



offering a hand up

not a hand out



*With Heartfelt Thanks to*



The residents of Martha's Home received royal treatment by Longhorn Steakhouse as they welcomed the women and children of Martha's Home for a delightful night of dining! Dinner included awesome appetizers, full course dinner, and build your own ice cream sundaes for the kids. They not only provided awesome food, service, but even goodie bags for the children! Longhorn Steakhouse showed compassion and community spirit and certainly blessed the residents of Martha's Home.



## Billie's Story of Transformation & Reunion



Let me just start by saying what an honor it is to have the opportunity to tell you what Martha's Home did for me! Until God led me to this amazing home for women, I was completely hopeless and lost in addiction. I had been in four rehabs over the previous several years. I lost custody of my oldest son in 2009 and I thought my life was over. In 2011 I was blessed with another baby boy, but I still could not stay clean and lost custody of him as well. At that point I wanted to die. If I couldn't stay clean for the two most precious gifts in life, I didn't want to live.

I could not understand why I chose drugs and the lifestyle over my children. In December of 2013, I knew I would die very soon if I didn't do something. At that time, I found myself in Amarillo at another rehab facility, determined to put my all into recovery. I wanted to change more than ever. After rehab, I was homeless for two weeks and prayed for God to open a door of opportunity. That was the hardest two weeks of my life because even though I had begun rebuilding a relationship with my family, they still did not fully trust me due to the years of drug abuse. I was

afraid, but determined not to go back to drugs. Someone at a Narcotics Anonymous meeting suggested I call Martha's Home. I picked up the phone and spoke to the most precious woman who said they had an opening and to be there Friday. Just talking to Connie on the phone gave me hope. During the two days of waiting, I convinced myself it would be another place with too many rules and regulations. However, I didn't have much choice at this point because all other options had been exhausted. On Friday I walked into this beautiful home and thought to myself, this can't be it. I was welcomed with open arms and a loving smile. Literally ten minutes later I was moving in. I couldn't stop thinking that this was too good to be true.

Being at Martha's Home completely changed my life. Recovering addicts struggle with simple everyday tasks like showering, laundry, cooking, or even just getting up on time. Normal activities that other people take for granted can be overwhelming to an addict/abused individual who has never lived a "normal" life. Martha's Home helps you to progress in a way that is not overwhelming. They have case management to help you set and reach your goals. They assist in so many ways, and help you to help yourself. They provide necessities, loving care and forgiveness. They show you what it means to be a loving, godly woman who can make it in the world without drugs and/or a man. The beauty of the homes gives us hope. The staff holds us accountable while empowering us to make choices for ourselves. Martha's Home is not just a shelter, it's a real home. The love and grace that is given is absolutely priceless. The bible study and life skills class they provide are so powerful for someone like me who has never been able to meet the daily challenges of life. The requirements of daily chores, taking turns cooking and pitching in on groceries may seem small, but for someone like me, the rules taught me how to function in everyday life. There are no words to express my gratitude to Martha's Home for what they did for me. After moving into the transitional home I was afraid I would fail because there was less accountability, but I didn't. Because of all the things I learned at Martha's Home, I now have both of my children back, my own home, a great job and a wonderful new life. God led me to a place that changed my life and I will be forever grateful. I pray for Martha's Home on a daily basis so they can continue to change lives like mine!







## We'll Have a WHALE of a Good Time!

You're invited to join us for an exciting underwater adventure on Saturday, **April 23, 2016!** Take a dive into the most fun fundraiser ever....Martha's Home 8th Annual **Second Chance Prom**, themed **"Enchantment Under the Sea."** Plunge into an ocean of fun with a Prom night designed for adults who either missed their first prom or want that second chance to experience a fun evening with your current sweetheart or group of friends!

Sail-ebtrate the night and enjoy lots of great food from Amarillo's finest eateries, dancing to live music of **VELVET FUNK Band**, with DJ tunes by Neon Pink Media, silent auction, and surprise entertainment, all with an aquatic twist!

The zone is guaranteed shark-free as the event splashes on from 7 to 11pm in the North Exhibit Hall of the Amarillo Civic Center. Evening hosts, Lisa Schmidt of ABC 7 and Wes Reeves of Xcel Energy, will navigate you throughout the evening.

The Second Chance Prom was a sell-out in 2015, so **DIVE IN** and get your table reservations and corporate sponsorships in by calling **806-443-5577!**

All proceeds will benefit Martha's Home who provides shelter, support, assistance, and second chances to homeless women and mothers with children.



[www.marthashome.org](http://www.marthashome.org)

[www.secondchanceprom.org](http://www.secondchanceprom.org)

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