



# Sharing Hope Ministry

# N • E • W • S

## FEBRUARY 2016

ISSUE NO. 78

Sharing Hope Ministry  
806-358-7803

Patsy's Place  
806-418-2480

P.O. Box 7160  
Amarillo, Texas 79114

[www.sharinghopeministry.org](http://www.sharinghopeministry.org)

### —STAFF—

April Riggs, Executive Director  
[April@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:April@sharinghopeministry.org)

Ersela Demerson,  
Patsy's Place Program Director  
[Ersela@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:Ersela@sharinghopeministry.org)

Leigh Link, Volunteer Coordinator  
[Leigh@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:Leigh@sharinghopeministry.org)

Stevi Silagi, Special Projects  
[stevi@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:stevi@sharinghopeministry.org)

Dianna Hays, Finance  
[Dianna@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:Dianna@sharinghopeministry.org)

Dewanna Adams • Darla Andrew  
Laura Jones • Shawnelle Butler  
Michele Rupe • QuaSedra Watkins  
Julie Bell • Casie Stinnett  
Patsy's Place Support Staff

### —STATISTICS—

Total Life Recovery Bibles Distributed:  
**124,119**

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:  
**58,811**

### —VOLUNTEERS—

Fundraising Volunteers: **125**  
Jail Ministry Volunteers: **13**  
Office Volunteers: **45**  
Patsy's Place Volunteers: **25**  
Pen Pal Volunteers: **3**  
Prayer Group Volunteers: **10**  
Stepping Stones Volunteers: **14**  
Garden Volunteers: **13**

### —BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

Vonnie White, *President*  
Dr. Robert Pinkston, *Vice President*  
Thomas Maldonado, *Treasurer*  
Vian Elms, *Secretary*

Benita Brown  
Danny Fulton  
Ron Kohler  
Joel Price  
Jim Burgess  
Krystal Hare  
Tim Merrill  
Linda York

Please join us for

## Hope Fest 2016

a fund raising banquet for Sharing Hope Ministry & Patsy's Place Transitional Home

featuring

# Ashley Smith

Author of the bestselling autobiography,  
*Unlikely Angel: The Untold Story of the Atlanta Hostage Hero*  
now the major motion picture: *CAPTIVE*

**Thursday, March 31, 2016 • 7:00 pm**  
**Civic Center, Heritage Ballroom**  
Tickets : \$35.00 each

For tickets call 806-358-7803  
or visit [www.sharinghopeministry.org](http://www.sharinghopeministry.org)

Ashley Smith is known worldwide as the single mother who persuaded Brian Nichols, Atlanta's courtroom killer, to surrender to police. Nichols himself called Ashley "an angel sent from God", but ironically, it was Ashley's less-than-angelic past that convinced him to face justice. Ashley believes God led her through the highly publicized experience to help "unlikely angels" everywhere find hope.

Afterwards she wrote her best-selling book, *Unlikely Angel—The Untold Story of Atlanta's Hostage Hero*, donating proceeds to a memorial fund honoring the victims of the Atlanta courthouse tragedy. Ashley's testimony reaches seekers from all walks of life, and her authentic, quietly courageous story exemplifies a genuine, guiding faith.



# The Thrill of the Ride!

*The yearly life-cycle of Sharing Hope Ministry can be described as a roller coaster ride. January is the exciting build-up of anticipation of where God will take us. Before we know it, we're off with a whoosh, and the next months are a series of adrenalin producing loops and turns! Volunteers take this ride with their hands in the air and whooping! You gotta love the adventurous souls that God sends our way and 2015 gave us an amazing ride! You probably remember the big fundraising events (Hope Fest, Christmas in October and the Race 4 Recovery) but read below for other 2015 highlights.*

**February** gave us a new class of Stepping Stones mentors who immediately rolled up their sleeves to show Christ's love through relational ministry.

