



*My Sister's Place, Inc.*

**2019 Annual Report**  
[www.mysistersplaceal.com](http://www.mysistersplaceal.com)



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2019**



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# Message from Cindy

Dear Friends,

2019 was a tremendous year of growth at My Sister's Place (MSP). We served more women than ever in one year, and we saw more successes than ever in one year! We saw captives set free, moms and children reunited, and families healed with new and better beginnings! Our staff grew by 3, and we began and nearly completed the remodel on our third campus, which will increase capacity this year by 16 and up to total capacity of 32 in 2021.



Our founder and director was recognized as one of "30 Women who Shape Alabama, in 2019"



WBRC and 2 MSP Grads  
Jenn and Angela

The word is spreading about the work God is doing here at MSP. We were blessed to have news crews out from all the local stations to help increase the hope of the dismal statistics of drug and alcohol recovery and to increase awareness of My Sister's Place



Lauren being interviewed



What a wonderful year to see so many women transformed right in front of our eyes! Hopeless dope fiends, that turn to dope less hope fiends!!! Broken and battered that turn to whole and renewed. Lost and lonely become found and loved and accepted. It is incredible to be part of such a life giving program. Thank you all for your support, please continue to remember us throughout 2020

# Ministry Overview

## ***The Vision, Mission, and Values***

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**Vision:** Establish communities of healed women and their children thereby breaking the cycle of unhealthy dependence and creating positive change for generations to come.

**Mission:** **RESCUE** the broken, lead to **RESTORATION** and **RETURN** whole & healed women to their families and communities.

**Values:** Christ centered love, Consistency, Accountability, Gratitude, Obedience and Fortitude.

## ***My Sister's Place Calling and History***

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*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4*

- **1993-2004** Cindy Manages Assisted Living Facility and falls to addiction. January 2004 Cindy gets clean and Sober and meets Jesus
- **2007-2012** God training Cindy placing her in leadership of 12 step Christian recovery program, serving at local recovery center for two years; then fulfills 2-year commitment of recovery ministry at Shelby County Jail
- **2011** My Sister's Place is incorporated by 2 pastors, and 4 people in recovery, first resident housed in rental unit
- **2012** Purchase a duplex, now can serve 10 women
- **2014** Purchase neighboring duplex for Familial units. Immediately occupied by two moms' and 5 kids
- **2017** Surrender home is opened; capacity for 16 more women
- **Late 2018** Expansion property secured
- **August 2019** Secure first apartment for permanent after care for family
- **January 2020** Secure second apartment for program graduates
- **March 2020** 3<sup>rd</sup> Campus opens; 16 women initially, with 32 women capacity

## ***My Sister's Place Ministry Model***

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### **KEY DISTINCTIVES:**

- 1. Christ Centered AND 12 steps based**
- 2. All leaders have walked through their own brokenness with Jesus and the 12 steps**
- 3. Transitional to work, home, family and community**
- 4. Building community and relationships with a healthy church body**

# Program



## Hope

Hope is a home. The women we serve are frequently the ones society has thrown away. Women, who are hopeless, lost, hurting and alone. MSP provides a home to be accepted, loved, nurtured and guided to a whole, healed and completely free life.



## Help

MSP helps in so many ways. We provide shelter and food, love and guidance, assistance getting medical and legal issues under control. Parenting classes, GED classes, career prep, money management, etc.



## Healing

By working through the recovery process, old thinking that kept us trapped in the past and fear of the future is exchanged for living in today, trusting, forgiving and prepared for the future. They become confident in their own ability to handle situations that used to baffle them. Most importantly, they can be the moms, daughters, sisters and wives they need to be.

Two graduates of MSP, who now serve as staff and my right and left hand. 3 and nearly 4 years ago neither of them would have ever believed their lives would be what they are today. GOD is so good! They ARE witnesses! LOVE you both!

## THIRD CAMPUS AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

WOW! God sent a special man with a huge servant heart that is 100% in with what we are doing at My Sister's Place. Rickey Perkins, has spent the last year in planning, managing and laboring over the remodel of our 3<sup>rd</sup> campus. A HUGE thank you to you, Rickey Perkins!



