

VOICE OF THE HOMELESS

“Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.” Psalms 127:1

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MISSION STATEMENT

“To show compassion and offer hope in the Name of Jesus Christ by providing temporary housing for the homeless and assisting them to obtain spiritual and physical stability.”

HOMELESSNESS (cont)	2
Derby (cont)	2
Upcoming Events	2
President's Request	2
Azaleas	
Inside Yard Sale	3
Current Needs	3
Stats	3
Avon Fund Raiser	3
Gift Sheet	3
Thank You !!!!	3
Brownies Troop 762	4
From the Desk of Candace Willhite	4

HOMELESSNESS

A person who has a job can still be homeless. If you are not able to make expenses with the income that you bring in and not able to pay rent or mortgage, then you are among those of need of shelter.

I had a full-time job in Chicago, and I took an hour-long train to get to it. I was gone 12 hours a day. The first homeless shelter I was at only let me stay for two weeks because I came home too late to participate in their classes that were required. The women and children had a separate sleeping area from the men. An office with windows on both sides separated the two sleeping areas. We were not allowed to go to our sleeping areas until after 7 pm. We had to stay out in the

common area until the staff decided to let us go back there. Once we were let back there, we could not leave. We had lockers and could have our own pillows and blankets. Sheets and pillowcases were provided. We would take our mattresses down from the closet and put them on the floor. Unless it was real crowded, we were allowed to get two mattresses. In the morning, we would put our mattresses back in the closet. I had a wake-up call because I would need to leave for work before the others got up.

On the day I had to leave the shelter I still kept looking for homeless shelters that would take me. Before I found one, I lived in my car for three weeks. I drove 20 miles each way to stay illegally at a rest

area at night. I would buy a gallon jug of water and wash my hair in the parking lot (truck stops charge \$8.00 for a shower). I would change clothes for work in the stalls.

Most of the shelters in Chicago require you to go to a hospital emergency room or a police station, then call the Department of Human Services. The police station has a phone with the number to the Department of Human Services above it. I tried the police station twice. The first time was during a weekday, and I could not stay very long. The second time, a police that DHS usually doesn't show up until 4 or 5 am. I took the last train back to my car. (cont. p.2)

LITTLE YELLOW DUCKIES DERBY

At 8:30 a.m. over 20 little duckies were waiting to be adopted. They wanted to join 290 of their buddies.

They wanted to swim in The Little Red River on



this very nice May morning.



In just 30 minutes they would be dropped over the edge of the bridge as the Sherriff's car guarded the

scene. But it was not to be.

At 9:00 the horn sounded. The drop was completed. The Derby had begun. Swift was the current as the two boats followed behind the yellow ducks. The cheer leaders and crowd quickly moved camp from the VFW parking lot to the Boat Ramp on 367N. We waited. And waited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 7 (Sat) 10 am -2pm
Klassic Car Show
Berryhill Park
Sell hotdogs & burgers

JUNE 9th - - - - JUNE 24th
Avon Fund Raiser
(see enclosed flyer)
Contact: Dawana Hawk
501/827-3121

JUNE 10 (Tues.) 10 am
Jacob's Place Board
St. Mary's CME Church
1200 W. Park, Searcy

JULY 8 (Tues.) 10am
Jacob's Place Board
TBA

July 12 (Sat.) 9 am -1 pm
Truck & Tractor Wash
Latina Imports
509 S. Spring @ BB Capps

HOMELESSNESS (Cont)

The next shelter encouraged people to have a job. They had a computer area and a resource manager who helped you with your resume and job hunting. People from different places would come in a give a talk. There was one from a bank about credit and credit reports and one from a dentist office, one from an anger management place. This shelter helped me pay for half of my security deposit once I found a place. You had your own room with a key, a bed on a frame, a dresser, a two-door closet with four drawers, a sink with a mirror, and a chair. You could have what you wanted in there. Plus, they had a storage area with a lock in the basement.

I stayed there four and one-half months before finding a place to live. (I had gotten a better job a month earlier.) I had found an apartment complex that was offering to four months free rent, depending how good the credit report was. With the letter I had from the shelter and from my work guaranteeing it was permanent full-time job, I was able to move in a week after I saw it. I now have had my job 18 months and the apartment 17. Because of persistence and perseverance, I was able to overcome a lot of obstacles.

Sincerely,
 Rebecca Perry
 Joliet, Illinois



“Do you see them yet?” “Call Mark to see where they are.” Mark was a member of the Sherriff's

dive team and in the catch boat.

Carole fired up the grill that First Security Bank had loaned us. We would have it hot and ready for hot dogs when the race was over.



We paced. We waited. We paced some more. And we waited. “Call Mark again”

“Did you say they were at the freeway bridge?”

I can see them . They should be here in 20 minutes.



Mr. Howell, from the Game and Fish folks commented that the estimate of a 2 hours derby was about right. It took 2 hours and 15 minutes.

The winner was about 2 yards ahead of any of the other ducks and eagerly tossed ashore. Quickly behind was #2. Then slowly a pack of about 15 duckies came into sight. First, one was ahead and then another. Who was going to be #3? This one? No, that one. At last #3 passed the mark was caught and tossed ashore. Here is the line up.

First #444 adopted by Donna Chandler.

