

Compassion

It is time to consider how deep the Father's compassion is for His children. Most of us can say that the first verse we learned to memorize was John 3:16, "For God so loved the World that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." I have always been struck by the first part of the verse. For God so loved that He did something. He took action and not just any small thing, but something so grand that it changed the world for all time. When we are moved by love for another being, we are moved into action. When I became the director of SAFE I prayed for God to give me His love and compassion for the women and children that come here. He has done this, and in a God size way.

The women at SAFE were trapped by the bondage of a world of sin, and they chose to break the chains of their past and except Christ's offer of freedom. The ladies spend 14 hours a day for a minimum of 1 year devoting themselves and their children to the struggle of trusting God and His promises. They saturate themselves with scripture verses that give them truth to combat the world's temptations and lies they have believed. Their children experience loving mothers who care for them with grace.

The volunteers and staff devote ourselves to supporting these women through this monumental journey. We do this because of the compassion God has given us for them. I do this because I want others to know that every woman and child that walks through our door is worth our humble efforts. I do this because I so love God that I have to give myself to serve His people.

We desperately need your help. I am asking you to prayerfully consider allowing God's deep compassion for these women, children, and this ministry to become your compassion. I ask that you will devote time to pray for us, and then as God guides you to join us by volunteering and by giving financially.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 27th 2pm: SAFE Graduation
@ SAFE Family Ministries

Nov. 10th 10-3pm: Fall Holiday Craft Fair & Chili Fundraiser
@ SAFE Family Ministries

Dec. 1st 5-8pm: Annual Christmas Dinner & Auction
@ Cooks Hill Community Church

The Pacific Northwest Disaster Relief

The PNW Disaster Relief Team came and provided a delicious meal at annual Open House on July 21st. Many of the team had only a brief stop-over during their busy fire season, and they chose to serve here. Thank you all!



I came to SAFE ashamed, broken and alone. Having lost everything and everyone I ever knew and loved, I felt I no longer belonged anywhere. I was bruised, scarred, and starving. I was exhausted from aimlessly walking for months without a safe place to sleep. Here at SAFE I had finally walked away from a life of drugs and crime, but I still faced 15 years in prison. At first, I was too afraid to sleep in my own bed, so I would sneak out and sleep in the treehouse. Then when I began to feel safe I slept on the porch. After months of treatment and gentle love from those in the ministry, I gained enough confidence to sleep in my own bed. Still I spent many nights sleep walking searching for my children. The most valuable thing I found at SAFE is the pure and untainted Word of God, that is lived out by those who teach and cling to it.

Trust issues are a big deal for us SAFE ladies who have been let down by so many in our lives. But the people at SAFE walk so closely with God that I realized that even if the world around me was not real, God's Word is still real and that prompted people to love me back into reality. They overlooked my rudeness and self-protective stance. God's very heart beats within them. So many of the so many of the staff, volunteers, and other residents gave to me of their hearts. I began to think that if God's Word can do this, I wanted more of it. I began to think of the Bible, not just as a book of rules and regulations, but as God's love letter to me. He gave me His life, so I can live twice. The staff wrote countless letters on my behalf, and I was released from both fines and prison sentence.

The day I wrote this article I received a call that another one of my cases was dropped. I feel like Jesus is saying, "Neither do I condemn you Katrina, go and sin no more." He not only gave me his heart and His Son, but He gave me my son, Mickey, back. I not only learned to play the guitar, but I'm able to teach Mickey, and together we lead morning worship. He is restoring my relationships with my family and my dad came by to visit recently. I just received my first paycheck I've earned in about three years. I can now afford to re-instate my nursing license. God is showing me through those that love me here at SAFE that I too matter and that the power of His redemption is bigger than my mistakes, failures and grief. He can and will bring life out of all my sorrows. I pray that God abundantly blesses all those that cared for me, and I pray much grace for those that have harmed me just as I was shown much grace. I love you Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me first. *Katrina V.*



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Please consider Safe Family Ministries for your tax deductible year end contribution as we continue to follow God into the new year ahead helping those wanting and working towards a life change.

Thank you in advance for your faithful support!

Mike Vorse
Board of Directors, President

This summer First Baptist Church Monroe sent a mission team of adults and youth to serve at SAFE. They brought equipment, supplies, labor, and servant attitudes. Among all the projects they worked on the most remarkable was this beautiful new prayer garden. They stayed for three days, and took the ladies and their children inner tubing on the lake. Every evening we had a wonderful praise and worship time with them. The residents and staff were blessed by this great mission team. Thanks Bethany & Team!

SAFE

NEWS FALL 2018

From the Director

This summer at SAFE was filled with many blessings and happenings. We survived a fire suppression system flood and subsequent remodel, logging of a grove of dying trees, and changes in volunteers. Many mission teams volunteered on the facilities, in administration, and with the residents. We were privileged to host 25 riders for the Seattle to Portland bike trip. The on-site Second Chances Thrift Store is doing well. Childcare is an ongoing need at SAFE, and thanks to one of our volunteer, Jewel, we have begun the process of offering childcare in the Hope House possibly by January. We are offering new classes to increase our residents' successful transition back to the community. We desire to have the opportunity to train residents in customer service, financial management, childcare, and developing their organizational skills. We look forward to a fall harvest filled with new volunteers, new ministry partners, continue building repairs, and possibilities for increased sustainable funding. I look forward to meeting you at our Fall-Holiday Craft Bazaar and our annual Christmas Dinner.

~ Shirley Cunningham

Bethel Youth Group

These young adults and their leaders came by bus every day for 3 days in July to help clean up the debris from the tree falling, clean out the basement store rooms, and do a lot of random yard work. They were awesome, and blessed the ministry with their hard work.