



# Shannon's Hope Ministry Home

## Inside the Home: Your Look Into the Ministry | April 2011

It is amazing to think how time flies by so quickly. It has been over a year since a young couple was led of the Lord to bring their talents and gifts to provide a covering of



strength over Shannon's Hope and its residents.

Our new, but now veteran, staff members Alex and Bethany Kraft joined Shannon's Hope in February, 2010. This powerful husband and wife team live on site and interact, lead, and manage the daily activities and workings of the home.

Together, Alex and Bethany provide leadership, spiritual guidance and mentorship to the women and their children, while taking care of the day-to-day program assignments for residents as well as up-keep and maintenance of the home.

Alex and Bethany have a formal college education, biblical training and hands on experience with working in a ministry environment. Since starting at Shannon's Hope, they continue to bring new creative ideas

## Meet the Parents

and methods of improving the operation of the home and care of the residents.

We are very appreciative of their service and trust that their lives and marriage will be greatly blessed for all the hard work and sacrifice made on behalf of Shannon's Hope. Please join us in a warm thank you and congratulations on their continued service.

Alex and Bethany want to invite you or your group for a tour and presentation of the Shannon's Hope home and vision. Call 303-480-5433 to find out the latest times and dates of tours being offered.

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## A Beautiful Life Worth Saving

Shawna came into our program without much hope over 3 years ago. She was abandoned, homeless, a single mother and pregnant, addicted to drugs and with little or no life skills to provide for herself, her child and her unborn baby. Even with all this against her, the incredible love for her children along with a deep desire to refocus her life on being a successful mother, she began to build a different future at Shannon's Hope. During her stay, Shawna completed drug addiction classes (she has since stayed sober for over 3 years!), completed every program level goal at the home, is working part-time, is attending college classes to become a Certified Addictions Counselor, and hopes to be used in the ministry. The best

part of all is she has learned through consistent guidance and mentoring from the staff at Shannon's Hope to become a loving, caring mother. She is now living on her own with her children and is settling into a new 3 bedroom apartment.

Shawna has been a tremendous example for other residents and continues to be a great encouragement at Shannon's Hope as she desires to "give back" by being a mentor to new arrivals at the home. We know this transition into independent life can be challenging so please join us in prayer and continued support for Shawna as she learns to balance mothering, school, work and life. We know with the help of God, she will be able to do all things through Him.

# A Word From Our Founder

We are a 28 year old Christian Maternity Home located in Arvada, Colorado. We are little known, due to a shoe string staff. But, this is truly the Lord's ministry, as the doors have been open month to month for all this time. We are passionate about saving the "least of these," which number in the hundreds, by providing shelter, food, clothing, classes, support, mentoring, structure, balance with love... anything a woman needs to get her through her difficult pregnancy.

Not just because any one person is involved, but this ministry is amazing just to be a part of—you can actually feel the Lord's presence and peace when you walk through the front door. It has touched every volunteer all the way up to the Board over the years of having the honor to serve in this, His ministry. Through the years, Shannon's Hope and I have personally advocated for pregnant women in front of judges who are desperate to send them to a place that they can stay with their soon to be born babies, versus no family support and given just a pre-



cious, heartbreaking first 20 minutes of their child's life with them before they are both whisked away apart from each other.

My heart breaks at the thought...  
~Leslie Pottebaum

Leslie is available for speaking  
at your event.  
Call 303-480-5433 to schedule today!

**Make a \$1.93 donation NOW for FREE**

Go to [www.shannonshope.org](http://www.shannonshope.org) to signup to receive our future newsletters by email and save us the cost of printing.

## "Birth"day News

### Recent Births

Logan  
March 3, 2011  
6 lbs. 1 oz., 18.5 inches

### Coming Soon to a Mom Near You

Baby Boy James  
Due April 22, 2011  
  
Baby Girl Alexandria  
Due April 29, 2011

## Check Us Out!

Our new website is packed full of information for you to see. We hope that this new website is much easier for you to find out more about Shannon's Hope. If you know of someone who needs assistance, there are details to our intake process on the site.

We have setup an easy way for you to donate online. You can choose to do a one-time payment, or setup a recurring monthly payment. Also, you can contact us directly from the website if there is something else you want to contact us about.

