

Beginnings



Breaking the Cycle

By Dolli Neikirk, Executive Director dneikirk@lifehouselouisville.org

Tara's Story

Tara graduated from the Lifehouse program in October 2023. Her time at Lifehouse was not without its challenges. Sometimes it was a step forward and two steps back, but each month, each year, saw progress. I remember when Tara arrived at Lifehouse. She was closed off, hiding behind a hoodie and baggy clothes, trying to disappear. The photo taken of Tara upon her arrival at Lifehouse looks nothing like the vivacious woman she is today.

Tara's story begins in Chattanooga,
Tennessee, where her mother left her
and her sister in the care of grandparents
when Tara was just five years old. Her
grandparents spoiled her, but the shadow
of trauma from her mother's departure still
hung over Tara.

After finishing high school, Tara was accepted to and began attending Austin Peay. Tara admits she wasn't ready to be on her own. The childhood trauma and mental health issues took their toll, and she ended up pregnant. Tara dropped out of school and began living first at women's shelter, then a residential program for homeless youth. A woman at the

youth program contacted Tara's mom in Frankfort, and Tara moved to Kentucky.

Tara left her mom's home after her mom began physically abusing her. She felt she had nowhere to turn and ended up in another women's shelter. Her mom found Lifehouse. Tara was surprised that Lifehouse was not like a shelter and that she would have her own room.

Tara didn't really trust anyone, but she learned the Lifehouse staff had her best interests at heart. She may have not always seen eye-to-eye with House Moms, but getting tips and guidance on different ways to do things, helped Tara open up and develop deep bonds with others.

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Introducing Shannon Cole, Case Manager

Shannon has a Bachelor's of Social Work from Campbellsville University. Prior to joining Lifehouse Shannon

worked for the
Department of
Community Based
Services Protection
and Permanency.
Shannon also
worked as a



Preschool Teacher for nine years at Whitefield Academy.

Shannon understands the importance of Early Childhood Education and enjoys working with children of all ages. She is passionate about adoption and working with mothers who have placed or who are in the process of placing their child for adoption. Shannon wants residents be successful while at Lifehouse and once they graduate our program. She enjoys learning about and working with residents towards achieving their goals.

Shannon and her husband Billy have five children and two English Bulldogs. Her favorite Bible verse is: "For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." ~ Jeremiah 29:11

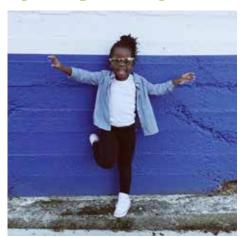
Tara's Story, continued

Some of the biggest lessons Tara learned were understanding the importance of managing finances, improving communication about feelings and emotions, and best ways to discipline her daughter. She believes Lifehouse helped her break the generational cycle of abuse.

Tara is working on a two-year nursing degree, with plans to get her LPN and eventually her BSN. She hopes to become an ER nurse.

As she looks to the future, Tara's faith has grown and strengthened, but she acknowledges she is still a work in progress. She regularly asks God for help, and knows He loves her. Tara believes coming to Lifehouse was the best thing she's ever done. "I want to continue building my faith and teach my daughter about God's love for her. Lifehouse is

"Lifehouse is a lifeline that saved my life and my daughter's life."



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Lifehouse is at Capacity

Throughout 2023, Lifehouse was at or near capacity while maintaining waiting list.
Unfortunately, we are encountering more and more young women who are escaping domestic violence and human trafficking and we anticipate this trend will continue.
We continue to hear from and serve many women with multiple children.

Lifehouse revenue is running behind our forecasted budget and your support is vitally needed. Your monetary support helps us not only keep the lights and water on, but also provide residents like Tara, help with securing a job, guidance on money management, connection to counseling services, and help in applying to college. Through your prayers and generosity, you can be a part of transforming the lives of residents like Tara, and dozens of other residents Lifehouse serves each year.

Here's How You can Help:

1) Use the envelope enclosed to make a one-time gift by check

2) Set up a one-time or monthly online donation through our secure website www.LifehouseLouisville.org/donate3) Click the QR code, using your phone camera, to go to our secure donation page

The best way to help Lifehouse is through a monthly recurring gift of any amount.
Our 365 Circle are donors who commit \$111 per month or a one-time gift of \$1332 annually to support the moms and babies of Lifehouse.

If you are a current monthly donor, prayerfully consider if you are able to increase your monthly gift. Monthly \$100 donors, prayerfully consider adding just \$11 more to your monthly gift to be a part of our 365 Circle!

