

*grace*

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R E P U R P O S E D



SAVING *grace*

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GIVE "GRACE"  
*a place to call home*

CAN YOU GIVE A RECURRING  
MONTHLY GIFT?

Saving Grace is 100% community-funded through generous people like YOU! A gift of just \$37 provides one day of support for "Grace" as she works hard to change her life!

*Give now at [savinggracenwa.org/give](https://savinggracenwa.org/give).*



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# Dear friends,

If you look up the word **legacy** in Merriam-Webster, then click on synonyms, you will see words like **birthright** and **heritage**.

When I think of my own children and the legacy I'm leaving or the blessing I'm handing down to them, I can't help but think of unhealthy cycles and generational curses. If people had not chosen to surround me through mentoring and welcoming me in as a part of their family, the story for my children, their children, and their children's children would look very different. The hard work of healing from childhood trauma takes intentionality and the love and patience of others as God binds up your wounds. I could have continued to live in my trauma, but I wanted something more. I went in search of the ordinary and in doing so I found an extraordinary life. I've been redeemed, my story rewritten. A blessing for generations.

Oswald Chambers encourages us to "Leave the broken, irreversible past in God's hands, and step out into the invincible future with Him." There is wonder and glory in the wreckage of our past when we give God permission to do His work on our own shattered hearts and broken stories. He does not waste anything. Sometimes God uses His people to cup our faces and wipe away our tears. When "Grace" says "yes" to the invitation of participating in the Saving Grace program, there are moments where mercy meets the messy, the gospel is shared in tender places and the Holy Spirit seems to hover...we can almost see His Holy hand as He rewrites the story, changing her legacy, her heritage and empowering a victorious birthright. Oh, how He loves you and me. Oh, how He loves "Grace".

God is using you to help rewrite the story for our girls. I invite you to read their courageous stories in the next few pages, stories of cycles breaking for generations to come and friend, the next generation is here. The Lord has done great things and we are glad. (Psalm 126:3)

We can't do this work without you. We never have.

God's grateful girl,

*Becky Shaffer*

Becky Shaffer  
Founder & Executive Director



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# My Saving Grace

Sydney was welcomed home to Saving Grace in 2016. If you've been a part of the Saving Grace family for many years now, you may remember her sweet spirit and beautiful smile. Now, she's rewriting and living out a new legacy for her family.

Sydney shares, "Growing up, I remember going to my friends' houses. Each one of them always had such a beautiful room that felt so warm and cozy. I was always envious that they could come home to such an oasis of their own each day.

When I found out I was having a daughter, I knew I wanted a space that she would always feel safe and warm in."

Knowing that she could create the childhood of her dreams for her daughter, Sydney crafted each element of Brinlee's big-girl room with great care and thoughtfulness.



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“

I've had the joy to have been a part of Sydney's life as a mentor, confidant, and friend for almost eight years now. Seeing her change and grow into the woman she is now has been one of my greatest joys!"

**BECKY KING, MENTOR**



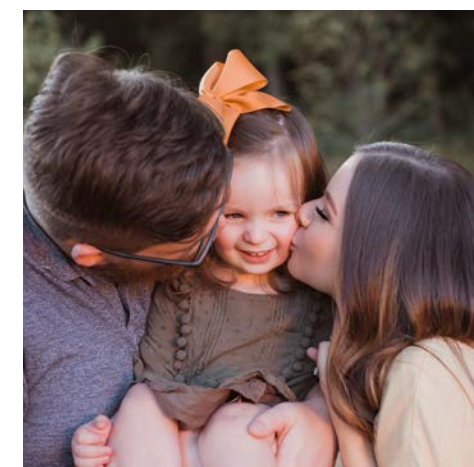
When thinking of what to do in Brin's room, Sydney shares, "I knew I wanted to create something that can grow with her and that she can add to or change as she grows. Brin is my saving grace and rainbow after the storm—so of course, I had to bring color and rainbows into her space. She turns four this May, so she certainly needed a big-girl bed! I've always loved daybeds, so that was a must!"