The month of **April** was all about what can be accomplished through volunteer service. Men and women came from a multitude of churches for our first ever Community Service Day. Later that month, we celebrated our volunteers at our annual Volunteer Appreciation lunch.

In **May** the 7th Street Garden of Hope was officially opened and was a great benefit for Patsy's Place Transitional Home and for others from the surrounding neighborhood.

**June** held the kick-off event for Patsy's Pearls. The Ministry is thankful for these new volunteers who ensure that the house, special events, and specific needs are met with grace and love.

In **July**, our annual audit was completed. Some might consider an audit as a dip in the roller coaster ride, but audits ensure accountability and transparency. Because our work is accomplished through your donations, we openly offer our audited financial statements for your review.

The month of **August** held a record of 3 graduations from the Patsy's Place program. Last year, a total of 5 women graduated and are now experiencing a life, free from crime and addiction.

In **September**, the Patsy's Place Intern Program was created to help our participants gain real life work experience which can lead to better paying jobs. Contact Stevi if you have a business that can use a Patsy's Place Intern for several hours each week.

**October** saw WTAMU's Enactus Club host a "Sharing Hope with the Block" party. Neighbors and their children devoured hot dogs and treats while playing games and learning more about the community garden and the resources available through Sharing Hope Ministry.

Thanks to our community, **November** began a joyous holiday season at Patsy's Place. Our past and current participants, along with their families, came together for celebrations marked with meals, events and presents, which reminded each of us of the gift that Christ offers to all.



By *December*, the yearlong “ride” pulls back into the station where the wide-eyed and tired volunteers and staff catch their breath before the new year begins again. 2015 closed with 14,818 Christ-centered services provided to an estimated 8,364 women across our nation. An additional 26 women called Patsy’s Place home and were equipped with new skills which will help them return to their families as role models instead of repeat offenders. A special thanks to our financial donors who provided end-of-year gifts that prepares us for the work to be accomplished in 2016. I encourage you to jump aboard the 2016 roller coaster that promises the adventure and blessings that come from working for Christ.

~ In His Service,  
 April Riggs  
 Executive Director

## Want to keep up with Sharing Hope Ministry?

Check us out at

[www.SharingHopeMinistry.org](http://www.SharingHopeMinistry.org)  
[Facebook.com/SharingHopeMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/SharingHopeMinistry)  
[PatsysPlaceBlog.wordpress.com](http://www.PatsysPlaceBlog.wordpress.com)

## Upcoming Events for 2016

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon- February 12th

Hope Fest- March 31st

Race For Recovery - August 27th

Christmas In October - October 29th and 30th

## Sponsors Needed

Contact April for more info:  
[april@sharinghopeministry.org](mailto:april@sharinghopeministry.org)  
 starting @ \$500.

We read a Bible study every day and talk about God every day! We have a great time helping each other and supporting each other through our trials. Praise God for the support, as well. We love having our Bibles!

