

## MINISTRY

# HIGHLIGHTS



### Christmas at Lifespring!

The ladies of Lifespring had a wonderful Christmas! We are so thankful to everyone that donated and made this Christmas season so special. We could not be more grateful for the abundant generosity from churches, friends, and neighbors. The women and children were able to get several things they needed as well as items they just wanted for fun.

The women and children were full of smiles and joy as they opened their gifts. The children played with their new toys before they were even taken out of the packages.



## 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.



WAYSIDE CROSS  
MINISTRIES



# Christmas Fundraiser



“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” *Isaiah 9:6*

Our first annual Christmas Fundraiser was a hit! We had a great time fellowshiping and ringing in the holiday cheer! Thank you to all of those that participated and helped decorate our lobby's Christmas tree. The women and children were grateful to have had such a beautifully decorated tree.

You can see how the hard work of many can come together to make one beautiful masterpiece. Everyone put their own creative touch into their ornament and when they all came together on the tree it looked amazing. That is what happens at Lifespring. Our volunteers and those that donate their time and money make Lifespring a true masterpiece. God has blessed so many with wonderful gifts and talents. It is great to see how everyone comes together to make Lifespring what it is. God has truly blessed us by giving us his amazing, talented, and loving children to help.

**Thank you to all who came and made Lifespring joyous for the  
Christmas season!**

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## **Come Alongside the Women with Children Living at Lifespring and Be Part of**

Lifespring continues to strive to take care of the mothers and children who come through these doors. What can you do to help? Pray for our staff and these families during this difficult season of life. Donate monetarily to Lifespring, as well as through gifts-in-kind like nonperishable food, school supplies, toiletries, diapers, wipes, and formula. Volunteer to help with child care, mentoring, sponsoring a birthday party, baby shower, or fun trip, or by leading a children's Bible study, craft, or recreation time. Please contact our program coordinator, Rachel Hershey at [rhershey@waysidecross.org](mailto:rhershey@waysidecross.org), or by phone at (630) 851-0187, if you are interested in serving our families.

# MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS

## Deirdre:

### 1. Why do you volunteer at Lifespring?

"Because my passion is to help women in need find their worth in Christ and to show of the love of Christ by just being there for them. Also to show women that they are fearfully and wonderfully made and loved by a God that knew them even before they were born."

### 2. What do you do at Lifespring when you are here?

"I have done many things like spa nights, giving boutique, seminar on what not to wear for interviews, smoothie making demo, cooking class, blessing boutique, craft night, make hand scrubs and game night. Have also styled and dressed the residents for special events, graduation and interviews."

### 3. How do you relieve stress?

"Take a walk, pray and give it to God, long bath, massages and talk to a friend."

### 4. What are some opportunities you see for others to volunteer at Lifespring?

"Childcare is so needed to allow the Mom's to participate in events, practical instructions on budgeting and home management. Professional parenting counseling. Seminars on personality types. Healthy food preparation. Prayer partners."

## Dana:

### 1. Why do you volunteer at Lifespring?

"A few years ago, I found out about Lifespring at an annual dinner that my church hosted benefiting Lifespring. Seated at my table was a Lifespring graduate whose testimony made me want to help other women the way she had been helped. I longed to be a part of an organization that could help women in all aspects of their lives - spiritually, emotionally, physically. When my schedule freed up a couple of years later, I was able to begin volunteering on a regular basis, and I've loved every minute of it."

### 2. What do you do at Lifespring when you are here?

"In the beginning, I mentored ladies one-on-one. I eventually began to help with marketing, including with the annual fundraising event. I continue to help with marketing and also volunteer once a week with my therapy dog, Duke. The hour we spend with the ladies each week is the highlight of mine and Duke's week!"

### 3. How do you relieve stress?

"To relieve stress, I love playing team sports like tennis and basketball because they allow me to exercise and be with my friends at the same time. I also love all kinds of puzzles because putting things where they belong helps me feel centered and organized. As you can imagine, my house is very tidy because I get stressed when things aren't where they should be. (Everything has a place and should be in its place, right?!)"

### 4. What are some opportunities you see for others to volunteer at Lifespring?

"There are so many areas to volunteer at Lifespring like preparing a meal, mentoring, fundraising, teaching a class, or hosting a craft night. I have many friends who are looking for a way to make an impact in the world around them. I ask them to visit Lifespring by taking a tour or helping with a game night and then praying to see if God is calling them there. It's not for everyone. It can be challenging, heart-breaking, and discouraging. But showing Christ's love to others, especially at a time when they are hurting and fragile, can make such a huge impact on someone's life. It's been a hard realization that I know Lifespring is not their savior. Our savior is Jesus, and we are just His hands and feet, planting seeds and taking care of His people who are in need."



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# Thank You!

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We extend a big thank you to...

- \*Wheatland Presbyterian Church for donating advent bags
- \*Lydia's Peace Makers from St. Marks Church for our new valances
- \*District 129 for the amazing Thanksgiving dinners
- \*1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Aurora for their donation of pillows and other needed items
- \*To everyone that participated in Christmas and donated gifts and all sorts of great items

We could not do this without the love and support from our friends and neighbors. God bless you!

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**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.

**ANNUAL BENEFIT** Our annual benefit event at Topgolf will be on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at Naperville Topgolf, 3211 Odyssey Ct, Naperville, IL 60563. Register at <https://lstopgolf.cbo.io> for a time slot, either 2-3:30pm or 3:30-5pm.

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