

heartbeat

MERCY HOUSE NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2009

Dear Friends of Mercy House,
What an exciting time we are in at Mercy House! I am so aware of the presence of the Lord working and moving us forward. We have acquired many new friends as we are working to increase the awareness of our existence in our community. Our luncheon and the shower at the book signing at Central Market this May were two key things that God has certainly blessed in broadening our base of partnering support.

As I have prayed about what to share with you, being aware of all of our new friends, I have been encouraged by the Lord with Habakkuk 2:2-3. It says, "Then the Lord gave me this answer: "Write down clearly on tablets what I reveal to you, so that it can be read at a glance. Put it in writing, because it is not yet time for it to come true. But the time is coming quickly and what I show you will come true. It may seem slow in coming but wait for it; it will certainly take place, and it will not be delayed." At the end of this passage, the Lord states that "the just shall live by faith". Faith is the capstone key to the acquisition of God's promises. Dear friends, I want to be really clear in

my communication. About a year and a half ago in a quiet time with the Lord, He spoke this to me, "I am going to give you a house to use." I have gone back to that promise over and over speaking in faith what I believe I have heard. As I read this passage in Habakkuk, I hear His promise that the time is coming quickly. That it will come true. That it may seem slow (as I



might count slowness) but that it will certainly take place and will not be delayed. Friends, we are ready. We have such a strong base of support. So many wonderful volunteers. So many new and old friends. And so many NEEDY young women. I feel that we are on the brink of a breakthrough.

Will you pray with me please? We desire to continue to serve our women through our wonderful

shepherding families. What a fountain of the blessing of God comes through these sacrificial people who open their hearts and their homes. And we also want to see our dream of having a residential home established again in the mid-cities area. A group home where we can better serve young women with a specific set of needs.

Now more than ever I have the sense that the vision will come quickly and will not delay. I invite you to let me know anything you may have seen or heard that might give us a lead to this provision. God is a big and faithful and good God who owns everything and has no shortage of houses to give. We just need to find it and simply receive it as He has promised.

Thank you for your continued support in prayer, in finances and in volunteering your time. We are blessed to have a partnership of such faithful and giving friends. I am honored to serve as the director of Mercy House and give God glory for all He is doing in our lives and the lives of our moms and babies.

In His Mercy,
Susan



Annual Spring Luncheon

Many thanks to our special guests
Author Ame Beanland, and Singer-
Worship Leader Jeanne Rogers



Special thanks to Glen James and Resource Print Management for the donated printing and to Chris Flynn of Flynn Creative for donated art/design.

Mercy House: What Does It Really Cost?

Any young woman who comes into our program has an opportunity for a complete life intervention. Here is a brief summary of the things we do:

- First of all is the offer that only God can give to a hungry heart to receive the atoning work of Jesus on the cross. Saving faith is the first thing we desire to see in a young woman's life. We know that if she can connect with her maker and the lover of her soul, that the lives of two people will be changed forever.

Cost: Death of her Savior

- Housing and physical support: room and board, maternity clothing, baby clothing, baby layette items, nursing supplies, eyeglasses, anything that she needs to live physically in comfort.

Cost: \$4200

- Assistance with childbirth. Our midwives VOLUNTEER their services. They complete the prenatal care, birth center delivery, and postpartum care all in service to our Lord. Other volunteers provide childbirth education, lactation

support and postpartum home care.

Cost: \$4500

- Assistance with educational advancement and job search. GED tutoring, resume production, coaching in job interviewing, as well as the transportation needed for these services.

Cost: \$200

- Counseling with a licensed/pastoral counselor. All of our counselors offer their services free of charge as a service to the Lord.

Cost: \$400

- Assistance establishing a new home for mom and baby. We work with several agencies to assist young women in applying to a housing program for homeless families. When a young woman establishes her home we help her with household items and give her a "shower". We often are able to fill her apartment



with needed furniture such as beds, couches, dining table and computer.

Cost of items given and other donations: \$2000

- Assistance with acquisition of a car. Often cars are donated that need work and repairs. We then assist her with acquiring necessary title transfer and first month's insurance.

Our average cost for these has been about \$600.

Total average cost: \$12,000.

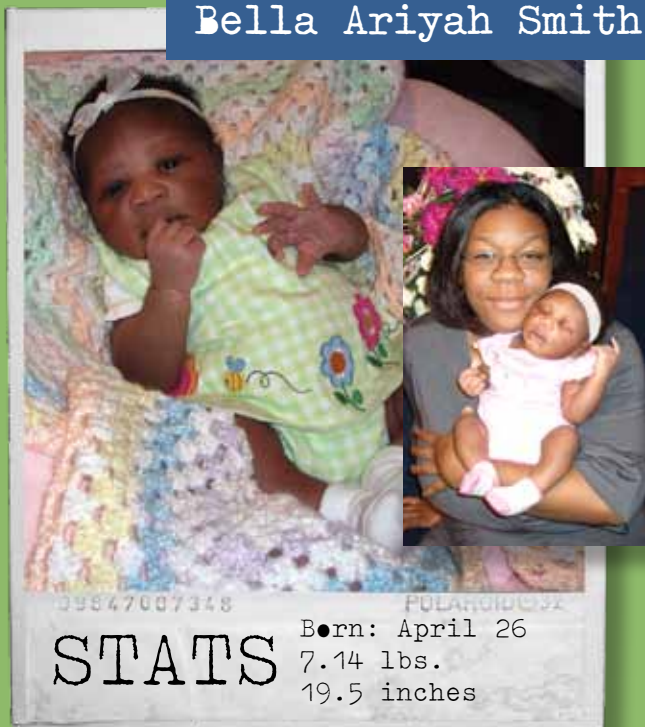
Value of a changed life:

PRICELESS!

Mercy House is a deep reach into a life that is broken and hopeless. Thankfully much of this cost is in donated services by loving people who care and who want to invest in a life. Our greatest desire is to extend an invitation to the life that Jesus offers and to back that up with tangible expressions of love to the broken and fatherless. Praise to His Name for all He does in each life that reaches out to Him for help!

NEW ARRIVAL

Bella Ariyah Smith



FROM MINDY'S DESK

As I look back over these past two years that I have volunteered I'm amazed at how the Lord has worked through Mercy House and in the lives of our clients. As I begin this new adventure of being the client care coordinator, I'm both excited and apprehensive. I have some big shoes to fill—Jennifer did an amazing job for our clients!! I'm so thankful that she is willing to be a resource for me. Jennifer is such a blessing!

The miracle of life...what a wonderful thing to see. Our newest client B and her sweet baby Bella are doing great. As I see Bella growing, I'm excited to see what the miracle of life will be for me. I'm expecting my first baby in October. I'm 20 weeks (half-way) through my pregnancy and am still surprised to feel the baby kick. Having a sonogram and seeing the baby move and suck her thumb is astounding. It's so amazing how the Lord knits our bodies together. But the Lord works in mysterious ways. My husband and I are in the midst of adopting a child from China and found out that we are going to be having one of our own. Now we will be the proud parents of two children. What a change this will bring to our lives. We look forward to this new adventure in our lives.



Book Signing



Many thanks to New York Times bestselling author Ame Beanland and Southlake's Central Market for the wonderful benefit shower given on May 3rd at Ame's book signing. She has written a delightful new book-Postcards from the Bump available now in bookstores. We are so honored to have a new friendship with both Ame and Central Market. Our thanks also to G-Diapers for their donation of 5% of sales at Central Market during the month of April. What a blessing!



Mercy  House

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