

# The Gatepost

THE NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD'S GATE

## Lives You've Saved

**W**OMEN AND CHILDREN are living new lives thanks to partners like you. They've overcome trauma and broken the chains of addiction and abuse. Because of your prayers and support, they've experienced God's love and grace. Their lives are completely changed!

Here are just a few of the lives you've helped save.

### Patti

Patti is an elderly woman who was living in her car after her husband passed away. It was a dangerous and scary situation.

For over a year, she struggled to find food and had no medical care. She weighed less than one hundred pounds. Someone alerted our staff to Patti's situation, and we went out at night looking for her in the homeless encampments. When we found her, we started building a relationship with her.

She came to Shepherd's Gate and was able to get the medical care she needed. She had healthy meals and soon was thriving. Now Patti has stable housing and graduated our program last May!

*(Read more stories inside.)*

*\*Images changed for privacy*

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Shepherd's  
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*“Let us come to Him with thanksgiving. Let*

# *Lives You’ve Saved* (Continued from cover)



## **Kristin**

Before coming to Shepherd’s Gate, Kristin’s abuser tried to kill her. He violently beat her many times. And her young daughter

saw everything. She thought escaping her abuser was hopeless, so she tried to commit suicide to end her pain. Kristin managed to escape with her newborn baby and came to Shepherd’s Gate, while her daughter stayed with family. Thanks to friends like you, Kristin overcame her struggle with addiction and found healing from the terrible trauma she experienced.

Even better, Kristin, her newborn and her daughter were reunited. Through the kids’ program, her daughter got child-specific therapy to help her process her own trauma. Now the family is building a new future. Kristin has a job and is taking college classes.



## **Caitlin**

Caitlin’s struggle with addiction caused her to lose custody of both her sons. She was desperate to escape her addiction and

be a good mom. She came to Shepherd’s Gate and began working on her recovery.

We worked with Child Protective Services so Caitlin could have visits with her boys. They saw the hard work that she was putting into changing her life.

After several months, Caitlin was awarded custody of her boys!

Since graduating, Caitlin has found a full time job, an apartment and a car. She’s continued to stay sober and attends weekly recovery meetings to prevent relapses.

**Best of all, she and her boys are a happy, thriving family, as they should be.**



# *The Gate*



## Monica

Before Monica came to Shepherd’s Gate, her abuser made her live in a shed in the backyard. Her young son needed

medical care, but he refused to let her take him to a doctor. He would beat her until she was unconscious, her young son asleep next to her.

*“Today is the day.  
Come rescue us.”*

When she heard about Shepherd’s Gate, she called and began talking with staff, building a relationship and trust with us. One day she called and said, *“Today is the day. Come rescue us.”*

We immediately drove out to where she was and parked our van behind a fence where she could escape without anyone seeing her.

She handed her son over the fence, then climbed over. Monica was stunned as they drove away: they were finally safe.

She started college classes this fall and hopes to be a special education teacher someday. Her son is receiving the medical help he needs and is also participating in multiple therapy appointments. Monica is thriving and excited about their future.

None of this would have been possible without friends like you!

*Your support is changing  
the lives of real women and  
real kids! Doesn't it feel  
amazing to be part  
of these stories?*



*most*



# *More Ways You Can Change Lives*

## *Volunteer:*

There are several holiday opportunities for you to be involved in our ministry. We are a small staff and we can't do this without your help.

## *Pray:*

Your prayers help encourage our residents as they overcome their trauma. Knowing they have people who care about them and are praying reminds them they aren't alone in their journey!

## *Donate Goods:*

Check out our website for items currently needed. You can drop off items at either campus or shop our Amazon wish list to have items sent directly to us.

*Visit our website  
for more information,  
[shepherdsgate.org](http://shepherdsgate.org)*



**Shepherd's  
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# From My Heart

By Carol Patterson, *Chief Executive Officer*

## Thank You

It's amazing to think about the fact that over 14,000 women and children have been changed, thanks to partners like you. I could tell story after story of transformations, big and small, that happened because of your prayers and support.

This year will be our 38th Thanksgiving at Shepherd's Gate. Our Thanksgiving table gets bigger and bigger every year.

I wish you could see the looks on their faces when they realize that someone they've never met makes it possible for them to have a safe place to stay and have access to life-changing programs. The women and children here are so thankful for everything that friends like you make possible.

So I want to say thank you.

Not just from me, but from those whose lives you've impacted: the women who've graduated from the program and their children (*and even their children's children*) who now have a chance at a future.

Thank you for sharing God's love in such impactful ways.

*Carol* 





Each \$32.82 you give will share *One Night One Hope* for women and children.

## Whose Life Will You Save Next?

There's something important about the stories in this newsletter: they are only possible because of partners like you. And today, your Thanksgiving gift can help someone else.

A mom who's been trapped in abuse can escape and finally feel safe. A woman who needs help overcoming her addiction can get recovery help. A mom and her kids who've been sleeping in their car can get safe shelter. An elderly homeless woman can get the help she needs.

Will you help them experience *One Night One Hope*?

Each \$32.82 you give helps provide a full day of life-changing care for women and children. From recovery classes to life-skills classes, from case management to job training, your gift today can help save and change their lives!



## Make an Impact

There are several ways you can bless women and children at Shepherd's Gate.

- **Corporate Matching:** Many companies will match your donations, so your gift will have twice the impact!
- **Estate planning:** There are several ways you can have your loved ones continue your legacy of giving.
- **Stocks and Bonds:** There are different ways you can maximize your savings and money to make an impact.

Contact your financial advisor or HR department to find out more information!

### Help Save Lives this Thanksgiving

Yes, Carol, I will help more women and children escape abuse, addiction and homelessness. I'm sending a gift of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

From:

A Caring Friend

Each \$32.82 you give provides a day of safe shelter and life-changing care!



Shepherd's Gate

Please write your prayer request on the back of this form. See back for credit card gifts. Please enclose this form with your gift in the envelope provided. To give securely online, please go to [shepherdsgate.org](http://shepherdsgate.org). Thank you.

You can also give securely online at:  
[onenightonehope.org](http://onenightonehope.org)

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[shepherdsgate.org](http://shepherdsgate.org)



For more than 35 years, Shepherd's Gate has served women and children trapped in abuse, addiction and homelessness. Our mission is to provide safe refuge, restore hope and dignity, and rebuild lives through the transforming power of Jesus Christ.