

grace

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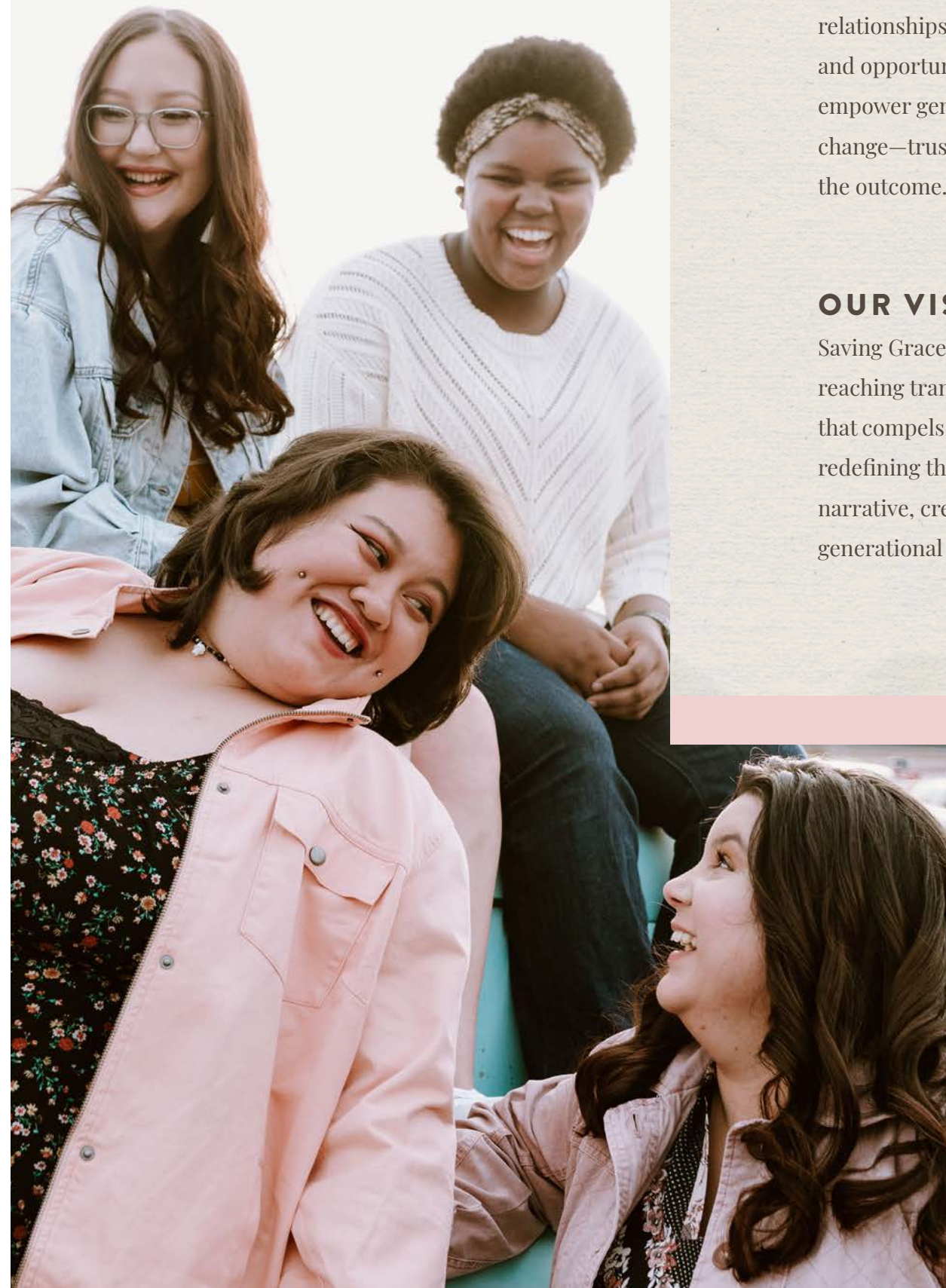
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OUR MISSION

Saving Grace offers hope and transformation to young women through relationships, coaching and opportunities that empower generational change—trusting God with the outcome.

OUR VISION

Saving Grace will lead far-reaching transformation that compels communities, redefining the poverty narrative, creating lasting generational change.





Dear friends,

It is currently raining outside as I write this. The sun seems to come out just for a moment only to return behind thick clouds as the ground soaks up every drop pouring from the sky.

The drought from last summer is a distant memory as mud has replaced the deep cracks in the drought-stricken ground. Even though I've gotten stuck in the mud at Grace Farms no less than three times already, my heart can't help but sing with gratitude! There's something about rain that brings a sense of a fresh start and new growth as spring flowers and green grass appear, and buds begin to cover the barren trees.

