

# PATHWAYS

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## DON'T STOP BELIEVING



"Everywhere I turned there were positive female role models for me to follow and that above all else turned my life around."

— Carolyn

magine life behind bars. Now imagine serving time in prison while you are carrying a child. Although many of us could not imagine this situation let alone know how we would react, there are numerous women in Texas that are facing this occurrence as a stark reality. On average, there are approximately 250 babies that are born to Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) offenders each year. Some of these women are denied that critical period of bonding with their baby after birth, and the infant is usually placed with caregivers until the mother is eligible for release. For others, like Carolyn, there is Santa Maria's BAMBI program (Baby and Mother Bonding Initiative).

Pregnant and behind bars on a theft case, Carolyn didn't have much to believe in, especially herself, until she was selected to take part of the BAMBI program at Santa Maria. Upon arrival, Carolyn was overwhelmed at the facilities and the array of services offered through BAMBI. "One of the first things I did in BAMBI is to take a hard look at myself." Carolyn continued, "BAMBI made me realize that I had a problem with alcohol and I needed to change." Carolyn took full advantage of the services offered through BAMBI and also took to heart the lessons learned from trials and tribulations of her fellow BAMBI residents. Carolyn recalls that "everywhere I turned there were positive female role models for me to follow and that above all else, turned my life around." She continued, "It changed my mind frame and I began to believe in myself again." While in group sessions, Carolyn's baby was being well taken care of by the caring and compassionate staff at Santa Maria. Carolyn reflected that "the care my daughter received was great and they did it the right way. I deeply appreciate the support and structure that BAMBI offered both me and my daughter."

Today, Carolyn is in Dallas with her children and with help from her family she is working on her recovery one day at a time. Carolyn's future is bright as she is attending Barber College and volunteers her time helping other women in recovery.

Carolyn, keep working your recovery and never stop believing!

#### **ABOUT BAMBI:**

The Baby and Mother Bonding Initiative, or BAMBI, is a partnership between Santa Maria, multiple TDCJ divisions and the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. BAMBI provides a fulltime curricula focused on parenting skills and training along with housing and supportive services to new mothers and their newborns that are referred from Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDJC). The main goal of the program is to reduce recidivism and promote healthy parenting, recovery and enhanced life skills. BAMBI offers these services for new offender mothers in a residential setting at our Bonita House facility for an average for up to 18 months.

#### UNLESS SOMEONE LIKE YOU CARES A WHOLE AWFUL LOT, NOTHING IS GOING TO GET BETTER, IT'S NOT, -DR. SEUSS

e would like to congratulate Ms. Black who was recently named as Foster Grandparent of the Year at the annual United Way Volunteer Appreciation Event. Ms. Black, who has been a Foster Grandparent for the past seven years at Santa Maria, logged in the most volunteer hours in 2015. While at Santa Maria's Bonita House, Ms. Black says she "enjoys working with the two and three year olds and teaching them their ABC's, colors, and numbers." When asked how she came about volunteering so many hours, Ms. Black simply stated: "I just love being here."

#### THANK YOU MS. BLACK FOR CARING "A WHOLE AWFUL LOT."





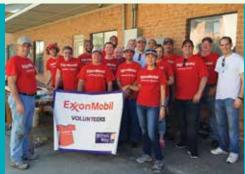
### THANK YOU

Roth Staffing Companies, L.P. and their local Ledgent Search Group for their continued support of Santa Maria Hostel and the Career Development Program.

Pictured left to right: SMH's Educational Services Instructor, Linda Johnson; SMH's CEO, Nadine Scamp; Debbie Smith, Search Manager; and Kim Mundell, Executive Recruiter; with SMH's CFO, Barbara Page.



Santa Maria's Cynthia Turner, Pam Vangiessen and Lucia DePaoli with volunteer students from the University of Houston-Downtown.



ExxonMobil Volunteers at Bonita House providing a positive impact for our community. Thank you for your continued support!



A special thanks goes out to the employees of Bison, a Stock Building Supply company, along with Orbit from the Astros for hosting a Fall Festival for the kids and moms at Bonita House.

