



NEW LIFE CENTER FOR CHILDREN & MOTHERS

I CAN DO ALL THINGS
THROUGH
Christ
WHO STRENGTHENS ME
Philippians 4:13

March & April 2018



Naomi's Story

Greetings! My name is Naomi. I am a 28-year-old single mom from Illinois, and a current resident of the New Life Center For Mothers and Children, along with my 12 year-old daughter. I come from a very loving but chaotic and dysfunctional family. My mother was a drug addict and we lived in an area of gang violence and drug influence. As a result, I had a very unconventional upbringing. I moved around a lot and was often overlooked and unprotected. As I grew older, I became hungry for attention and fulfillment in any form, so I gravitated towards partying, drugs, men, rule-breaking, bullying; basically anything to put on a show and make me feel I was the center of attention. I began experimenting with drugs and alcohol around age 10, and having sex at 12 years old- a problem I would have all my life. By 14 I was smoking heavily and using party drugs, like ecstasy, regularly. When I was 15 I became pregnant with my daughter and gave birth at 16. At the age of 17 I was a full blown drug addict using cocaine, weed, alcohol, and prescription medication to get me through school and work each day, and I did whatever it took to get it. Over the next ten years I would continue to spiral downward and out of control; deeper into darkness, depression, and self destruction. Losing all self respect and sense of right and wrong, I found myself doing things I said I would never do, and hurting everyone who cared about me. Ten years of broken promises, burned bridges, lying, stealing, using, and abusing had left me on the verge of losing what family and friends I had left. I entered my first secular rehab when I was 19, beginning the cycle of rehabs, psych hospitals, therapy, and psychotropic medication that would continue for years, but lead nowhere, except to using even heavier drugs. A string of failed pregnancies, multiple arrests and law enforcement issues, bad relationships, and unemployment had left me more broken and desperate than ever. My pain turned into self hatred and all I could do to escape it was sleep. I did nothing but sleep for nearly 3 years. It was the saddest and darkest part of my life. It was at this point that I came to realize that God was the only answer. The only cure to my mess, and the tiny flicker of hope and light in the midst of the darkness that had become my life. Even in the thick of the ugliest parts of my past, I had that hope, which turned into faith, that God could and would transform me, if I only fully surrendered myself to Him and gave up my ways to follow Him. It was a scary thing for me to lay it all down. I was stuck in such a deep hole and I desperately wanted to change, I just didn't know how, or where to start. I had already tried and failed on my own so many times before, and hurting my loved ones in the process. It was then that the Lord called me into New Life For Girls. My aunt and uncle who live in PA heard about NLFG at a choir meet at their church and sent me a brochure in the mail. I knew instantly that this was where the Lord wanted me to go to change, but I was scared to lay it all down, and I fought against it for almost another year. Finally though, I answered the call and entered the Chicago Introduction Center in March 2017. It was here that I truly met Jesus, and I knew that I would never be the same. I began with the basics: 3 meals a day, good old fashioned housework and chores, and my Bible. That's it. I did that day after day after day, and slowly, I began to change. I had peace and joy and confidence; and I began to laugh again. I allowed the Word of God to penetrate and begin to heal my heart. I was shown real, Christ-like love, and I knew for the first time that I was safe. In June, I moved on to the NLFG Main Training Center in Dover, PA, where I learned to pray. It was here that I met the Holy Spirit and learned about hard work, sisterhood in Christ, and the power of prayer. My daughter came to live with me there in August 2017, and together we transitioned to the New Life Center For Mothers and Children in Glen Rock, PA in December 2017. My mother has also come into NLFG, 7 months after I did. She too has been set free from addiction by the blood of Jesus and is growing in the Lord everyday. I am currently working and saving money while learning to stand on the rock of God's Word and stick by the principles I have learned at NLFG, and to be a strong Godly woman and mother in today's world. He has shown me so much love and grace, and He continues to do His beautiful work in my life and in the lives of my daughter and family; it is evident in every aspect of my life. I serve a good good God today, and as I prepare to graduate NLFG, I am filled with so much gratitude at the reality of where He has brought me from, where I am now, and where He is taking me... I am never going back!

“Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is he who takes refuge in Him.” -Psalm 34:8

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Director's Corner

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!! Thank you to all who attended our third annual banquet, the event was a success! The worship team ushered the Holy Spirit in, and I truly believe we all were able stand in the Lord's presence together and worship Him for the Good, Good Father that He is. A huge thank you to St. Peter's, and all the volunteers for hosting and serving that evening. I

am always in awe of how the Lord continues to orchestrate our banquets, and fill the room with those that believe in the mission of the Children's Center.

We are so proud of Ashley and her daughter Fallon who successfully transitioned out of the ministry with a full-time job, her own vehicle, and home! The road for Ashley was not always easy, but she chose to persevere and is successfully walking in the will of the Lord for her life "Congratulations Ashley!"

We are excited to announce that two of our mothers will be graduating this month, and we are anticipating great things for them in the next chapter of their lives. Please continue to pray that the Lord pour out His favor upon their lives! May the Lord bless all who continue to support us whether it is in prayer, financially, or relationally.



Before



After

PIC•COLLAGE

Thank you to Mike and Will Warner for raising all the funds needed, and for donating their valued time, to completely update all the light fixtures at our center.



Thank you so much to St. Peter's Church for hosting our banquet, and a very special thank you to John and Stacy Poe for providing our AMAZING meal! We are so grateful to all who came out to support this event and look forward to seeing everyone again at our annual golf tournament!

This year's golf tournament will be held on Saturday, September 29th at Briarwood East Golf Club. Registration is now open, get your foursomes in today. Also, if you're interested in a corporate sponsorship, or for more information, please contact Teri Sheffer at 717-758-8706 or email tmsheffer82@gmail.com. Can't wait to crown this year's champion!

Congratulations to this year's graduates!!!

OUR LAUNDRY LIST.. BIG AND SMALL!

- Finances
- Volunteers
- New 7 Passenger Van
- Gas Cards
- Postage Stamps
- HE Laundry Soap
- Paper Towels
- 13 Gal Trash Bags
- Recycling Bags
- Foil & Ziploc Baggies
- Bleach
- Cleaning Supplies
- Gift Cards
- Copy Paper

We ask that you would pray and consider a financial gift this month to help with our current budget needs. If you have any specific questions as to how you can direct your giving, please contact Rachel at 717-235-6295. God Bless You!