

LIFESPRING MINISTRY CONNECTIONS

AN UPDATE FOR LIFESPRING MINISTRY FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS ON DEVELOPMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

“I FINALLY REALIZED WHAT I WAS MISSING ALL ALONG...”

*I*n my 23 years of life, I’ve experienced love and kindness but I’ve also seen a lot of destruction. Growing up in an alcoholic home led me to think the only way to deal with problems is by escaping them. So, one thing led to another and I started using drugs. My mom helped me get into many rehab programs but none of them really clicked. There was still that gaping hole in my chest that needed to be filled. Then, God led me to Lifespring! This is my first time being in a Christian program and the longest I’ve been able to stay with a program.

With the help of God, the staff, other residents and volunteers, I have been made whole. I have learned to always put God first and realize now that this is what I have been missing all along. I am so grateful now and want to give back because I have received so much. Once I am in Phase III, I am looking forward to getting a job and would like to go to school for Animal Assisted Therapy. I know God will lead me where He wants me to go. I praise Him! Alyse



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CURRENT NEEDS

Lifespring Ministry is a transitional living center for homeless women and children. We provide Biblical instruction and counseling, teach practical skills and prepare families to live independently in our community.



FROM THE DIRECTOR WHAT CAN HAPPEN IN A YEAR...

Dear Friends,

I trust you had a wonderful Christmas season and a great beginning to the New Year! January is a great time to reflect on this past year and thank God for His blessings and provisions. We are grateful that we were able to serve 89 women and 46 children in 2014. As always, our goal and desire as a staff and volunteer team is for our families to know God in a personal relationship through Jesus Christ. We also know it is important for them to learn the skills necessary to live successful independent lives. This past year over 615 classes were taught on parenting, finance management, cooking/nutrition, computer and other informative material. With Christian counseling and group sessions many find the confidence to enter the world again.



In the midst of the work, we managed to have fun too! Our women were treated to lunch and had the opportunity to paint their own original masterpiece at Pinot's Palette in Naperville. We were treated like queens and pampered by Boutique Repeats in Aurora with beautiful clothing and makeovers and had a lovely evening and gourmet meal at the Naperville Presbyterian Church Benefit

Auction, which not only spoiled us with love but raised over \$4,000.00 for the ministry!

So, what can happen in a year? Families are strengthened, hearts turn to God and lives are transformed.

Lynda Dorsch
Director

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Lifespring Ministry, a Division of WCM, is located at
517 College Avenue, Aurora, Illinois 60505
Phone: 630-851-0187 / www.waysidecross.org

WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES

(a Wayside Cross Ministries event)

“Save the Date”

Saturday, February 14, 2015

8:00 a.m.

New location:

**John R. Harkness Center
60 W. 4th St., Aurora**



We invite your organization/church to join in Chicagoland’s only winter walk and be part of an exciting adventure in helping those in need. We ask each walker to raise \$50 or more to aid women and children, and at-risk youth.

Wayside Cross Ministries is planning its ninth annual Walk a Mile in My Shoes, just one mile in length, to help at-risk youth and the ministry’s transitional living center for women and children in need.

Walk proceeds will benefit Wayside’s Lifespring and Urban Youth Ministries. Each walker will receive a special free gift.



For more information about Walk a Mile in My Shoes, call (630) 723-3421 or email rmonrean@waysidecross.org. Visit <http://www.walk-a-mile-aurora.org>.

“OPPORTUNITY KNOX!”

Lifespring Ministry was honored to be chosen as one of the recipients to receive the proceeds from the Knox Presbyterian Benefit Auction on

October 24, 2014. Held at the Bolingbrook Golf Club, guests were treated to a delicious dinner, with a silent and live auction led by

WGN’s own Steve Cochran. \$20,253.00 was raised for Lifespring – what a blessing! Thank you to the Knox Presbyterian women’s and men’s ministry for your hard work in making this event so successful. Many families will benefit from your generosity in the year ahead!



“CONGRATULATIONS LIFESPRING AUCTION COMMITTEE – JOB WELL DONE!”



On September 27th, Lifespring held its 10th Annual Benefit Auction. \$142,000 was raised to support the families living in our program. You won't want to miss this year; please mark your calendar for September 26, 2015. "See you there!"



CURRENT NEEDS AT LIFESPRING

- ◆ 3 new vacuums – bagless please
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Disposable cleaning gloves
- ◆ Allergy medications
- ◆ Cold tablets
- ◆ Cough medicine – alcohol free
- ◆ Cough drops
- ◆ Tums
- ◆ Aspirin
- ◆ Ibuprofen
- ◆ Peroxide
- ◆ Body Wash
- ◆ Underwear – women and children – variety of sizes
- ◆ Socks – women and children – crew style

CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Contact Lynda Dorsch 630-952-1104

- ◆ Nutrition teacher – formal education not necessary
- ◆ Child Care – weekdays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- ◆ Job Readiness teacher – resume writing, interviewing skills and preparing for employment
- ◆ Receptionist – answer phones day or evening hours