We know some parents frown upon TVs in their little one's room, but I wanted her to desire to be in her room—where she feels like she can unwind and have her own space to play and watch her favorite movies. Elsa is ALWAYS on repeat in our home, so I knew this was important to her.

Her name holds such dear meaning to us, which the 'Brinlee Grace' sign—a precious baby shower gift from my mother-in-law represents. We also included 'You are fearfully and wonderfully made' in the design as a reminder that I hope she always keeps with her.

The picture I keep on her bookshelf has a tree with her name in the middle; the branches are filled with the fingerprints of her family and friends to keep as a reminder of how loved she is.

She is so deserving of the best childhood we can give her, and I'm happy she gets to live out the childhood that I always dreamed of. She is our Grace."



# Grace to Grow



MANY OF YOU KNOW THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF SAVING GRACE—THE GOD-SIZED DREAM OF OUR FOUNDER, BECKY, BIRTHED OUT OF A PAINFUL PAST AND A DESIRE TO GIVE GIRLS LIKE HER A PLACE TO CALL HOME.

It's the kind of story that breaks your heart into a thousand shards and then mends it in the same sitting—laced with grace and wrapped up in gratitude. If you haven't heard it for yourself, come over and let's sit awhile. We'll put the kettle on.

Saving Grace has been home to over 150 young women in the last 12 years, empowering them to break the brutal cycle of poverty that has so greatly influenced their lives—to God be the glory for the great things He has done! But friends, we know he is calling us to do even more.

Our program receives over 150 applications a year, but we can only serve 12 girls at a time in our current space. There is a great need for our ministry to expand to serve even more vulnerable young women in our community and beyond.

In the past year, God has cast His vision and given us a very exciting opportunity to grow. Will you lean in for a moment as we share it openly for the first time?

*we bought a farm!*

Saving Grace is growing to serve even MORE vulnerable young women in our community with a farm-style campus in Centerton, Arkansas, built to serve 50 girls at a time!

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There is something sacred about experiencing life on a farm. From cultivating the ground to grow a garden to attending equine therapy on property and learning responsibilities by helping with farm chores, these experiences will enable “Grace” to heal from past trauma and begin to grow in new ways.

We are excited as we envision the potential community impact Grace Farms will make! Not only will “Grace” experience deep healing and be empowered to create a new future for herself, but upcoming generations will also be impacted for years to come.

Through your continued support, even more vulnerable young women will experience healing, encounter healthy relationships, and gain access to resources.



OUR VISION IS THAT “SAVING GRACE WILL BE A LIGHT IN THE COMMUNITY AND AN ADVOCATE FOR EVERY GIRL SEEKING TO ALTER HER PATH.” AS “GRACE” EXPERIENCES HEALING, SHE CARRIES THE LIGHT INTO THE COMMUNITY.



GOD IS MOVING

NWA RAISED THE ROOF

Last fall, more than 125 individuals, 16 companies, and 8 churches joined us at Grace Farms as we repaired the roof on Grace House—which freshmen and sophomores in the program will call their home. This repair was quoted at over \$100,000, but through the generosity of individuals and businesses giving of their time and resources, God provided more than we could ask or imagine. This project cost us only \$4,000.

COMMUNITY WORKDAY

60+ families and individuals joined us for our first Community Workday at Grace Farms in 2022! Tractors were loaned, work gloves put on, and this willing and kind-spirited bunch came ready to serve!

FARM-TO-FRESH EXPERIENCE

This spring, Happy Egg generously provided funds to build a chicken coop for “Grace!” In addition, our community SHOWED UP during our February, “Share the Love” campaign. Funds raised from “Share the Love” paired with a grant from the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance have opened opportunities to plant a garden this spring. “Grace” will now have a farm-to-fresh unique experience through raising chickens and vegetation, allowing “Grace” to understand and appreciate food sources and long-term sustainability.

THE WORK ISN'T FINISHED

We boldly ask that you prayerfully consider a gift for growth as God lays “Grace” on your heart.

Learn more and view plans for Grace Farms at [savinggracenwa.org/farm](http://savinggracenwa.org/farm).





*Wylee* | SG FRESHMAN |

Though I have only been at Saving Grace for a short amount of time, I have started learning financial tips to better my future, such as budgeting, logging my spending to keep better track of it, and understanding my financial habits, as well as bargain shopping. AND, I HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO COLLEGE!!!

