



offering a hand up

not a hand out

A Thank You Letter

By Angela Baker

Dear Martha's Home,



I am writing you this letter to thank you for this opportunity to be a resident at your home. In the last few months I found myself struggling to get on my feet after a bitter divorce in 2012. I have struggled to recover financially and have barely been able to recover the dream I had for my life. My life was torn apart by a failed marriage that resulted in a custody battle that left me in a financial bind. With God in my life I have continued to believe that He has a plan for me. After losing custody of my son Skyler, and all of my savings, I continued working as a Manager at United. I have never given up on my dream to have a catering business that allows me and other artists to create good food with the best artistic display. I have held on to this dream by picking up small catering events with Sunset Center and private holiday parties but I was still barely getting by to make child support payments with what I was

making as a manager and with the small catering jobs. I then did something drastic and

moved to a bigger city in hopes to start over with the support of family in Colorado. I realized rather quickly that that was a mistake. My family was not supportive. Their rejection from the family and the strict Catholic belief that divorce is wrong caused me a lot of pain. So I took what little amount of money I had left and came back to Amarillo on a bus. Things continued to get worse and I was in shock. I was humiliated that I was broke and had spent all the money I had to make the move. And I had sold my car with hopes to buy a new one. The reality set in. I was broke, without a car, homeless and living at the Salvation Army. Things seemed like they couldn't get worse.

I then discovered a place that gave us an opportunity to make a plan. The PARC had me slowly start to ask questions and shed a lot of tears. I realized I wasn't alone. They were able to make lots of suggestions and the first one was Martha's Home. I was able to quickly find a job thanks to Valerie at the PARC, while I began calling to get into Martha's Home. Thank God they made that suggestion. I was on the waiting list for several weeks. When I got the call that there was an opening, it was like winning a lottery ticket! God has truly blessed me here. The house moms are wonderful- Teresa, Grace, and Patty are all strong women that build us up and give us lots of structure. I feel a lot of support daily and encouragement not to give up on my dreams. Mrs. Catherine, our Case Manager, has quickly put together a plan with opportunities to further my education with opportunities for future work. Today, I am actively building my catering business, 'The Inspired Flour', devoting time to the PARC, and teaching an art class. I'm hoping to teach an art class at Amarillo College this summer and attend Amarillo college in the Fall. I am also working on rebuilding my relationships with my sons Skyler (15) and Andrew (24).

In closing, thanks to Martha's Home I am getting back on my feet. I enjoy every day here that is filled with love, support and friendship. I only hope to one day give back the hope that Martha's Home has given me.

Thank you, Angela Baker

Sarah's Note: Angela's food creations will be featured at the Home Dedication on Wednesday June 14th, and at the 'Women Move the City' event on June 22nd. See details about these events below and don't miss your chance to experience Angela's art and help support her dreams.

Upcoming Events

Day of Thunder Car Show

Saturday, June 10th, 10 AM - 3 PM
At First United Bank, 8501 SW 45th Ave. in Amarillo.

Join us for a car show hosted by the High Plains Thunderbirds, First United Bank, and City Glass, to benefit Martha's Home! There will be FREE food courtesy of RVOS Insurance and prizes too. Come check out these awesome vehicles!



House Dedication

Wednesday, June 14, 2017, 10:30 a.m

Martha's Home, House #2 will be officially dedicated to Myrna Raffkind, our beloved board member and friend who passed earlier this year. The house will be renamed 'The Myrna Raffkind Family Home'. The Raffkind Family, members of the community and the media are invited to attend a short naming ceremony. Coffee and pastries by 'The Inspired Flour' will be available, and tours of the home will be given as well.



Women Move the City

Thursday June 22nd, 5:00pm-8pm
At the Cerulean Gallery, 814 S. Taylor Street.

Join us at Amarillo's newest Cerulean Gallery located in Downtown Amarillo, to honor and celebrate the newly elected city officials that are helping to move the city forward- Ginger Nelson, Freda Powell and Elaine Hays! There will be refreshments, hors d'oeuvres, music, and beautiful artwork. Admission is donations only, to benefit Martha's Home.



Thank You!



Thank you to our Sponsors, Guests, Volunteers, Staff and everyone who made our 9th Annual Second Chance Prom a success! We raised approximately \$61,000! The money raised from the Second Chance Prom goes directly to Martha's Home and our mission to provide homeless women and their children with shelter and support while guiding them towards a lifestyle of self-sufficiency. We could not do this without YOU!





Thank you to Tripp's Harley-Davidson and Amarillo HOG for hosting the 'Sunday Funday' event to benefit Martha's Home, Maverick Boys and Girls Club, and NEH Helping Hands. We appreciate everyone who came out and participated! The Amarillo Police Department put on a great show too!



We have been blessed by so many wonderful supporters and could not provide the homes and resources for our residents without each and every one of you.

PROVIDE A HELPING HAND

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