



CHRYsalIS

MINISTRIES

Change. Growth. Freedom.

FEBRUARY 2016

HERE'S TO NEW BEGINNINGS!!

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This is my last month here at Chrysalis Ministries and I write this column remembering some very special moments, some very sad moments, and some downright frustrating and infuriating times! Chrysalis Ministries was called Bexar County Detention Ministries when, as a recent BCDM Board member, I was recruited to apply for the Executive Director's position. Having never managed a non-profit, and having no marketing or fundraising experience, I wasn't quite sure why some of the Board members at the time were so insistent that I accept the position. The ministry had major financial issues and was in danger of having to close in just a few short years, staff morale was low, and the phrase "sinking ship" kept recurring in conversations about the ministry. There were 14 staff members, one small 3200 square foot Family Renewal Center building, and an agency budget of about \$500,000 that relied on large donations from the Endowment Fund to pay staff salaries. Clients served annually included 15,000 – 20,000 incarcerated individuals in 8 facilities and about 700 formerly incarcerated individuals.

Stepping into the E.D. position at Chrysalis wasn't an easy transition for me. Fundraising was difficult and our Board Chair and dear friend, John Byrd died unexpectedly about a year after I came here. It was definitely a challenging first two years. Slowly, though, things began to improve. Some board members who needed to leave, left. So did some of the staff. New, motivated, energetic staff were hired who believed in our cause and cared about helping our population. A wide variety of effective reentry and social service programs were added, new fundraising events were created and implemented successfully, involved and passionate board members were elected, and the Bexar County community began to take notice. The word was out on the street about our "one-stop" reentry programs and supportive services for families, and these individuals and families began coming into the FRC in droves!

Continued on next page.....



Executive Director, and permanent Chrysalis family member, Carol Lockett

SAVE THE DATE!!
CAROL'S RETIREMENT & TOP GOLF FUNDRAISER!!



Sunday, February 21, 2016

5:00 pm–8:00 pm

5539 North Loop 1604 W.,
San Antonio, TX 78249

\$70 per person for 3 hours of golf, food & unlimited non-alcoholic drinks.

Contact Stacy Baker @
sbaker@chrysalismin.org if you're interested





Today, Chrysalis employs 23 staff (22% are ex-offenders), has a dedicated volunteer base of nearly 200, and now TWO buildings make up the Family Renewal Center which is nearly 10,000 square feet. Our annual budget has surpassed one million dollars, and staff and volunteers facilitate interfaith chaplaincy services and evidence-based and practical life skills classes to between 35,000-40,000 incarcerated individuals in 11 facilities annually. Reentry and supportive services are offered to over 2000 formerly incarcerated individuals and over 2000 of their family members at the FRC each year. Our recidivism rate last year was the lowest EVER at only 9%!!! We even changed our name in 2013 to reflect a more positive image!



Don't be misled; there are still issues that need to be resolved, but this ministry has come a LONG way, and the changes we've been able to make are absolute proof that AWESOME things can happen when you have compassionate, enthusiastic, non-judgmental staff and volunteers and dedicated and committed Board members. My wish is for Chrysalis Ministries to grow and expand. My hope is that other communities see the value of our "one-stop reentry center" and replicate this concept in every county in Texas and in the nation. Wouldn't it be cool to put most prisons out of business???



I leave you to go happily into my retirement (at least for a while!) with this thought: Offenders deserve a second chance. If offered the opportunity and support, many of the formerly incarcerated may struggle, but there's a good chance they will eventually become productive, law-abiding citizens and better role models for their children. They have paid their dues to society by successfully serving out their sentences. Let's make it a little easier for them to be successful and to feel welcome, rather than rejecting them.



Many thanks to my staff, board, volunteers, interns and community services workers for your dedication, support, "never a dull moment" wild ride, and for just putting up with me sometimes. Thank you for creating the "Matos-Make-a-Wish program" in memory of my dear son, Philip Matthew "Mato", who passed away unexpectedly in 2011. I don't know what I would have done without all of you during that terrible time. I am truly grateful for the experience of being in charge of this life-changing ministry. I love each of you and will miss you. I pray that you will continue to "facilitate the personal, emotional and spiritual transformation of incarcerated individuals, those formerly incarcerated and their families" for many, many decades to come.



