



November 15, 2018

Dear Friends at Skaggs Foundation,

The Skaggs Legacy Endowment Grant allowed Jesus Was Homeless to hire a Community Connections Case Manager to provide coordinated case management services to homeless and impoverished residents of Branson. The goal of the program was to serve more people, improve the referral network of agencies in Branson by increasing communication between agencies and acting as a "one-stop" for any need a person may have, remove transportation barriers between referral agencies, and provide "next-steps" out of poverty. It was initially projected that 500 individuals would be served in the first year. We are so pleased that year to date, over 1,200 individuals have been served! Referrals are made for housing, food, healthcare, employment training, and more. Some individuals simply ask for prayers. Here is one story of true life transformation, as told by Community Connections Case Manager, Carla Perry:

This story is about Krista Ford. She just graduated the Jobs for Life program last night. I came to know her through my volunteering at the Simmering Center, when she came through the doors for Heroin addiction. As I got to know her I invited her to church here at Gateway Branson and told her how the Jobs for Life program had impacted my life. She began to attend church. In November her husband died of a heroin overdose. She kept coming in to see me from time to time for various resources and advice. She had also found out that she was pregnant. This was scary for her because she had used a few times over the loss of her husband. I connected her with Options Pregnancy Center where she found the counseling and support she was looking for. They connected her with a specialist and outpatient care to maintain a healthy pregnancy and lifestyle. Through her continued visits with me she finally decided to take the Jobs for Life class. In January, she had to leave the Simmering Center because they are a sober living facility she wouldn't be able to have a baby there. She ended up in her car. I contacted Jessica Hughes with Catholic Charities and could do an intake for the Rapid Rehousing program. She was approved and is now in her own place. Through her mentor she could develop a plan of action and a list of goals. She also just got approved for her FAFSA and was accepted into OTC. I was also asked to go with her when she has her baby as she has no family. How amazing this has been to see this transformation. She is a perfect example of what is possible with the proper resources and a little guidance. Now the health and welfare of both Mom and baby are great! She is fully engaged in all her treatments and outpatient classes both in the Options program and through preferred family health as well. She told me she is grateful for the chance to be the mom now with her baby that she wishes would have been there for her.

Again, thank you for your support of this program.

Sincerely,

Bryan Stallings
President, Board of Directors

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"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- Matthew 20:28 (NLT)

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Jesus Was Homeless Inc. is a non-profit organization, and is designated as a 501(c)3 organization by the Internal Revenue Service (Federal ID # 26-4727548). Donations to the Jesus Was Homeless Inc. are tax-deductible.