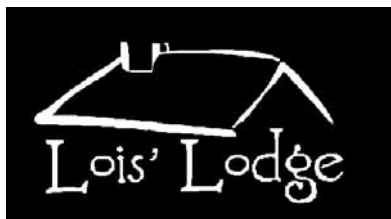


Crib Notes



September 2008

Executive Director

Debbie Durrell

Board of Directors

Diane Medeiros, President

Deana Kocylowsky, Treasurer

Kathi Ingrish, Secretary

John Marx

Falinda Farley

Zeritha McFadden

Diane Atkins

Rick Cammer

Amy Hundley



Moms Earn & Learn at The Lois' Lodge Mom Shoppe

Visit the Lois' Lodge Mom Shoppe on Monday and Thursday evenings and you will find a very diverse group of women with two goals in mind; to learn new skills and to earn items that they need for themselves, their babies & their households.

The Lois' Lodge Mom Shoppe provides a way to educate, counsel, build relationships and help families to plan constructively for the future of their children. Moms have the opportunity to earn "Mommy Money" by going to their appointments, participating in classes and/or watching videos which deal with nutrition, prenatal health, infant care and development, parenting etc. Upon completing homework related to their learning experience, they then meet with a parenting coach to discuss what they have learned and to collect their Mommy Money. This money can be used to "buy" what parents need for their baby: clothes, car seats, diapers, formula, cribs and much more. It also can be used to purchase household items such as toilet paper and food items. The Mommy Money currency provides an added incentive for participation and provides additional teaching opportunities in the areas of budgeting and financial planning. The program helps moms to work toward their goals while empowering them to provide needed items for themselves, babies or their households.

The Mom Shoppe is located across the street from our maternity home, in a setting provided by Central Church of God. A grant awarded by the Weyerhauser Foundation has enabled us to develop the space and launch our program. In the past these learning opportunities were only available to our maternity home clients. Now we have the capacity to reach women in the community who are in need of *help and hope* but are not in need of our residential program. And we are able to provide support and learning programs for families as their children move beyond infancy and into the toddler years.

The Mom Shoppe can exist because of supporters such as yourself who volunteer as teachers and mentors and provide the items to be earned by our clients. In addition, your financial support helps us to pay for the staff support and management of the program and to maintain the property used for our Mom Shoppe. We are extremely grateful for the dedication of our many volunteers who give sacrificially of their time and talents - as well as those who give financial or in-kind donations to fund our many great programs.

Our newsletter is an important link to friends of Lois' Lodge. We welcome your continued interest and support. Please help us to conserve postage. If you would like to receive future copies of our newsletter by email, please send an email to: dg_loislodge@bellsouth.net with "e-newsletter" in the subject line.

If you would prefer to discontinue receiving our communications, please email with "remove" in the subject line. Be sure to include your name and address.

Meet Lois' Lodge Founder, Toni Henry by Jamie Dean



(It's hard to believe that it has been over ten years since the Lord spoke to one humble lady about the need to provide housing for women experiencing unplanned pregnancies. Because Toni was open to hearing

from the Lord and heeding His call, Lois' Lodge has served over 60 women and babies since becoming operational five years ago. Thank you Toni for your servant's heart and for your leadership. Debbie)

In 1994 Toni Henry felt led by the Lord to begin praying about starting a Christian maternity home in the Charlotte area. Though the Furman University graduate and mother of four had been a longtime pro-life activist, she knew little about starting a non-profit ministry, and less about creating a residential home for young women.

But during her years of pro-life work, including local marches and rallies, Toni developed a growing conviction. "I knew we (those that were marching) were against abortion," she says. "But I began to ask: 'What are we for?'" Though marches and rallies were valuable, Toni says, "I really began to feel like we needed to do more than just stand on the sidewalks. We needed to provide a place for these women."

The conviction grew stronger with the sudden death of a dear Christian teenager in Toni's church. Jennifer Greene had been committed to personal purity, and had volunteered at the Charlotte Crisis Pregnancy Center uptown. Toni and a group of friends began praying about a way to honor Jennifer's memory and her devotion to the pro-life cause. The group wanted to follow the Bible's admonition to care for the fatherless, and to provide a cup of cold water in Christ's name, especially to young women facing unplanned pregnancies.

In the years that followed, the concept for Lois' Lodge slowly began to take shape. Toni charged headlong into a steep learning curve that included navigating zoning laws and state regulations, and learning about successful Christian maternity

homes. After a period of "actively waiting" for the right setting, the Lois' Lodge board moved to open the ministry's first home in Matthews in 2003. Several board members, including Toni, rolled up their sleeves to help make the ministry work: They vacuumed, cleaned, and blew leaves off the sidewalk.