Other Volunteers on this project, include: Dan Richardson, Jeff Hicks, Van Comer, Jack Gaddis, and Vito Graffeo. Thank you gentleman for all you have done to make this possible!



We asked Rickey, why he does what he does for MSP and others, he said:  
"It really is not much compared to what my God has done for me. God has blessed me so much with so many talents and tools to use each day helping others. My life revolves around using the talents God gave me to bless others. I am reminded daily that my God is in control.  
Why MSP? "It's very simple", Rickey says. "I picked up the cross to follow my God many years ago. It has now been close to two years since the passing of my step daughter. That's when I first heard of My Sister's Place. Daily I ask The Lord where I can serve with the tools and talent He blessed me with and where I can best serve His children.  
I had prayed about a place where there is the Love of God, Family, Health, a job and start for a new beginning. The answer was clear: Follow me. He led me to My Sister's Place. I have been serving now for over a year. I love the ladies and this ministry. My serving here has blessed me so much. I know some of the ladies come and go, but in the days, weeks and years to come if even just one lady would turn to God to change her life and be set free, then I can truly say that all the sweat, bruises, blood and pain was worth it! God gives a choice each day. I listen. And I think the choice was great: My Sister's Place."



8

Here are children of women who have come through the MSP program and are now raising their children to love The Lord. These women are active in church and are raising their children up right. What might have got off on the wrong start, is now living fully and free! (6 of the pictured are children of MSP grads.)

## Staff Spotlight

MJ Morgan came as a resident to MSP in November 2017. She had lost custody of her two oldest girls several years prior, rarely saw her third child, a son. Her youngest son had been in foster care since he was 6 months old and MJ rarely saw him, in previous 2 ½ years. Upon coming to MSP, it was evident MJ was broken. Time would tell how ready she was for a new life. Day by day MJ would listen, learn, pout, cry and keep pushing forward. Her resolve for a better life was evident. Though a termination of parental rights hearing was looming, MJ found a new hope in Christ, and was consistent in her visits with her youngest son. God told her He would restore. DHR and the Judge seemed determined to terminate, they had seen enough. I could see the disgust and distrust on their faces as we attended court hearings and ISP meetings.

THEN GOD.....

I will never forget the day about 14 months into MJ's time at MSP. We were once again at a status hearing, and the foster mom was running a little late, as we all waited in the courtroom, in front of the judge. We all heard the door to the courtroom open and there was the foster mom and that little boy. At first the little boy was looking up at foster mom, she seemed to say, 'look'. That little boy looked to the front of the courtroom, saw his mother, and yelled: "Mama!" and broke out into a run barreling into his Mama's open arms!!! Still brings tears to my eyes today!!!

MJ went on to get full custody of that little boy and the DHR case closed. She has reestablished her relationship with her oldest son and now has a relationship and regular contact with her oldest girls.

Mj moved out of MSP and stepped out of her staff position last January. We are so grateful that God brought her back to working with us in April of 2019. MJ is a valuable resource to the ministry of MSP, to me, the residents of MSP and most importantly her children. (Two of her boys are picture with the Royal Rangers, above.)



Before



After

# Program Impact

For over eight years we have been and will continue to be committed to lowering the addiction recidivism rate. The core of our mission is to let those who suffer know that there is hope and that freedom from drugs, alcohol and destructive behaviors is real. We who work here KNOW that, because we have lived it!

In all we have served over 300 women directly since our inception. And have served at least 25 children directly as they resided at some point in one of properties, and over 500 children have been impacted by the work we do at MSP. These are the children of moms who have been through the program of MSP and have now taken a healthy mom back to the children that had been adversely affected by the mom's choices. Of those women who completed the program and follow up with what they learned, 74% of these women continue to do well today.

It is impossible to determine how this affects society in whole. The education, enlightenment and empowerment of these hurting and lost women has a ripple effect on the community that cannot be overstated. The ripple effect is to family, friends, coworkers, 12 step meeting attendees, etc. Most importantly, when our moms, wives and sisters are better, the entire community will benefit, not only today, but for generations to come.

