



# CHRYSALIS

MINISTRIES

*Change. Growth. Freedom.*

## Bexar County Detention Ministries Changes Our Name to “Chrysalis Ministries”!!

As you see from this newsletter, Bexar County Detention Ministries has a new look, name and logo! After much discussion, thought and many years of work, the new name “Chrysalis Ministries” is here! The definition of “chrysalis” is an outer covering of a cocoon that protects a butterfly during its change from larva to adult.

The Board of Directors had a naming contest which generated 50 submissions. For a variety of reasons, none of those were acceptable. There was much discouragement about the process and almost all hope was lost; until, Sr. Teresa provided a suggestion. Her inspiration came from a Catholic Conference she attended at which a butterfly was profiled on a slide during one of the presentations. The image moved her and she brought it to Executive Director, Carol Lockett. The Board approved the new name in March, 2013!

After the name was approved, the Board hired Jay Tavitas, a talented graphic designer to create the new logo and tagline. We are grateful for his thoughtful and creative interpretation of the mission of Chrysalis Ministries. The logo’s design and the tagline: “change, growth and freedom” are central to our mission. Thank you Sr. T and Jay for helping to transform BCDM into Chrysalis Ministries!

The same friendly people who helped the formerly incarcerated and their family members at the Family Renewal Center at 503 San Pedro and at the nine detention and treatment facilities are still here to assist you. We haven’t changed, and our mission to facilitate the personal, emotional and spiritual transformation of incarcerated individuals, those formerly incarcerated and their families hasn’t changed either!



## 5th Annual New Beginnings Luncheon

The fifth annual “New Beginnings” luncheon was held on June 12, 2013 at the Whitley Theological Center. Our new name was officially “unveiled” at this event! The event was very well-attended and we had a great cross-section of the San Antonio population present. Many local dignitaries were there, as well as business men and women, corporate individuals, members and leaders of various congregations and religions, Chrysalis Board members, staff, community service workers and clients! This luncheon was, by all accounts, a fun and inspiring event and our most profitable fund-raising event to date!



Mr. Harvey E. Najim, Executive Chairman of the Board of Sirius Computer Solutions, Inc. was the recipient of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual “John Byrd Community Service Award” for all his support of children’s charitable organizations in the greater San Antonio, Texas area. Through the Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation, Mr. Najim has awarded approximately \$41 million in Grants and Pledges during the past 5 ½ years. We were also pleased to have Judge Peter Sakai as our inspirational guest speaker at the luncheon. Many thanks to all who participated in making the event a huge success!!

Many thanks to our Gold and Bronze Sponsors for your continued support. Chrysalis Ministries is able to provide much needed chaplaincy services and life skills classes to over 40,000 currently incarcerated individuals and re-entry services to over 2,000 formerly incarcerated individuals and over 1,200 family members annually at the Family Renewal Center!

### *Our 5th Annual New Beginnings Sponsors* *Gold and Bronze sponsors*



BCDM, Board of Directors



Aurora M. Sanchez



Mark A. Seal



*With a grateful heart....thank you!!*



### **“Welcome Back” Job Readiness and Job Search Program!**

The San Antonio Area Foundation has generously funded direct expenses to be incurred by the Chrysalis Ministries “Welcome Back” job readiness and job search programs for FY 2013-14 in the amount of \$9,515. **This grant was from the Ruth Land Charitable Fund through the San Antonio Area Foundation.** The “Welcome Back” program is one of Chrysalis Ministries cornerstone programs. These classes meet every Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Following the class, participants meet with a case manager to discuss work history skills and interests. Interview clothing is distributed if necessary and resumes are completed. Job leads are given. Nearly 30% of former offenders who complete this class are successful in finding employment! We are grateful to the San Antonio Area Foundation for their continued support of Chrysalis Ministries programming and planning!

### **“Special and Urgent Needs”**

Chrysalis Ministries once again thanks the San Antonio Area Foundation for their generosity! We are grateful to have received a Special and Urgent Needs Fund Request Grant from the San Antonio Area Foundation’s Community Fund to support our technology department.

It has been over a decade since Chrysalis Ministries has had a new server and we were in desperate need of a new one. With this grant we were able to purchase a much-needed new server and additional software for our agency. Thank you San Antonio Area Foundation for your continued support of Chrysalis Ministries!

For more information about the San Antonio Area Foundation, please visit their website at [www.saafd.org](http://www.saafd.org).