Often when "Grace" arrives, her soul is parched. She's experienced over a decade of drought from lack of love and care, and a childhood devastated by trauma. She comes to us hopeful for spring, and she's not sure what that looks like since she hasn't experienced new growth.

Poverty is a culture of its own and one of our goals at Saving Grace is to truly help break the cycle of poverty for generations to come. Doing so takes a tremendous amount of time, patience, and kindness that can only come from Jesus. We love these

young women right where they are—at a place of despair and loneliness that can't be described in words. She's been abandoned, forgotten, and dismissed. At Saving Grace, we do things differently from the norm when it comes to poverty—changing the narrative surrounding it and trusting God with the outcome for every heart. There is the dignity of hard work and life lessons that can only be taught through failure. Character and grit are built stronger through the effort of hard work and getting back up after falling hard. Struggling through those "first" attempts can make a soul feel left behind. Instead of focusing on what she hasn't experienced, we give her opportunities to experience those important milestones!

Will you pray with me for the heart of "Grace?" Would you put a sticky note in your car so you remember to pray on the way to work, or maybe on your bathroom mirror so you can pray with me while getting ready for your day? Let's pray together that "Grace" will have a tender heart and that she will allow God to heal childhood soul wounds, as only He can. Let's pray that she will yield to a different way of doing life, changes that are imperative to breaking generational cycles of poverty, neglect, and abuse.

Thank you for always showing up for these young women and for allowing God to shine His light through YOU!

Oh Father, that you would lead us in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. (Psalm 23:3) - Amen.

God's grateful girl,

Becky Shaffer
Founder & Executive Director



GIVE "GRACE" A PLACE TO CALL HOME

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
savinggracewa.org/give



SCAN TO GIVE!



The power of connection and redefining family



PRESENTED BY Walmart*



Ashley Anne & Nathan enjoying Thanksgiving with mentor, Laura, and family.

Each young woman who walks through the doors of Saving Grace leaves with people. No matter if she is with us for one day, a few weeks, or years, she leaves with relationships and the opportunity to have mentors pour into her life. “Grace” is paired with three mentors. These women and their families walk alongside her for life. They show up for the good, sit with her in the messy, and cheer her on as she makes big life changes.

When asked what Ashley Anne Davis, SG Alumna, would go back and tell her twenty-year-old self, she said, “Don’t shut people out. Be brave and make those relationships, even though it’s hard and scary.”

Although Ashley Anne didn’t stay long in the program at Saving Grace, the power of connection created lasting bonds with others that she has been able to build upon since. Looking back, Ashley Anne believes the program wasn’t what she needed at the time. But, it got her where she needed to be and connected her with the people she needed most in her life.

“God used people to change my life...I know if I need anything I can come to Saving Grace and they will be there for me.”

Ashley Anne shared that it took a year for her to really open up to her mentors, but they never gave up on her. When she needed her mentors the most, they were there. Bravely connecting with her mentors at Saving Grace became something more meaningful than she thought possible—it gave her a family.

Five years ago, Ashley Anne was in a terrible car accident and spent five months in the hospital. She wasn’t married at the time and didn’t have family, so the hospital didn’t know who to contact until her mentors stepped in as family and “stood in the gap for her.”

They came to her therapy sessions, brushed her hair, took care of her cats, walked the halls praying over her, and did the things she couldn’t do for herself.

@PHOTOSBYBROOKE

Her mentor, Dianne, even smuggled in her favorite Sonic drink—a cherry slushy.

“They were by my side the entire time.”

When Ashley Anne met her future husband, Nathan, she was worried that she didn't have anything to offer him as a wife because she didn't have a family. Nathan pointed out to her that she did have a family. The relationships Ashley Anne had with her mentors looked like family to him! Her mentors walked into her life—never giving up on her—and eventually walked her down the aisle on her wedding day.

“**FOR SOME, FAMILY IS SOMETHING THAT YOU CREATE AND CHOOSE AS YOU SHOW UP IN TANGIBLE WAYS FOR OTHERS. BRAVELY AND AUTHENTICALLY CONNECTING WITH OTHERS IS A WORTHWHILE RISK OF BELONGING.**”

Ashley Anne continues to attend Grace Camp year after year to intentionally connect with her mentors and to spend time with God. She also recently brought members of her church to pray over Grace Cottage at Grace Farms and write scriptures on door frames where “Grace” will eventually live and build brave connections of her own.

Ashley Anne and Nathan are now growing their family through infant adoption. Will you join us in praying for them as they eagerly await to meet “Baby Davis,” arriving this September?

