





#### **Welcome Home to Jasmine Road!**

"I have never had anyone be nice to me." Those words echo like raindrops, the slow and constant drizzle of a warm, rainy spring day. Although this was no ordinary day, it was the day the women came home.

Welcome to your home, where love pours out like rain drops and your soul is watered by the common stranger. "I could get used to this, why would anyone want to leave?" Showers of refreshment, showers of love, falling gently down and washing away the grime of the streets from whence they came. The water will always flow here, tears of love, tears of sorrow, tears of joy: shared with the stranger who has become a friend, serving to water this community of love. Love grows here.

The past few weeks have been filled with much excitement and love as we welcomed home the first 5 residents to the Jasmine Road House. With grateful hearts, these ladies have embraced their new life and beautiful home and are amazed at the outpouring of love and support they have received from our community. It has truly been amazing to embrace a community of residents and volunteers from many different backgrounds unfolding and blossoming into something beautiful. I am so grateful for the volunteers, board members, donors, supporters and friends who have made this dream a reality and have given these five women the opportunity for a new life. Love does indeed grow here.

Gratefully,

Beth Messick, Jasmine Road Executive Director

## Why Take Action?

Sex trafficking continues to grow in Greenville County, but Jasmine Road can help end the cycle. We are committed to healing, empowering and employing survivors.

Over 8,000 cases of human trafficking were reported in the United States in 2017.

[National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics, 2017]

Women who lack access to resources, such as housing, land, property, and inheritance, are at increased risk for trafficking.

[Equality Now, 2017]

Prior to the opening of Jasmine Road there were no beds in South Carolina residential treatment

## **Meet Our Awesome New Staff**

shelters specifically designated for adult survivors of sex trafficking and prostitution, while hundreds of trafficked women are in the Upstate on any given weekend.

[Kathryn Moorehead, South Carolina Office of the Attorney General]

## **Ways You Can Help:**



## **Residence Wish List**

We are now taking donations for much needed supplies through Sign Up Genius. Items can be dropped at Triune Mercy Center Main Office (222 Rutherford Street) on Mondays from 11 am until noon.

#### **CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!**

Or e-mail Lindsay@JasmineRoad.org to coordinate an alternative drop off time.

## **Want More Information?**



info@jasmineroad.org



www.jasmineroad.org



https://www.facebook.com/JasmineRoadSC/

## A Seminar on Human Trafficking Presented by Bon Secours St. Francis Health System

Join the discussion during this free, half-day workshop on how we, as a community, can combat the suffering caused by trafficking of men, women, and children right here at home. Our very own Beth Messick will be serving as one of the experts on the panel!

Friday, August 24, 2018 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**REGISTER NOW** 



## Sally Tomkins, Residence Manager

Coming to Jasmine Road from Serenity Place where she helped found the Peer Support Program, Sally has dedicated her career to helping women find their way out of the darkness of addiction. As Residence Manager for Jasmine Road, Sally ensures that the Jasmine Road residents have a safe and calm environment, while helping meet their day to day needs.



#### **Lindsay Blair, Program Director**

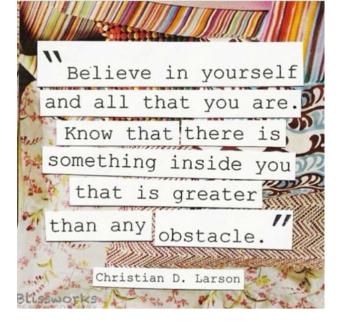
After receiving her degree in Human Services, Lindsay was a founding member and Program Director of SWITCH, where she empowered the community to fight against human trafficking. Lindsay is the new Program Director for Jasmine Road. In this position, Lindsay's role is to develop, grow, and oversee the daily operations of the residential program.

We are so grateful to have these lovely women on staff!

# Join Us for Our Second Annual ROOTED IN LOVE Luncheon







## Thank You!

**Joyce Smart, Ashley Underwood** and the committee for all the work on the Pop-Up Shop.

John I. Smith Charities, F. W. Symmes Foundation, Dabo's All In Team Foundation, W. W. Burgiss Charities, Dorothy Hooper Beattie Foundation, Daniel-Mickel Foundation and Christ Church Episcopal for their generosity in supporting the purchase and renovation of the first Jasmine Road Home.

**First Baptist Church Foundation** for the generous grant for our wonderful new minivan.

**Sisk Foundation** for the generous grant for two computers for our residents and our client management software.

**Christ Church ECW** for the generous grant from the proceeds of the 2017 Bazaar.

**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship** for the generous grant.

Artists Kim Hassold, Marquin Campbell, Starr Haney, Edith Hardaway, Jennifer Clark, Carey Hudson, Fred Wood, Ken Weaver and Anna Turrentine for generous donations of their work.

#### **Jasmine Road Staff**

Beth Messick, Executive Director Lindsay Blair, Program Director Sally Tompkins, Residence Manager

## **Board of Directors**

Kathryn Norwood, *Board Chair*Leanne Jaskwhich, CPA, *Treasurer*Landra Jennings, *Secretary*Sonya Brooks, *Director*Kate Cramer, *Director*Jennifer Farish, *Director*Grace Pouch, *Director*Ashley Reynolds, *Director*Marsha Wallace, *Director*Amy Sutherland, JD, *Director* 

"This place is the first real home I've had since childhood. I'm not used to having simple things that most people take for granted like new sheets, real dishes, and hand made blankets. We have all that and more.

The gratitude that I feel every morning when I wake up is

unexplainable."- Jasmine Road Resident

"My experience at Jasmine Road so far has been honestly a blessing unlike any other. To see the community support of Beth, Lindsay, and Sally in jump starting our house makes me **extremely happy and overwhelmed with love.** To be able to have a home where my every need is met and there is a network of people who are fighting for me makes me feel secure in my recovery."

- Jasmine Road Resident

## **Celebrating The Pilot Program Launch**

#### **CLICK TO WATCH THE VIDEO FROM GWG**

Thanks to generous grants from **Greenville Women Giving (GWG)** and **The Jolley Foundation**, the Jasmine Road Pilot Program was officially launched in May of 2018 following the renovation of its first restoration home which opened to 5 residents. With financial support from these two funders to fund one year of program costs, we are beyond excited to be able to offer a transformative two-year residential program with supportive services including trauma informed counseling, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, physical and behavioral health services, financial literacy classes and life skills and employment training. The program participants are adult women who were previously homeless and have experienced trafficking, prostitution, addiction and incarceration.

Executive Director Beth Messick says, "I am thrilled to see my lifelong dream of creating a safe and loving home for women to recover from life on the streets of Greenville come to fruition." Messick and her staff bring extensive experience in providing care for victims in a nurturing environment that is based on encouragement and accountability. Board Chair Kathryn Norwood expressed great joy at achieving this milestone and being able to partner with impactful partners like Greenville Women Giving and The Jolley Foundation. "We know that our work has just begun but we could not be more excited about how the community has embraced this project and these women and I cannot wait to see where we go on this journey together."



Pictured from left to right: Beth Messick, Jasmine Road Executive Director, Kathryn Norwood, Jasmine Road Board Chair, Sharon Kelley, Greenville Women Giving Grants Committee and Jasmine Road Presenter

It was the most tremendous honor to receive this award of \$100,000 from Greenville Women Giving and to participate in their 12th Annual Meeting where they awarded over \$600,000 in transformative funding to agencies in our community. We can't think of a better partner to help in our work to heal, mentor, empower, employ and walk alongside women in our program.