

We're here **for** Reco**ve**Her**ry**

GREAT NEWS

MOTHER OF THREE BREAKS CYCLE OF ADDICTION

“Loving and forgiving yourself is necessary to change your life” states Courtney Mendoza, a 29-year-old Santa Maria Alumna. Growing up with parents who struggled with addiction, Courtney witnessed the negative effects of addiction throughout her childhood, to the point where she was taken away from her parents by Child Protective Services (CPS) during middle school.

Courtney began her own use of substances at the age of sixteen, consuming alcohol and smoking marijuana. Courtney became a wife and a stay at home mother of two girls, Izabella and Abigail, who at the ages of 4 years and 8 months respectively, were taken away from her by CPS due to her and her husband’s drug use. Unwillingly, Courtney was repeating the same cycle of addiction that she endured in her childhood. This situation made Courtney fall into a state of depression that led her to consume even more drugs as a coping mechanism. She and her husband soon became homeless and found themselves living in her car, living a life of heavy drug usage and active addiction, until one day, Courtney realized that if she continued living the way she was, she would never get a chance to have her children back.

>more inside

COURTNEY, THE FACE OF RECOVERY

SANTA MARIA



MOTHER OF THREE BREAKS CYCLE OF ADDICTION

CONTINUED FROM COVER STORY

After researching treatment facilities in Houston, she came across Santa Maria and realized that going into treatment would be the only way she would ever regain custody of her children. “I made up my mind about going to Santa Maria because I knew they advocate for children and support family re-unification. I called just about every day for a month, asking if a bed was ready for me.” Finally, on September 7, 2016 Courtney was admitted to Intensive Residential Treatment at the Jacquelyn House location. With the joint efforts of her Case Manager, Counselor, and Recovery Coach, she began taking the necessary steps to recover from her addiction and trauma.

A couple of months into the treatment program, Courtney discovered she was pregnant with her third child. Taking advantage of the counseling resources that Santa Maria offers, she learned how to cope with her anxiety and to deal with the trauma experienced in her younger years. She learned to forgive herself, to love herself, to live life on life’s terms and to embrace a life in recovery. She was doing everything her team at Santa Maria and her CPS caseworker would ask from her... she attended meetings and followed her 12 steps to recovery. She gave birth to her 3rd child, Ovelia and shortly after, she moved to the Housing Program at the Santa Maria Bonita House location, where she was provided with safe housing and child care for her newborn. After three months, through the resources provided through the Housing Program and the support of her coach and peers in the sober living facility, Courtney was able to find a job. She was soon reunited with her two older daughters.

Courtney now lives independently with her three children and continues to work on herself and her role as a parent. She maintains contact with her recovery coach who continues to encourage and mentor her on her recovery journey. “I learned to advocate for myself and use resources available to me-- and to not to give up.” Courtney proudly shares. Courtney hopes to continue furthering her education and in the near future purchase a home for her and her family. Courtney glows when she speaks about her recovery and the transformed woman and mother she is today—and she looks forward to serving as a strong advocate for other women in recovery.



DEAR FRIENDS,

The 2018 year ended with lots of reasons to celebrate. We received great news of financial support from foundations, and we welcomed hundreds of corporate volunteer groups and individuals who contributed their time and talents to make a difference in the lives of the women and families we serve.

We were thrilled to have been selected as the charity beneficiary for the national AEC Cares (Architects, Engineers and Contractor who Care) project. Over a hundred volunteers from across the nation descended on Jacquelyn to renovate our dining room and group spaces, and to install a new playground and outdoor green space. The results are truly amazing. Having a physical environment that is beautiful as well as functional helps us show our women that we truly value them and helps them to heal from the trauma they have endured. We are truly grateful to all the organizations and individuals who made this transformation possible.

Our annual fundraising luncheon will be held April 30th at the River Oaks Country Club. We are so pleased to have Palais Royal, part of the STAGE stores family, as our presenting sponsor once again this year. We have a special program planned for all our guests. Sponsorship opportunities are still available—please come support us and have a great time celebrating our mission and the impact we make together in the lives of the women and children we serve.

