



Alyssa

“My dream is to make a difference in society by going to school to pursue a Master’s Degree in social work and become a social worker. This is a dream I could have never imagined without Arms of Hope and now my children will have a better life.” - Alyssa

My life before Arms of Hope was like a roller coaster. I was homeless and had been abused physically and emotionally. In May 2016, I finally left my kid’s father and I walked into a women’s shelter in Seguin. It was there that they told me about this amazing place called Arms of Hope! I couldn’t believe it when they told me that Arms of Hope would provide my family with our own house, onsite daycare and counseling while helping me go back to school. After eight months at AOH, I made the horrible decision to leave the program. I made many mistakes and my life became worse than it had ever

been. I ended up back at the women’s shelter. I reapplied to Arms of Hope and after much discussion my AOH caseworker and counselor worked tirelessly to help me. This time, I wouldn’t lose this incredible opportunity to save my family. Arms of Hope mercifully gave us a second chance! I’ve been at Arms of Hope for a year now. Counseling is one of the biggest things that I am grateful for. Whenever I feel lost or ready to give up, my counselor helps me get through my struggles. Since being at Arms of Hope, I have obtained my GED, my driver’s license and I have taken care of the le-

gal issues that were plaguing my life. The most amazing blessing is that I accepted Jesus as my Savior and was baptized! Arms of Hope has helped me learn better parenting skills and how to be a good mom. My dream is to make a difference in society by going to school to pursue a Master’s Degree in social work and become a social worker. This is a dream I could have never imagined without Arms of Hope and now my children will have a better life. I am so grateful that they gave me a second chance.

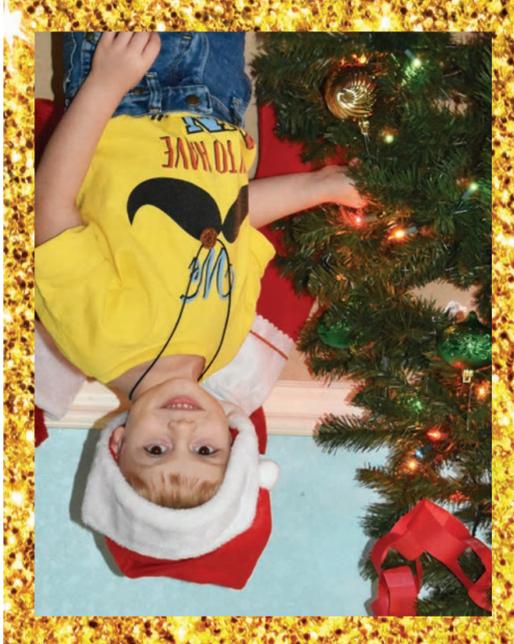


Kerrville Charity Drive Golf Tournament
Monday, April 15, 2019
Comanche Trace Golf Club
3074 Bandera Highway - Kerrville, Texas

Houston Reaching Generations Breakfast
Thursday, April 18, 2019
The Briar Club
2603 Timmons Lane - Houston, Texas

San Antonio Charity Sporting Clay Tournament
Saturday, June 1, 2019
National Shooting Complex
5931 Roft Road - San Antonio, Texas

Registration available at
ArmsofHope.org



Arms of Hope
21300 State Highway 16 N - Medina, Texas 78055
ArmsofHope.org



Residential Child Care Spotlight

How you can help AOH this Christmas

College & Career Spotlight



Andrew

*"I would never have experienced these blessings if I had not lived at Arms of Hope" and "this place will always be my home."
- Andrew*

My name is Andrew and I've been at Arms of Hope since I was five years old. Before I got here, I remember that we didn't have food or money. We were dirt poor. We never had a Christmas because my mom couldn't give us a home. She was always broke and we moved from one dirty motel to another. I was scared all the time. Often I was so hungry and I couldn't sleep. I don't remember exactly what it was, but one night something very bad happened and my grandmother took me in, but she was unable to take care of me longterm. We were surrounded by drugs and strangers, but my grandmother rescued me by bringing me here.

Arms of Hope has given me a place to live, food to eat and my own

bed to sleep in. I've been able to have the opportunity to play sports and I even made the playoffs in football! I would never have experienced these blessings if I didn't live at Arms of Hope.

One of the ways I've benefited the most is through my loving house parents, Sue and Benton Lacy. I think of them as my own parents. Some of my fondest times are hunting and fishing with Mr. Lacy and I love Mrs. Lacy's cooking. I'll never forget my first Christmas at Arms of Hope. I had never had much and to see those presents piled up on the living room of my cottage is something I'll never forget.

I became a Christ follower at age 12 and was baptized. This was right after going to camp and I am so thank-

ful for camp each summer. Every year I have such an amazing spiritual experience and get to meet other kids from different churches. Church and camp have helped me have a better relationship with God and I wouldn't have that without this place.

I will graduate from Medina High School in May and I plan on staying in the College and Career Program. I want to become a football coach. I pray and hope I'll eventually have a nice family of my own and will love them the way I've been loved at Arms of Hope. This place will always be my home.