In 2019 My Sister's Place:

- Sheltered, fed, love and mentored 85 women which represents 145 children.
- Planned, prepared and Provided 21,900 meals
- Transported to and from work 8,736 times
- Transported to 12 step and other meetings and conferences 975 times
- Transport to doctors, ER's, counseling at least 210 times
- Transport to drug testing, court and probation: 1078 times
- Ensure each woman has adequate personal clothing, toiletries and id's and social security cards 72 times
- 12 step, self esteem and spiritual emphasis training: at least 1050 hours
- Money and time management education 155 hours
- One on one mentoring, life coaching 3892 hours

\*These items do not include the time spent on entry and informational interviews, maintenance and housekeeping, bookkeeping, fundraising, etc. WE HAD A BUSY YEAR! :-)

## Impact Stories

Brief personal stories on the impact of My Sister's Place in 2019:

**Brooke:** (38): "My story can best be summed up in a quote by Bonnell Thornton 'Some often repent yet never reform, they resemble a man traveling on a dangerous path, frequently starts and stops, but never turns back.' Most of my life I made choices based on rebellion and selfishness and always ended up at a dead end. Whether it was being in jail or prison or watching my kids being taken to foster care because I was going to jail, I always ended up at a dead end. I am so glad I got the chance to change directions and travel a different road by coming to My Sister's Place. MSP gave me the tools I needed for a lasting change, a true relationship with God. I also found a fellowship of believers who showed me how to keep walking it out and for this, me and my children are grateful.

**Arryon:** (29) "My Sister's Place taught me how to love God, my family, others and myself! I had no idea what that looked like or even if life without drugs and alcohol was possible. I had no idea how to begin. MSP was there. I have learned to love myself and let God love me and that has enabled me to truly love my family and others. I am now able to raise my children to love The Lord and, in a home, that is drug free and with morals that I didn't have or even know existed when they were born. My life has been transformed and most importantly, my children have a chance at life without life controlling dependencies! The possibilities are endless for us and we have all the support we could ever need! MSP has walked beside me through every transition, the big and the small. The best way I could describe it would be: "My Sister's Place IS God's love in action." I am so grateful that I can be a part of this ministry and have the opportunity to give back a portion of what has been so freely been given to me.!"

**Lauren:** (31) "I arrived at My Sister' Place broken, hopeless and lost. I'm so thankful to say that God has restored what the enemy had stolen! I am now 20 months clean, sober and FREE! I don't know where I would be if it wasn't for My Sister's Place. God is transforming lives through MSP. I couldn't be more thankful for Cindy Hildebrand and all the staff there!



**Brooke and her children  
RESTORED**



**Arryon and her children  
FAMILY**



**Lauren: Before and After  
FREE**

## Looking Forward

As mentioned earlier, our third campus will open soon. We are anticipating accepting residents mid-March. We will notify you of open house a few weeks before. We pray that you will join us and tell your friends! Without your partnership, MSP cannot reach the hurting and lost women and families we serve. **TOGETHER** we make a difference

We are currently looking for business opportunities for the betterment of the women and the ministry. Having a business would serve several purposes, here they are in order of ministry importance:

1. Self Esteem building for the women we serve
2. A small income for them for personal essentials, and satisfaction of earning.
3. Job skills training
4. Community betterment and outreach
5. Perhaps an income for the ministry to support our efforts.

Several options are being considered, please join us in prayer on this matter.

We are also beginning, at least quarterly, family education days. Starting March 14<sup>th</sup>. And Bi Weekly parenting meetings/education in addition to the parenting class we already have.

Finally, we have a vision of obtaining additional after care housing. The need for this is great as the women who complete the program frequently have no healthy options for living and return to old playgrounds. Our future vision includes mobile home park or tiny home community.