Adios mis amigos y amigas! May God bless you and keep you always!!!

Carol



Chrysalis Ministries Welcome's Their New Executive Director!



Antonio (Nino) Tarantino comes to Chrysalis Ministries with over 30 years of corporate and entrepreneurial experience. Most recently Nino was the start-up owner of TripleNterprises Educational Publishing, providing teacher and student preparatory materials for the state STAAR exam. Over the past 7 years Nino has authored over 25 math and reading text-books geared to helping teachers and students on the state of Texas assessment exams.

Nino brings finance, operations, marketing, business development and general management experiences to Chrysalis. Nino and his three sons have lived in San Antonio since 2001 and now call this city home.

"Light Up A Heart" Christmas Party!!



This past December we had the opportunity to partner with the Bexar County Sheriff's Office for the 2nd year in a row for our "Light Up a Child's Heart" Christmas program. We were able to provide an amazing Christmas party with food and entertainment and 3-4 gifts EACH for a total of **962** children of the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated! We would not have been able to put on a program of this magnitude without the donations of our generous supporters in the San Antonio and Bexar County Community. Both Chrysalis and the Bexar County Sheriff's Office received sizeable donations from **Halliburton** as well as amazing contributions from **Baptist Health System, HEB, Kiobassa, Harvey Najim, Our Lady of Atonement, the Fellowship of San Antonio, Laurel Heights UMC (and SO many more)**. On top of monetary contributions we were amazed by all of the selfless hours put in by our volunteers to make this such a success.

Thank you all for all of your efforts and donations of time and funds to continue making our Children's Programs a success here at Chrysalis Ministries!

Thank You Sathya Sai Baba!!



We would like to acknowledge a new donor group that has come to us recently here at Chrysalis. Sathya Sai Baba of San Antonio recently took the initiative upon themselves and their children to re-stock our food pantry with non-perishable items, as well as boxed meals for families for our clients. Their contributions are still holding strong and have added new life to our food pantry. Members of Sathya Sai also reached out to us for our Christmas program and donated wrapping paper, toys, and storage tins. This wonderful organization has done so much for us in such a short amount of time, and we are truly looking forward to continuing our partnership with them!

Women's A.C.T.S. Retreat



On December 10 - 11, 2015, a team of women from St. Elizabeth Ann Parish Community facilitated an ACTS Retreat for the women at Bexar Co. Detention Center Annex. The theme of the retreat was: "Do not be Afraid, Mary, You Have Found Favor with God." (Luke 1:30) The deeply moving talks, the prayerful rituals, and the sharing among team members and retreatants were all very enriching and lead to a wonderful reflection on the real meaning of Christmas for both team and retreatants. The team members returned on Jan. 12th for a re-union and follow-up with the women. Again, this time was deeply meaningful. We are most grateful for the team of women who facilitated the retreat and we pray that the women who participated in this prayerful event may continue to be blessed and healed as they continue on their faith journey.

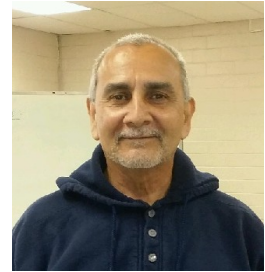


A.C.T.S Volunteers

Success Stories

VICTOR'S STORY

My name is Victor Hernandez. I am 63 years old and I've lived in San Antonio most of my life. I was involved with drugs at a very early age and for many years. Because of drugs, I went in and out of prison for about 34 years total. When I was released about four years ago, I found out about Chrysalis Ministries and how they could provide me with clothing and utilities assistance, but more important to me was drug counseling and spiritual needs. For this help, I give thanks to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and everyone at Chrysalis Ministries.