Stewarding your Gifts

Lifehouse stewards your gifts well. We are debt-free, we receive no government funding, relying solely on the faithfulness and generosity of God's people who make the ministry of Lifehouse possible. Along with food, clothing, and a safe home, residents receive 24/7 love and support from our team of House Moms; guidance on goal-setting, money management, and coaching from our Case Manager; and Bible Study, life skills lessons, and accountability with our Program Director. All of this is made possible through your one-time or monthly gift. You are Lifehouse's partner in transforming lives!



Thank you for your prayers and your generosity. May God bless you, and keep you; may His face shine upon you, and give you peace.

Goal Achieved!



Thank you to everyone who prayed and gave to Lifehouse during Give for Good! We are excited to announce we surpassed our giving day goal of \$25,000, raising... \$25,592!!!

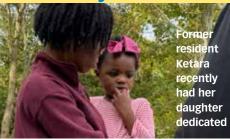
Thank you to our Friends of Lifehouse Matching Challenge and all our supporters, we are so grateful for your support!

House Happenings





Joining the Family of God



Former resident
Diana recently
had both her son
and daughter
dedicated



God is surely at work in the lives of our Lifehouse residents! Former resident, Dana (top left), was recently baptized. Dana was a Lifehouse resident with her twin daughters (watching in the photo) for nearly four years. Another former resident, Yadira was also baptized. Two former residents also dedicated their children recently. We are so proud of Dana, Yadira, Ketara and Diana and are praying that their faith grows. ♥

Prayer Partners

Lifehouse welcomed members of Chapel in the Woods and Throne of Grace Church, both which sent members to pray over Lifehouse, its staff and residents. Prayer is one thing we always need!





Generosity from Area Churches

Lifehouse is grateful for amazing donations from Christ Church School, Grace Evangelical Free Church, and Compass Christian Church. We are thankful for these wonderful partners in ministry and their generosity.



Thank you for positively changing the course of lives.

Lifehouse thanks each of these foundations, businesses, organizations and individuals for their generous support. A special thank you to those honoring or memorializing their loved ones with a gift to Lifehouse.

Foundations & Grants

Carson-Myre Charitable Foundation Cralle Foundation, Inc. Sisters of Charity of Nazareth

Businesses & Organizations

Johnson & Johnson Kroger

Memorial & Honorarium Gifts

In honor of Sharon Graham's birthday by Elizabeth Achino

In memory of Mike Graham by Judy Day

In memory of Richard Bernardi by Sharon Bernardi

In memory of Judy Rossbacher by Robert Guida

In honor of grandson, Jackson by Jack & Cathie Luckett

In honor of Bryan T. Slade's birthday, by Aunt Marty Slade Perlman

In honor of House Mom, Cathy Badgett, by Darlene Thornberry

Every effort has been made to account for these gifts. Please notify us of any errors or omissions and we will make a

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Lifehouse staff and residents are praying that you'll enjoy blessed Thanksgiving and a joyful Christmas!

Share our Mission











Our Wish List...gift cards, cleaning and office supplies

Thank you so much for your generous gifts. Many of these items can be found on our Amazon Wish List at www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guestview/13XDDHJ20RCXK

Gift cards to Kohls, Old Navy and JCPenney, help us to buy clothing when a resident arrives with little to none. We do maintain a donated clothing closet, but sometimes we don't have the right sizes or a new resident needs shoes or bras. If you have any questions, or have items you wish to donate, please call us at 502-897-1655. Thank you!

Other ways to help Lifehouse:

- Include Lifehouse in your will.
- Add Lifehouse as beneficiary on your life insurance policy.
- At age 70 ½ or older, an individual can donate up to \$100,000 from their IRA to a charitable organization. Making a Qualified Charitable Distribution meets the Required Minimum Distribution requirement dollar for dollar.

Always consult with your tax advisor before taking any steps described above. Please let Lifehouse know if you are taking any of the steps above.

NOVEMBER

- Paper towels
- Liquid hand soap
- Liquid dish soap
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Multi-fold paper towels



Non Profit

U.S. Postage **PAID**

Louisville, KY Permit 1801

DECEMBER

- Canned goods
- Non-perishable food items
- Sugar
- Olive oil
- **Kroger Gift Cards** (\$20 or more)



JANUARY

- Forever stamps
- Blank thank you cards
- #10 envelopes
- Copy paper
- Kroger gift cards (\$20 or more)
- **Baby Wipes**

Miscellaneous

Ethnic Hair Care

Products