Over the years, Toni says she has been thankful for the 60-plus women who have found care and gospel hope at Lois' Lodge, and for the board's consistent unity. "To me, that's how you know the Holy Spirit is there," she says. "You walk away refreshed and encouraged."

In the coming months, Toni will join several others in rotating off the ministry's board. She's looking forward to helping other non-profits get started, and investing time in her family: The high-energy real estate agent is married to Tom Henry, director of World Serve, a local missions organization assisting indigenous pastors in needy countries. She's also mom to four children, ages 20-24 (including twins), and eagerly anticipates welcoming her first grandchild this fall. Toni says she's also looking forward to watching Lois' Lodge continue to grow and reach more young women with the hope of Christ. "I want us to always say: 'We are for Jesus Christ and Him alone,'" she says. "We want people to come to Jesus Christ."

Special Thanks

To those who support us through prayer

To those who support us financially.
Every gift makes a difference!

To our great volunteers who give their time and talents to help accomplish great things in the lives of women and babies!

To David D' Alessandro, who built a picnic table and 3 lounge chairs for our Backyard to earn his Eagle Scout Badge.

To the Christ Central Church Youth for volunteering during their summer mission week.

Announcements

It's a Girl

Born August 1st.

Mom has chosen to parent and is returning to her full time job with a local newspaper. She is also continuing the work she began while at Lois' Lodge to complete her G.E.D and further her education.



It's a Boy

Born July 15th.

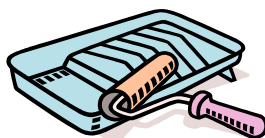
Child was adopted by his maternal grandparents. Mom is living independently and continuing her education. She is taking college classes with the goal of being an obstetric nurse. Her family is very supportive and encouraging.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE!

Your generosity is saving babies and changing lives
by supporting expectant moms in their time of crisis.

Please send in a gift of support today.

Ministry Needs



Painting: Our Maternity Home interior needs a new coat of paint throughout. We are looking for groups who would provide the paint & supplies as well as the labor. Many hands make light work and this can be a fun project. Sign up to do one room or several.

Yard Work: We need someone to help us to keep our yards looking nice— planting seasonal flowers, weeding, watering and hedge-clipping.

Help with Copying: With our new Mom Shoppe we are making lots of copies of great resource material which is being provided to our clients. This is information which they can access for years to come. We need a church or business that will allow us to make copies at no cost and a volunteer who can pick up items, facilitate the copying and return to us to ready for distribution.

Kitchen & Yard Garbage Bags, Cleaning products, Copy Paper, stamps.

Office Furniture: We are setting up several new offices and are in need of new or like new furnishings.

Items for Mom Shoppe: At this time we specifically need Target gift cards for mom's choosing adoption.

Introducing Mr. and Mrs. Tim Kraeling



Alli spoke at our last banquet. Those of you that attended the banquet were also introduced to Taylor, Alli's son. Tim is in air force and the family is living on the military base at this time. Alli continues to take college classes. We are very proud of this young couple. They are grateful to Lois' Lodge and to you for your support of this ministry.

In Loving Memory of Linda Johns

Mrs. Johns, died July 4, 2008, surrounded by her loving husband, daughters, and son-in-law. Cancer took her body, but Jesus took her soul to be with Him, to live forever. And with that, there was a resounding shout of joy!

Linda wanted the world to know that her death is not the result of unanswered prayer, but rather the perfect, if mysterious, plan of a perfect Father who loves her and continues to love those she leaves behind.

Recently, Greg Johns took some time to visit Lois' Lodge and help us get to know Linda through many touching memories and stories of her life. What an amazing wife, mother, volunteer and friend she was. The impact Linda had will continue for generations and into eternity - she truly practiced storing up treasures in heaven.

Though we did not have the privilege of knowing her in this lifetime - Linda chose to impact the lives of women and save babies through her death. She requested that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to Lois' Lodge.

Thanks to those who have contributed a gift of love in honor of this special woman. Our prayers continue to be with you.



Lois' Lodge



Fall Celebration Fundraising Banquet

Thursday, November 6, 2008
The Ballantyne Resort
7:00 - 9:00pm

*This is a wonderful and important event as we Celebrate God's work
in the lives of women, babies and families through Lois' Lodge*

Join us in the celebration!
Participate as a Corporate Sponsor, Table Host or Guest

Contact Dawn for more information
(704) 376-8550 or dg_loislodge@bellsouth.net