Victor Hernandez

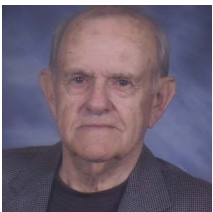
DARCY'S STORY

When I first heard of Chrysalis Ministries, I was in jail. They said they were there to help us with work, clothes, job needs, and a bunch of other resources. I thought "Yeah, they all say that". When I got out, I needed help with getting my I.D., and help looking for a job. Well, they did that and a lot more. Over the years, I've come back to them for job readiness and money management classes. Both are tools that helped me better my future. They really helped with jobs that will work with my record. When Christmas came, they also helped with presents. They do a lot here, and I am truly thankful for all of their help. The first step is to ask for help, and then you've got to push from there. I always tell people about this place because they have always been there to help when it was needed!

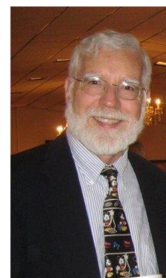


Darcy Vaquera

Thank you.



On January 20, 2016, Mr. Robert Wheelless, Jr., former BCDM Board Chair and long-time supporter and advocate of Chrysalis Ministries passed away. Mr. Wheelless was instrumental in creating the MATCH program (Mothers And Their Children) in the Bexar County Jail which is still going strong today. A PATCH program has been added! (Pappas And Their Children). Mr. Wheelless never failed to make a monthly donation to Chrysalis Ministries for decades! He would stop by or call occasionally just to make sure we were doing okay and to bring clothes for the clothes closet. Our sincere condolences go out to Mrs. Wheelless, his four sons and the rest of his family. We loved Mr. Wheelless and we will miss him.



Dr. Patrick Holden, a dedicated Epiphany volunteer at the Krier Center for many years, and the husband of one of our dedicated chaplains, Rev. Sarah Holden, passed away very unexpectedly while driving to the Valley to train Epiphany volunteers, on January 15, 2016. Services were held at University United Methodist Church on January 21st. Dr. Holden was a well-respected child and adolescent psychiatrist, a dedicated Epiphany volunteer and a committed family man. We are keeping you and your family, Sarah, in our thoughts and prayers.

Volunteer Corner



We would like to welcome the following new volunteers:

- Kyle Turner – Laurel Ridge Treatment Center

We are very grateful to have you!



Shelly Power, Volunteer Coordinator
All Jail Facilities

spower@chrysmmin.org

(210) 299-4540 ex. 123

Our current volunteer openings include the following positions:

Facility

Volunteer Type/Days Needed

- **Laurel Ridge Treatment Center**
Pastoral care/spiritual guidance volunteers to conduct Bible Studies on weekend afternoons.
(Stipulations: cannot be ex-offender nor former Laurel Ridge patient.)
- **Bexar County Adult Detention Center**
Helpers to assist with inmate reading glasses program ideally on Monday and/or Tuesday mornings.
Catholic pastoral care/spiritual guidance volunteers are needed to assist in the main jail and annex (days/times flexible).

Facilitators to teach Life Skills Classes on a variety of rotating topics to include Job Readiness, Money Management, Healthy Relationships, etc. (days/times vary).
- **Cyndi Taylor Krier Juvenile Detention Center**
Pastoral care volunteers needed to help conduct two 3-day weekend Epiphany retreats annually plus attend monthly work sessions.

(Stipulations: must have previously attended a 3-day ACTS or Walk to Emmaus religious retreat.)
- **Family Renewal Center, 503 San Pedro, 78212**
A regular volunteer or a small group (a church group or scouting/youth group would be ideal) needed to manage and maintain the clothes closet.

A regular volunteer is needed with MS Word and Excel and administrative skills to assist with file preparation, filing, copying, and other administrative work 4-8 hours weekly. (days/times flexible)

****Please contact Shelly Power, Volunteer Coordinator, at 210-299-4540, or spower@chrysmmin.org, if you are interested in any of these positions. Note: volunteers are subject to passing a background check and typically must be off paper/clear from any criminal offense for 5 years or more.***

Some friendly reminders:

- Please turn in your sign-in sheets to the chaplains as soon as you receive them. Also, complete and turn in your own timesheets to the chaplains at the end of each month.
- For your protection and safety, facility staff mandate dress code rules which consist of closed toed shoes and “business casual” clothing. Tattoos must be covered and body piercings removed.

Board of Directors Changes



We Welcome Our New Chrysalis Board Members!!