While in the Saving Grace program, you are introduced to new people all the time, such as staff, volunteers, and mentors. A pivotal person in my life is my mentor, Jade. I have really been able to open up to her and feel a connection. I can depend on her throughout my journey to maintain my sobriety. Her support means the world to me, and I am very grateful to know her.



*Ash* | SG SOPHOMORE |

Saving Grace has been a safe space to express my true authentic self, and in turn, I have been able to develop lasting friendships without feeling like I'm hiding behind a mask or keeping secrets from those I consider being close with. This experience has allowed me to lean into being open and vulnerable with my support system, which I have never experienced before. I feel like I have people.

I know both my mentors love me. Christina is someone I can always count on, and she is always there for me when I need it most. She is a person whom I can confide in, and she just gets me. She and I share similar interests, so we get to spend a lot of quality time which is nice. She is like a mentor and close friend all in one.

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## Charisma | SG SENIOR |

My coach, Cathleen, has been a pivotal person in my life. Without her, I don't think I could have made this much internal progress. Until Cathleen, no one has been brave enough to take on the challenge and mess in my brain. The best way I can describe it to you is like a very complex and detailed game of minesweeper, one wrong move, and I either blow up or shut down completely. I am definitely not letting you in on the first try. Over time through her consistent efforts and loyalty to me and the rest of Saving Grace, I have been able to let my internal walls and barriers down. For the first time in a very long time, I have a taste of what true connection is like. I don't say it often enough, but I am very grateful for her and Saving Grace.



## Emma | SG FRESHMAN |

I've learned to trust in myself more. I've learned a lot about the importance of Grace. I've learned that following the narrow path isn't easy. Matthew 7:13 speaks of walking only the narrow path leading to Life. But it's not easy. I've had to do many hard things and make many hard decisions throughout this journey.

Meka has truly been pivotal to my spiritual journey. She has walked alongside me in my spiritual walk. She sees what God sees in me and has helped me so much by just being herself and sharing her walk with me.



## Ally | SG SOPHOMORE |

Saving Grace has taught me many things I was never taught growing up. I had never had a savings account or learned about finances. I have also learned so much about controlling my anxiety being here.

I love both of my mentors so much. They are like sisters I've never had but always wanted! I love all the fun times I've had so far and the good memories we are creating. They include me in family events, and I love being a part of that...it means a lot to me.

# "Grace" Graduates Give Back

Brittney, 2019 graduate, and Meka, 2014 graduate, make the transition from SG residents to SG Resident Assistants!

Wendi Seidel, Saving Grace Program Director shares, "It is an incredible privilege to have known both Meka and Brittney as residents of Saving Grace and to now see them immersed in the life-changing work at Saving Grace. As RA's, they serve "Grace" during such a vulnerable season of her life. They both offer such valuable insight into what it's like to do the hard work that will change families for generations to come!"



## BECOME A RESIDENT ASSISTANT

We are currently hiring part-time resident assistants.

Learn more and apply at [savinggracencw.org/employment](https://savinggracencw.org/employment).



SCAN TO APPLY!





# MEET ALLY & KELLY



Mentoring isn't one-sided—both parties can learn from one another and grow simply by sharing their hearts and showing up for each other.

Most people approach mentoring with trepidation, wondering if they have what it takes.

**But, if you have love to give and time to share, you have precisely what it takes to mentor.**

Kelly wasn't in the best place personally and wondered if she had anything to offer as she walked into the room to meet her mentee, Ally. Kelly could have faked a smile and pretended to be fine, but she chose risky vulnerability and shared her heartbreak with Ally. And from that broken place, God did something extraordinary in the hearts of both Kelly and Ally to connect them almost instantly.

As Kelly shared with Ally that she had just miscarried, Ally stepped into a

role that no one would think she was ready for as a mentee. Ally became a comforting, compassionate friend that would tend to Kelly's heart in ways she needed most. The following days and weeks, Ally would check on Kelly to let her know she was thinking of her and see if Kelly was okay.

