

SEE PAGE 2
FOR WAYS
YOU CAN
HELP THE
HOMELESS
FAMILIES.

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.”

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VOICE OF THE HOMELESS

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

Volume I, Issue I

March 2008

About Us

On Nov. 8, 2006, the Searcy Ministerial Alliance appointed a committee to investigate the feasibility of offering more than a one-night emergency stay for families needing temporary housing. Jacob's Place Homeless Mission Inc. was established in Jan. 2007 by members of various Christian churches in the White County, AR area, all working together in a cohesive effort to help break the cycle of homelessness.

A house was leased at 301 E. Market St. in Searcy, AR from the First United Methodist Church. It houses up to 16 persons. Adult residents are required to find and maintain employment within two weeks of entering Jacob's Place. Each resident will be expected to save the majority of their earnings in order to



Jacob's Place
located at
310 E.
Market St.
Searcy, AR
72143

become self-sufficient. Community contacts have been made to teach classes on job skills, parenting, nutritional and cost-effective meal planning, budgeting and other life skills.

“One Person's Story”

When I was 5 and my sister 3 years of age, we lived with our parents in Flint, Michigan . My father, who was mentally ill, was returned to the VA Hospital in Little Rock for treatment. My mother had to get us back home to Arkansas as best she could. Between bus rides, we had no place to stay. A charitable agency found room for us in the city jail. That was our bed for the night and everyone was kind to us. We finally got home and were reunited with my grandparents who took us in.

This can happen to anyone even temporarily in a crisis situation. Please do not use my name as my mother is still alive and does not like to be reminded of hard times. As for me, I feel very grateful when people do not judge but come to the aid of those in need because it is the right thing to do. Thank God for Jacob's Place. Maybe we can give families loving care and leave them with a good memory.

(Name Withheld Upon Request)

Upcoming Events!

4/5 7a.m. Sat. GIANT Yard Sale
Rendezvous
101 S. Main St.
Searcy, AR

4/12 9a.m. Sat. Vehicle Wash
Latina Imports
509 S. Spring @ BB Capps
Searcy, AR

4/14 1 p.m. Mon. Jacob's Place
Board Meeting
First United Methodist
Church
204 N. Main St. in Searcy, AR

TBA Yard Sale Sponsored by
St. Paul's United Methodist
Church 2509 BB Capps
Searcy, AR

TBA Sonic Hop sponsored by
HU Students (more later)

5/3 9 a.m. Sat. Vehicle Wash
Latina Imports
509 S. Spring @ BB Capps
Searcy, AR

5/12 1 p.m. Mon. Jacob's Place
Board Meeting
Our Shepherd
Lutheran Church
2610 S. Main; Searcy, AR

5/17 9 a.m. Sat. Duckie Float
Little Red River
Sponsored by FBLA,
Central High School

6/7 9 a.m. Sat. Vehicle Wash
Latina Imports
509 S. Spring @ BB Capps
Searcy, AR

6/9 1 p.m. Mon. Jacob's Place
Board Meeting
TBA

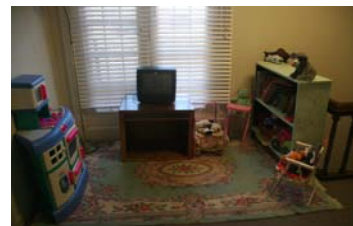
7/12 9 a.m. Sat. Vehicle Wash
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Searcy, AR

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Board Meeting
TBA

How Can You Help?

We need your help in a variety of ways. First and foremost, we need your prayers. We can do very little without our Prayer Partners back-up. With the work expanding we need more and more folks on their knees (either physically, spiritually, or both). Two praying persons are needed for each person engaged with the hands-on work. It is a time of transition for us so pray that we have been thoughtful in our planning and have things

in hand. You may call the office (380-8283) for a specific name to pray for or you may pray in your own closet. We also need your financial assistance--either a one-time donation or a monthly pledge. We need your time, as well--volunteering at the shelter, picking up donations, performing construction work or maintenance, fund-raising activities, etc. We also need donations of food, personal care items, cleaning supplies, clothing, etc.



(Above) Area designed for children to interact with one another. (Below) One of the many rooms available for the families.



Current Needs

Canned meat (tuna, chicken, ravioli, beef stew, spaghetti sauce, Vienna sausage, ham, roast beef, Spam, etc.)
Canned or dried fruit and vegetables

Dry goods (rice, pasta, mac-n-cheese, flour, sugar, cornmeal, jell-o, cake mix, baking pow-

der, etc.)

Condiments (mustard, mayo, salt, pepper, ketchup, etc.)

Cleaning supplies,

laundry supplies

Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissue, napkins, etc.)

Personal care items (soap, shampoo, deodor-

ant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, brushes, combs, disposable razors)

Baby items (diapers, baby wipes, baby bath, etc.)

Pillows and plastic

pillow covers

Twin and full plastic mattress covers

President's Remarks by Rebecca Frankford, President of the Board

This is the first edition of our newsletter. It is intended to be a source of information about homelessness and what is happening in our community to relieve the situation. We will search for information concerning the causes of homeless

wherever it might be. We will ask those who find themselves in the throes of it to speak for themselves. We will give the latest events at Jacob's Place and those who work there so that you may join our efforts to assist those who need a lift-up.

We hope that you find "Voice of the Homeless" useful and informative. Let us hear your voice as well.

Contact Us at (501) 380-8283

Office

Office hours are
Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

When Jacob's Place has clients, all off-duty staff, staff family, board members, volunteers, etc, are urged to call ahead if possible, and meet briefly in the office/conference area. If you need to meet with the manager, please call to set up a time.