Four new Board members have been added in December and January!

Dr. Cheryl Davis is a local dentist with a practice on the Eastside of San Antonio. She used to provide dental care to inmates in the Bexar County Jail!

Karla Davis has experience in other service organizations and with event planning. She is a member of Alamo Heights United Methodist Church, and had a relative who was formerly incarcerated which “opened her eyes” to the needs of this population.

Mitch Byrant is an employee of Alamo Tees and Advertising which is a printing and corporate branding company. He has been involved in several different missions and ministries all over the world!

Violet De La Rosa is one of our very own former clients who has maintained contact with us for many years. Violet has a great job with TAV Health, she has become a motivational speaker for Chrysalis Ministries, Goodwill and Dress for Success, she has purchased her own home and she is engaged to be married! Violet will bring a unique and very important perspective to the Board of Directors!

Finally, last but certainly not least, the **Reverend Sheila Sidberry** has returned to our board after a short hiatus in which she was working with veterans and their families. We are so glad to have her back!!

We welcome all of these board members to Chrysalis!!!

Board Members Who Are Leaving Us

Bruce Barenblat recently resigned from the Board after being a very active member for nearly two years. He will continue coordinating and facilitating AA groups at the Laurel Ridge Treatment facility, where our staff and volunteers also provide chaplaincy services to the patients there.

Louis Cardenas owner of Blonde Creative Advertising also recently resigned, as he has created his own awesome non-profit!

Darryl Seillier, another board member who has been on the board for the past three years, has resigned as his board term has expired. Darryl is an employee at Valero and was instrumental in assisting us with securing a \$100,000 donation from Valero for our capital campaign one year ago!

Thank you, Bruce, Louis and Darryl for your service to Chrysalis. We will miss you all very much, but wish you Godspeed!



Other Exciting News & Changes!



On January 28th we were thrilled to learn we will receive a \$25,000 grant from the Bob Barker Company Foundation for operational costs! The Bob Barker Company, out of North Carolina, established a non-profit foundation to support those who are, or have been incarcerated. Their vision is to “reduce recidivism by seeing the lives of the incarcerated changed forever serving God, family and community.” In an effort to “prepare the incarcerated or the formerly incarcerated physically, spiritually and emotionally for successful reentry into society, the Foundation works directly with non-profit and governmental entities, providing support and capacity building for proven, cost-effective delivery of services that reduce recidivism”. What a perfect fit with Chrysalis!!

Many thanks to the Bob Barker Company Foundation for this generous donation!

Staff Retreat

On January 28th & 29th the entire staff of Chrysalis met with Dr. Don Arispe, from the Center of Formative Action and Reflection (CFAR). Dr. Arispe helped us develop a personal mission statement, and we learned about the model of human healing from the re-evaluation counseling movement. This model helps people look inside first at where they need to be healed before pointing the finger unproductively at others. Finally, we had lots of open and very frank discussions concerning our thoughts and fears about change and transition.

Thank you so much, Dr. Arispe, for spending this time with us!

Family Renewal Center Repairs

We FINALLY got the foundation repaired at the 503 Family Renewal Center building! We also had the entire plumbing system re-routed. We shouldn't be experiencing any more plumbing problems for a while. Many thanks to the Endowment Board for approving the funds to pay for these repairs.

On February 18th, Artist David Blancas, and several youth from Bexar County Juvenile Probation will be installing a beautiful mural on the back of the FRC building. Please stop by and see this mural and the other art work painted on the building by local street artists!!

Staff Changes

Natalie Lizarralde-Sanders, a six-year employee of Chrysalis Ministries, has left us on February 5, 2016 to work as a Supportive Housing Specialist with Haven for Hope. Natalie is a compassionate, caring individual and she was a hard-working, dedicated, effective Outreach Program Director here. We will miss her, but know she will do a fantastic job in her new position! Steven Balarin, a case manager with Chrysalis Ministries for eight years, will assume the position of Interim Outreach Program Director until the new Executive Director begins.

Congratulations to Natalie and Steven!

“It is critical to protect the Lord’s children who have fallen short of perfection from the wrath of those who believe they have attained it.” ~ Stuart Kinard