

Mother's Refuge

February 2020 • Winter Newsletter



OLIVIA'S STORY *looking ahead with renewed hope*

Olivia was homeless. She was moving house to house and couch hopping with friends. She was addicted to drugs and using meth to get through the days. She dropped out of high school and found herself pregnant. Olivia felt lost, hopeless, and was fearful of the future ahead.

Olivia moved into Mother's Refuge and began to see light at the end of the dark tunnel she had been stuck in. She began receiving prenatal care for her unborn baby, attending GED, and learning life skills to equip her for future success. She began outpatient drug treatment and encouraged her boyfriend to pursue a life of sobriety too.

When Olivia began pushing forward towards her goals, she never looked back! She quickly passed all tests and obtained her GED, completed drug treatment with outstanding success, graduated our residential program, and most importantly, gave birth to a beautiful and healthy baby girl. Olivia recently moved into her own home.

She remains sober today and is proud of the life she has begun creating for herself and her family. Olivia looks forward to the future with a renewed hope of what is to come!



♥ *A Heart UP* ♥

As the New Year moves full speed ahead and we find ourselves celebrating Valentine's Day I am reminded of the opportunity to "Choose Love" in all circumstances. Our schedules fill up, our responsibilities continue to grow, and often we become overwhelmed in the busyness of life. That is when it's most important to "Choose Love" – love for ourselves, love for our families, and love for those who need a **heart up**. Yes, you read that correctly, a heart up – not just a hand up. We need to meet the broken where they are at and **love them to their potential**. That is how I survived the storms of life. I was loved to my potential and it made a life changing difference that I try to pay back to others each and every day. Here at Mother's Refuge, thanks to your love and support, we are able to offer a heart up and love young moms to their potential. And that's why it's important to take a minute, slow down, and "Choose Love". Happy Valentine's Day! We Love and Appreciate You All!

THE BEST IS
YET TO COME.

Angel



◀◀◀ 2019 Recap

60

moms & babies sheltered

140

individuals served through our
aftercare program

367 / active volunteers

1,237 / education classes

4,780 / overnight stays

11,793 / meals served



70% graduated our program

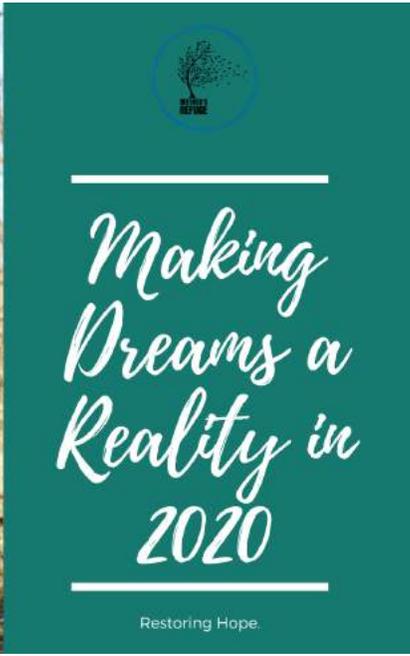
60% pursued education

40% obtained employment

67% received no prior prenatal care

83% escaped abusive situations

87% experienced prior drug use



Before moving to Mother's Refuge, Shantay thought finishing school and saving money was impossible for her, just as many homeless, young moms in similar situations come to believe. Thankfully, our home is a dream come true for many. Having a safe place to live and a healthy environment to have a baby is already a dream turned reality for them.

But we don't want them to stop there! We want them to keep dreaming, reaching for BIG goals and dreams. These moms have chosen life for their babies and want a better future.

Shantay's goals for 2020 are to start college, save money to purchase a new car, and to be a great mom!

We are looking forward to a year of restoring hope and making dreams come true in the lives of young pregnant and parenting mothers!

OUR SWEET

Bundles of Joy



Baby Girl

Born 8/18

- Always smiling
- On the MOVE
- Loves her mama

Baby Girl

Born 10/14

- Sweet as a button
- Loves warm baths
- Has started laughing



Baby Boy

Born 11/26

- Loves snuggles
- Starting to smile
- Looks like mama



Baby Boy

Born 12/9

- Calm like mama
- Good eater
- Alert and happy



Our Current House Needs:



- Breastmilk storage bags
- Gift cards- all types
- Copy Paper
- Leggings & Yoga Pants
- Bras & Underwear
- Hair and skin products
- Women's shoes
- Deodorant
- Batteries
- Paper towels
- Trash bags
- Dishwasher detergent
- Cleaning Supplies
- Toothpaste

Donations can be dropped off M-F during business hours at **3721 Delridge, Independence, MO.**

Please call 816.800.0458 to request a drop-off outside of regular business hours.

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MOTHER'S REFUGE

14400 E. 42nd St. S., Ste 220
Independence, MO 64055

Empowering young women to make successful life decisions for themselves and their babies.

Partner with Us:



Pledge #24480



Volunteer Your
Time & Talents



Donate Monthly at
MothersRefuge.org/give



Host a Baby Bottle Drive

WE WOULD *love* **TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Phone:

816.353.8070

Website:

www.MothersRefuge.org

Office Location:

14400 E. 42nd St. S., Ste. 220
Independence, MO 64055

Social Media:

Facebook- Mother's Refuge

Twitter- @MothersRefuge

Instagram- Mothers.Refuge



Invite a Mother's Refuge representative to speak at your business, event, or meeting by contacting Lindsey Chadwick at

816.800.0453.