

A 501(C)(3) TAX EXEMPT CHARITY

# HOUSE OF HOPE

## *Christ-Centered Recovery*

*"Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the LORD his God,..."*

Psalm 146.5



### FROM ROSIE'S HEART

*Founder and Director*

I thank God every time I think of you.

Well, 2020 is almost over. I just want to show gratitude to each of you who blazed this trail with me. It's been a most difficult and trying time for most of us. I thank God for the grace He has shown each of us.

House of Hope doors are still open and I am still marching forward in the mission and mandate God placed on my heart 15 years ago. Like everyone on the frontlines, I've had to do some things differently at the House of Hope because of the pandemic. While I can't accommodate everyone who needs help, I can help those God lays on my heart when funds are available. (See [page 2](#) to hear more about my new outreach efforts: *Hope and Soap*.)

There is so much more that needs to be done and I can't do it without your help. It is my hope and prayer that you don't give up on me and the work I do in serving the most vulnerable in our society.

I know that some of you have been long time contributors, and for that I am grateful. Know that as each day passes, I am praying and searching for new contributors. I encourage you to invite your friends and colleagues to join in this mission. I would love and appreciate the opportunity to present the mission and work of the House of Hope to prospective supporters. Please reach out to me so that we can discuss the opportunity.

I hope you all are staying safe and that your holidays will be bright!

Happy holidays and much love to you all.

### JAYCE IS BACK

Jayce was two years old when he first came to the House of Hope, a day before Thanksgiving 2017. He and his mother had been living from pillow to post. I gave them a stable environment to live. They moved into their own place on March 4, 2018.



Jayce and his mom came back to live with me a few months ago. His mom was experiencing some darkness in her life and needed some help.



*Jayce at age 2 and now at age 5 (above)*

Jayce has grown so much. He is now five years old and smart as ever. You should have seen his face light up when he walked into his old room. You can tell he is glad to be back in a familiar space. A place where he knows he is safe.

This is one of the many reasons I work so hard to keep the House of Hope doors open. Sometimes people just need a hand-up...a little help to get through a "bump" in the road.

Your prayers and generous contributions make it possible for me to offer a hand. Please know that what you do today not only impacts the lives of those we serve here and now, but their children's children.

Think about that for a moment. Generations can be saved by what you do today. Now, that's a legacy.

## HOPE AND SOAP

Operating in these unprecedented times is how I met Ron, a homeless man living on the streets of Covington Highway in Decatur. I have seen Ron on-and-off for the past year sitting in front of the corner package store or wandering the streets with no particular place to go. Although he looked very intimidating, I approached him and asked if he wanted a bath, haircut, and clean clothes. He simply responded, "Yes ma'am."



Within the hour, I paid for a room at the local motel for Ron to shower; purchased some new clothes and hygiene products for him; and scheduled a haircut at the local barber. It cost me about \$120 (\$80 for the motel room alone) to give a young man back his dignity and to witness a glimmer of hope.

This was the first of several outreach opportunities for me to minister to the rising homeless population through my latest outreach efforts: *Hope and Soap*. *Hope and Soap* offers those experiencing homelessness a hot shower and new (or gently used) clothing. I have seen firsthand how a hot shower and clean clothes make a difference in how people view themselves and the world around them; it does wonders for the physical and mental health of those without access to sanitation infrastructure or proper clothing.

I am grateful that God's Spirit and protection remain with me as I take on this outreach opportunity. Some people ask me if I am afraid. I am honest. I tell them that a little fear may creep in at times, but God has been my protector in all that I do. This work is not about me; it's about being the hands and feet of Christ, so I trust that Christ will take care of me.

If you have any ideas on how I can expand this ministry or want to donate to the *Hope and Soap* outreach, please contact me at 678-789-2503. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## A STORY ABOUT QUITA

I met Quita eight years ago. She was homeless, living in the woods. I would occasionally see her at the corner store, drunk and panhandling. She would become belligerent when I tried to talk with her.



In May 2020, I saw Quita again. This time I approached her by calling her name. Needless to say, she didn't remember our past encounters. She was shocked that I even knew her name.

I looked beyond the dirt, grime, and stench and offered her help. I bought her new clothes and brought her to the House of Hope to freshen-up. She came to the house every morning to shower, change clothes, eat, and sleep. Each night she would return to an empty van in the woods to be with her friend.

On June 18, 2020, Quita was struck by car on Covington Highway. Thank God the driver stopped, but the impact left her nearly dead on the side of the road. She was really banged up with a fractured skull, a fractured right arm, broken pelvic, and other injuries.

It would be two days before I found Quita at Wellstar Atlanta Medical Center (she didn't have any identification.) Because she was homeless, the hospital staff allowed me, as her mentor, to call every day to check on her condition and at least talk to the head nurse. They also allowed me to visit her on two occasions.

Quita was discharged from the hospital one month after she nearly lost her life. I picked her up and took her to the rooming house her friend had found for the both of them. We immediately reverted to the routine we started in May: she came to the House of Hope every morning to shower, change clothes, eat, and sleep. This time, my focus was on nursing her back to health. Quita now has a metal rod from her cervix all

A STORY ABOUT QUITA (Continued)

the way down to her thigh. The doctors say her recovery will take about a year.

I am still very much involved in Quita's life. In fact, I found her mother and brother on Facebook and bought her a bus ticket to Florida to visit with them for a week. She had not seen nor heard from her mother in seven years. God certainly has a way of putting the broken pieces together again.

Quita and I have come a long way since that encounter in May 2020. She is still struggling with her addiction, but she is no longer homeless and now has a birth

certificate and identification. While I can help get her business affairs in order, I can't make her stop her addiction. As a recovery coach, my job is to help her find *her* path to recovery. However, she has to want recovery. I can tell her how I got clean and sober, but I can't take those steps to recovery for her. It's her choice.



I will continue to minister to Quita through our daily talks and ask that you continue to pray for her physical and spiritual healing.

**HOUSE OF HOPE CONTRIBUTION/PLEDGE**

*House of Hope is a safe, non-traditional recovery home for women and women with children who are struggling with addictions, co-dependency, homelessness, depression and abuse, and are preparing to become productive citizens again. Our hands-on approach is designed to address the spiritual, financial, emotional, and relational needs of our women. All our women are engaged in life-changing classes such as overcoming addiction, relapse prevention, financial stewardship and, where applicable, parenting classes. Everyone attends Wednesday night Bible study, Tuesday night Celebrate Recovery (a Christ-centered 12 step program) at Peace Baptist Church (Tyron E. Barnette, Senior Pastor) and Sunday service of their choice.*

Please cut out your contribution/pledge card and complete. Make check or money order payable to House of Hope Christ-Centered Recovery, Inc. and mail your tax-deductible contribution to:

House of Hope Christ-Centered Recovery, Inc.  
c/o Rosie M. Hightower  
1291 Cornwall Road  
Decatur, GA 30032

Secure on-line tax-deductible contributions may also be made at [www.houseofhoperecovery.org](http://www.houseofhoperecovery.org)

*Investing in Souls*

Name

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip Code

Phone Number

Alternate Phone Number

E-mail Address

In Memory Of

In Honor Of

\$

Monthly Contribution / For how many months?

\$

One-Time Contribution

*Need Help or Know Someone Who Does? Contact Rosie at 678-789-2503*