

We're here **H** for Reco**V**Her**y**

FALL 2022



SANTA MARIA



Sisterhood at Santa Maria

Santa Maria is a proud employer of staff with lived experience in recovery. This bond as peers leads to a strong sisterhood among our staff. Lora, Carolyn, and April are co-workers at Santa Maria's Jacquelyn House, yet their journey of experiencing life together goes much deeper than that.

Lora, a woman in long term recovery, began working at Santa Maria as a resident advocate and with further education became a counselor. In her early days as a counselor, Lora worked with two unforgettable participants, Carolyn, and April. "It was my first time working with Child Protective Services and with a justice involved participant," Lora said. Lora worked with Carolyn and April through all the ups and downs of recovery. She connected them to the full continuum of services at Santa Maria to meet their individual and unique needs and goals.

Carolyn came to Santa Maria through Child Protective Services after being separated from her son. While at Santa Maria she engaged in a range of services to meet her recovery goals, including mental health treatment, medication assisted treatment, peer recovery coaching and counseling from Lora. **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is the use of medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a whole patient approach to recovery from substance use disorders and is considered the gold standard of care for opioid use disorder.** Unfortunately, there is still much misunderstanding and stigma about MAT, which sometimes leads to individuals not getting the help they need. MAT was something Carolyn always knew she needed but also knew her family would not approve of that form of treatment. Determined to be healthy, she pushed past the stigma with the support of her counselor. After being separated from her son for a year, with the help of Santa Maria, she completed her requirements for Child Protective Services, and they were reunited.

April entered Santa Maria via Pathways to Recovery, a Santa Maria initiative to provide recovery support and reentry services for justice involved women. When April met one of Santa Maria's recovery coaches while incarcerated, she saw shared experiences with the coach and wanted substance use treatment. The coach linked her to Santa Maria's treatment services at Jacquelyn. Lora then linked April with the unique behavioral health services that she needed to be successful including mental health treatment, domestic



April



Carolyn



Lora

violence counseling, and counseling from Lora on how to set appropriate boundaries. For survivors of domestic violence, the trauma of repeated abuse is an extremely heavy burden and many turn to substances for relief. **Counseling that addresses trauma and substance use simultaneously is particularly effective in helping survivors heal and thrive.** April was able to continue receiving services from her domestic violence counselor after being discharged from Santa Maria, services she still receives today. April was also experiencing a long separation from her children. After completing residential treatment at Santa Maria and setting boundaries from abusive former partners, April was reunited with her children.

Lora is celebrating 12 years in recovery, Carolyn 5 years and April 3 years. Today all three of these generous and self-determined ladies are working at Santa Maria helping other women. This is the first job Carolyn has held in many years; having learned to set positive goals and work toward accomplishing them, she was able to secure her position as Resident Advocate. April will soon start classes at San Jacinto College with the help of a scholarship from WINGS Ministries (a Santa Maria partner) to become a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor.

Every day Lora can see her work in action as Carolyn and April serve together as Resident Advocates at Santa Maria's Jacquelyn House. **"I wanted to show love to others the way it was shown to me. I knew I wanted to be a Resident Advocate."** Carolyn said. Each day more than 150 dedicated staff members work tirelessly to journey alongside Santa Maria participants and help them achieve their life goals.

"Santa Maria is a family. I know people will take time out to help me" - April

THEY ARE THE FACES OF RECOVERY.



DEAR FRIENDS,

This past month of September was observed as National Recovery Month. Millions of Americans' lives have been transformed through recovery, and National Recovery Month provides a moment in time to celebrate their accomplishments. This past September we celebrated all those whose lives have been transformed through recovery including Santa Maria alumni. Santa Maria is a proud employer of many individuals with lived experiences in recovery. This includes Peer Recovery Coaches who provide mentoring to reduce barriers to recovery and re-entry, respond to challenges encountered and provide care coordination and linkage to community resources for education, employment, housing, health, social and spiritual needs. We invite you to continue to celebrate with us. In this publication you will find articles celebrating recovery via stories of hope, dedication and unique programming that aids hundreds of women in success through recovery. In addition, we ask you to make a gift of time, talent or treasure in honor of these achievements. To do so visit www.santamariahostel.org.

SINCERELY,

NADINE SCAMP, LMSW, CEO

Survivors of Trafficking Achieve Recovery and Stability (STARS) Program

In reflection – our first year

Santa Maria has always assisted survivors of trafficking within our programs, but we recognized the need to expand and deepen these services to provide the specialized support these brave women needed to fully heal and thrive. Just more than a year ago, Santa Maria announced an award of funding from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) to provide safe, stable housing and supportive services to survivors of human trafficking. The funding allows for 6 to 24 months of transitional or short-term housing assistance, including rent, utilities, or related expenses, such as security deposits and relocation costs. The grant also provides funding for support needed to help survivors reach stability goals, including counseling, recovery support, employment assistance, and educational and occupational training. With our strong treatment program, participants are also able to access substance use treatment services when needed in addition to safe and secure housing. We coordinate other services related to recovery through case management and peer recovery coaching.