That summer at Grace Camp, a group of mentors shared their birth stories and what it was like bringing life into the world. Kelly wanted to hear those stories, but as others shared, Ally consistently looked over and shared a smile with Kelly to make sure she was okay. Ally made sure that Kelly knew she wasn't alone. She had a mentee that had her back and cared about HER unfinished story.

As Kelly and Ally walked out of the chapel that day, Ally looked at Kelly and said, "Next year, I bet you will be sharing your birth story with everyone."

Ally had enough faith for both of them.

When we share our stories with others, we heal a little each time. Ally and Kelly



## INTERESTED IN MENTORING FOR LIFE?

*We'd love to have you join our mentor team. Email us at [serve@savinggracenwa.org](mailto:serve@savinggracenwa.org)*

might have vastly different lives and come from different backgrounds, but pain and vulnerability were the common thread that connected them and made their relationships so special. Kelly is an incredible mentor who has opened her life and invested so faithfully in Ally, but in this story, she wanted the hero role to go to someone else.

**Their mentoring relationship wasn't just about what Ally could receive; it was about what Ally offered as a compassionate friend and sidekick who could love her mentor through a painful season, believing that her next season would be even better.**

Ally was right. Kelly will have her first child in September, and she could not WAIT to share the news with Ally face-to-face on her birthday. Kelly and Ally's story highlights how life-

changing mentoring can be for everyone involved. Not only are these two stories woven together through the legacy of "Grace,"—but generations to follow will be impacted as well.

**While our stories often feel unfinished, when we heal together in community, we flourish even in the broken pieces of our story.**



“

I was nervous going into our relationship knowing I was in a pretty fragile state, but Ally easily stepped into the role of comforter and friend when I shared about my miscarriage.”

-Kelly Park



# LEGACY AND PLANNED *giving*

While God calls some to get involved "boots-on-the-ground" style through volunteering, we are so grateful and could not do this without those who also participate financially.

Would you prayerfully consider how He is calling YOU to make a lasting impact for "Grace?"

When thinking about legacy giving, a common myth is that it is something you only consider writing into your will or when seeking to avoid taxes. However, our good friends from Arvest Wealth Management are here to remind us that this is NOT always the case and share several options to consider when it comes to planned giving for "Grace."

### BEQUESTS

Have you experienced a recent life change (married, had kids, retired)? As you make changes to your will or trust, Saving Grace would be honored to be listed as a charitable bequest.

### APPRECIATED STOCK

Do you own appreciated stock? It may be mutually beneficial to gift shares with gains, possibly avoiding capital gains on the gifted stock. Many investors in NWA own shares that have appreciated from a very low-cost basis. Due to the growth in the stock

market in the last few years, there are many companies locally and globally that have unrealized gains. Saving Grace has a brokerage account at Arvest Wealth Management and can receive in-kind shares as gifts.

### TRADITIONAL/INHERITED RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

Do you own a traditional or inherited retirement account, are 72 or older, and the IRS requires a minimum distribution, also known as an "RMD"? You may be eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution that could impact "Grace" for years to come. This not only satisfies the requirement of withdrawal but may avoid ordinary income.

### LIFE INSURANCE

Do you own a cash value life insurance policy? Any cash value that accumulates can be accessed only during your lifetime. Would you consider naming Saving Grace as the beneficiary of your existing policy? By converting the name of the policy to Saving Grace, any cash value and premiums paid could be a charitable tax donation.

## WHAT IS YOUR LEGACY PLAN?

We encourage you to consult with your CPA for all tax guidance. Our friends at Arvest Wealth Management are glad to discuss giving strategies and share how philanthropy can help you accomplish your financial goals AND make a difference for "Grace" for generations to come. We could not do this without you!

Learn more at [savinggracencwa.org/give/#legacy](https://savinggracencwa.org/give/#legacy).



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WE ARE SO EXCITED ABOUT GOD'S PLANS FOR GROWTH AT SAVING GRACE. WITH YOUR HELP, WE DEEPLY DESIRE TO IMPACT AND EMPOWER YOUNG WOMEN SEEKING TO ALTER THEIR PATHS—FOR GENERATIONS TO COME!



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