Second #385 adopted by Jim Thompson.

Third #164 adopted by Samuel King.



Oh Well, there's next year!!!

President's Request

I come to you asking for your support prayers for our clients. Some come to us with little hope and not believing that things can get better. They are so afraid that they think that the staff is the “Police in disguise”. They have little trust in others.

Pray that they will begin to believe in their own strengths; that they will begin to see God at work in their lives; and believe that the staff is there to help them climb out of the hole that they are in.

Thanks for your never ending support.
 Rebecca F.



Azaleas blooming on the west side of the house, May 1, '08.

501.380.8283

INSIDE YARD SALE

Printing courtesy of Mt. Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Rose Bud



Mary and Martha

(r-l) Mary Ann Brown and Martha Kahland sit at the checkout table at the Inside Yard Sale held Friday and Saturday, May 2-3 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Searcy.

The sale was going quite well until the wind came up and blew down some power lines. Things went black and almost shut down the sale. But, NO, these women kept on selling stuff.



AND MORE STUFF. They might even be there yet if the time had not run out. And the men came to box up the left-overs. Jacob's Place wants to thank all who helped in this effort. The total was substantial and helpful



Current Needs

- Paper goods:
 - Kitchen & bath
- Plastic wrap
- Aluminum foil
- Soaps:
 - Dish washer
 - Dish liquid w/bleach
 - Laundry detergent
 - Kitchen trash bags
 - Yard size trash bags
 - Bleach
 - Diapers
 - Baby gates (3)
 - Baby swing
- Food
 - Baby food

Carpenters to help build gates in back yard. We have a little boy who wants to play in the there.

THANK YOU !!!!!

- Tina Coyle
- Julie Cannon
- Frank and Margaret Prier
- Cosmetic Studio, Inc. Joey Cain
- Betty Hagenmon -Kara Tobey
- Phil & Amy Weaver
- Zachery Seagle -Garrett Reaper
- Darryl & Kim Capps
- Christie Kling
- 1st United Methodist Church, Searcy- Murray Class
- Sonic #3, 1201 N. Maple, Searcy and HU student car hops.
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Searcy, UMW
- Ahlf Jr. High School
- National Junior Honor Society,
- Beth Collins, Sponsor

AVON FUND RAISER

Dawana Hawk, Avon dealer, is providing Jacob's Place with a fund raiser. Enclosed you will find the flyer describing the items for sale. The sale ends June 24th.

Contact her at Delta-queen2004@yahoo.com or 827-3121. Remember to give her your phone number and address. She will order your items. The order should come in early in July. When they come in volunteers from Jacob's Place will help her sack them and deliver them to you. We would like to have payment in cash or money order. PLEASE remember to include your phone number just in case the person delivering is directionally challenged.

STATS

- March Service Calls-11
 - 1 couple
 - 4 single males
 - 3 single females
 - 3 families
 - 2 families taken in
- April Service Calls-24
 - 4 families
 - (1 Domestic Violence
 - 1 failed drug test)
 - 12 single males
 - 8 single females
 - No families taken in
 - 1 family exited
- May Service Calls-3
 - 1 family
 - 1 single males
 - 1 single females
 - 1 family taken in
- 3 Fulltime Staff
- 2 Part time Staff
- 6 active Client Support Volunteer Staff

My Gift to God is helping
 Jacob's Place Homeless Mission, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1643, Searcy, AR 72145
 (All gifts are tax-deductible) PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Phone _____

Address: _____
 Street City State Zip e-mail

One-time contribution of \$ _____ Monthly Pledge of \$ _____ beginning _____

I an volunteer my time by: Praying Working at Shelter with clients Transporting Clients to work etc.
 Picking up Donations Repair/Maintenance Work Fund-Raising Activities Other _____

Check out our website: Jacobsplace.org

New email jacobsp@hotmail.com

I would like to introduce you to the Jacob's Place program. The "Ladder Program," is inspired by the Biblical story of Jacob's flight from home after stealing his brother Esau's blessing, which is located in Genesis chapter 28.

THE LADDER PROGRAM

Clients are required to get a job within 2 weeks. This means a productive job which will provide sufficient income. If they are trying and it takes a little longer, we will work with them.

The Manager will verify this employment, and will do periodic status checks with the client's employer if deemed necessary.

Clients will report their income to the Manager. The Manager will then assist the client in working out a budget to see how much they will save during their stay. From that point on the client will bring the Manager a money order in their name for the amount agreed upon. The money orders are placed into a safe and will be returned to the client upon exit from the program.

Once a client exits the facility, or program, they will not be permitted to return for at least one year from date of exit.

The Manager and client will evaluate goals for length of stay. The length of stay is agreed to by the Manager and client. Progress toward these goals is examined at least weekly.

Clients are expected to be active in improving themselves and the lives of their children.

If a client is not putting forth any real effort in the program they will be asked to exit the facility, in order to make the way for us to be better able to assist another family.



Brownies Rae-Anne Walker and Sophia Eaads of Troop 726 at work giving cookies to President R. Frankford of Jacob's Place during their investiture service at the Carmichael Center.

Design and Details courtesy of Carole's Copy and Print.

Jacob's Place Homeless Mission, Inc
P.O. Box 1643
Searcy, AR 72145