Ashley Anne continues to support Saving Grace because she “wants to give back from a healed place.” We are so honored to have her in our Saving Grace family and continue to be inspired by her life as a teacher and friend to many.



At Saving Grace, offering a space for safe, healthy, Godly relationships to form and flourish is a pillar of our program. Author and educator, Ruby Payne, shares four reasons one overcomes generational poverty:

- 1 It's simply too painful to stay.
- 2 Because of a vision or goal.
- 3 They have a special skill or talent.
- 4 **They have a key relationship that promotes otherwise.**



“The thing about Laura is we don't do the spectacular...we spend time together doing the normal day-to-day things—that's what makes our relationship so spectacular.”

ASHLEY ANNE



notes from
“GRACE”



Kaytlin | FRESHMAN |

Grace Camp has made a huge impact on me. I went once before when I first heard about Saving Grace at the group home I lived at. My houseparent knew Saving Grace was what I needed and wanted me to get involved with the girls as soon as I could. When you turn 18 you have to leave the group home and I had nowhere to turn. When I went to Grace Camp, I got to meet everyone and get in touch with other girls. This year Grace Camp was nostalgic for me. It brought back memories of the first camp but I also got to experience how much I've grown since then. It showed me that it is okay to take time for yourself and grow because eventually you will notice and be happy for yourself. Saving Grace has been my safe place for growth!



Noami | FRESHMAN |

My life scripture is 1 Thessalonians 5:18, In all things, give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. At Saving Grace I feel loved and have friends. The staff really loves and cares about us.



Hue | FRESHMAN |

I never had access to therapy until coming to Saving Grace. At times I felt like I was going insane or that the world was ending 24/7. I just needed someone to talk to. I searched for it everywhere but because of my living situation, I wasn't able to get help. Since moving to Saving Grace and starting Equine Therapy, I feel so much better! The recovery is slow and hard, but in one year I feel so much better mentally than I did before. I wouldn't have been able to do it if I hadn't come here.

I'm not gonna lie, I disagree with Saving Grace sometimes but, that's one of the top things, among other things, that Saving Grace has done that I appreciate wholeheartedly. That's why I try so hard when I go to therapy because I really do want to do better.

PRESENTED BY



@PHOTOSBYBROOKE



Nyah | SOPHOMORE |

What I love most about Saving Grace is my mentor. SHE IS THE BEST! My mentor made my transition to Saving Grace easier. She is easy to talk to when it needs to be serious, but at other times we can just goof around and have fun.



KP | JUNIOR |

I love Life Skills classes. My favorite Life Skills class was about our bodies. (It's Perfectly Normal, Dr. Wood). I appreciate the teachers coming to share with us. In this class, I appreciated Dr. Wood answering all our questions and she didn't judge us if we didn't know something.



Ash | SENIOR SEMINAR |

One thing that I have found most impactful about Saving Grace is the community and support. I went from having no support at all, surviving all alone, to a whole community that supports and cheers me on!!



Kylee | PINK SHIRT |

I love the openness and transparency I experience at Saving Grace, which is something that I value. I love that they don't try to force us to see things from their point of view. Our differences are not only accepted but also celebrated.



save the date
**UPTOWN
HOEDOWN**

11.09.2023

LOCATION

Kindred North, 10889 AR-72 W, Centerton, AR 72719

TICKETS

\$175 pre-event

\$185 at entrance

\$1400 table of 8

ATTIRE

Cowgirl Chic & Cowboy Sleek

Visit savinggracenwa.org/uptown-hoedown to reserve your seat!

GRACE FARMS:

Bringing “Grace” Home



“
I WANT THIS TO BE MY LAST STOP
BEFORE I’M FULLY INDEPENDENT.”

These are the words “Grace” uttered recently after touring Saving Grace and applying for the program.

In 18 years, she had been in and out of temporary foster homes longing for a sense of safety and belonging in a place that truly felt like home and offered her the relationships and opportunities she needed to become independent.

This is just one of the countless stories we hear daily that reiterates the call God has placed before us as a community—to enlarge our house, build additions, spread out our homes, and bring more young women into this program, so they too can break the cycle of poverty for generations to come.

Over the last year, your faithful support has provided new opportunities for “Grace” that we could only dream of! Because of your generosity, and that of so many in our community, we are preparing to welcome “Grace” home to the farm this summer upon the completion of Phase I—to God be the glory!

Businesses, organizations, and individuals continue to show up “just to see how we can help bring ‘Grace’ home together....” And praise God for the many ways they have!

While this growth project is only beginning, our community is altering “Grace’s” life for generations to come.

In the wise words of Stacie Previtt, Assistant Manager, Operations of Lowe’s Bentonville, “When our communities are strong, so are we....”

