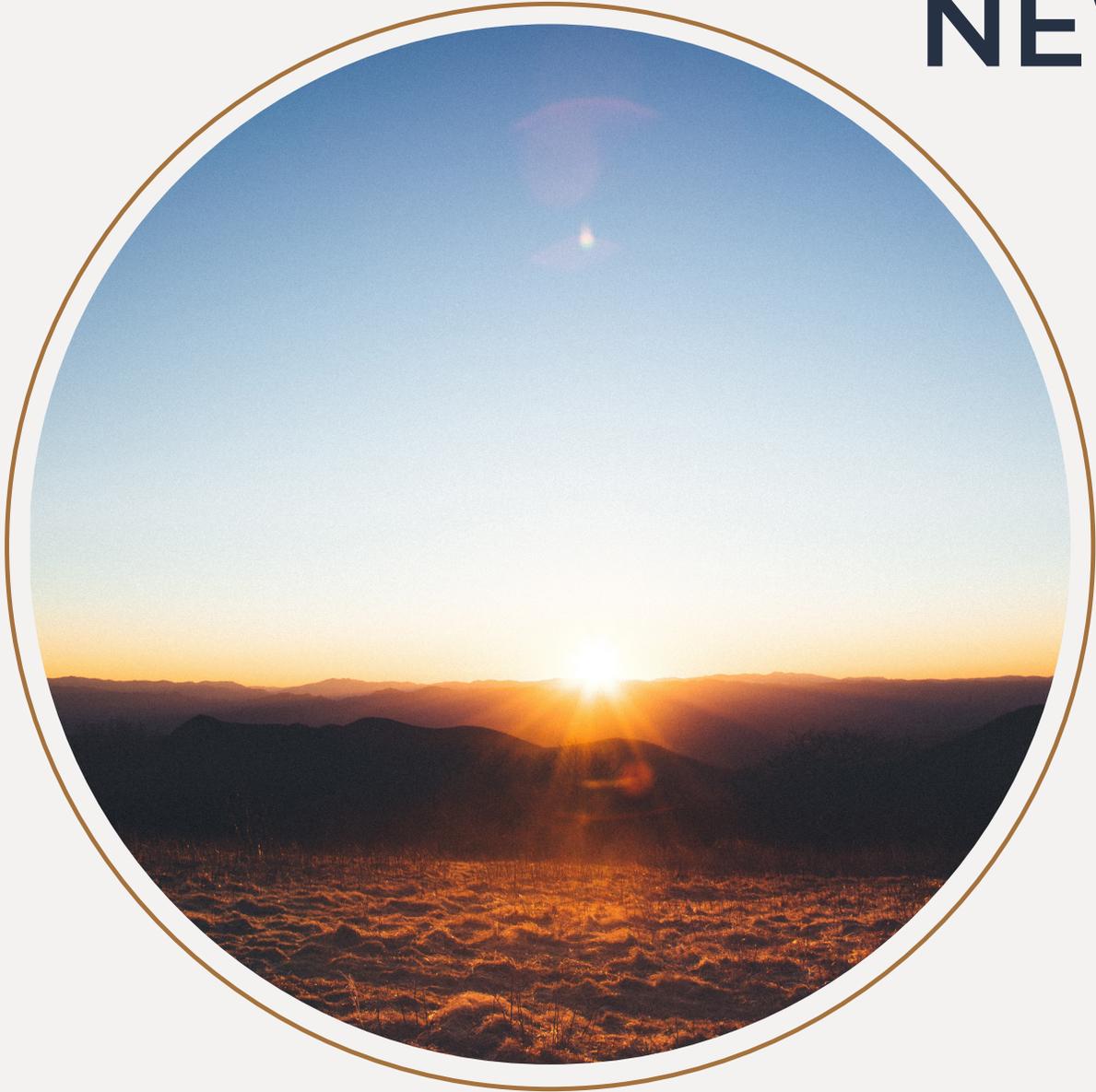


HE'S DOING
SOMETHING
NEW.



*Forget the former things; Do not dwell on the past! See I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

Isaiah 43:18-19

2019 YEAR END REVIEW
www.ywamhouston.org

A Word from the Directors

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Houston, TX and Happy New Year everyone!