Last but not least, we are pleased to introduce a new section called “Get to Know,” where we will feature one Santa Maria team member for each edition of this newsletter. We want you to get acquainted with us a little bit more. This edition features Barbara Page, our Chief Finance Officer. We hope you enjoy learning more about her.

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

SINCERELY,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nadine Scamp'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

NADINE SCAMP, LMSW
CEO SANTA MARIA

AEC CARES PROJECT

OVER 100 VOLUNTEERS FROM ACROSS THE NATION RENOVATED OUR JACQUELYN HOUSE FACILITY THROUGH THE NATIONAL AEC CARES PROJECT.

The renovation project held on October 5th was valued at over \$300,000, and it included months of planning, a generous amount of donated materials, and volunteer time. AEC Cares renovated the meeting space that our participants use for therapy groups, family visitation and free time, including new flooring, lighting, storage and furnishings. They made much needed improvements to our dining and kitchen areas. The outdoor space was transformed to include more seating, gardens and a new playground so that it is truly a usable green space.

The project design team contributed over 320 hours towards the planning and design of the renovation. The team was led by **Kirksey Architecture** and included LKB Architecture, Rivers Barden Architects, Powers Brown Architecture, Terralab Landscape Architects, among others. **D.E. Harvey Builders** served as the pro bono general contractor.

We are extremely thankful to the 40+ corporate sponsors and over 100 volunteers who made this project possible.



AEC Cares Lead Team



Photo Credit
Your Best Shot Photography

PRECINCT ONE TOY DRIVE & COMMUNITY PARTNERS DURING HOLIDAYS

PRECINCT ONE TOY DRIVE

Constable Alan Rosen and the Harris County Precinct One Office chose Santa Maria as the beneficiary agency for their annual Car Wash and Toy Drive Fundraiser. This all-day event held at Dr. Gleem Car Wash (Ella & 610) raised thousands of dollars and a generous amount of gifts for the women and children served by our organization.

Constable Alan Rosen along with several members of his team personally delivered the toys to our women and their children. Furthermore, they donated \$20,000 worth of baby products and much needed basic essentials such as toiletries for the clients.

“WE ARE NOT JUST ABOUT LAW ENFORCEMENT, WE ARE ABOUT INTEGRATING AND BEING A PART OF THE COMMUNITY . . . AND THIS IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT ARE TRYING TO GO THROUGH THE HEALING PROCESS, AND WE WANT TO BE THERE TO ENCOURAGE THEM AND SUPPORT THEM”

—Constable Alan Rosen stated as he and his team handed out the gifts to our families.



OVER 30 COMMUNITY PARTNERS BROUGHT HOLIDAY JOY TO OUR CLIENTS

Santa Maria benefited from the generosity of our community over Thanksgiving and Christmas as many organizations reached out to serve and donate. Capo Joe and Shakinda Glory provided Thanksgiving themed meals and activities, and on Thanksgiving Day Klein UMC volunteers provided a Thanksgiving Feast. During the Christmas holidays,

a multitude of organizations provided gifts, holiday activities and parties to brighten the season. A big thank you to Archway Academy, Chapelwood UMC Women’s Group, Community of Faith, Christ Church, Konica Minolta, Lucy’s Boutique, Joyful Sound Choir, Palais Royal, Real Beauty Real Women, 3rd Coast Stokers, and Walmart Central Fill among many others.



9TH ANNUAL RUN 4 RECOVERY

Our sincere appreciation to all of our sponsors, volunteers, community members, staff and race participants for making the 9th annual Houston Run for Recovery a success.

The event kicked off with a non-competitive 1k Kids Fun Run, followed by a competitive and non-competitive 5k Run/Walk. Over 400 participants joined us at Cleveland Park for a morning of fun and fellowship to celebrate recovery.

Funds raised from this annual event benefit Santa Maria, STAR Drug Court and The Council on Recovery.