📷 @PHOTOSBYBROOKE



Special thanks

Black Hills Energy generously awarded Saving Grace with a grant to provide storm shelters at Grace Farms—further enhancing on-site safety measures to protect “Grace” and our volunteers.

“Black Hills Energy is proud to help Saving Grace expand their service that will certainly make a positive lifelong impact on many more vulnerable, young women at a pivotal time in their lives.

In addition to our helping people, strong communities, and workforce and education-giving priorities, providing storm shelters at the new Centerton location aligns with our first priority—safety.

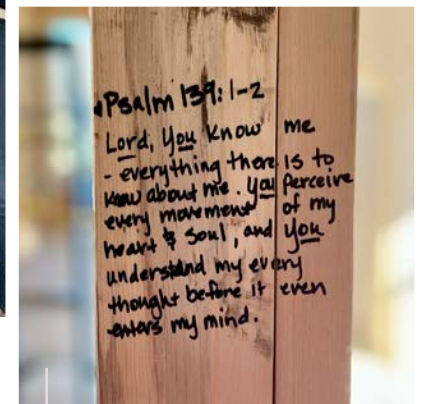
We appreciate the difference makers at Saving Grace for creating generational change in our communities.”

CHAD KINSLEY
Black Hills Energy Vice President
of Arkansas Gas Operations



PICTURED AT SG GROUNDBREAKING EVENT

Robin Mizell APR, BHE Arkansas Community Affairs Manager alongside City of Centerton’s Mayor, Bill Edwards, & Tricia Frazer-McDaniel BHE Business Development Account Manager



In 2021, **United Federal Credit Union** generously committed to giving Saving Grace \$25,000 over four years in support of Saving Grace’s expansion to Grace Farms.

“The work Saving Grace does in our community is so important and United Federal Credit Union is proud to offer our continued support. With the expansion of Grace Farms, not only will they be able to help house more young women, but they’ll be able to offer more therapy resources including the equine center.

We know our donation toward the equine center plays just a small role in the wonderful work Saving Grace is going to be able to accomplish in the coming years.”

STEPHANIE RIFFLE
United Federal Credit Union
Regional Vice President



Our community joined us in writing scripture on the framework of Grace Cottage and prayed blessings over Grace Cottage and the lives that will be impacted there for generations to come.

Learn more at savinggracencwa.org/farm.



MADE TO *serve*



WHILE SERVING AT SAVING GRACE, MESHELL BATTLED CANCER AND SOMEHOW CONTINUED TO SHOW UP FOR “GRACE” WITH A SMILE ON HER FACE WHEN SHE COULD. SAVING GRACE HAD BECOME A PLACE OF BELONGING WHERE MESHELL FELT SEEN AND VALUED.

“I am not just a volunteer. Saving Grace has made me feel like I am a member of the family.”

Meshell had tears in her eyes as she shared how the team at Saving Grace showed up for her while she was recovering from surgery and fed her family.

As she became stronger, Meshell felt like God was leading her back to “Grace” to serve.

Something special happened in Meshell as she tended to the horses and animals at Grace Farms—it made her feel better to take care of the animals. Spending time on the farm made her forget about her problems. While she fed the horses, God fed her soul and reminded her that she still had a purpose.

“During this past year, what has changed is my perspective on time. I went from not having time to making sure I had time.”

When we asked why Meshell kept showing up and serving even when she didn’t feel well, she said, “Because I can be uncomfortable for a few hours and serve.”

Meshell has inspired all of us to keep coming back to “Grace” faithfully and continue to serve God using our gifts. As she shared her heart, it was clear to see that for Meshell there are no small jobs or lesser roles. It all matters.

“This is not just volunteering—it’s making a difference. By serving you are making an impact.”

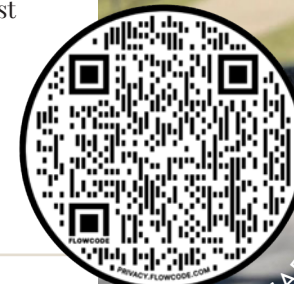
At Saving Grace, we’re all in this together! Our work is powered by an incredible community of volunteers who serve, mentor, and stand in the gap for “Grace.”

A few years ago, Meshell Bates heard a presentation about Saving Grace from Becky at Beautiful Lives in Bentonville. While Becky, SG Co-founder & Executive Director, was speaking, Meshell felt God leading her to be part of the mission by spending her time volunteering.

SERVE “GRACE” WITH US

We need YOU, with your skills and experience! Whether your spare time is a lot or a little, there is an opportunity to serve that is just right for you.

Learn more at savinggracewa.org/serve.





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