



April 2019



*Because of
You...*

**AMANDA
FOUND THE
PATH TO HOPE!**

LETTER from the PRESIDENT



Sharon Wagner | President & CEO

In 2005, having experienced the devastation and effects of alcoholism, addiction and abuse personally and in their own family, Rick and Sharon Wagner began to help others to find hope and freedom. In a bold move that, at the time, just felt like the right thing to do, the Wagners moved out of their home and into a hotel in order to give five women in recovery their home. They gave the first financial donations, Teen Challenge donated the curriculum and House of Hope was born!

The Path To Hope

Because of you, there is a Path to Hope!

I am so thankful!

Without your help, some of God's most precious little ones would not find "The Path To Hope!"

The Path To Hope is outlined in Romans 5:3.

*"We can rejoice, too, when we run into **problems and trials** for we know that they help us develop **endurance**. And endurance develops **strength of character** and character strengthens our **confident hope** of Salvation! "* Romans 5:3 NLT

The "Path To Hope" involves facing **problems and trials**, and with their help and God's grace producing **endurance** which **develops strength of character** which, in turn produces **confident hope!**

You enable us to walk so many of God's precious daughters down this path of hope. It is not an easy path, but its fruit is life!

When you give your dollars, the end result is the gift of confident hope!

As we walk with our ladies through this path to hope I never stop giving thanks for you!

Only God could turn your water into this kind of wine!

I know you will enjoy reading about Janet, Gwen, Dave and of course Amanda.

Volunteer Story Janet Gilham & Gwen Turner

What is going on when you have a \$1,000 reaction to a \$10 incident? Chances are, you are reacting to something in your past!

Janet Gilham and Gwen Turner have spent the last decade, as volunteers, helping South Georgia House of Hope residents deal with the wounds that



cause these kinds of reactions. Janet and Gwen spent years uncovering



What is going on when you have a \$1,000 reaction to a \$10 incident?



these kinds of wounds in their own lives before offering to help others in the same path of healing.

"We ask God to lead us," the ladies say. "So many people live their lives

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reacting to the lies that they believed somewhere in their past.”

Every week they meet with South Georgia House of Hope residents in a personal prayer time to help them find the truth about who they really are.

The top two lies that so many people believe are “something is wrong with

- “I have no value or purpose...”

In the prayer sessions, residents personally get divine leadership for their lives.

Sometimes it is a prompting, a scripture verse or even a Word from God. “When individuals hear from God for themselves it sets them free to see the truth.”

God and are ready to deal with their stuff.”

“The Holy Spirit is invited to lead in the sessions and we get to team up with Jesus and watch Him work! Sometimes, we get healing for ourselves as the girls receive theirs!”

Janet & Gwen look forward to being a part of what God is going to do in the next decade with the ministry.



The top two lies that so many people believe are “something is wrong with me and I am just not good enough

me,” and “I am just not good enough.” When a person holds these beliefs, they can live their lives dictated by them and everyone and everything around them are viewed through these distorted lenses.

More limiting beliefs commonly confronted are

- “I am not safe...”
- “I am not normal...”
- “I am no good...”
- “I am not good enough...”
- “No-one will ever want me...”



“Serving at South Georgia House of Hope is such a joy. Sharon Wagner and the team here lead the ladies so well that when we show up the work is easy. These girls already know how to hear the Voice of

About Janet & Gwen

Janet Gilham (left) is a retired educator of special needs children who also teaches English online to Chinese students. Gwen Turner (right) is a mother of three with 7 grandchildren.

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Because of you!

Amanda

Found

Hope

Amanda is married to her best friend and soul mate. She is a mother to 6 beautiful children. She and her husband are buying their first home. Each day she wakes up thankful for her blessings.

For Amanda, life is so good!

But it has not always been this way... Amanda found healing at South Georgia House of Hope.

“I grew up starving for love. My dad was abusive and alcoholic.

He was abusive to my mom and all the children.” As a young girl, starving for love, Amanda went on what she calls a “man-hunt.” That brought her to her first pregnancy at 17. She quit school to care for her son.

The child’s father couldn’t help.

At 19, she was pregnant with her second child. “I was mad...I didn’t want to be pregnant.” Even though he was abusive, I stayed with my partner because I thought it was the right thing to do. After that child’s birth, the abuse escalated

“At that point, the need for a man’s love consumed me. Another partner introduced me to meth.

He and I connected through drugs.”



I grew up starving for love.

This was a connection that would last exactly 30 days.

One weekend, her mom picked up her children to spend some time with them.

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Amanda remembers exactly what she was thinking when her mom picked them up, “I wanted to get high and stay high!” So, for four days she stayed high on drugs and looking for freedom from all responsibility, she signed custody of her children over to her parents.

She thought this would be the freedom that she wanted.

Instead it was the beginning of a horrible downward spiral.

At that point, she says, “Promiscuity became my God.”

For the next 13 months, she lived on meth and was arrested for manufacturing it, facing 30 years in prison.

It was then that she met Sharon Wagner and the ministry of South Georgia House of Hope. “It was at the House of Hope that I was introduced to structure, stability, boundaries, guidelines, discipline and love, real love, in Christ!”



Amanda, with her twins Armory and Remington, 3 years old.



It was at
the House
of Hope
that I was
introduced
to... love,
real love, in
Christ!

“July 3, 2013 was the greatest day of my life, I asked Jesus to take over and heal me to be who I was destined to be!”

About
Amanda
McDowell

Amanda and Sean have been married for 4 years. Together they have 6 children. They are a beautiful example of a family restored by God's love!

Donor Story

Dave Baumgartner

"I have to give."
"I need to give."
"It is my job to give! "

"But, I am choosy who I give to!"

A devoted financial supporter of South Georgia House of Hope for decades now, Dave Baumgartner loves to talk about giving.

An entrepreneur and businessman, he reflects on his humble beginnings.

"My mother had a tomato patch and tithed her tomatoes!"

"Any success I have had is because of my tithing and giving."

Dave has had firsthand experience with the devastation and heartache of alcoholism, addiction and abuse.

His son David Jr, a handsome, talented athlete was introduced to drugs out of high school. David was an exceptional athlete with a choice

of scholarships and opportunities at graduation. He became a successful businessman with a gated house on the lake, and a corvette in the garage but he struggled with drugs. "He was very successful but wasn't happy."

“My mother had a tomato patch and tithed her tomatoes!”

A periodic user, he lost his life to lethal drug interactions leaving two precious children behind.

Dave later had the opportunity to practice forgiveness when he met the man who sold his son the bad drugs.

"I believe in her work," he says of SGHOH Executive Director Sharon Wagner. "I love Sharon and Rick." "I remember one day she brought a group of ladies to my car dealership and they walked through the lot saying blessings and we sold 13 cars that day. Best day we EVER had!"

"I am an old country boy from the mountains of Tennessee and I give because God has blessed me and blessed me and blessed me!"

"I LOVE to hear the stories of changed lives at the ministry."

"I have seen many people find freedom there.

As long as I can, I will continue to give!"



About Dave Baumgartner

Dave is an entrepreneur and businessman in

W. Palm Beach, Fl. In his outdoor "office," he shares with Executive Director, Sharon Wagner.

Because most clinical models for addiction treatment cost between \$1,000 to \$1,500 PER DAY and most insurances only pay for 28 days of treatment, the average alcoholic and addict cannot get the treatment they need. **House of Hope donors make the smart choice**, realizing that ONE DAY'S FEE AT A TRADITIONAL TREATMENT CENTER WILL PAY FOR ONE MONTH AT HOUSE OF HOPE!

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