

We're here **for** Recov**Her**y

GREAT NEWS

FROM DARK TO LIGHT

"Recovery does work. It works." says Paterra Warren, a Peer Recovery Coach on staff at Santa Maria. "Everything that I have done is because of my drug addiction, but also my big accomplishments are because of my drug addiction. If all of those things had never happened to me, I wouldn't be where I am today. I wouldn't have this purpose, this job. It made me into what I am today."

Paterra has learned that addiction does not discriminate. Different from many, Paterra's childhood was wonderful. She was raised in a loving home, full of family fun, vacations, and school life. However, she was drawn into the wrong crowd and found that she liked to drink alcohol. Alcohol made her bolder, more "wild." Early on, however, she found she drank to become drunk.

>more inside

PATERRA, THE FACE OF RECOVERY

SANTA MARIA



“IF ALL OF THOSE THINGS HAD NEVER HAPPENED TO ME, I WOULDN’T BE WHERE I AM TODAY... IT MADE ME INTO WHAT I AM TODAY.”



FROM DARK TO LIGHT

CONTINUED FROM COVER STORY

At college, she quickly fell into her old habit of drinking which soon led to abusing drugs. To maintain her drug habit and lifestyle, she needed money, so she turned to prostitution. After years of a dangerous life, she was finally introduced to Santa Maria through STAR Drug Court, a diversion court that supports opportunities for treatment and change rather than punishment.

She participated in treatment at Santa Maria’s Jacquelyn House for 90 days. She then moved into transitional housing at Well Springs. She got a job, and she continued outpatient treatment at Career in Recovery. “Recovery has to do with being connected. Staying connected.” Into her fifth year of sobriety, she is a successful graduate of STAR Drug Court, a certified community health care worker, a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor Intern, and is currently working towards a degree in social work.

Recently hired as the Peer Recovery Support Specialist for the Women with Children program, she says “I love what I do. And that’s why I wouldn’t change what happened back then because of all of that I am here today.” Her growth radiates through her story. “I’m willing, I’m open-minded, I’m teachable and each day brings something new and something different. Every day I just ask God to work through me, because at the end of the day it is not about me, my story is not for me. It is for others.”

She is the face of RecovHERy.

DEAR FRIENDS,

We had an amazing luncheon on May 22nd, honoring Deborah Duncan with our Visionary Award and artist Branislav Jankic with our Rise award. We also heard from two of our Santa Maria alumnas, who shared their inspiring personal stories of recovery. Thank you to all of our sponsors and to everyone who came out to support Santa Maria.

Also in May, we received official notification that Santa Maria achieved a three year, national accreditation through CARF (Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities) for our Detoxification, Residential, and Outpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services. The process of achieving this national accreditation has helped us to improve upon the high quality of services we provide our clients at each of our licensed locations and will serve as a benchmark for our future efforts and growth.

In June, Santa Maria and Palais Royal unveiled a brand new, non-transactional store at our Bonita House campus. This store was fully donated by Palais Royal, with women’s and children’s clothing and accessories available to participants receiving services through Santa Maria Hostel. Many times, women and their children first arrive to Santa Maria with little more than the clothes they are wearing. This store provides dignity to our participants as they access basic needs for themselves and their families, helping show them that this is a place where people are going to love them no matter where they’ve been because we know their past does not determine their future.

Also in June, Branislav Jankic returned for Mila, an interactive artistic performance in which over 170 women from Santa Maria carved their name, or the name of a loved one, into a wooden rhombus shaped sculpture. Through this act, women took a permanent stand for recovery. The sculpture serves as the next iteration of Letter to My Mother, the award-winning literary and photography project Branislav completed in 2016, designed to lift the stigma facing mothers in recovery. The sculpture has been donated for permanent display at Santa Maria Hostel.

Thank you for your support as we help restore hope to recovering women and families.

SINCERELY,

NADINE SCAMP, LMSW
CEO SANTA MARIA

“THIS IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LOVE THEM...BECAUSE WE KNOW THEIR PAST DOES NOT DETERMINE THEIR FUTURE.”

SANTA MARIA STORE GRAND OPENING



A NON-TRANSACTIONAL STORE OPENS AT SANTA MARIA

On Thursday June 28, Santa Maria, in partnership with Palais Royal, hosted the Grand Opening of a brand new, on-site, non-transactional store that is accessible to all women receiving services at Santa Maria. This store is stocked with donations from Palais Royal, so the women of Santa Maria can come “shop” to fulfill their basic needs and the needs of their children.

Before the ribbon cutting, Nadine Scamp, CEO of Santa Maria stated, “Santa Maria is about restoring lives and restoring hope. So, this store really represents the first opportunity for them (our clients) and allows them to see that they are in a safe place where people are going to love them no matter where they’ve been because we know their past does not determine their future.”

In his remarks, Bill Gentner, EVP and CMO of Stage Stores said, “We know that it is so

important to not just be in our communities but to be a part of them and give back. So for that reason, we have our Community Counts program. For that it is such an important deal for us to make people lives better, and I can’t imagine doing it at a better place than here, with you.”

If you’d like to help us keep this store fully stocked, we welcome new or gently used women and children clothing. Please contact Cynthia Turner at cturner@santamariahostel.org to coordinate donations.

