

# Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter

November 2021  
Fall Issue

613 S. 9th Street, Temple TX 76504

[www.ladyoftheangels.org](http://www.ladyoftheangels.org)



## Shooting for the Stars



One of our former OLAMS residents and a current Aftercare client is blazing her path to success! Jayden, mother of three beautiful young girls, is on the road to changing her life and that of her children. She and her girls have their minds on excellence, inspired to reach for the stars! Defying the odds daily, Jayden is driven to improve their lives. But, when she arrived at the shelter almost 2 1/2 years ago during her third pregnancy, she was not feeling very confident about her life. Jayden had been put out of another program and left homeless on the streets of downtown Austin when the agency had determined that helping her was beyond their scope of services. Jayden was a recent victim of domestic violence and betrayal of her children's father left her alone without her girls. She was despondent, depressed, and absolutely tortured without her children. Once Jayden knew she was safe and that OLAMS would walk alongside her, she started checking off goal, after goal, after goal. She got a job, an apartment, and a used vehicle. But her biggest accomplishment was being reunited with her two children and welcoming her new bundle of joy into the world.

Jayden continued to work with OLAMS in our newly developed After Care Program. The goal of this program is to support clients living on their own successfully with support mechanisms, as well as ongoing training and education so that they have every opportunity to succeed independently in their chosen community. By incorporating life skills training as part of an integrated learning curriculum in which treatment goals, life skills, parenting education and career and academic exploration can be cohesively linked we help ensure each client learn the things they are deficient and/or need help mastering. Services in this area are designed to provide each client with knowledge of essential living skills, fiscal responsibility, interpersonal and problem-solving skills, and consumer awareness.

Jayden worked hard to obtain the tools necessary for her to maintain a healthy and independent life. Our staff counseled her with ways to continue moving forward in attaining her goals. With wrap around support services we offered her, she was moving forward by leaps and bounds. She was driven, outspoken, and with a hunger to conquer and elevate her life and that of her children. She is constantly thinking and moving outside the box. Jayden doesn't wait for a space to be made for her, she creates her own niche, steadily evolving and moving up. She has gained the confidence she needs to live a healthy life and have healthy relationships with her kids.

Recently, Jayden has been certified in three areas of Nursing: Phlebotomy, Medical Assistant, and EKG. She is employed at Baylor Scott & White Hospital and is loving her job! She is now ready to begin her studies to becoming a Registered Nurse, not only to have and provide a better life for her and her children, but also the ability of giving to others. She says that nursing is her way of making a charitable contribution to her community and the programs afforded to those in need. We are so proud of all she has accomplished over the past couple of years and are confident she continues reaching for the stars!

### Save The Date - Friday, January 28, 2022

Join us for our 19th Annual Benefit Banquet. Our guest speaker will be Abigail Borah, Community Outreach Coordinator, St. John Paul II Life Center, Austin TX. The benefit banquet will be held from 7pm-9pm at Frank W. Mayborn Civic & Convention Center, 3303 N 3rd, Temple TX 76501. Visit our website for more information and to purchase event tickets.

## 2021 Annual Benefit Fundraiser

This year brought many delays to our lives. COVID prevented many organizations opportunities in fundraising with live events. We were not alone. All who participated in this year's online event allowed us to raise the funds needed to help us continue to provide wrap-around support services to our residents living at the shelter as well as to our After-Care clients. Our online fundraiser afforded participants to winning one of four customized baskets. In addition, we want to thank our sponsors for their help in making this fundraiser possible.

What Are Friends For  
Basket Collection WINNER  
R. Brakemeier

Thankful  
Basket Collection WINNER  
M. Petter

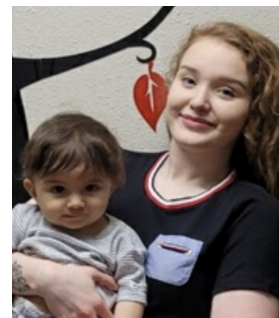
Indoor/Outdoor Cooking  
Basket Collection WINNER  
C. Pechacek

Self-Clean(s)ing  
Basket Collection WINNER  
D. Yezak

*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you –Jeremiah 1:5*

### Achieving My Goal

Crystal is a 19 year old young mother who was in need of shelter for her and her precious baby boy. She was alone with nowhere to go, turned away by family members and displaced by Uri's destruction. Crystal has spent all of her life going from pillar to post with different family members hoping to find a small couch to lay her head. She wanted to provide for her child and make sure he had a different life than she did. OLAMS worked with Crystal to help her develop and address her mental health needs as well as begin to heal from her abusive past. She participated in counseling to address her pain and start the process to healing so she can be a healthy mom for her son. She had the opportunity to attend life skills classes, parenting classes, and enroll in high school to finish her high school diploma. Crystal is proud of the work she has done and now believes she is capable of so much more. She continues to work on her diploma and is participating in an internship program through Texas Workforce Solutions training to obtain her certification as an Esthetician. This is a stepping stone to her dream of being an owner/operator of her full scale spa and salon.



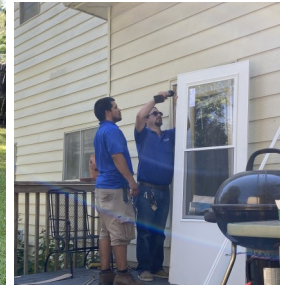
### Exciting News!

The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation awarded OLAMS with a \$55K grant to assist our clients. This is the largest grant OLAMS has been awarded and we are so pleased to have received it. Our clients will benefit from the extraordinary additional assistance we will be able to provide them. Funds from this grant will continue to support our After Care Program, Community Outreach and Education, as well as our Emergency Maternity Shelter Program.



## Day of Caring 2021

We appreciate the staff from Central Texas Housing Consortium for giving of their time to help us spruce up the outside. They were able to power wash the porch and patio and front fence, assemble a children's trampoline, trim back the landscaping, clean out the flower beds and spreading mulch. You all are ANGELS!



## Working with our Clients, One Family at a Time

COVID has affected many families in different ways. Many working from home has brought its challenges. Others have lost their jobs due to business closures or just not enough work to sustain them. Our ladies are no different. With overcoming these challenges along with providing a stable and nurturing home environment for their children as a single parent, our After Care Program has been able to assist these families. Our After Care team meets with these moms in-person, by phone, or by video to help them through their emotional rollercoaster life they are dealing with.

Our After-Care program is currently supporting and financing six women in completing their high school diploma or GED. Eight women are embarking on internships through the Texas Workforce Commission. TWC offers internships in spa and relaxation, computer and graphic design, as well as nine nursing programs.

Please continue praying for each of our moms and their families to have the strength to overcome the everyday challenges presented to them.



*Children are a gift from the Lord. They are a reward from Him" -Psalm 127:3*



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