



Journey of Hope

504 E. Hwy 50

O'Fallon, IL 62269

journeyofhopehome.org



Greetings to you during this busy season,

As we close out this year, I want to take this opportunity to share about our first year in ministry with you. I value your support in bringing hope to the demographic of women we serve at Journey of Hope.

Each day, we've taken calls and emails from expectant moms in need, case workers looking for placement, and other organizations in search of homes for expectant women in crisis. Oh, how I wish Journey of Hope could take every woman who has crossed our path, however we have had to refer many out to other organizations to better fit their needs. Those we were not able to serve were referred to organizations designed to help with each woman's specific circumstances, whether that be domestic violence, drug addiction, or needing placement for themselves and their other children. Not only did we make those referrals, but in addition, we conducted in depth screenings with 20 potential clients. So, although not every woman we've been in contact with this year is a good fit for residency, JOH has been blessed with providing love, hope, grace, and mercy to the women we have met.

Journey of Hope has housed four residents this year, and had three babies born. Two of our former residents severed ties for personal reasons, and we wished them well on their continued journey. One resident has been in our care for nine months. Her infant, who is now two and a half months old, was born on September 28th. Our newest resident came to us November 30th at 14 weeks pregnant. She's settling in and has a bright, promising future!

Our program is continually working towards its financial health, so we are able to continue serving those most in need. We are actively recruiting more volunteers to provide more assistance and consistency in the home. We have been blessed by all our dedicated volunteers and donors and are able to continue serving our community because of those who give monthly, as well as our donors who have gifted JOH once, twice, or multiple times. Your dedication, love, support, and prayers have helped grow our ministry. Our goal for the coming year is to raise \$70,000, so we can further our reach and empower women by providing them with hope for mama and baby.

Journey of Hope is pro love and pro hope for women and babies! Christmas is one of the most joyous times of the year as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ! But, for some, it is a time of difficulty and despair as they search for hope in what seems to be a bleak situation. They have lost loved ones, suffered abuse, have no shelter or food to fill their bellies. Imagine navigating those experiences and coupling it with an unplanned pregnancy.

Feelings of hopelessness are everywhere in our world, but hope does remain. Partner with JOH to provide hope, love, grace, and mercy to those who need it the most this year and in the new year to come. If you feel compelled to make a difference, don't hesitate, be the change by giving hope and promise saving a life, two at a time. Our expectant mothers will be surrounded by those who have the passion and purpose to show them the love of Jesus Christ, empowering them to live into their God-given purpose.

Will you choose to Journey with us this year? If so, please consider a year end donation, setting up a monthly commitment, increasing your current monthly gift, or contributing whatever amount you feel led by God to give. In addition to your donation, the gift of prayer is powerful, so please pray for JOH, its residents, and the many volunteers who pour into this beautiful ministry.

Setting up your donation is easy through our website at journeyofhopehome.org, calling our office at 618-632-2354, or emailing me at journeyofhopehome@gmail.com. Please make checks payable to O'Fallon First UMC with Journey of Hope in the memo line.

It is with much thanks, humbleness, and love that I give God all the glory for using me to propel this ministry forward. All the glory goes to Him for sending us the amazing donors/supporters we currently have and will have in the future! Thank you again for your generosity and consideration.

Peace and Love,

Emily George
Executive Director, Journey of Hope

For unto us a child is born

Hi, my name is Crystal, and I am a part of Journey of Hope House. This program has really been a good experience and has impacted me. I have been here since I was pregnant, and it has allowed me to accomplish goals that are important in my life that I have to accomplish. I really appreciate Emily for allowing and helping me and my son, Fendi. She has really been a light shining on us and all the volunteers have been as well.

Crystal,
Journey of Hope resident, 2022

