

# "TOPGOLF" FUNDRAISER

LIFESPRING HOPES THIS EVENT WILL BECOME AN ANNUAL FUNDRAISING ENDEAVOR



On Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, Lifespring Ministry hosted its very first fundraising event at Topgolf in Naperville, IL! A fun afternoon that was full of energy brought together new supporters, friends, and volunteers. Funds raised at the event will go towards expanding the services provided to our women and children. Thank you for all who contributed to the event's success.

## HE IS RISEN: RISEN INDEED!



Happy Easter and blessed Passover!

In this season of forgiveness, renewal and resurrection, our hopes and passions are centered on God as we come together as a community of volunteers and staff to serve our women and children.

Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Dimoulis for coming to teach our ladies about the history and tradition of the Seder dinner.

## OUR MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT

Spring is the season when new growth begins and changes happen all around us. The days are starting to get warmer – although, there's still quite a chill out there! Flowers are starting to bloom and the sun seems to be sticking around just a little longer as the days pass. As the new season is ushered in, we are reminded of the areas where, as a ministry, we can continue to grow. Please keep Lifespring in your prayers and consider making a financial contribution to help further the work being done here.

CONTACT THE MINISTRY DIRECTOR, JODY CANTEY AT [JCANTY@WAYSIDECROSS.ORG](mailto:jcantey@waysidecross.org) OR CALL (630) 851-0187 TO SEE HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**GATHER AND GO NIGHTS** Please join Lifespring Ministry for a night of prayer, ministry updates, and to learn how to get involved. The Gather and Go Nights occur every 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month from 6:00-7:00 PM.

**AUCTION PLANNING MEETING** Please contact Director, Jody Cantey, if interested in attending the auction planning meeting on Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

**SIX MONTH CELEBRATION** On May 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM, Lifespring will be celebrating two women who have completed six months of the program.

**ANNUAL AUCTION** Save the Date! Our annual auction will be on Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 5:00 PM at Danada House.

**LIFESPRING MINISTRY**  
A DIVISION OF WAYSIDE CROSS MINISTRIES  
517 COLLEGE AVENUE AURORA, IL 60505

## APRIL IS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time, talents, and services to Lifespring over the years. You have shared in the labor of ministering to the women and children who enter these doors. These women often come to Lifespring broken, hurting and in great need. We could not have been longstanding without you. We are always in need of great volunteers who will love on our women. If you're interested in volunteering your skills and services, please reach out to our program coordinator, Morgan Baumert at [mbaumert@waysidecross.org](mailto:mbaumert@waysidecross.org) or by phone at (630) 952-1103.



## MINISTRY

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Testimonies Shared



When we testify of God's power, redeeming grace, and our new identity in Jesus Christ, we are bringing glory to our Father. Not only do our testimonies glorify God, testimonies encourage others in their personal walk.

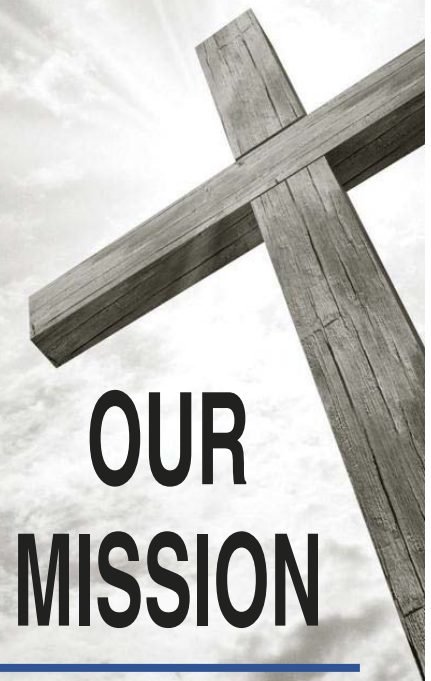
Testimonies encourage our women in their faith, and that is why at Lifespring we believe it is crucial for Lifespring Graduates, who are continuing to grow in their faith

outside these walls, to come in and share their testimonies.

Testimonies are not only stories of God's wonderful works, but they are also the way we live now contrasted with our previous circumstances. Titus 3:3-7 beautifully sums up God's redemption and the ways he renews us as His children.

When former residents share their experiences with our current residents, it can help them see that they are not alone in facing particular obstacles, and seeing how the other person is a new creation can inspire them to discover how God can begin to transform their own lives.

If your women's group or bible study would like to use our space, please reach out to Director, Jody Cantey, at [jcantey@waysidecross.org](mailto:jcantey@waysidecross.org) or call (630) 851-0187.