“THE HOUSTON RUN FOR RECOVERY HIGHLIGHTS THE FACT THAT RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION IS ACHIEVABLE AND CELEBRATES THE JOY OF LIVING A FULL AND HEALTHY LIFE FREE FROM SUBSTANCE USE.”

—Nadine Scamp, co-chair of the Houston Run for Recovery and CEO of Santa Maria Hostel.



GET TO KNOW

BARBARA PAGE, OUR CFO



We want to build a closer connection with our community—and we want you to get to know us as well. Every edition will feature a new staff member—we hope you enjoy learning more about us!

When did you begin working for Santa Maria and what is your position?

September 13, 2006. Financial management.

What initially got you interested in working at a nonprofit organization?

Growing up, our family saying was “do

something good every day” and many nights around the dinner table we would each tell what “good” we did that day. I wanted to “do something good every day” utilizing my career, and Santa Maria is a perfect match for what my heart has wanted to give all these years.

Can you share a memorable experience at Santa Maria?

While in the courtyard late one evening at our Jacquelyn facility, I saw a client by herself, on a bench, sobbing. She had just been admitted and CPS had taken her 3 children. She was lost- thinking maybe she did not want to keep living. I sat beside her and we talked until a COPSD counselor got there. The next day she found me and told me I saved her life that night and many months later, she sought me out at Bonita House and introduced me to her 3 children that she had been reunited with because of Santa Maria! Life was SO worth living!

Please share any achievements you are proud of.

Professional: The acquisition of Bonita House in January 2009. It was a huge accomplishment for Santa Maria

since it effectively doubled our capacity to serve, moving from an average of 100 clients per day served in residence, to over 200 served per day on average.

The expansion gave us the opportunity to add supportive housing to our continuum of care, a service that has been invaluable to our clients in achieving and sustaining recovery.

Personal: I am an award-winning Alto II Choral vocalist, member of multiple symphony orchestra choirs and classical and jazz small ensembles in PA, VA, and TX.

Please share a fun fact(s) about yourself.

I was raised on a small horse farm in PA, caring for my own horses from a very young age and growing up adoring any outdoor activity whether it is work or fun, just being outside is what brings me joy.

Can you describe yourself in one word? Faithful.

What are your hobbies? Snow skiing, tennis, and traveling.

CORPORATE VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

We are fortunate to have individual and corporate groups volunteering with us throughout the year. Here are some noteworthy projects that took place.



On March 5th, we had the privilege of welcoming back a group of 50 volunteers from **National Oilwell Varco (NOV)**. This incredible group of volunteers worked on spreading ten yards of mulch, washing windows, trimming bushes, power washing, painting benches, planting bushes and reseating some signs and landscape timbers.



Volunteers from **ENABLE Midstream Partners** did an amazing job in the outdoor green areas at the Jacquelyn House. They mulched, cleaned and planted a variety of plants in the courtyard, parking lot and in the newly renovated children's play area. They also helped to organize the laundry room by putting up racks.



IBEW electrical union visited Bonita House on January 17. This talented group of 50 volunteers took on big projects to improve our facility. They divided by smaller teams and did electrical work such as switching the existing electrical plates to one switch in the bathrooms of all the rooms and offices for a total of 61 rooms. They worked on the playground in front of the campus, cleaned out timbers, painted the laundry room and painted two hallways in two of our buildings. They also brought in a boom truck from Britain Electric and replaced the outdoor pole lights.



ExxonMobil volunteered twice at Bonita House in October and November of 2018. They cleaned up the flower beds in the outside play area, painted the hallways of our Housing program, painted about 175 yards of the perimeter fence, and did several arts and crafts projects with our clients.

2019 COMMUNITY QB AWARD RECIPIENT

PRECINCT ONE, KATHY GRIFFIN GRINAN, RECEIVED 2019 COMMUNITY QB AWARD, BENEFITTING SANTA MARIA PROGRAMS.

For her service to the community and to Santa Maria, Kathy was chosen as one of eight finalists for the Houston Texans Community Quarterback Award. The award included a \$5,000 check designated to Santa Maria programs. Kathy is a strong supporter and contributor to our organization.



SANTA MARIA

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