# HOLIDAY HELPERS THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS FOR MAKING THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT FOR OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

**ANN GLEASON** 

**ARCHWAY & TEXSCAPE SERVICES** 

AWTY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (MARCELLE GHARIBEH)

**BORN IDENTITY PROJECT (MONICA JONES)** 

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 401, SPRING, TX** 

COMMUNITY OF FAITH

(BISHOP DIXON II AND DR. WILLIAM GREEN)

CYPRESS GEMS · NCL CHAPTER (JULIE MAYER AND KATIE ALVIS)

DR. BEVERLY WALLER

**ELEVATE CHURCH (CYNTHIA CORDER)** 

**GALAND BRUNSON** 

HARBOR LIGHTS CHOIR - THE SALVATION ARMY
GREATER HOUSTON AREA COMMAND

HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 1 (DEPUTY DAN THOMAS AND FAMILY: DEPUTY TRACIE MATHEWS-SEGURA)

HARRIS COUNTY PROBATION OFFICE (LEXY DAVIS)

INGRID WALLACE

JEANNE CLARK

JOYFUL SOUND CHOIR (PAULA SPENCER)

KAREN BRUNSON

**KEIRA CLARK** 

LBJ CREATIVE IDEAS (PASTOR DEBORAH BROWN)

LONE STAR CY-FAIR PSYCHOLOGY CLUB (MARIA MALIK)

MARIA REITZI

**PEGGY FRIEDRICH** 

PURE IN HEART OUTREACH MINISTRIES (ROSALIND WHITE)

SAINT MARK'S MINISTRIES (PASTOR BRODIE)

SECRET PLACE BOOK CLUB (WENDY JONES)

SERENITY OF THE WOODLANDS (JOEY KING)

**SHARON PERKINS** 

ST. JOHN CHURCH-5TH WARD

ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL (SR. DONNA POLLARD)

STREETWISE RETAIL ADVISORS (BETHANY CARLOCK)

SUNLIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH (GWENDOLYN BERRY)

THE VISION CHURCH (REV. DEREK HUNT)

THE WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVE CLASS (DONNA W. ROGERS)

TEXAS CHILDREN'S PEDIATRICS

WAL MART CENTRAL FILL PHARMACY

WEB (LADY ANGEL SIMON)



SMH would like to express our sincere appreciation to Harris County Constable Office, Precinct 1 DEPUTY DAN THOMAS AND HIS FAMILY for providing Christmas gifts for the women and children at Bonita House. Pictured with Deputy Thomas and his family are Nadine Scamp, SMH CEO and SMH Director of Operations and Quality Management Cynthia Turner.



A big thank you to
WALMART
CENTRAL FILL
PHARMACY for
brightening the holidays for our
children. Pictured are Wal Mart
Associates Michelle Johnson,
Monica Teran, Jess Cotton, and
Claudia Griffin with SMH's
Cynthia Turner (2nd from right).

#### Thank you ANNE MATTINGLY

(front center), owner of Annan's Creations, who gave out gifts made by her to our ladies for Christmas. Anne is also the mother of Recovery Coach Kimberly Isaac.





WANT TO RECEIVE PATHWAYS ELECTRONICALLY? Email: kkelly@santamariahostel.org

#### A NEW RIDE

Former SMH client Tiffany won a free car for winning an essay contest at a recent event conducted by the great folks at Collision King. In addition to the car give away, Collison King gave away other prizes, including laptop computers, during an event to support Santa Maria.

Pictured (left to right): SMH Recovery Coach Michelle Hansford; Former SMH client Tiffany; SMH Housing Case Manager, Erin Martin; Former SMH client and current Collison King employee Jessica (holding Tiffany's son Joey); and SMH Director of Housing Services Yolanda Martin.





Thanks to the more than 260 guests and our generous sponsors, Santa Maria's inaugural ANew Start Luncheon was a tremendous success. The Honorable Denise Bradley was presented with the Kay Austin Visionary Award for her work with STAR Drug Court. Deborah Jiang-Stein told her inspiring story of overcoming adversity. Funds raised from the event will help Santa Maria positively impact the lives of the more than 3,300 women and children served each year.

Pictured (left to right): SMH CEO, Nadine Scamp, Honoree; The Honorable Denise Bradley; Luncheon Co-Chair and SMH Board Member Kelli Fondren; Emcee Lisa Malosky; and Luncheon Co-Chair Lindsey Fondren Smith.







