

Shared Blessings

You lift survivors out of desperation.

Dee did everything “right.” She found the strength and courage to leave a man who inflicted physical, emotional, and financial abuse. And yet, she was still trapped in a hole of desperation.

You lifted her up.

Dee’s relationship with Rick lasted five tumultuous years.

“When it was good, it was good. We were so compatible. We had the same interests and same hobbies. I thought I hit the jackpot. But, when it was bad, it was so bad.”

Dee even called Sheltering Wings and stayed in our emergency shelter for 45 days. But she returned to Rick.

“I wasn’t emotionally ready yet.”

Leaving for good is hard and dangerous. On average, it takes a person seven times to leave their abuser.

Because of you, Sheltering Wings is here to help survivors anytime - whether it’s the first or the seventh or the tenth time they call.

Finally, Dee knew it was time to leave Rick for good. She filed a restraining order against Rick. Sadly, the lease for their apartment was in Rick’s name only. A court ordered Dee out and gave her 45 days to leave.

After giving up everything to be safe, Dee’s finances were ruined. Nobody would approve a rental lease. She bounced from couch to couch and to a homeless shelter.

“Nobody would rent to me because of the court order. I didn’t owe anything, but they saw it as an eviction. I was stuck.”

But she is stuck no longer— thanks to you.

“I felt so low. I had no self-respect. I didn’t even know who I was. I was drinking to cope. I felt myself getting weak. I sat there one day crying, and I cried to God. He heard me, and it clicked. He led me back to Sheltering Wings.”

(Continued on back cover)

“You taught me self-love.

You empower

survivors so they

“won’t look

back. – Dee





"When I came back to Sheltering Wings, it felt serene. I had time to sit with my thoughts." – Dee

Dee thought she would be in emergency shelter for a short time, but she quickly realized she needed to build a new foundation. A quick fix was not enough. Dee needed to make deeper changes.

"When I came back to Sheltering Wings, it felt serene. I had time to sit with my thoughts. I had time to sit with myself."

Dee attended DV 101, a domestic violence educational series, twice. Through the program, Dee realized that she was mourning the person she hoped Rick was—the way he behaved at the beginning of their relationship.

From there, Dee started individual therapy sessions and attended a boundaries class and art class. She learned to love herself again.

Dee participated in the financial stability class twice. Sheltering Wings advocates helped Dee get her driver's license, find a job, and enter supported housing. Soon, she will receive a donated car.

"Sheltering Wings is a community of healing. You taught me self-love. You empower survivors so they won't look back. I guess that's why God kept me there a little over a year. Now, I have all the tools."

Dee is determined to use her experiences to help other women.

"Everything I've been through has walked me into my purpose. I want to help other women – especially single women—who are stuck. I had to go through it to learn."

Dee is confident that she has broken the pattern of abusive relationships.

"I now have very firm and very high boundaries. I have stability within myself. One thing I've learned is that I do not do chaos. My life has been too chaotic. Right now, I have peace—and I protect my peace."

Thank you for helping survivors like Dee find their peace.

"I just have to sell some stock and then I will give."

I can't give you financial advice, but what I CAN say is you may be able to transfer appreciated stock directly to Sheltering Wings. That could mean no one has to pay taxes on it.

I'd love to talk with you about how you can have a big impact at Sheltering Wings by giving through stock, qualified charitable distributions from an IRA, gifts from donor advised funds (DAFs), and in other smart ways.



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Nothing in this communication is meant to be financial advice.



Thank you to the sponsors, attendees, and volunteers who made the 2026 Premier Event a success.

Together, we raised \$208,000, directly supporting families, programs, and services (net, for the accounting-minded). And, My Yellow Rickshaw put on a great show.

Thank you for supporting survivors like Ashley and her son. Together, our gifts will build healing that starts with one survivor and ripples outward—family to family, generation to generation.

Thank you for making an impact that is “Bigger Than Us”!

PRESENTING SPONSORS



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UPCOMING EVENTS



OCT. 1, 2026

Men IN Action Breakfast

WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 1

WHERE: Hendricks County Fairgrounds

COST: \$15, includes a delicious breakfast

Mark your calendars for the 10th annual Men IN Action Breakfast featuring a panel of local law enforcement officers

Learn what domestic violence looks like in your neighborhood and what men like you can do to help.