2020 is not only a new year but a new decade and we're believing God to do amazing, radical things as we ride the wave with Him into this new season!! We're believing to see increase in many areas: more homeless off the streets, more souls to be saved, more young people disciplined and more at risk children rescued and protected. God has all these beautiful people on his heart and we look forward to watching Him continue to rescue and change lives!

To each of you, our friends- be encouraged and keep believing for the things you've been asking God for! God is going to bring many breakthroughs in 2020 and exciting new adventures await us all if we will but keep the faith and hold onto God's hand as we enter into the "new things.." Thank you for partnering with us! Much love to you from Houston!!



evangelism training



7 spheres training

SHORT TERM TEAMS

It has been an honor to be able to host thousands of short term mission workers over the past 21 years in Houston and this past year we were honored to host 21 teams who served in various capacities around our city! These teams bring Jesus in a special, unique way to our city and we are so thankful for every team member who served!

*"Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into his harvest fields. For the harvest is plentiful and the laborers are few."
Luke 10:2*



abortion awareness



on location prayer teams

Would you like to join us on a mission trip in Houston?

Please email us at office@ywamhouston.org



children's ministry in projects

street church involvement

STAFF HIGHLIGHT



YWAM Houston staff, Kirsten Browning, taught her first ballet class to underprivileged children in 2019! It was amazing!



One of our rescued little guys



LITTLE FOOTPRINTS

offering assistance to at risk moms and children

www.littlefootprintscm.com

- Partners with community organizations and area churches to provide tangible help to the children and families with items such as: diapers, baby wipes, formula, clothing, pregnancy tests, prenatal vitamins, etc.
- Offers referrals to mothers for needed services.
- Brings awareness to the local church
- Offers referrals to moms in need
- Provides limited emergency shelter (motel rooms)
- Over 240 children sponsored for Christmas
- Provides childcare at Street Church



- Trains and licenses Christian families to foster and adopt
- Assists birth parents with short-term and long-term placement options
- Offers a positive alternative to the state system through licensed Christian homes
- Works with the courts and attorneys to see permanency achieved
- Offers services to mothers who are incarcerated
- Over 228 children assisted in care
- Of those 137 adoptions & permanent placements made



*"Rescue those being led away to death, hold back those staggering towards the slaughter."
-Proverbs 24:11*

Our Adoption Story

I remember sliding down the wall to the floor as I heard our caseworker say, "We have a baby boy. He is six weeks old, born on December 16th, and his name is Toby." I couldn't breathe. In that one sentence God gave me all the confirmation I could ever ask for. That sentence represented both of our losses, and we knew this was predestined by Him.

BACK TO THE BEGINNING

Our story of foster care and adoption began early in our marriage. However, we had only just begun when we suffered the devastating miscarriage of our second son, Toby. After having two more children, two God-type encounters led us to Loving Houston Adoption Agency and we were licensed as quickly as possible. Our first call was about a newborn baby boy. We met him in the NICU. The wave of emotions was like nothing we had ever experienced, especially the overwhelming joy of bringing him home.

GOD IN EVERY DETAIL

Our case moved toward adoption with funds and donations coming in when we got the call on December 16th that grandma had stepped in to take the baby. We were confused and devastated at the pain of giving him up. Two days later we said goodbye, yet we felt God in every detail. Grandma was kind. We prayed together over that sweet baby, then went home to grieve. We contemplated ending our adoption journey, but God reminded us in that moment that he was in this from beginning to end so we pushed forward.

RISK MY HEART AGAIN?

Six weeks later we got another call about a little boy named Toby who was born the same day we gave back our first placement. Two days later we brought him home. Amidst the fear of risking our hearts again, we gave this baby all the love and care he deserved. We grew quickly to love him, and having visits with the birth parents who wanted him back created a lot of anxiety. At the same time, God filled our hearts with compassion and care for them. Our children began to fervently pray for their little brother. Our sweet three-year-old Jubilee would pray every night that "Kim boss would sign the paper so he could stay with us."

