

Bridges Safehouse Inc.

P O Box 1161
Cedar Hill, TX 75106
469-272-4441

November 2011



I hope everyone is having a great week! I'm excited to serve alongside all of you as the new Executive Director of Bridges. I am originally from Wisconsin and I moved to Texas in 1999 to attend Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie to study Accounting. I quickly found a local church, The Oaks Fellowship, and have served in various areas of ministry. Through my experience of volunteering and working in the business department at the church, I developed a heart to serve the community and minister to those in need. In 2009 I graduated with a Master's degree in Public Affairs, and with a certification in Nonprofit Management. Throughout the last few years, I have seen God develop my heart to desire to serve those that may not be fully equipped to make positive changes in their lives. My heart is to empower individuals to break the patterns of their past and the chains that may have been passed down from generations. I also have a strong passion to equip nonprofit organizations to fulfill their greatest potential by networking, being responsible stewards to the mission and to those that are investing their lives, and to utilize resources wisely.

I'm excited to announce that we re-opened the safehouse in October. We are so excited to once again serve the community in this way, and to bring hope and life to the individuals and families that come through our doors. Bridges is a nonprofit, faith based transitional housing which is operated by donors and volunteers who believe within their hearts the need to comfort and encourage women and their children by providing shelter, and equipping them with the resources and life skills training necessary to empower them for life's obstacles. We want to provide stability and encouragement to instill confidence and practical life skills.

If I have not met you yet, or if you are interested in learning more about our ministry, please call the office at 469.272.4441 or email me at emily.vanwie@bridgessafehouse.org. I look forward to the future and to all that God will do through this unique ministry.

*Emily Van Wie
Executive Director*

Quarterly Volunteer Training

Volunteer Training! Thank you so much to those of you who have dedicated so much time and energy into volunteering and donating to **Bridges Safehouse!** Bridges would not exist without individuals, families, churches, and communities like this one! We are so blessed! We want to honor you by training you and equipping you to minister to the women and children that we serve. Please join us at our first quarterly volunteer training. This training is for all past, current and future volunteers, and for those that are interested in finding out more information about Bridges. Please join us as we hear from our guest speaker, Paula Siegel.

Date: Thursday, November 17 **Time:** 7:00 pm
Address: Ginger Reid's house: 1600 Promontory Dr
Cedar Hill

Bridges Safehouse Testimonial

My 19 month old daughter and I have currently been residing at Bridges Safehouse. Before coming here I visited some other shelters in the D/FW area and by far Bridges is The Best. The staff and volunteers are some of the nicest, most helpful, most sweetest people I've ever met. From Day 1 up to this day they've all made me and my daughter feel at home and loved like family. Each day waking up and spending time here has been a blessing. Each volunteer staff member has gone far beyond their job descriptions to help and get what we needed at the same time made us feel comfortable. Having been use to constant negativity most of my life; Bridges Safehouse has given me the much needed positive breath of fresh air I needed in my life. Here I feel we have become a part of a family and formed friendships that will last always.

- Deyonna and Ariana



Current Needs

- Formula
- Water bottles (plastic, reusable)
- Floor, kitchen and cabinet cleaner
- Clorox wipes
- Boxes of #10 envelopes (500/box)
- Box of sheet protectors
- Box of manila file folders (letter size)
- Diapers for 12 month and pullups: 2T to 3T
- Home Depot/Lowes Gift Cards
- Walmart/Target Gift Cards
- Office Max Gift Cards
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Paper Towels
- New Pillows
- Couch (hide-a-bed)
- 12 passenger van

Board Members

Helen Carr
Dr. Shelly Clark
Amber Hatley
Bob Henry
Denise King, Treasurer
Christa Ledbetter
Kim Lewis
Carolyn Peterson, Secretary
Robin Phillips
Greg Porter
James Pulis
Ginger Reid
Craig Root, President
Kathy Watts
Carol West

We need your email addresses so we can keep you up to date! Please send your email address, current mailing address and phone number to info@bridgessafehouse.org

Thank you so much for your commitment to serving our community! Please consider helping us continue the ministry of Bridges through either a one-time donation or a monthly donation commitment. You can donate online at www.bridgessafehouse.org/donate .

To sign up to volunteer, donate or check out our ministry, visit website at www.Bridgessafehouse.org