## OUR MISSION

To honor God by loving and serving the afflicted and powerless through sharing the Gospel of forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ by empowering them to be disciples of Christ.

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

**SIX MONTH CELEBRATION** Find out what it takes for our women to reach their six month celebration. **THANK YOU** April is volunteer appreciation month - thank you for serving our ladies. **TESTIMONIES** Former residents' success encourages new residents. **CONTINUED DISCIPLESHIP** Lifespring offers continued support to the women upon graduation.

READ ONLINE! DOWNLOAD THIS NEWSLETTER AT [WWW.WAYSIDECROSS.ORG/LIFESPRING](http://WWW.WAYSIDECROSS.ORG/LIFESPRING)





# SIX MONTH CELEBRATION



Six Month Celebration Celebrants (March 2018)

LIFESPRING MINISTRY SERVES AS A LONG-TERM TRANSITIONAL PROGRAM RATHER THAN AN EMERGENCY SHELTER, TEACHING LIFE SKILLS TO WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WAY. AN ARMY OF VOLUNTEERS JOIN WITH STAFF TO MAKE THIS SIX-MONTH PROGRAM A STEPPING STONE TOWARD INDEPENDENT LIVING. AS PART OF THIS UNIQUE PROGRAM, WOMEN RECEIVE CHRISTIAN COUNSELING, EDUCATION, AND SUPPORT TO PREPARE THEM FOR THEIR FUTURE.

The six month celebration indicates that the resident has made it through all phases of the program. The program consists of three phases with an additional six-months (Phase IV) offered to those needing additional stabilization. The program's phases progress as follows:

## Phase I

After a bed opens, women meet with staff, undergo assessment, begin Bible classes, and become acquainted with the rules and chores that make life together function smoothly. This phase typically lasts the first 30 days of a resident's stay.

## Phase II

In this phase, staff help the women identify the crisis that brought them to

Lifespring. The women begin classes, job readiness preparation, professional counseling, continue in their study of the Bible, and help with meal planning, all in preparation for independent living. Residents are in this phase the next two-three months of their time in the program.

## Phase III

During the final 3 months, women continue to participate in classes, complete a job search, and begin to work. While earning an income, staff are working with them to manage their

finances and to start saving.

## Phase IV

Women who succeeded in the six-month program are invited to continue for an additional six months for stabilization. During this time they are challenged to improve work habits, build a healthy lifestyle, and to continue counseling and recovery.

If you know of any women in need of our program, please instruct them to contact Lifespring by phone at (630) 851-0187 to complete our intake process and be placed onto our waitlist.

## LOVE IN ACTION



Lifespring staff recently had the privilege of witnessing our women and children being spoiled with kindness. A wonderful group of volunteers offered our residents professional haircuts and other pampering. Our dining room had the appearance, and clamor, of a full-service salon! There were blow dryers humming, snacks being shared, and laughter heard throughout the house. Our women had the opportunity to feel beautiful and cared for. It was such a joy to watch our ladies feel feminine and elegant! We are so thankful for the love that they enjoyed that day.

## SOMETIMES BLESSINGS COME IN BAGS

Not only were our women able to be blessed this month, but even our smallest residents were able to receive an abundance of love. Our children were blessed with hand sewn bags filled with items for them to enjoy: coloring books, small toys, and knick knacks.



## CONTINUED DISCIPLESHIP



Lifespring Ministry strives to be a resource to the women who come through these doors even after they leave our program. Pictured above is Jacky (right), a former resident of Lifespring who continues to participate in weekly biblical counseling and check-ins with her case manager (left).

Lifespring Ministry is working to establish a more structured case management program for our six month and one year program graduates. The desire is that Lifespring would continue to offer an array of supportive service options, such as continued financial planning and monitoring, continued access to biblical counseling, and to provide the women with continued access to our network of referral sources even upon graduation.

The goal of the case management and supportive services is to help Lifespring Ministry Graduates maintain self-sufficiency and economic independence to the greatest extent possible outside the structure of the Redeemed for His Work Program.

## AND NOW THESE THINGS REMAIN FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:13

### Local Troop Blesses Lifespring with Board Games and Cookbooks

You may be used to buying Girl Scout cookies from the troops in your neighborhoods, but you may be less familiar with how local troops give to our women and families here at Lifespring. Every year, troops like Girl Scout Troop 50996, pictured (at left) with some of our residents, bless our women and children by volunteering their time, collecting items that benefit the residents, and generously supplying Lifespring with free cookies. We are grateful to all of the troops that bless our ladies. Thank You Troops!