### **Protestant Church Support**

We are very grateful to have the support of so many churches in our community. The Archdiocese of San Antonio has consistently supplied approximately 16-18% of Chrysalis Ministries revenue for at least the past decade. During the last quarter of FY 2012-2013, Chrysalis Ministries also received funding from the following Protestant organizations: San Antonio Baptist Association, Epworth United Methodist Church, Air Force Village II Protestant Church, First Presbyterian Church, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, The Unitarian Universalist Church, University United Methodist Church, Christ Lutheran Church of Alamo Heights, and Laurel Heights United Methodist Church.

The generosity of the Archdiocese and our local Churches allows Chrysalis Ministries to continue to provide spiritual guidance and comfort to the incarcerated!



### **Check out our new murals at the Family Renewal Center!!**



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has a triennial youth conference known as the National LCMS Youth Gatherings. This year’s convention took place in San Antonio, July 1-5, 2013. Fortunately for us, Chrysalis Ministries was selected by the Youth Gathering as one of their service organizations eligible for a volunteer project. Thanks to the leadership of our Volunteer Coordinator, Shelly Power, and Special Programs Manager, Robert Harris, Chrysalis Ministries has newly painted signage on the side of the Family Renewal Center. Special thanks go out to former Volunteer Coordinator Belinda Courvier for coming up the great idea for the mural as a service project the teens could complete! Over 40 Lutheran teens from Missouri, New York and several other states worked together July 2-3 to paint our new Chrysalis logo and the New Beginnings logo onto two outside walls of the FRC that have been subject to graffiti tagging. Please stop by to see the beautiful work the youth group did in decorating the outside wall and in bringing our new name and logo to life!

*“Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain love for one another.”- Erma Bombeck*



## Chrysalis Ministries Board Members In The Spotlight



### **Kristen Salazar, Salazar Solutions, Inc. Chrysalis Ministries, Board Vice-President**

Chrysalis Ministries is an agency that takes a holistic approach to helping inmates, ex-offenders and their families make a new start for themselves. Being the wife of someone who is currently incarcerated, I know how important it is to minister to those who are incarcerated as this is a time when the individual is most willing to turn their life around. Once released from jail, many ex-offenders have nowhere to

turn for support. Chrysalis Ministries provides the stability and encouragement that ex-offenders desperately need in order to live a life free of crime. The most important attribute of the agency for me is the assistance that is offered for the families of the incarcerated. My husband and I have four children between the two of us and in his absence I've been left to care for them. Knowing there is an agency that will help provide shoes for the children, school supplies, and even Christmas gifts truly helps ease the burden of becoming a single parent due to the incarceration of the other parent. The services that Chrysalis Ministries provides are truly priceless to those who receive them and I think the low recidivism rate of the clients we serve demonstrates how effective our presence in the community is.

Being a board member isn't just an opportunity to list my service on a resume. To me, board membership means that I'm going to serve this agency as if it were my own and that I am going to be 100% committed to assisting the agency, the staff, and most importantly the clients to the best of my ability. I'm looking forward to helping Chrysalis Ministries continue to grow in the future

### **Avis Banks, Board Member**



Bexar County Detention Ministries, now Chrysalis Ministries, was introduced to me 3 years ago through my Church Outreach Ministry. Carol Lockett gave a very informative presentation sharing their mission. Their mission statement was right in line with what the scripture tells me to do: "I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me". Serving and helping others in need is a major part of my lifestyle where I have worked as a Licensed Vocational Nurse and Community Health Worker for many years. Once hearing how Chrysalis Ministries serves those formerly incarcerated as well as their families drew me to serve as a volunteer there. Through my Church Outreach Ministry I volunteered with the "Stuff the Backpack", programs, served meals on Tuesdays to the "We Are Not Alone" support group, helped with the Clothes Closet, as well as assisted with the annual children's Christmas party. Presently working at a transition home for women formerly incarcerated, or at risk, shows me how crucial it is to minister to them with the Word and provide resources to help transform their lives. Chrysalis Ministries is a great referral for the women I come in contact with in Bexar County and I am grateful that there is help for them and their families.

Being accepted as a Chrysalis Ministries' Board Member has been a humbling experience. I hope that through my input and service on this board it will help impact many. Chrysalis Ministries is about transforming lives for the better and I am on board for serving in whatever capacity I am able to assist in. I am committed to serve on this very effective board to help with the transformation of those that are in need.



