



offering a hand up

not a hand out



Martha's Home takes pride in providing comfortable and clean shelters for homeless women and children. Our residents share in the chore of cleaning, which gives them a sense of family and instills good personal living skills. Our supply of towels and cleaning supplies was getting low, so we recently asked our friends in the community for help in restocking our supply closet!



*Martha's Home bare supply closet!*



*Berkley Murphy, the littlest donor!*



*DJ Katie Eddins*



*Pamela Polster,  
Manager on duty  
at Joe Daddy's*



*Mary Kay Kuhrts of  
Martha's Home &  
KVII's Brian James*



*Martha's Home newly stocked supply closet!*

Joe Daddy's helped out by hosting an event to collect much needed towels, laundry detergent, and cleaning supplies. We kicked off the Fall Roundup on October 23rd. To entertain and help promote the event, "DJ Katie" Eddins of Neon Pink Media, provided music and Karaoke Fun! KVII Meteorologist, Brian James, came and gave a broadcast of the weather live from Joe Daddy's to help promote the continued drive for cleaning supplies.

Not only did we receive many blessings and much needed supplies, we also discovered that the manager on duty at Joe Daddy's, Pamela Poster, was formerly a resident at Martha's Home!

Here is Pamela's Story...

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## **A New Me...**

*By Pamela Polster as shared with BK (Brenda) Gearn*



Several years ago I was caught up in a world of anger, fear, turmoil and drugs. I had served time in prison due to bad choices that I had made and had just gotten out. My husband had also recently been arrested. It seemed as though my life was a tornado, and I wasn't headed in a very good direction. I needed time to focus on what it was that I wanted in my life, as well as a good life for my children. My husband wanted us to be together, but I felt I needed space to think and to learn to trust again. I needed to feel safe for not just myself but for my children as well. I felt for the first time ever that I

needed to find myself, to love me and those around me again. Therefore I sought out Martha's Home to become my new home.

Martha's Home helped me in many ways to regain that confidence in myself so that I could rebuild my life, not just for me but for my children as well. While staying at Martha's Home I came to the realization of my own self-worth. I learned I could do things on my own without the pressures of others. I learned how to be focused, organized, structured, and to trust again. I also learned how important it was to listen

to others and respect the voice of others without judgment or interruption. Martha's Home staff cared for me, understood where I had been, and wanted to teach me how to make good choices and to have a second chance in life. I also learned I didn't need to have material things in my life anymore to survive, but that the important things are having a job, positive people around me, true friends and a true relationship with family and God.

Today I am a manager at Joe Daddy's. I love my boss, his family and the people all around me. I feel God put me there for a reason. As I listen to people today, I find that many are struggling as I did to find that happy place, that safe and loving place, and sometimes just listening to them with a smile is all they need. They need to be heard. I now believe that the hardships we are dealt with in life are put there so that we can learn from them and be able to help others, and that is what I want to do. I want women to be able to raise their children in a good and drug free environment, and to know that they can do it on their own if that is what it takes, to not be afraid, and to put your trust in God to help you make the best choices.

If there is one thing I could share to others, whether you are staying at Martha's Home or not, it is that we only have one life to live and we are going to make mistakes along the way, but that is how we learn to be better, stronger, more independent women. It's not the mistakes but how we handle the mistakes and what we choose to do when they arrive that leads us down a road of either love, joy and happiness, or down a road of anger, fear and turmoil.

I hope and pray my story can give another woman and family the courage to not beat yourself up over your mistakes but to learn from them and work to always better yourself. Simply putting one foot in front of the other, listening to those that want to reach out and help you, not letting that wall of distrust and fear tear you down, and letting someone in to love and help you can make a big difference. The world is not perfect, nor will our lives be perfect, but learning how to manage your daily life with a more positive perspective, and learning first to love yourself again, surrounding yourself with only positive people and things can make it easier.

My favorite scripture is Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord, "they are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and hope". I now have a bright future, a loving family, peace within and I love ME, Pamela Polster.

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## More Blessings from our Community!



Hearing about the need for pillows and blankets for residents at Martha's Home, **1-800-Plumber** employees got together and collected a huge van full of new pillows and fuzzy warm blankets for our women and children.

THANK YOU, Shawn Harvey (Pictured left), and all the employees of **1-800-Plumber of Amarillo** for these lasting gifts.

Each recipient takes her pillow and blanket with her as she embarks on a better life when she leaves Matha's Home.

After touring Martha's Home facilities, **Xcel Energy** employees brought bunches of coats, hats, and gloves for the women and children! The donation arrived just in time for the cold weather. We all appreciate you more than you know!!

Pictured at right are: Brenda Cross and Debra Harris, from **Xcel Energy**, and Teresa Gallagher, Shelter Manager of Martha's Home.



Long time supporters of Martha's Home, **Valero Benefit for Children**, generously donated \$5,000 to help the homeless moms and their children who stay at Martha's Home. Realizing the community cares about our children makes a big difference to our residents.

(Pictured at left) **Valero's** RaLynda Christie and Brenda Perez, Connie Garcia, Executive Director of Martha's Home, and **Valero's** Laneshia Jones. (In front) Adrian and his mom and baby brother will benefit from **Valero's** contribution.

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## Stephanie's Story



*Video produced by Josh Wagner, Wolfstar Photography*



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## Thank You Volunteers!

This group of talented and creative individuals are already busy planning Martha's Home 7th Annual Second Chance Prom! Each year we choose a different theme for our Prom, making it a whole new prom night experience! On April 18, 2015, we will bring to life **"Once Upon a Time, A Fairytale Ball!"** Beautiful decorations, live music, entertainment, food catered by 20 fine local restaurants, silent auction, never cook again basket, costume contest, and more exciting surprises, are all a part of the Prom Team's countless hours of work and fun to provide "the most fun fundraiser you'll ever go to!" Mark your calendars for **April 18, 2015**, and call 806-367-1757 to reserve your table! For more information, check out our new website [www.secondchanceprom.org](http://www.secondchanceprom.org).



**2015 SECOND CHANCE PROM TEAM** (top L-R) Shellie Callaway, Kurtis Kurts, Lane McNeese, Heather McNeese, Veronica Dietrich, Caleigh Harrington, Karen Stovall, Crystal Harle, Jonathan Hale, Rhett Cobb, P.J. Taylor, Chris Pirtle, Ted Hendley, (middle L-R) BK Gearn, Melissa Martindale, Vicky Watkins, Mae Right, Janet Byars, Kodi Cole, Heather Williams, Jessie Gunn, Peggy McGuire, Zabrina Mireles, (seated L-R) Brenda De La Garza, Mary Kay Kuhrts, Robert Chambers, Tracy Lemons, and Sabrina Smith. (Not pictured) Susie Mitchell, Katie Eddins, Josh Shelton, Katrina Bell, Jason Tripp, Mia Adams, Larissa Fenstermaker, Rosa Cuellar, Ruth Price, Cindy Cockerham Pharris, Kara Kidd, Lindsey Murphy, Kryss Hendley, and Charo Tiffiee.

# Once Upon a Time

## A Fairytale Ball

Martha's Home 7th Annual  
*Second Chance  
Prom*



Saturday, April 18, 2015

7 pm - 11 pm

Amarillo Civic Center  
North Exhibit Hall

Individual Tickets \$45 At  
Panhandle Ticket Outlets

TABLE RESERVATIONS & CORPORATE SPONSORS

**806-367-1757**

[WWW.MARTHASHOME.ORG](http://WWW.MARTHASHOME.ORG)



Featuring Music by  
**INSUFFICIENT FUNDS**

Plus DJ tunes by Neon Pink Media



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