Christmas is an inspirational time on our campuses at Boles and Medina and in our Family Outreach Centers in Dallas, Denton, Houston and San Antonio. This Christmas, Arms of Hope will be serving 400 children and 80 single mothers. It is such a blessing to see children who have been homeless, abused and neglected celebrate Christmas for the first time in a Christ-centered environment. As you make holiday preparations, we hope you will consider supporting Arms of Hope this Christmas in one of the following ways.

Giving Tree

Arms of Hope's Giving Tree Project involves purchasing gift cards for the children at Arms of Hope. Due to logistical issues, we've found collecting gift cards is much more efficient than collecting and transporting large packages throughout the state. Our staff then purchases wish list items for each child. Due to the location of stores near our campuses, Arms of Hope kindly requests gift cards in increments of \$10, \$25 or \$50 from Belk, Wal-Mart, Academy, JCPenney or Visa gift cards.

Support Arms of Hope by donating operational funds towards for one of the following:

Daily Needs

Providing food, clothing, shelter, extracurricular school activities, loving house parents and medical/dental needs for 85 residents can be covered by a donation of \$75 per day per resident, \$2,000 per month or \$25,000 per year.

Daycare

Boles & Medina Daycare facilities serve 125 children each day. While the children enrolled in one of our campus, state licensed daycares enjoy Christian curriculum, meals and snacks, their single mothers attend college or trade school. The total operational cost per year is \$500,000. You could help by providing the cost of care per child for a week for \$80, a month for \$350 or a year for \$4,000.



Family Outreach Centers

Support a family's physical needs (rental assistance, food, utilities) by providing \$1,500 a year or \$125 a month. Or, a donation of \$500 per family per year covers Christian Counseling and Case Management.

Summer Camp

Around 100 Arms of Hope children participate in a week-long Christian Summer Camp each year. The kids enjoy rock climbing, rappelling, zip-lines and the opportunity to meet new friends while they grow closer to Christ. Last year nine Arms of Hope campers became followers of Christ. To help Arms of Hope children create lifelong memories and friendships, you can sponsor a camper at the cost of \$150 per elementary school child or \$450 per high school/junior high student.

Christian Counseling

Each Arms of Hope program participant is required to undergo regular counseling conducted by Christian Licensed Professional Counselors. You can help provide this much needed service that is a cornerstone for the healing process of those in our care by providing \$70 for one session, \$280 for a month of therapy or \$2,700 for a year of therapy for one resident.



Whitney

My name is Whitney and I'm blessed and honored to be in the Arms of Hope College and Career Program. My dad is from Nigeria and my mom is from Madagascar. My mom and my five sisters moved to the Dallas area when I was 10 years old. My mom worked so hard cleaning motel rooms, but it was so tough for her to provide for all of us. I remember being poor and moving from one apartment

to another. She would have to go to churches for help and I am so thankful for churches like Highland Oaks in Dallas for providing for us. My family met Don and Carol Crisp and I want to thank them for everything they've done for us and I love them very much! I graduated from Lake Highlands High School, but there was no way I could ever attend college. That's where Arms of Hope came to my rescue! Through

the connection that Arms of Hope has with Highland Oaks and the Crisps, I was able to apply to the College and Career Program on the Boles Campus. The program has provided me with help in school, a wonderful place to live and transportation to and from classes. These things were impossible before. I live in an apartment on campus and my amazing case manager lives in the same building. She has been such a wonderful support to me. I am currently enrolled at Paris Community College with a 3.75 GPA and will transfer to Texas A&M Commerce where I will pursue my Bachelor's Degree. My dream is to be a fashion designer and that wouldn't be possible without the help of Arms of Hope. I am giving back by helping with an after school program with Boles ISD and I'm excited about working in the Arms of Hope daycare this summer. I am one hundred percent certain that without Arms of Hope, I wouldn't have the opportunity to attend college. Thank you so much for giving me this chance for a better life.

Family Outreach Center Spotlight



Nakela

My name is Nakela and I am a single mom living in Houston trying to do my best to provide for my daughter, Keilyn, and her older brother. I work hard as a healthcare provider and we live paycheck to paycheck. We were barely able to make ends meet and this past summer I discovered I had been providing services for a client whose insurance coverage had lapsed, causing half of my income to stop, which turned our financial situation upside down. Over night I was unable to pay my rent and I struggled to maintain my bills. I felt overwhelmed and fear consumed me because I wasn't able to provide for my two most precious gifts. I was in danger of losing our home and with no transportation. School was about to start and I was not even able to provide the basic needs of school supplies and uniforms for my

daughter. I frantically began seeking out assistance when I found out about Arms of Hope. Upon my initial contact with the Arms of Hope Houston Family Outreach Center, my prayers were answered. Arms of Hope assisted me in turning my finances around by supplying my children with school supplies, a Wal-Mart card for uniforms, Financial Classes at Impact Church, Case Management and lots of prayer. I am financially getting back on track, the fear of homelessness is gone, our basic needs were met during our crisis, and I am now working two part time jobs. The financial classes and case management offered have been invaluable to my long term success. My prayers were answered and God is granting blessings through Arms of Hope by providing my kids and myself opportunities to help ourselves!