## Chrysalis Ministries Staff In The Spotlight



### **Robert Harris, Special Programs Manager**

My name is Robert Harris. I was hired to work at Chrysalis Ministries in January 2013. The road to my "dream job" was not easy. I say that because I had been incarcerated in the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 8 ½ years before being released in September of 2010. After paying my debt to society, I knew my path would not be easy. I also knew with a lengthy prison sentence I would practice transforming my mind by reading over 300 books, and the strengthening of my faith in Jehovah. When I was released, I was ready to become a productive member of society. It was just getting the opportunity to show my worth.

The road to my "dream job" started as a minimum wage job. I continued to educate myself and had the opportunity to receive three certifications from Palo Alto College. With those certifications I finally landed a job in the social work field as a case manager with another local non-profit. When I was case manager at my last job, I found out about Chrysalis Ministries. All three of my coworkers were sick and since I was not, I volunteered to do a presentation at Chrysalis Ministries.

After finding out the mission of Chrysalis Ministries, I knew I wanted to be a part of this. The first chance I was given to volunteer here I was ecstatic and knew somehow I wanted to be a part of this family. Two years later after volunteering at Chrysalis Ministries, a job position opened and I was asked to apply. I put my faith in Jehovah, applied, and eventually I was hired as the Special Programs Manager.

I am very grateful of Chrysalis Ministries, the Executive Director, and staff for not only speaking out about helping people with backgrounds get back on their feet, but also hiring me as an ex offender to help with the mission. I will continue to carry on the Chrysalis Ministries mission and hope to help others through their struggles to become productive members of society.

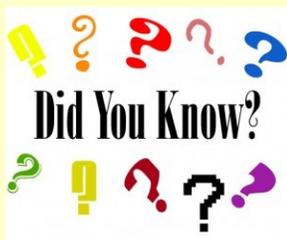
## The Archbishop Visits the Bexar County Adult Detention Center for A Mother's Day Mass

By Frances, a BCADC client



“Amazing, profound, reassuring, graceful, loving, peaceful”; all these words describe the emotions felt by the women during Archbishop’s visit on Friday, May 10, 2013. Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller returned for a second year to celebrate a Mother’s Day Mass with the women currently incarcerated in Bexar County’s Adult Detention Center. His presence was warm-felt, amorous; his words were full of hope, grace, and compassion. Many words, these women have never known or experienced before. His ever powerful message of being a woman and a mother truly touched souls. While many of the women wept, they weren’t tears of sadness, guilt or shame; they were tears of joy to hear such a saintly speaker renew our strength through Christ’s word and renew our sense of worth which many of us hadn’t felt in a long time. To describe his hug at the end of the Mass is simply put as “a Blessing”. The women aren’t allowed to show displays of affection so to have a sincere heartfelt hug with Godly intentions, nothing but pure untainted, non-judgmental love and sincere wishes for us was profoundly uplifting. Many went back to our pods describing the Mass, the presence of the Holy Spirit but most of all the message that as women, we are unique, we are special, we have the ability to bear life and that no matter what our faults were or how we got here, we have the ability to repent, change our ways and live a Godly life because as women, we are able to nurture, care, empower and bear life as no man ever can.

It was amazing to share the message and the beauty of the Mass. The profound connection that everywhere around the world we are in unison sharing the same Mass, the same celebration, unites us as one.



- 2,125 formerly incarcerated individuals and 1,216 family members received services in our community-based programs during FY 2012-2013.
- 86% of formerly incarcerated clients served by Chrysalis Ministries maintained lawful behavior and did not return to Bexar County Adult Detention Center (BCADC) during 2012-2013.
- Persons incarcerated at BCADC stay an average of 39 days. Some are in and out within a few hours and others may be detained for years. **A substantial savings is realized by Bexar County taxpayers when the formerly incarcerated are not rearrested!**
- The average cost to house one inmate at the BCADC is \$50 per day. The cost jumps to \$250 per day if the inmate has medical or mental health issues.
- Approximately 40,000 incarcerated individuals are served annually by Chrysalis Ministries in 9 local adult and juvenile detention and treatment facilities in Bexar and Karnes counties.