GOD'S PERFECT TIMING

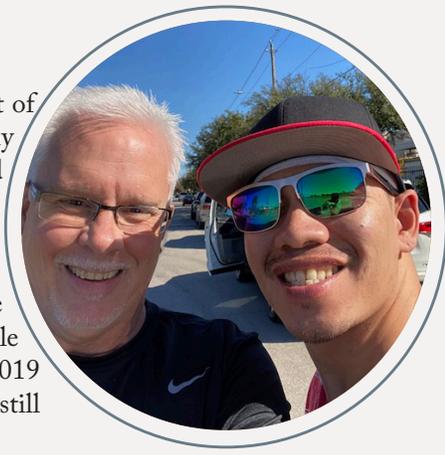
As we continued this tension for months, it became evident it would be detrimental to the child to be returned to his parents. We cautiously began to talk about adoption again and the agency hired an attorney to help us proceed. This was scary as the costs added up, but we had friends step in to fund raise and even donated their own money toward this adoption. Every turn of the legal process seemed to be rescheduled. During this time, I filled out two grants online, one of which came in right away, and the second, right when we needed it and for the exact amount.

Seventeen months into loving this boy, I wept as we walked up the courthouse stairs for the last time. The magnitude of adoption is both joyful as we would gain a child and yet deep loss as the birth parents would lose one. We felt every bit of that emotion. Even though it was, at times, unimaginably hard, we are grateful for the joy and pain of our adoption story, knowing that God wrote it purposefully. We are grateful for every person who was a part of this journey- friends, family, and agency staff who walked with us all the way to the end. We hope to be able to walk alongside others on the same journey and be strength and hope to them.



He Met Me in My Brokenness

I was lost.....totally messed up on drugs....gang banging, drug dealing from a young age, in and out of the foster care system! I overdosed on embalming fluid at 14 years old and I should've died as my heart stopped, my lungs collapsed and I flat-lined, but I survived. For the next 20 years I continued that lifestyle. I got married when I was 26 and then the love of my life, my wife, died of cancer seven years later! That crushed me and I fell onto my knees and cried out to God and this little phrase came to my mind..."If you need help we have a program that can help you." I tried to think about where I heard this phrase...and then I remembered it was at Street Church! I showed up the following Wednesday night and talked to the staff there and they worked with me for nine days while I got some issues taken care of. On January 16th, 2019 I enrolled in Open Door Mission and in July 2019 I graduated and found employment at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in downtown Houston and am still loving Jesus!! I cannot thank God enough for His goodness to me!!



MONTROSE STREET REACH

www.montrostreetreach.org



MSR stats

- 26 rescued off the streets in 2019
- 689 total assisted off the streets through MSR
- 35 churches & ministries partnered with Street Church
- 125 average Street Church attendance
- Over 6500 meals served
- Weekly distribution of donated clothing
- Weekly childcare
- 270 adults assisted with gifts through our Christmas events

God is Using My Story for Good



My name is Stephanie AKA Strawberry. I was born December 29th, 1968 in Macon, MO. When I was two or three years old my mom moved us to California. At the age of fourteen I started using drugs. To jump ahead a little bit my mom and dad then moved to Texas and I moved to be with them. My mom said, "I can't do this with you anymore." So I left and took a bus to downtown Houston. I was already on heroin and methamphetamines and was engaging in prostitution to cover my drug habit. I lived on the streets of Houston for nearly two years before I met a good friend. My friend took me to Star of Hope because she said I shouldn't be on the streets out here but I only lasted about three months until I was kicked out because of my bad attitude. From there she took me to a place called Street Church where I met three wonderful people, Ms. Kim, Martin and Pastor Joe. Ms. Kim would always ask if I was ready to give my life to Jesus. One day I finally answered her and I met the most wonderful man and his name is JESUS!! I'm now six years sober and I have a wonderful husband who also loves the Lord and we have a gift from God, our home. What God has done for me he can also do for you! You just have to surrender. God is awesome!! Look what he did for me!!!!

After I shared my testimony at Street Church, I gave permission for the video to be put out online but I was a little concerned for my mother to see it. She did in fact see it and contacted me and we were able to talk some things through. She said, "I didn't know you went through all of that." She thought the I was being mean to them and I told her that I really went through all of that. Then myself and my husband ended up leading her in the sinners prayer!! Through my testimony, my mother now knows the Lord!! Thank you Jesus, thank you Jesus!!!