



PRECIOUS GEMS HOME FOR WOMEN

Oct.
2016

TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We were so encouraged when we received an unsolicited letter from one of our residents a couple of months ago. We would like to share it with you.

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to take the time to thank everyone who has donated to Precious Gems or invested their time to the program. If it wasn't for this program, I honestly am not sure what I would have done. I'm grateful that I don't have to pay for food or anything else. That is all covered and taken care of for me, and I can focus on my job and future career rather than where my next meal is going to come from. I have clothes on my back that actually fit because of all the kind donations.

I would also like to thank the people that came up with this program and for taking the time and money to make it what it is. I would also like to thank the house parents. I know that if there is anything that I cannot handle on my own, they will help guide me with kindness and wisdom. They are always looking out for me. I love that we have a goal list and can pick something we want to focus on. I enjoy the time volunteers come to teach us something we didn't know.

The fact that Precious Gems is a Godly home just makes it that much more enjoyable. They treat us like adults and prepare us for the real world. They always look out for us, but they give us the opportunity to make mistakes but use those mistakes as a learning experience. There are rules that we follow but they don't ask much when you think about how much it benefits you.

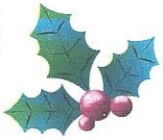
I am growing with this program and I am so thankful for all the people who have supported Precious Gems. It has benefited me greatly and I am so blessed to be a part of it.

OUR MISSION

To serve our God by providing a home to young women who are homeless. Providing residents a safe place to live while learning to trust, giving guidance in their choices, providing stability as they mature, helping them discover who they are, where they want to go, and what they want to be, providing a place to call home as they begin their adult journey in life.

Suppose a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to her, "Go I wish you well; keep warm and well fed", but does nothing about her physical needs, what good is it? Faith by itself, if not accompanied by works, is dead. James 2: 15-17

Seeking a volunteer willing to spend 1 day per week for approximately 6 hours to give relief to our house parent. If you would be interested in making a difference in the lives of young women, please contact Chrissy at (231) 468-2053. No special skills necessary, just a giving heart!



Looking for a unique idea for Christmas giving? How about a *Reverse Advent Calendar*? Here's how it works. Get a box or other container and on December 1, place an item in the box that would benefit the house, staff or residents at Precious Gems. Keep doing that each day, counting down to December 25. On Christmas, Day you will have a box full of items to donate. Some suggestions: non-perishable food or canned goods, personal hygiene items, lip balm, adult coloring books & markers, journals, devotionals, gift cards, gloves, hats, socks, nail polish, office supplies, flash drives, candy, gum. Make it a family project and get everyone involved in blessing our ministry!

FINANCIAL NEED

This year, for the first time, we are lagging behind in our contributions in comparison to our expenses. Our expenses through August were around \$42,000. We have a monthly budget of around \$4,600, the largest expense being wages. A good house parent is so crucial in our organization, and we are not currently paying her what she is worth. Our income through August in contributions from churches and individuals was around \$18,500 which means that if we continue on this way through the end of the year, we will have a shortfall of \$23,000 for the year. Our fundraising event did not bring in as much as we hoped, and if not for a large donation from an anonymous donor (which we hoped to use to pay down our mortgage and make improvements on the house), we would be cutting into our small fund balance considerably.

Precious Gems is supported completely by donations. In order to provide a Christian home, we have chosen not to take any federal or state funding. We are searching for grant funding and learning to write grants, but that takes much time and specialized knowledge. (If you have grant writing skills and would like to help, please contact us.)

Please prayerfully consider a tax-deductible gift to Precious Gems to enable us to meet our budget. Our mortgage payment is \$675 per month. An annual gift to cover this payment is especially helpful. A monthly contribution also helps us in planning our expenditures but any amount or frequency is appreciated!

Since we opened in 2014, we have served 15 women from all walks of life and all situations. We are grateful for the opportunity to make an impact in their lives.

Thank you for your support of Precious Gems. We could not do it without our generous donors, and as you can see, we ARE making a difference in the lives of young women.

CONTACT INFO:

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Phone:
231-468-2053
or
231-429-8426

To send contributions to Precious Gems,
Please mail it to:

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Thank you for your support!

*Precious Gems is a 501(c)3 organization so your gifts are fully tax-deductible