**AUGUST**



## Stuff the Backpack!!

### School supplies needed:

- BACK PACKS (CLEAR OR MESH)
- TISSUE BOXES
- ANTIBACTERIAL SANITIZER
- JUMBO COLORS FOR (3YR OLDS & KINDER)
- 4 OZ. BOTTLES OF ELMER’S GLUE
- GLUE STICKS
- COLORED MARKERS
- PENCILS
- SCISSORS
- WATER COLORS
- SPIRAL SUBJECT NOTE BOOKS-WIDE RULED
- PENS- (BLUE, BLACK OR RED INK)
- PLASTIC SCHOOL BOXES
- 1 INCH BINDERS
- 24-CT CRAYONS
- LOOSE LEAF PAPER (WIDE RULED)
- RULERS
- PINK ERASERS

**Backpacks will be distributed to children of the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated on**

**August 16th @  
509 San Pedro, Suite 102  
1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.**

**CONTACT:  
ROBERT HARRIS,  
SPECIAL PROGRAMS MANAGER @  
210-299-4540 ext. 117 or at [rharris@chrysalismin.org](mailto:rharris@chrysalismin.org)**

**Be sure to click on Chrysalis Ministries  
(formerly BCDM)!!**

## **Comedy for the FUN-d of it!**

### **Supporting Chrysalis Ministries**

**A Clean Stand-Up Comedy Show that returns 50% (or more) of your ticket price to the organization of your choice**

**[www.ComedyForTheFUND.com](http://www.ComedyForTheFUND.com)**

Saturday, August 31, 2013  
5:00 pm & 7:30 pm  
TriPoint YMCA Center  
3233 N. St. Mary's  
San Antonio, TX 78212



Tickets available online at [www.ComedyForTheFUND.com](http://www.ComedyForTheFUND.com)  
\$15.00 each, available online  
\$18.00 from Aug 25th to the day of the show. (recommend age 13+)



### **Meet New Volunteer Coordinator Paul Benevides!**

Please welcome the newest member of our team, Paul Benevides. Paul serves as the Volunteer Coordinator for volunteers serving in the private facilities (GEO San Antonio, GEO Karnes City, and the Laurel Ridge Treatment Facility), and coordinates the processing of all new student interns or service learning students.

Paul is currently attending the University of Texas at San Antonio studying to earn a master's degree in Social Work. Although he is a born and raised Texan, he has been in Denver, Colorado for the last eight years. He recently graduated from Metropolitan State University of Denver with a bachelor's degree in Social Work. Paul has over 6 years experience serving with the incarcerated population both behind the wall and outside the wall. He is a U.S. Air Force Veteran. He is very close with his identical twin brother whom he visits often in Abilene, Texas.

Paul Benevides can be reached at 210-299-4540, ext. 126, [pbenevides@chrysmin.org](mailto:pbenevides@chrysmin.org). (Please note that Shelly Power is our Volunteer Coordinator who coordinates those who serve in all Bexar County facilities and the Family Renewal Center. Shelly can be reached at 210-299-4540, ext. 123, [spower@chrysmin.org](mailto:spower@chrysmin.org).)

### **We currently have the following volunteer openings:**

- Spanish-speaking volunteers are critically needed to provide spiritual guidance, lead Bible studies, etc. on **Tuesday evenings at GEO Karnes City**.  
*Contact Paul Benevides if interested.*
- Volunteers are needed to provide spiritual guidance, lead Bible studies, etc., on **Saturday afternoons at the Laurel Ridge Treatment Facility**.  
*Contact Paul Benevides if interested.*
- Administrative volunteers are needed to provide clerical assistance to the Volunteer Coordinators **At Administrative Suites, 509 San Pedro**.  
*Dates/times are flexible! Contact Shelly Power if interested.*

## **Friendly Reminders**

\*\*\*\*Please turn in your sign-in sheets to the chaplains as soon as you receive them.\*\*\*\*

**GEO San Antonio Prison Elimination Rape Act (PERA) training must be completed by all volunteers serving at that facility by Friday, August 16, 2013. This is a mandatory training and all volunteers will be contact to schedule a date/time to receive this PERA training.**

Save the Date – 2014 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at *the Central Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 720 N Main Ave, 78205*. [Please note this is a new location for the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.](#)

*Thank you, volunteers, for your continued service to Chrysalis Ministries! You are undoubtedly the life blood of our organization. We cannot serve the many individuals that we serve without each and every one of you! We are truly humbled and grateful by your dedication to our mission and for all that you do!*



*“Healing doesn’t mean the damage never existed. It means the damage no longer controls our lives”. - Author unknown*