Referral Calls

Potential intake screenings and actual client intakes will be conducted during the set office hours. If we receive a potential client referral call during after-hours, the caller will be instructed to call back during regular office hours.

Jacob's Place, located on East Market Street next to the First United Methodist Church in Searcy, is opening their doors and hearts to the homeless families of White County.



Board Members of Jacob's Place

1-Pres: **Rebecca Frankford**
reba70@cablelynx.com
First Christian Church (DoC), Searcy

2-Vice-Pres:

3-Sect: **Heather Mitchel**
hmitchel@harding.edu
Covenant Fellowship Church of Christ {Harding University Student }

4-Treas: **Diann Howard**
diannah@cablelynx.com
St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Searcy

5- Past-Pres: **William Gant** william-debora@earthlink.net
St. Mary's CME Church, Searcy {Pastor}

6-**Nelson Roberson**
Sacred Vessels of Deliverance, Kensett {Bishop}**Chair-Office Mgt. Team**

7-**Calvin Foster**
cbkensett@centurytel.net
Kensett Church of God, Kensett {Pastor}

Chair-Fund Raising Team
8-**John Gilliland**
johngilliland2@alltel.net
Mt. Bethel Freewill Baptist Church, Rosebud {Pastor}

Chair-Client Mgt. Team
9-**John Byrd**
jbyrd4391@yahoo.com
First United Methodist Church, Searcy {retired}

Chair-Facilities Mgt Team
10- **Jasper & Caroe Fultz**
cifultz@earthlink.net
Co-Chair-Prayer Team

11-**Dee Harper**
dee@searcyfumc.com
First United Methodist Church, Searcy, {Assoc Pastor}

12-**Andrea O'Connell**
Oakfam@sbcglobal.net
Covenant Fellowship Church of Christ, Searcy {Social Worker}

13- **Rick Miller**
rick-.miller@hotmail.com
St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Searcy {lawyer}

14-**Daniel Vaughn**
First Christian Church, Beebe {retired}

15- **Al Fowler**
cawowler@aristotle.net
Covenant Fellowship Church of Christ Searcy {convener}

16- **Mark Carson**
mcarson@cablelynx.com
Believer's Fellowship

17-TRUSTEES
Class of 2008 Carl Parks, Harris Chapel CME& Lane Chapel CME
Class of 2009 Steve Miguet, Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Searcy
pastorsteve@usinggodsgifts.net
Class of 2010 Leo John Griffin, Gateway Baptist Church, Judsonia
leojohngriffin@yahoo.com

Candace Willhite
(501) 380-8283 Manager
First Christian Church (DoC), Searcy

My gift to God is helping

Jacob's Place Homeless Mission

P.O. Box 1643; Searcy, AR 72145

(All gifts are tax-deductible.) PLEASE PRINT

Name (Please print): _____ Signed: _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Phone E-Mail

One-time contribution of \$ _____ Monthly pledge of \$ _____ /month beginning _____

I can volunteer my time by: Praying Working at Shelter Public Speaking Picking up donations

Repair/Maintenance Work Fund-Raising Activities Other: _____

THANK YOU!

Westside Church of
Christ (Good Samaritan
Group)

Homer's ACE Hardware

Robbie Sullivan

Linda Bearden

Honey Hill Christian
Church

Body Map

Bunny Bread's
& Playthings

Becci & Mike Strickland
Margaret Meads

Frank & Margaret at
Gateway Baptist Church

Borist & Candace Willhite

Lora & Steve Taylor

William Hall

Rev. & Mrs. WmHughart

Mandy Keith

Ramona Pangle

Ken's Discount Home
Center

Charles Pittman

Rick Miller

Carole Fultz

Janice Crutchfield

Air Care

Linda Lowe

Elisa Barden

"Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain." Psalms 127:1

From the Desk of Candace Willhite, Director/Mngr.

We opened for client intake on March 14, 2008.

Introduction of Our Staff

I am Candace Willhite, Director/Manager of Jacob's Place Homeless Mission, Inc. I was born in White County and have resided here most of my life. I was hired by the governing board of directors and began my position (part time) on Oct. 1, 2007. I went to full time on March 3, 2008. I previously worked at Hospice Home Care in Searcy. In the past I worked for White County Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc. here in White County, part of that time as the manager of the battered women's shelter. I have also worked in the medical field as a nurse assistant for several years. I was certified in the past to pass out medications to patients in a nursing home in the state of Oklahoma, where I resided for a few years.

Janice "Vickie" Crutchfield is the Assistant Manager as of February 18, 2008. Vickie has recently worked with the Bald Knob Christian Academy as a second grade teacher. She also founded and was co-owner of a non-profit organization called "Heavenly Outreach" for a short time in Kensett. She has also worked as a Certified Nurse Assistant in recent years. Vickie will primarily work with volunteer coordination, as well as fulfilling her assistant management duties.

Gennetta Kidd is the Night Monitor as of February 18, 2008. Gennetta has, in the past, primarily worked in the retail and industrial industries. She recently worked at Big Lots and Wal-Mart here in Searcy. She is very passionate about working with those in need. She is dedicated in her work and is willing to learn whatever requirements are necessary to fulfill her duties here at Jacob's Place. She will primarily work overnights as well as some weekend fill-in if needed.

Charlene Shorter is going to be the part-time, night monitor starting March 18th. She is also a C.N.A. and lives in Beebe. Charlene attends Light House Pentecostal Church. She has the heart and passion to help the homeless.

Jacob's Place Homeless Mission, Inc.

P.O. Box 1643

Searcy, AR 72145