

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again, I say, Rejoice." Phil 4:4

Together as we pray through this COVID-19 season, let's remember how the Lord has already been answering our prayers this year. Be encouraged as you read the following testimonies.

A HOUSING AND SHELTER STRATEGIST FOR OUR COMMUNITY

For a year, we have prayed for God to guide the implementation & leadership selection of the TAC Report (Technical Assistance Collaborative), a comprehensive city/county strategic plan to house the unhoused. This February, Lane County and the city of Eugene hired Sarai Johnson as the new Joint Housing and Shelter Strategist. Sarai will work on strategies to house the unhoused and to create affordable housing for low-income households. We are thankful God has placed a passionate person in this role. Let's pray that the Lord would impart wisdom and grace to Sarai.



Sarai Johnson Photo Credit: Tatiana Parafiniuk-Talesnick/The Register Guard

TESTIMONIES IN THE CHURCHES



In February, we had a Prayer Coordinators gathering, and we heard of how God is moving in churches. Here are some of the testimonies to celebrate:

- A Schwan's delivery man felt impressed to witness to people as he delivered his food. As a result, one couple received the gospel, shared the good news with their own family, got plugged in a local church, and started their own home group!
- A pastor started a new ministry at the University.
- A few local Uber drivers made it their mission to pray for their passengers. They called it their "moving sanctuary".
- One church witnessed God moving in great ways at their weekly healing prayer room.
- Another church started prayer two nights a week, working towards their goal of building a house of prayer.
- A young family who was struggling to find affordable rent found a place to live after the church board came together and prayed for them.
- Another church saw 10 people baptized, 3 of those were children from the same family.
- God is using a pastor to minister to others as he undergoes treatment at a treatment center. We are believing for God's full healing!

EVERY CHILD: THREE YEAR REPORT

FOSTER PARENTS

In three years, Every Child fielded more than **337 new foster family inquiries** and offered them personal one-on-one support as they explored the process. **Over 80 new certified foster families have been recruited directly from Every Child's efforts in Lane County.**

SUPPORTED FOSTER FAMILIES

We have raised up over **250 people willing to support current foster parents with respite care** (babysitting). Foster parent burnout is a huge issue within the DHS retention program. The lack of respite care is the main reason for burnout.

TRAINING

Every Child developed monthly training events to equip volunteers, foster parents and birth parents with a "tool kit" of resources to best care for children dealing with trauma. (This training is in partnership with Christians As Family Advocates (CAFA), a longstanding, reputable counseling center in Eugene). **To date, we have held twenty-five trainings with 260 total attendees.**

PARTNERING WITH DHS

Over 400 volunteers helped makeover all 24 parent visitation rooms in Lane County (Eugene, Springfield, Florence and Cottage Grove) with over \$60,000 in donated toys, furniture and supplies.

MEETING TANGIBLE NEEDS

324 volunteers met more than 200 child-specific tangible needs (emergency items given to care for foster children).

450+ Welcome Boxes have been created by community members to provide children in foster care with activities, snacks, and special items when first entering the foster care system, long journeys to a new home, or a day in court.

Let's rejoice in all that God has done through Every Child!



Donations for Every Child's Fun Drive. These toys and art supplies were given to DHS offices for visitation rooms. What a blessing for children to have activities, games, and toys they can play with when interacting with their bio parents.

THE GOSPEL IN ART PACIFIC RIM ART GUILD

The Pacific Rim Art Guild, a collaboration of Christ-following artists, is partnering with Corban University to open a branch in Salem. It's an answer to prayer to see more Christians uniting to share the Gospel through art.

ART FOR EVERYONE

In March, we prayed for under-served populations to have access to the arts. Stephanie Jackson, the director of the CAFA Creative Connections program desires to creatively cultivate and build communities of compassion, connection, and purpose through art. She recently had the opportunity to do a mosaic project with a Head Start class. She witnessed children create meaningful art, learn new skills to regulate "big" emotions, and build meaningful connections.

SERENITY LANE

Serenity Lane has new leadership, and the culture has changed for the better. Serenity Lane hopes to start church services for patients in the near future.