Be blessed. Thanks! ⇨  
 The Women of Potter County Jail -  
 Pod F24

# Thank You Supporters

# Memorials and Honoriums

## IN MEMORY OF:

**Jim Tiffie and Tom Saul**

by April & Dave Riggs

**Martha Kelley**

by Peggy & Don Criswell

**Jerry Norman**

by Shirley Daniel

**Bonnie Green**

by Connie & Bob Garrett & Jennifer & James Dowell

**Bill B. Cain**

by Doris Jean Cain

**Patsy Britting**

by Rebecca Simmons

## IN HONOR OF:

**Mr. and Mrs. John Tolk**

by Linda McCleary

**Bob & Connie Garrett**

by Rena Jeffers

**Aaron, Katie, Jessica, Emily**

**Claire and Brighton**

by Vera Hill

**Andi & Brad Veazey**

by Jean Childs

**Thomas Lynch**

by Connie Windows

**Vicki & Tim Merrill**

by Dixie & Danny Fulton

**Cheri & Ron Boyd**

by Chandler & Andrew Ware

## October - December 2015

**Jan & Frank Frisbie**

by Julie & Cory Mathis

**Vera Hill**

by Julie & Cory Mathis

**Tanya Rogers**

by Charlotte & Fletcher Smith

**Don & Thunda Wigley**

by Melissa & Frank Willburn

**To My Wonderful Friends**

by Cheri & Ron Boyd

**Dave & Joy Schmedel**

by Gayle & Mark Weeks

**To My Wonderful Friends**

by Shirley Daniels

**Mr. & Mrs. Gary Purser**

by Shirley Irwin

**Alberta Batchelor**

by Anonymous

## IN-KIND DONATIONS:

Brenda Blakley, CPA

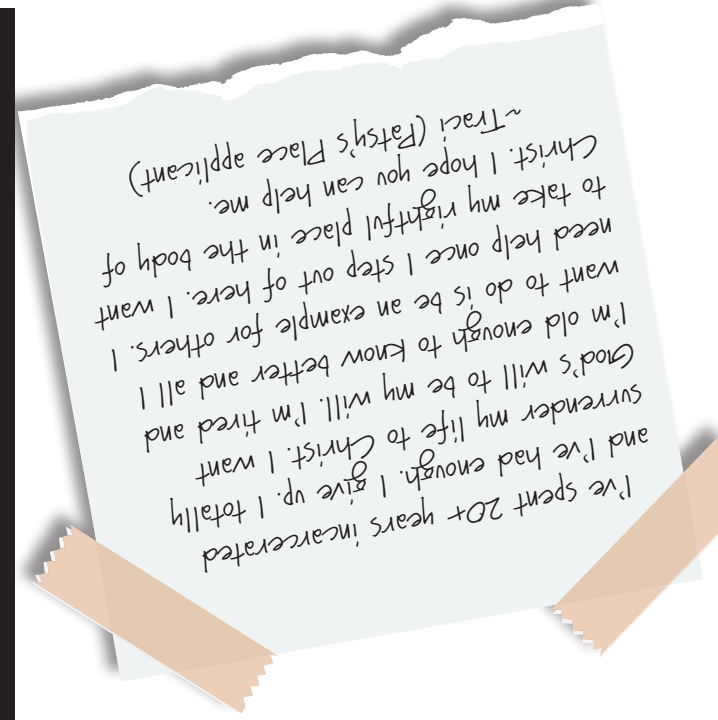
Dixie & Danny Fulton

Graphics By Kim

Herring Bank

Hillside Christian Church

Sharon Schlegel



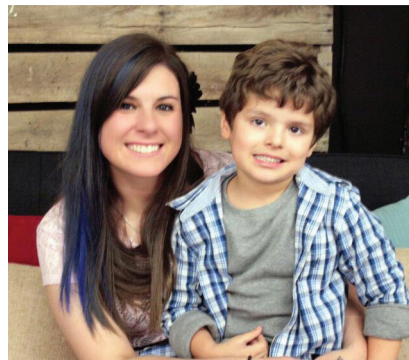
Return Service Requested

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Amarillo, Texas  
Permit No. 195



## Welcome Stevi!

Hey there! My name is Stevi and I am the most recent graduate of Patsy's Place. I am also honored to tell you I am the newest staff member with Sharing Hope Ministry. I have been so incredibly blessed this past year and I thank God for this amazing opportunity to continue to work with and support this ministry that has not only believed in me, but helped to shape me into who I am today. It is amazing to me the things God has restored in my life and I am very excited to see what else he has in store for my future. Come by anytime to see me, I've been told I have a great smile and listen well!



Love and Blessings to you all!

I want to thank you so much for the Life Recovery Bible. I love it, plus it got delivered on Christmas Eve, making it that much more of a gift. What you provide for us is freedom from inside these walls and we really can't ask for more. I was lucky enough to be reborn. God has saved me from myself and has now provided me with the hope I had once lost.

Thanks again.

~Ashley, Perryville (AZ)