

Summer/Fall

2023



# The New Gate

## EMPTY BOWLS, FILLED SOULS

**Please join us for our IN-PERSON FALL FUNDRAISER!!**

When: November 2, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Where: St. Luke's Methodist Church, 222 NW 15th Street, Oklahoma City

Each guest will get to choose an unique, souvenir bowl and get it filled with the soup of their choice—a symbolic event to demonstrate how we are giving individuals something warm, comforting, and healing in their lives.

### Individual Tickets:

Bowl Sponsor	\$50
Spoon	\$51—\$499

### Table Sponsors:

Special Ingredients	\$500—\$999
Ladle	\$1,000—\$2,999
Soup Tureen	\$3,000—and up



Please call our office at (405) 525-3522 or email at [office@cjamm.org](mailto:office@cjamm.org) if you would like to purchase a ticket, table sponsorship or if you aren't able to attend but would still like to sponsor a table or make a donation. Donations can also be made online at [www.cjamm.org](http://www.cjamm.org). Thank you.

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“When I got to Exodus House, I was still a mess. Lots of emotions, scared, a little embarrassed. I was an empty person but I knew I wanted a new start. They helped me see I could live a good life without drugs. I could actually have fun. They filled me with good stuff.” —Hank, Exodus House OKC graduate December 2021

# The WONDER of SECOND CHANCES

## Gentle Ginger

When Ginger arrived at Exodus House OKC from Central District Community Corrections Center, she had the appearance of a homeless individual. Heavy coat, sock boggan cap, and a backpack with all her belongings.

Ginger now has a glow. She carries a Wonder Bread bag full of little pieces of paper with Bible verses, promises of hope, and even written prayers. She shares those with everyone she comes in contact with.

“Jesus is the bread of life and God is the God of wonder,” she said. The gentle, soft-spoken 35-year-old hasn’t always had a good-slice-of-bread kind of life. She suffered from abuse, had many rough obstacles along life’s way, and was incarcerated for four years.

While in prison, Ginger said she hit the bottom of the barrel. Now at Exodus House, she’s climbed out of that proverbial barrel and is sitting on top of it....proclaiming God’s great love and mercy.

Ginger recently volunteered to be a driver’s companion taking a load of children from the Oklahoma City area to New Day Camp. “I love hearing all the stories of camp. It gives me energy.”

She uses her gentle demeanor to encourage the other clients to stay focused on the program and building a new life foundation.



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## New Day Camp 2024

### June 2 - June 7, 2024 - Camp Cross Point



Mark your calendars! Volunteers will arrive the afternoon of Sunday, June 2nd and campers will arrive Monday, June 3rd by noon. New Day Camp is for children ages 8-14 who have an incarcerated parent. Camp is completely free for the campers. We provide the bedding and hygiene products for the campers and they get to take the items home after camp. You can help us get prepared for camp. Below is a list of items that are needed.

Toiletries—deodorant, sunscreen, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs and brushes.

Bedding—pillows, twin size fleece blankets, twin size child/teen prints sheet sets including pillowcase

Towels—bath towels and washcloths

Money—Funding needed for camper scholarships and supplies

Send items to CJAMM, 1401 NW 25th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73106. Monetary donations can also be made online at [www.cjamm.org](http://www.cjamm.org) via the donation button.

## Bretta's Second Chance – In her own words

My name is Bretta Workman. I was arrested in December 2017 in Sequoyah County, Oklahoma, and I have been incarcerated for 5 ½ years. I am not proud of the life I used to lead as an IV drug user, and I had to endure the consequences of my actions. While I was incarcerated, I was able to separate myself from the influence of drugs and alcohol. I did several substance abuse recovery programs and obtained my associates degree. Going to prison was the easy part but reintegration is where the rubber really meets the highway.

My mother passed away while I was incarcerated and my father is in prison in another state. I knew the only chance I had for success was sober living and so I applied for the Exodus House a year before I was supposed to. Normally, they want you to wait until your last 6 months but this is basically the only program that gives your money back when you complete and I just had to be accepted! It was scary for me coming out of the system with little more than the determination to live a better life. I only thought I knew how sweet of a deal I was getting before I arrived, but I never imagined it could be this great.

I have been at the Exodus House since June 27, over 2 months now. The day I walked in, the first thing I did was a UA drug test. Luckily for me, I welcomed the accountability, and then I was able to spend the rest of the evening with my daughter, who I hadn't seen in 3 years. Each apartment has a church sponsor, and I was able to meet mine that first day as well. I now consider her one of my dearest friends. Everyone was so welcoming to my child and ex-husband that he's receptive to allowing unsupervised visitation. Within the first 2 weeks, the staff and volunteers really went above and beyond to help meet my needs and with their help I was able to get a job almost immediately. That connection led me to an internship with CEO, an employment company where I will be able to help others affected by the criminal justice system.

Exodus House has not only provided me with housing and short-term recovery program but also with a home church and support system for years to come and more opportunity than I even thought possible so soon upon my release and I am grateful for this second chance.



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## OKC Exodus House 25th Reunion

It's time for a celebration! Exodus House in Oklahoma City is celebrating 25 years and we want you to celebrate with us on Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 11 am—2:00 pm at Exodus House, 433 NW 25th Street, OKC. A full day of activities are planned including guest speakers, chili cook-off, basket raffles, face painting, games, food and fellowship. Please RSVP to Exodus House, (405) 525-2300 or by email at [exodushouseokc@cjamm.org](mailto:exodushouseokc@cjamm.org), please put RSVP in your subject line and don't forget to include your name!







P.O. Box 1149  
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73101-1149

Keith Dobbs, Executive Director  
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Scott Davis, Chair

CJAMM Board of Directors

www.cjamm.org

*Cover Photo: One of the sponsors at Exodus House Tulsa, Owasso First United Methodist Church, has a cross wall. Client Bretta Workman hung a cross on the wall that she received as a gift while incarcerated.*

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## WISH UPON A STAR

When Ned Washington and Leigh Harline wrote the lyrics to “When You Wish Upon a Star”, they probably had no idea it would go beyond the 1940 Disney movie, Pinocchio.

When we hum that tune at CJAMM, we give it an even higher meaning...we wish and pray for guidance and direction from the Superstar.

To be a bright light for our clients at the Exodus Houses, we have a list of in-kind donations (or cash to purchase these items) that are currently in need.

Would you join us in shining His light?

### **Exodus House Oklahoma City**

- 1) Two new tires for the 12-passenger van—LT245/75R16
- 2) Fascia and soffit repairs
- 3) Exterior paint
- 4) Oil change and maintenance on vehicle
- 5) Beds, couches, dressers, recliners, night stands

### **Exodus House Tulsa**

- 1) Tulsa Transit bus passes
- 2) Four new tires for the 12-passenger van
- 3) Twin beds and bedding
- 4) Client Services dollars used to purchase food, clothing, and other items upon client arrival.
- 5) Passenger van (currently the census is more than can be transported for church and/or meetings to fit in one van).

### **CJAMM**

- 1) Donations to sponsor the Faith Retreat for the Exodus House clients and their families. Last year the cost for the retreat was \$5,000, we've secured \$2,000 so far. Still need at least \$3,000 before November 1.



Please mail checks to CJAMM, PO Box 1149, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1149

Donate online via PayPal at [www.cjamm.org](http://www.cjamm.org) (click on DONATE button.)

Donations can be dropped off at:

OKC Exodus House, 433 NW 25th, OKC  
Tulsa Exodus House, 2624 E. Newton, Tulsa  
CJAMM Office: 1401 NW 25th, OKC (Wesley UMC)

Thank you!!