Fast forward a full year and we are excited to review our established STARS (Survivors Achieving Recovery and Stability) program led by case manager and advocate, Catherine McAdoo. "Cat" has eight women housed in our transitional apartments and is laser-focused on each individual reaching their full potential. She assists with goal setting in the beginning and supporting the work that achieves those goals. Says Cat, **"I do most of my work in the car, accompanying everyone to court dates, doctor appointments, and major life purchases. I actively listen to them, using skills of seeing their lives through a trauma lens and guiding them through a process of motivational interviewing. I give voice to them when they need it."**

Under her leadership, STARS participants have successfully completed both residential and outpatient treatment programs, keys to long-term recovery. She supports them through their job search, retaining employment and building career goals. She assists with resources and advice when buying a car. She bonds with them over music and field trips, recently enjoying a trip to the beach, as a community. She also integrates

with other staff at Santa Maria, counselors, coaches and trauma therapists. She works with the team to make tangible progress through support and resource identification. She has also excelled in reaching out to referral sources and other agencies delivering services to survivors.

We thank OVC for their belief in Santa Maria and in addition, the generous support of The Houston 20, Williams Stamps Farish Fund, Christus St. Luke's, Renew HTX, and an anonymous donor for their generous funding to guide this important program through its crucial first year. We are happy to announce that with this support, we will be able to add an additional four



participants to our current community of eight. We have also been able to identify early those that come to our treatment program and need our assistance, developing practices that encourage them to stay the course and believe that in recovery, change is possible.

Celebrating Recovery





Santa Maria Staff in Recovery Celebrates
National Recovery Month

HER HEART IS DEDICATED TO RECOVERY!



Farewell Amelia!

Amelia Murphy, Santa Maria's Senior Director of Recovery Support Services, took a big step at the end of the summer leaving this position that she started, built, and strengthened, for a new horizon. With bittersweet goodbyes, she heads to a new recovery frontier. She will build a team of recovery support within a health care clinic, our community partner Avenue 360, integrating recovery work with traditional medicine.

Amelia arrived at Santa Maria 32 years ago, as a participant. Paschall House, Santa Maria's founding home, offered a safe harbor for her to place her faith, accept help and begin to forge a future away from substance use. She found the peace and

serenity of recovery in her own life at Paschall. Returning to Santa Maria as a staff member in 2007, Amelia has honed her craft, learning that each participant has strengths and responsibilities to utilize in building a strength-based recovery. She looks for the distinct and unique needs in everyone she serves, helping them to choose from the many pathways of recovery. This is a legacy Amelia will leave at Santa Maria through the Recovery Support Specialists she has mentored, hired and trained.

While Amelia will be missed at Santa Maria, we are thrilled to announce that LaNisha Jiles will be serving Santa Maria as the incoming Senior Director of Recovery Support Services. LaNisha is a product of peer support and has served as a Certified Recovery Support Peer Specialist for many years. She is both an alumnus of Santa Maria and has served as a Recovery Support Specialist here for nine years. LaNisha is dedicated to enhancing the peer support workforce via educating and training peers. Santa Maria is excited to welcome LaNisha to this role.

The team at Santa Maria wishes Amelia well and hopes she visits often. We are so grateful that she found us, all those years ago, our lives are richer for that choice!

DRIVING HOPE HOME

Melinda has been a loyal employee of Santa Maria for 20 years and the place you see Melinda most is behind the wheel of a Santa Maria van. Providing transportation for Santa Maria's precious cargo is what she does best. For the past 10 years Melinda has served as the dedicated driver for the BAMBI program. BAMBI stands for Baby and Mother Bonding Initiative; this restorative justice program offers an alternative to traditional incarceration providing housing and supportive services for new mothers and their newborns referred by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Many of the BAMBI participants come to Santa Maria before their baby is born. While the state of Texas provides transportation for mom to and from the hospital it is Santa Maria's job to bring the baby home. Over the course of the past 10 years, Melinda has transported nearly every (all but three) BAMBI baby from the hospital to Santa Maria. "I always bring an outfit for the baby so they don't have to go home in their hospital onesie" said Melinda "I also like to give

them a little pep talk before we make the journey home." Santa Maria is blessed to have such a loving and caring staff member; Melinda has been a bright spot for many new moms and their babies.