Pictured below: Liz Moore, BAMBI (Baby and Mother Bonding Initiative) Program Liaison, helping Monalisa choose a new outfit to take home upon completion of the program.



NURSE LIS

BRINGS CALM TO THE STORM OF NEW MOTHERHOOD

Nurse Lis Holland has one goal: to do whatever she can to strengthen women for their release from a life of incarceration, marginalization and stigma. For 30 years, she has been working with pregnant women and new mothers to give birth to healthy and happy babies. Here at Santa Maria, she enjoys her time counseling women one-on-one to navigate the medical system and learn what they need to be safe and secure.

This work began in the Dallas area where as a nurse she worked with babies born to women struggling with drug dependence. She realized that in order to help the babies she needed to teach the moms. On her own she began comprehensive prenatal education and care in the Dallas County Jail. She formed a non-profit, recruiting women interested in helping moms and kids have a fighting chance. They formed a curriculum that stressed resiliency and

empowerment. They made a difference.

Not long after relocating to Houston, she was employed by Santa Maria Hostel (SMH) to coordinate medical services for the Mommies program, a community based intervention program which works with pregnant women dependent on opioids. Since 2016, this team has been leading the charge to improve birth outcomes for both moms and babies. As a Certified Addiction Registered Nurse, a rare certification, Nurse Lis is compassionate, empathetic and understanding of the rejection these women feel. If the women are rejected, their children are also. She works to make the joy of motherhood and healthy births, the norm.

Lis is a lifelong learner, always expanding her reach when possible. She has become involved in the maternal mortality crisis in Texas and works with Nadine Scamp, CEO to help bring



awareness and best practices to this statewide focus. She believes that a “little tincture of kindness” goes a long way to reaching those marginalized and forgotten. SMH is fortunate to have her on the team.

MILA SCULPTURE AND PERFORMANCE

We were honored to partner once again with artist Branislav Jankic for MILA—a sculpture and performance created as a continuation of his 2013 project at Santa Maria *Letter To My Mother*. The performance was held at Bonita House on June 20th, 2018.

In this participatory performance, one hundred and seventy six clients and alumni were invited into a quiet room in small groups of four and five. With a cast bronze nail, each woman worked to carve her name, or the name of a loved one, into a diamond shaped table designed by the artist for this purpose. In this way, each client assisted in bringing this sculpture into life. The sculpture is made of salvaged wood shaped as a European symbol of motherhood and fertility.

Powerful moments were experienced through the three-hour performance. The large room was a quiet place for reflection where the striking sounds of the woman carving their names and the movements of their hands were the highlight. A camera placed in the ceiling of the room recorded the performance. The artist moved around the room

THANK YOU TO THE LEVENSON FOUNDATION FOR FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING THIS PROJECT AND FOR THE ONGOING SUPPORT THEY HAVE GIVEN TO THE ARTIST AND THE RECOVERY COMMUNITY.



witnessing the work and capturing these moments with his camera. This project is one of many on going efforts by the artist toward lifting the stigma facing women in recovery.

SANTA MARIA LUNCHEON

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED OUR
MISSION BY ATTENDING THE RISE 2018 LUNCHEON

A New Start Luncheon, benefiting Santa Maria Hostel, was held on Tuesday, May 22 at the River Oaks Country Club, to honor and recognize the many women and families whose lives have been transformed as a result of their recovery.

Deborah Duncan, host of Great Day Houston with KHOU-TV, was awarded the "Visionary Award". Branislav Jankic

was honored with the "Rise Award." Jankic is a Serbian-American artist, director and photographer based in New York and Chicago. His wife Monika Jagaciak accepted the award on his behalf.

Two of Santa Maria former clients, Lisa Carpenter and Michelle Hansford, were the guest speakers and shared

their inspiring stories with all our guests.

We'd like to thank our Board members, our sponsors, staff, community partners, volunteers, and guests who made our 3rd Annual Luncheon a great success!



Santa Maria Board of Directors and Officers



Pictured from left to right:
Vince Ryan and Wanda LeBlanc.

Pictured from left to right:
Kim Ogg and Johna Stallings.

Pictured from left to right:
Monika Jagaciak, who received the RISE Award on behalf of her husband, artist Branislav Jankic, Nadine Scamp, CEO of Santa Maria and Deborah Duncan with the Visionary Award.



TEXANS DAY OF CARING

On Saturday, April 28, dozens of volunteers from the Houston Texans Organization, Palais Royal, and United Way of Greater Houston visited the Jacquelyn House and experienced first-hand how their support makes a difference as they helped to take care of our campus. This amazing group of volunteers put their time and effort to work by cleaning bed plants and adding mulch, re-staining benches, painting offices, painting

the outside fence, and power washing the outdoor furniture and basketball court. They contributed a total of 222 volunteer hours and approximately \$1,000 in supplies donated. So much was accomplished in one day and our facility was definitely looking prettier. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped!

We were honored to host two Houston Texans players—Bryce Jones, corner back, and Andre Hal, safety.



Texans Players Andre Hal and Bryce Jones with a Palais Royal volunteer.



SANTA MARIA

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