



MISSION GATE Ministry

A Nine-Residential Aftercare Program for Women

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.
Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free"
John 8:31a-32.

Rick Mathes, MA, MDIV
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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EXECUTIVE AFTERCARE DIRECTOR
Laura Kresyman
WOMEN'S PROGRAM DIRECTOR

GUIDELINES FOR WOMEN

Crystal's House and Hannah's Ranch

Residential Housing and Aftercare of Mission Gate

Please keep this copy for yourself.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission Gate is a Christian organization founded in 1985 that ministers in prisons and jails throughout Missouri by providing Bible studies, one-on-one counseling and worship services, along with special programs like "Mommy Reads to Me" and the Christmas Angel Mission. Over 140 area churches participate with upwards to 300 field volunteers and 10 staff positions.

Crystal's House and Hannah's Ranch committees consist of staff and volunteers who oversee the day-to-day activities of the programs as well as the welfare of the residents. We do our best to provide initial food, clothing, Bible, identification, job location and preparation, and whatever reasonable emergency needs you may need to get off to a good start. You are coming to a team of people who love the Lord and love you with His love. We are expecting that you will respect them in return, do your part to succeed, listen to wise counsel and have a thankful heart by living out your commitment to change once and for all. Be a Mission Gate graduate and your life will never be the same!

The Aftercare Program conducts the following classes:

- A variety of spiritual life skill classes including Making Peace with your Past, Overcoming Depression, Breaking Free, Experiencing God, Better Relationships, Anger Management and Assaultive Aggressive Behavior, Victim's Impact, Financial Stewardship, Job Readiness, Decision Making, and Sexual Integrity.
- One-on-one and group counseling
- 12-step and relapse prevention
- Recovery mentoring and accountability
- Bible studies, pastoral counseling and worship services
- Special needs classes include overcoming sexual abuse, parenting, family and marital counseling.
- Work preparation, including GED

Program goals and objectives are individualized to meet each client's needs. Each person's strengths, weaknesses, and identified problems and successes are taken into consideration. What each client has learned through treatment, the Lord and life experiences are important to us for a continuum of care. Networking with other service providers and agencies are an important part of our efforts to advance toward the achievement of recovery and establishing unique goals for each resident. Reporting to Probation and Parole, Department of Mental Health, the Courts, or Division of Family Services is a routine part of the effort to provide the best services to the client, society and the community. It is of utmost importance to staff and senior residents to maintain a drug and alcohol free environment.

P.O. Box 6644, Chesterfield, MO 63006 • missiongateministry@msn.com • missiongateministry.org

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Purpose

Crystal's House and Hannah's Ranch are residential ministries of Mission Gate. It is the desire of the ministry to assist ex-offenders and graduates of drug and alcohol treatment centers in their reintegration efforts into the local community as strong and productive Christians. Certificates of recognition are issued at three months, six months, and a nine-month completion certificate. Please note that many residents stay at Mission Gate beyond the nine-month completion of the program if it is necessary for a client's continued therapeutic, spiritual gain and to further meet her goals. Residents who stay beyond the nine-month program are expected to take leadership classes and offer their service as part of helping the ministry by being on the Mentoring Team and/or an additional position. We believe that the residents who are walking with Christ are one of the greatest values to a new resident's success.

Hannah's Ranch allows Mission Gate to extend services to women and their children and assists mothers in becoming reunited with their children. Hannah's Ranch provides a safe affordable Christ-centered home for women and their children in life challenging situations including those transitioning from a shelter, rehabilitation center, jail or any unhealthy environment or lifestyle. Hannah's Ranch provides a substance-free environment where children can live on site or visit with their mothers, with the structure, tools, and spiritual guidance women need to become sufficiently independent, loving parents and to help them to reintegrate into the local community as strong and productive Christian families.

Goals

Short Term: The goal of this ministry is to provide a nine-month or longer residential aftercare for Christian growth, fellowship, counseling needs, and living skills.

Long Term: The goal of this ministry is to re-integrate the resident into the community and a local Bible teaching church upon graduation from the Aftercare Program. It is our objective that the resident will be spiritually, emotionally, physically, financially, and vocationally equipped to graduate from the program within nine months. Continued discipleship training is available to those approved.

Admissions

An applicant must be referred to Mission gate by a volunteer, area ministry leader, case worker, family member, institutional activities coordinator, parole or probation officer, or Chaplain who has personally known the applicant while incarcerated. Upon written request, an application will be sent directly to the inmate. Applications are also available on our website www.missiongateministry.org. A fully completed application must be submitted by mail or faxed for review. All information received is kept confidential, unless otherwise released by the applicant for a specific purpose.

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Resident Responsibilities

- Prior to arriving at the program, you should make every effort to obtain a copy of your birth certificate and a Missouri State ID (not a DOC ID). Most DOC institutions will assist you in obtaining your identification. Failure to do so can substantially hinder your ability to secure employment in a timely fashion (especially if you were born outside of Missouri).
- You must attend and be active in a local church and provide a church bulletin each Sunday as evidence of your having attended the service. During your first month, you will be attending church with the house coordinator.
- You have a 9:00pm curfew.
- Weekend furloughs, with immediate family only, will be considered after three months.
- You must attend three classes throughout the week. Private counseling sessions are required weekly during the first three months, bi-weekly the second three months and monthly the last three months.
- At Crystal's House, children (birth or officially adopted) may visit after two weeks with direct supervision of Mission Gate staff.
- No smoking inside the house.
- You must provide \$100 per week program fee.

Personal

- You must maintain a clean and personal appearance honoring Christ.
- Women are not permitted to have body piercings, including tongue, eyebrows, navel or nose.
- Satanic body tattoos must be covered or removed.
- Two hours of work service is required each week as assigned. This is in addition to regular household chores such as cleaning.
- There is zero tolerance for drug and alcohol use, pornography, cursing and fighting of any kind including negativity.
- No cell phones are permitted until you have maintained at least 30 days of employment and are current on program/housing fees. We will provide telephone service for job location.
- Personal automobiles are permitted as necessary with proper licensing and insurance after three months resident is employed full time and current on program fees.
- Romantic relationships are discouraged while in the program.

Financial

- You must obtain full-time employment.
- You must be current on paying your program and housing fee each week.
- You must pay by cash or money order only.
- You must pay for any damage you or your children cause to property.
- After you are employed, you will be expected to pay for your own gas and transportation fees.

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