Vehicles

Economy-size cars

Guest Children

Boys clothing, sizes 4/5 through 8/10

Laundry detergent for babies

New car seats for infants, toddlers and older kids

Single and double strollers

Kitchen

Countertop ice dispenser

Sippy cups

Commercial gallon-size plastic pitchers (6)

Styrofoam cup dispensers (2)

Non-stick frying pan (14")

Large stainless steel pots

Griddle scrapers (two 13")

Black rubber dishwashing aprons (4)

Heavy-duty washing gloves

Building

Energy efficient windows

Interior paint

Ceiling fans with light kits (8)

Three-way light/vent/heaters for bathrooms (3)

Miscellaneous

Rectangular and round plastic folding tables

Front parking resurfaced with asphalt

Office

Legal-sized notepads

Flat screen computer monitors

Computer memory cards – (we need 20)

Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D and 9 volt)

Postage stamps

Avery labels, size 5961

Envelopes, 9 x 12 and 10 x 13

CD-R and DVD-R CDs with cases

Landscaping and Outdoor

Flowers, plants and shrubs

Topsoil (2 truckloads)

Guest courtyard irrigation and sprinkler system

"Snow Joe"

Lawn mower



Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Chanda Turner – a victim of domestic violence

Ellen Ichinose

In Honor of J. W. & Kate Massey

Dorr R. & Christina L. Depew

In Honor of Garrett's 22nd Birthday

Kevin & Lori E. Fullbright

In Honor of Bill & Penny Plaster

Elena M. Bussell

In Honor of Mark & Susan Lee

Donald C. & Patricia Jordan

In Memory of Lee Lair

Marian Rose Lair

In Memory of Steve Burgess

Evelyn Patterson

Bryon & Robbie Hammons

Betty S. Parker

Todd & Sheila Mitchell

Wilma Lively

Koinonia Ladies Sunday School Class, Olivet Baptist Church

In Memory of Mother Lenora Amphlett

WMU Director in Northeast Association for 41 years

Dorothy E. Amphlett

In Memory of Dottie Clark

J.W. & Norma J. Graham, Jr.

In Memory of Sandra Shuler

Todd & Sheila Mitchell

Wilma Lively

In Memory of Vivian Roley

Millie & Bob Combs

In Memory of the following: From Bill & Penny Plaster

Jean Adsit

Lucy Andrews

Okemah Arey

Mr. Bower

Katherine Bradley

James Brewster

Trap Briscoe

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce

Don Bryant

Dwight Bussell

Doris Carter

Belle Cheever

Doug Choate

Edward Clark

Mr. & Mrs. Clingan

Joe Coleman

Elroy Cooper

Dick Coutant

Mr. & Mrs. Crouch

Mr. Dean

Ron Dillon

Nellie Duncan

Bill Eubanks

Ramona Field

Irvine & Denise Gandee

Lorena George

Guy Graham

Mr. & Mrs. Oval Gude

Doris Harmon

Steve Harmon

Mary Hecox

Jim & Cindy Hill

Laverne Hjelm

Lucile Hodges

Loyd Holland

Bill Hopper

Betty Jackson

Wayne Jagels

Kaye Jeffers

Rose Marie Jeffers

Maude Allen Jones

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Jordan

Pat Kikugawa

Sheena Layne

Jonathan Lemery

Jane Lindsey

Virginia Lobaugh

E.R. Sr. & Eugenia Luna

Ethyl MacQueen

Justin Magers

John Martin

Glen McDowell

Cindy Merideth

Francys Morgan

Mary Nation

Pat Neely

Tom Parkinson

Melvin Payne

Jane Peck

Ken Peters

Henrietta Pierce

Bob Piland

Sara Prater

Carol E. Prosser

Lester Rice

Bill Riddle

Truman Robison

Faye Rutledge

Richard Ryan

Bro. Bill Sanders

Sister "Dot" in ARK

Dennis Stafford

Edith Stehm

O.D. & Eloise Strozier

Bob Twibell

Harold Upshaw

Marion Vajiz

Charles Venable

Chaplain Bob Willets

Reg Wilson

Charlyne Winter

Ellis & Faith Zumwalt

And the angel said unto them,
 "Fear not: for, behold, I bring
 you good tidings of
 great joy, which
 shall be to all
 people. For
 unto you
 is born this
 day in the city
 of David a Savior,
 which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2: 10-11



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OUR MISSION IS **TRANSFORMING LIVES.**

DaySpring Villa provides food, shelter, clothing, transportation and vital life tools for as many as 55 women and children at risk. As a privately funded shelter, our ability to dramatically change lives depends on the volunteer services, financial gifts and in-kind contributions we receive from caring individuals and organizations.

918.245.4075
www.dayspringvilla.com

DaySpring Villa is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization

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 Women and Children's Shelter

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