### **Executive Leadership**

Thank you to the My Sister's Place Board for your service during 2019

Mark Davis, Pastor

Lara Alvis, Shelby County Judge, Secretary

Douglas Walker, Counselor at Alabama Therapeutic Facility, Treasurer

Cindy Hildebrand, President

# We Need Your Help

Please consider donating to My Sister's Place. Every family is touched by addiction and/or other seemingly self-induced crises. Your giving ensures that we will be there to support, love and guide hurting and lost women for years to come. Thank you!  
My Sister's Place is a 501c3 non-profit corporation and donations are tax deductible.

## Every Penny Matters

You can give at our website, we have a secure giving link there: [www.mysistersplaceal.com](http://www.mysistersplaceal.com).

You can also mail donations, made payable to My Sister's Place, PO Box 1153, Calera, AL 35040



## YOU CAN Make a Difference!

We need and appreciate our volunteers and partners!!  
Let us know if you can help!

- Donate your old car, we can pickup
- Help write grants
- Volunteer lawn, pool and building maintenance
- Donate gently used items for current ladies and future thrift store
- Volunteer in a different way: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an email to: [mysistersplaceal@gmail.com](mailto:mysistersplaceal@gmail.com) for more information or to let us know which opportunity you are interested, or call us at 205-434-0701. Send this form by mail to PO Box 1153, Calera, AL 35040

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Thank You to All of Our Donors

Thank you to the following people and organizations, who without your generous giving, we could not have impacted significant change to 85 women, which represented 143 children and countless parents, spouses, friends and the community at large.

**When our moms, daughters and sisters are better, the community is directly benefited, not only for today, but for generations to come. THANK YOU!!!!**

TJX Foundation		Community Foundation of Birmingham
Samantha Bailey		The Caring Foundation
Hillcrest Foundation		Susan Mott Webb Trust
Wal-Mart Stores across Central Alabama		Jr League of Birmingham
Damon Folmar		Debbie Johnson
Robin Rosser		Church at Shelby Crossings
Double Oak Community Church Giving Grant		Amazing Grace Worship Center
Douglas Walker		Protective Life Insurance Co
Protective Life Employees		Shannon Malcomb
Church of the Highlands-Alabaster		Everdale Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Mark and Lorna Davis		Barry and Lara Alvis
Deborah Hoffman		Kingwood Church
First Baptist Church-Pelham		Christian Life Fellowship
Richard and Debbie Godwin		Chris and Laura Craft
Brian and Michelle Craft		Marlene Craft
Rob and Shannon Malcom		Sonia Coleman
Deborah Rosser		Mark Rosser
Clanton Celebrate Recovery		Angela Flowers
Dan Compton		Mary Jo Morgan
Darlene Abernathy		Christine Gaters
Wendy Davis		Jay-El Shepherd
Robert Martin		Robin Acre
John and Patti Bauer		Lola Seales
Heidi Pratt		Andrea Martin
Candy Cable		Deborah Bruner
Dianne Correll		Kathy Morrow
Christy Lett		Celia Williams
Paula Bloom		Stephen Acre
Catherine Higginbotham		Cindy Hildebrand
Kimberly Vines		Liberty Baptist Church
Kim Holmes		Salon 5
Bill and Cheryl Gray	Beth Burnett	Julie Atchison
Robin Myers	Tara Parker	Mollie Brown
Sonia Hollis		Tracey Plew
Kim Saunders		Rickey and Beth Winterbottom
Debbie Ingram		Ryan Smith
Janice Washington		Rachel Brasher
Monte and Joanne Horton		John and Dianne Trahan
Marjorie Friday		Montevallo Extension Homemakers
Daniel Foundation		John Adams
Carolyn Cupp		Auten Bible Study
Linde Wilemon		Christine Lynch
Amazing Ladies of Amazing Grace		John Medaris
Michael Joiner	Jojo Gillespie	Camp Branch UMW
Daphne Holler	Bill Grubbs	Joyce Brasher
Alumi Phi Mu Faternity	Megan Todhunter	Evelyn Flowers
Allison Smith	Bill Elliot	Kathy Dorman
Diane Chapman	Jean Godfrey	Dianne Snow
Beth Bradley	Gary Ponder	Chris Godfrey
Ana Earl	Penny Todhunter	Tracy Frazier
Bob Bish	Dawn Alexander	Scotty Lukich jbh