



offering a hand up

not a hand out

JEEPERS CREEPERS, don't be a palooka! Put on your glad rags and make plans for Puttin' on the Ritz at Martha's Home 6th Annual Second Chance Prom! March 29th at the Amarillo Civic Center North Exhibit Hall... ***This is the most fun fundraiser you'll ever go to!***



What Makes The Second Chance Prom So Much Fun??

"Why is the Second Chance Prom so fun? I wondered that myself last year...then my husband and I went and I figured it out. I didn't go to the prom with my husband (he's nine years older than me.) I dare say most people aren't lucky enough to have attended the prom with the person they ultimately married. Now's the chance to do just that. All you have to do is buy two tickets for the Second Chance Prom to benefit Martha's Home (or get a table and bring some friends), get gussied up, grab your sweetie and come to the prom on Saturday, March 29th at the Amarillo Civic Center. You won't regret it!"

by Lynne Groom, Martha's Home Board Member

The Second Chance Prom is made possible by our generous sponsors, in-kind donors, and the following restaurants:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Baker Brothers</i> | <i>La Fiesta Grande</i> |
| <i>Barista Sistas</i> | <i>My Portable Pantry</i> |
| <i>Belmar Bakery</i> | <i>My Thai</i> |
| <i>Ben E. Keith</i> | <i>Nordic Galley Bakeri</i> |
| <i>Carino's Italian</i> | <i>Plains Dairy</i> |
| <i>Embers Steak House</i> | <i>Potato Factory</i> |
| <i>Famous Daves</i> | <i>Schlotsky's</i> |
| <i>Giovanni's</i> | <i>Sonic Drive-In</i> |
| <i>Hoffbrau Steaks</i> | <i>7 Grill & Bar</i> |
| <i>Joe's Catering</i> | <i>Texas Roadhouse</i> |



Special thanks to our 2014 Prom Team, a creative and highly talented group of volunteers, who are working to make the "Roaring 20's" come alive!!

**FOR SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
SECONDCHANCEPROM.ORG**

THE ROARING 20'S
Martha's Home 6th Annual
Second Chance Prom

Presented by
Amarillo National Bank | Engler Foundation

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2014
7 PM - 11 PM
AMARILLO CIVIC CENTER
NORTH EXHIBIT HALL
INDIVIDUAL TICKETS \$45 AT PAMPHLET TICKET OUTLETS

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**MARTHA'S HOME APPRECIATES ALL OUR SPONSORS,
AND THERE IS STILL TIME TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION!**

Erika's Journey

"Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it. My optimism, then, does not rest on the absence of evil, but on a glad belief in the preponderance of good and a willing effort always to cooperate with the good, that it may prevail." -Helen Keller

I was born in Nuevo Casas Grandes Chihuahua, Mexico, but I came to the United States of America when I was two years old, for medical reasons and economic opportunity.

I was born with a condition called Cerebral Palsy. It is a disorder that affects muscle tone, movement, and motor skills (the ability to move in a coordinated and purposeful way). I have truly been blessed by God it has only affected my



Erika, current resident of Martha's Home, and Connie Garcia, Martha's Home Executive Director.

legs thus I need to use crutches in order to walk.

When my biological mother found out I had Cerebral Palsy, she thought about putting me in an orphanage in Mexico because she was more worried about herself and what people would say about having a child with Cerebral Palsy, but my Grandmother thought otherwise. She would not allow my biological mother to put me in an orphanage, and adopted me instead.

Then we came to the United States of America, to find doctors that could help me with my condition. I have had 14 surgeries done on my legs in all.

At the age of 14, I was put in the foster care system, because I was sexually abused by my step grandfather, which resulted in the longest five years of my life. When I first got in care I stayed at a CPS shelter for about three months, I then stayed with Mrs. L. (a foster mother) for three more years. My last two years I stayed at a group home, until my 18th birthday.

When I aged out of the foster care system, I was excited about what the future held for me, hoping I could attend college and work. However I soon lost not one, but two jobs because of what the companies claimed was "downsizing." I had trouble finding another job. I was willing to work and work hard, but because of the CP, I walk with crutches and move very slow. It's very difficult to get an employer to take a chance on me. On top of all that, my landlord was going to raise my rent from \$350 to \$650 a month. When I realized I had no money and no place to go, it was really overwhelming to say the least.

After being homeless for awhile, I was finally able to get into Martha's Home. Here the staff truly cares about your well being and safety, and if there's anything they can do to help they will do it.

Because of my condition, I have badly needed medical care, but since I was brought here as an infant from Mexico, I only had a permanent residency in the US and did not qualify for any help once I left foster care. Martha's Home helped me apply for citizenship and even assisted me in getting to Dallas to take the test. I passed with flying colors and they swore me in as a citizen the same day. I have been studying and dreaming for years of becoming a full fledged citizen because I love America and it's the only home I have ever known.

Martha's Home made this dream come true. Without them, the trip to Dallas would have been impossible. MH is truly an organization that sticks to its word when it comes to helping women.

As my favorite US president once said, "Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right." ---Abraham Lincoln



Erika, current resident of Martha's Home, and Connie Garcia, Martha's Home Executive Director.

Modernizing Martha's Home 2!

Martha's Home 2 was built in 1926 and has housed many homeless families since Martha's Home Inc. acquired it in 1992. However, no major work has been done to the home in over 20 years. Renovations to the kitchen and bathroom are badly needed to make sure the home is a healthy and safe environment for the many homeless families in need of temporary shelter.



Hearing about our





dilemma, Henry Wall with Re-Bath of Amarillo & 5 Day Kitchens has generously offered to spearhead the remodeling project and recruited Reed's Cabinet Shop, Adobe Walls Stoneworks, Floor Coverings International, and Ferguson Enterprises to contribute to the remodel.



L-R: Henry Wall of Re-Bath, Chris Reed of Reed's Cabinet Shop, Micah Neely of Adobe Walls, and Melissa Davis with Floor Coverings International. Not pictured but also contributing to the project is Tracy Welland with Ferguson Enterprises, Robert Chambers of Chambers Electric, and Blake Singer with Carpet Tech.

Henry said, "I decided to do the project because I really do feel that Martha's Home is a great cause. Hebrews 12:16 says, 'Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.' We are called to take care of the hurting and the needy. In doing this remodel project we are just trying to give back to the community that has been so good to us. Martha's Home is doing God's work and I am honored to be a part of it."

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13th Annual

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