Volunteers like you make our mission possible

If you have a talent, interest, or skill and if you are passionate about our mission to break the cycle of domestic abuse, there's a place for you to volunteer at Sheltering Wings.

Financial Stability class gives survivors the skills they need for stability and independence

Dee found Financial Stability Class so valuable, she attended the session twice. During the classes, she learned basic financial literacy and built a realistic budget.

She credits volunteer Jason Warner for helping her regain stability and financial independence.

"He doesn't just give you a to-do list. He gives you an education on why you should do something. He's so humble. He's not a rich guy with an attitude. He says, 'Let me show you how I got here.'"

Jason was introduced to Sheltering Wings through his church, but it was a personal

experience that inspired his commitment to leading Financial Stability.

As a property manager, he set aside properties to serve those in need of affordable rent and additional support. Sadly, an incident at one of his properties resulted in a mother making poor decisions. The ultimate result was the loss of custody of her children for a few months.

With no one else to turn to, officials called Jason to ask if he and his wife would care for the children. They immediately said yes.

"I realized that much of the mother's trouble came down to a lack of financial planning and skills needed to live independently," Jason says. "The lack of financial knowledge created stress and unease that affected everything in her life and the lives of her children."

Now, Jason shares his expertise to help survivors build the financial skills they need to be successful and free from abuse.



5,243 =
VOLUNTEER HOURS
IN 2025



50 = VOLUNTEER
GROUPS SERVED IN
2025



\$158,087 =
ANNUAL VOLUNTEER
IMPACT

Survivors like Dee *urgently* need you this Christmas (in July!)

Christmas in July is one of the most important times of the year for us. We dedicate the month to securing what our families need after supplies from the Christmas season have been used up.

Dee is just one of the more than 300 women, men, and children who will find safety, stability, and support at Sheltering Wings in 2026. You can provide for our families' basic needs like cleaning supplies, hygiene items, and food while they're staying with us.

We are reliant on you, our community, to make sure our families have what they need.

Here are ways to help this year:

GIVE! Your generous financial gifts directly provide safety and support to survivors. Both cash and non-cash gifts are vital to break the cycle of abuse. Send your gift with the reply form or scan the QR code to give online.

Double your gift now through July 31!

And—through July 31—your gifts will be matched \$1 for \$1 up to \$20,000 thanks to a group of generous donors! Give now to double your gift and double your impact!

GATHER! Your gifts of food, toiletries, and other goods directly sustain survivors. Host a Wish List drive with your church, business, or group. Check out our Essentials wish lists for urgent needs.

LEARN and SHARE! You can help prevent abuse. Learn how by attending a Sheltering Wings training. Or invite our Prevention team to present at your church, group, or business.

And spread the word! Help those who need help and those who want to help find Sheltering Wings. Follow our social media accounts and share posts and information.



To give, scan the QR code or visit ShelteringWings.org/NewsletterGiving.



Will you give hope to families desperately seeking safety?

Your gift means survivors find safety and the support they need to build stability and independence.

Give by July 31 to double your gift! All gifts matched \$1 for \$1 – up to \$20,000! – thanks to a group of generous donors.

Fill out the information below and return it in the enclosed envelope. Or, scan the QR code to give online.



Please use my Christmas in July gift to keep families like Dee safe.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ \$ _____

☐ I would like to make my gift recurring

☐ I've enclosed my check # _____

Please charge my credit card \$ _____ ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ Amex

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

Exp. Date (MM/YY) / CW

Signature _____ Print Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

_____ I would like to make a gift via stock, Donor Advised Fund (DAF), Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from my IRA, or other assets. (Paige Vanzo will contact you to arrange the gift.)

_____ In addition to my Christmas in July gift, I would like to contribute to the **2026 Capital Campaign**.

- Please charge my credit card \$ _____ for the Capital Campaign. (Fill out details above.)
- Please use \$ _____ from the enclosed check for the Capital Campaign.

*Gifts made to Sheltering Wings go to the greatest needs of our programs unless designated for a special purpose. **Use the enclosed envelope, scan the QR code, or visit ShelteringWings.org/NewsletterGiving***