Want to find out who our  
newest "Everyday Hero" is?

Go to  
[www.shannonshope.org](http://www.shannonshope.org)  
to find out! While you are there,  
you can also hear from one of our residents  
and the life-change she experienced.

# Your Gift that Keeps on Giving

Shannon's Hope would not exist without help from our volunteers and donors. Your gift will help ensure that we can provide a safe, loving, life-affirming place for women and their children. Here are some ways that you can give:

## 1. Monetary Donation

The cost to provide a complete care program for each resident is \$1,200 per month. This includes their housing, utilities, needed clothing, food, and facility maintenance. This also includes telephone and internet so they can look for jobs, research future housing, and connect with their support system.

We have provided an easy way

To donate online, go to:  
[www.shannonshope.org](http://www.shannonshope.org)

to pay online. This is done securely through PayPal (you don't have to have an account) and can be used for one-time payments or monthly payments.

## 2. Food

Nearly every resident that comes into our program hungry. We have a food bank in our basement to ensure that residents learn how to eat healthy. A lot of times, residents do not know how to provide nourishment for themselves, and their children, with a healthy balanced meal. We teach, through our cooking lessons, healthy alternatives to processed foods and junk food. We hope that they will pass this on to their children so they grow up healthy and strong. We are in need of:

- Pasta, beans, and rice
- Meat, fish, and poultry
- Baby Formula (Enfamil)
- Toddler Food
- Fruit/vegetables

## 3. Daily Supplies

Some residents enter with just the clothes on their backs. We provide for their daily needs until they can establish a viable source of income.

We also ensure that their children are provided for. Our daily supplies needs are:

- Diapers (all sizes, all brands)
- Baby Wipes
- Toilet tissue and Paper towels
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Body soap
- Toothpaste
- Cleaning Supplies

## 4. Time

Some of the most satisfying moments in partnering with us have been through spending time with the residents (see below). We have multiple ways in which you can serve with your time. You can teach a class, become a mentor mom, babysit, help with transportation, work on building maintenance, yardwork, or help arrange a baby shower. Your time will be well-spent!

We ask that you pray about partnering with us. If you have any questions, comments, or ideas you may call us at 303-480-LIFE (5433).

## Heroes with Big Hearts

Volunteers from Southside Bible Church in Centennial, CO have been leading a Bible study on Monday nights for over TWO years straight. During this study, the residents have been able to discuss life through the Book of John and Biblical parenting methods.

Rick Hallahan came to us with a strong leading from the Lord to serve our residents through spiritual guidance. He loves to serve "those in the greatest of need," as he would put it.

Last year, Rick recruited a couple from his church to help out during the studies. Richard and Cyndee



L to R: Richard, Cyndee, and Rick

Enman have taken the challenge of helping the residents through difficult times. They stop by for visits throughout the week to make sure the residents are doing fine. They also have been willing to take residents into their home who need special help and guidance during the

more difficult times.

We are extremely grateful for the strong Christian guidance that the residents receive from Rick, Richard, and Cyndee. Thank you so much for helping us "on the frontlines"!

## Mission and Vision

Shannon's Hope embraces the mission to provide a loving, life-affirming home to pregnant women. We strive to complete this mission through:

- To offer housing, support, classes, training, and mentoring through our residential home and/or shepherding homes.
- To refer our clients to community resources or to adoption agencies which may be helpful to them as a single or relinquishing parent, enabling them re-entry into life.
- To help our clients initiate a "plan" for their future to work towards, both during and after their pregnancy.
- To foster a spirit of independence for themselves and also pass on to their children the same spirit, enabling many to break dependent roles.
- To maintain at all times, through and within the facility of Shannon's Hope, an atmosphere and practice of faith, hope and love.

## Contact Us

### Office Phone

303-480-5433

### Email

[info@shannonshope.org](mailto:info@shannonshope.org)

[www.shannonshope.org](http://www.shannonshope.org)



**Leslie Pottebaum**

Founder and  
Director of Ministry



**Alex Kraft**

Program Director and  
Marketing Coordinator



**Bethany Kraft**

Resident Care Director and  
Partner Services Coordinator

A small way you can help us is by signing up to receive our newsletter via email.

Go to [www.shannonshope.org/esignup.html](http://www.shannonshope.org/esignup.html) to sign up!