"I always bring an outfit for the baby so they don't have to go home in their hospital onesie"



FAITH IN ACTION

On August 30, Santa Maria welcomed 25 faith leaders representing more than 15 different faith communities from the Greater Houston area to our Bonita House campus. Guests learned about Santa Maria's diverse programs while hearing from Santa Maria alumni Autumn about her recovery journey and Melissa Peter from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church about the importance of community partnership for their congregation. In addition, Santa Maria CEO, Nadine Scamp led a tour of the Bonita House campus to show our work in action.

Santa Maria appreciates partnerships with faith communities and the value they add for our participants. **If you were not able to attend but would like to engage your faith community with Santa Maria, please contact Marcia Chaney at mchaney@santamariahospel.org**



Rachael Wright from Santa Maria, Andy Noel from Chapelwood, Rosalind Turner and Maritza Pulido from Life Change Ministries and Nadine Scamp, from Santa Maria



Melissa Peter, Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church



Pastor Steve and First Lady Ramona Barlow from Greater Love Church



Library visit, as part of the tour of our Bonita House campus

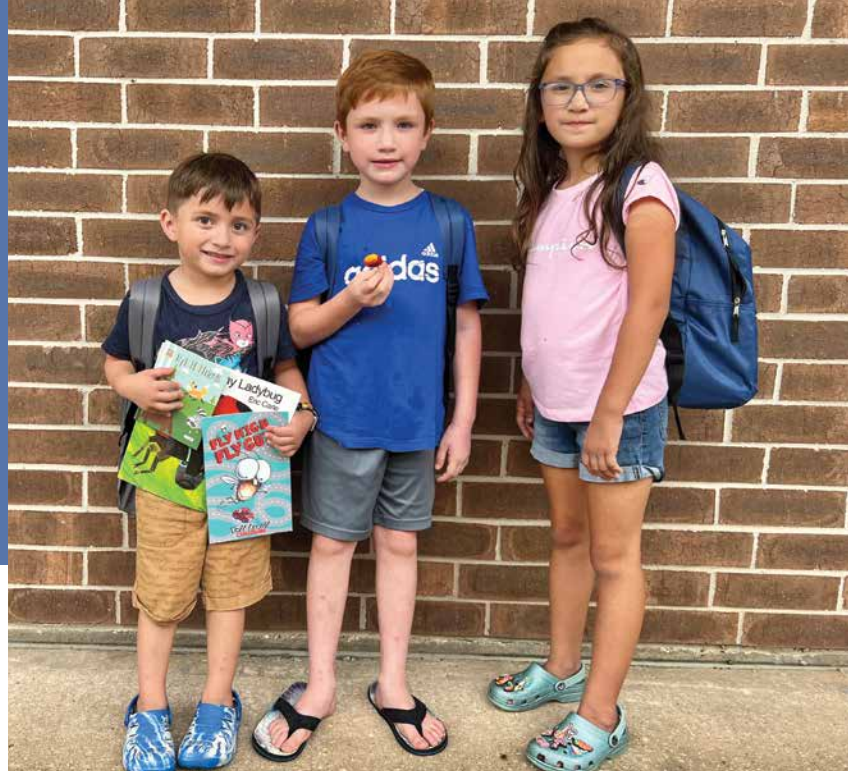


Patricia Holeccek and Pastor Jennifer Jordan from Klein United Methodist Church and Rev. Patrick Miller from St. Mark's Episcopal Church



Some of the attendees from various faith organizations

Join Santa Maria in
empowering women
and their families
by giving today



Ways To Give



CASH OR MAIL
A CHECK

Mail donations to
attention Rachael Wright
2605 Parker Rd.
Houston, TX 77093

You may also give online,
using this QR code



STOCK

Charitable giving doesn't
always mean cash. Did you
know that when you donate
stock, you avoid the tax on
the gain while deducting
100% of the value of the
contribution? To make a
stock donation contact
Rachael Wright at
rwright@santamariahospel.org



IN-KIND
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Help us stock our shelves
with our most needed items.
For a list of our current needs,
visit santamariahospel.org
> help pave the way
> in kind donations
To coordinate a donation
drop off contact Marcia
Chaney at mchaney@santamariahospel.org



VOLUNTEER
YOUR TIME

Offer your time and talents
for the betterment of our
residents and our facilities.
We would love to have you
or your group volunteer at
one of our campuses. To
coordinate contact Marcia
Chaney at mchaney@santamariahospel.org

For cash or stock donations, please contact Rachael Wright, rwright@santamariahospel.org
To arrange a donation drop off, please contact Marcia Chaney, mchaney@santamariahospel.org



SANTA MARIA

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